

Real-time Results of the Back-to-School LMSD Faculty and Staff Poll

Back-to-School Poll for LMSD Employees

August 3, 2020 10:09 AM EDT

Which best describes your job classification?

Field	Choice	Count
Professional Staff	64.2%	713
Aide	14.7%	163
Transportation	6.0%	67
Secretary	4.1%	46
Administrator	3.3%	37
Other	1.9%	21
Health Services	1.5%	17
Custodial Services	1.5%	17
Buildings and Grounds	1.1%	12
Nutritional Services	1.0%	11
Technology	0.6%	7
		1111

Which best describes the location of your work?

Field	Choice	Count
Elementary school campus	41.6%	455
High school campus	26.3%	287
Middle school campus	19.9%	218
Throughout the District (e.g. transportation, buildings and grounds, assignment at more than one school level)	6.5%	71
In a District office building (i.e. DAO, Rock Hill Road, Matsonford Road)	5.5%	60
Other	0.2%	2
		1093

Showing rows 1 - 7 of 7

If Montgomery County is in GREEN and LMSD operates the onsite instruction schedule as described above, how likely are you to return to your on-campus job responsibilities?

Field	Very likely		Somewhat likely		Somewhat unlikely		Very unlikely		▲ Unsure	
Aide	46.8%	74	19.6%	31	8.2%	13	9.5%	15	15.8%	25
Technology	28.6%	2	57.1%	4	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	14.3%	1
Professional Staff	47.6%	330	21.2%	147	8.4%	58	8.8%	61	14.1%	98
Transportation	74.2%	49	13.6%	9	1.5%	1	0.0%	0	10.6%	7
Other	60.0%	12	30.0%	6	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	10.0%	2
Nutritional Services	72.7%	8	18.2%	2	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	9.1%	1
Secretary	73.3%	33	13.3%	6	2.2%	1	2.2%	1	8.9%	4
Custodial Services	75.0%	12	18.8%	3	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	6.3%	1
Administrator	86.1%	31	11.1%	4	0.0%	0	2.8%	1	0.0%	0
Buildings and Grounds	83.3%	10	16.7%	2	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Health Services	82.4%	14	11.8%	2	5.9%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0

Showing rows 1 - 11 of 11

If Montgomery County is in YELLOW and LMSD operates the hybrid instruction schedule as described above, how likely are you to return to your on-campus job responsibilities?

Field	Very likely		Somewhat likely		Somewhat unlikely		Very unlikely		Unsure	
Aide	50.6%	81	26.3%	42	6.3%	10	9.4%	15	7.5%	12
Secretary	57.8%	26	22.2%	10	4.4%	2	8.9%	4	6.7%	3
Professional Staff	52.4%	363	24.1%	167	7.5%	52	7.9%	55	8.1%	56
Other	70.0%	14	20.0%	4	0.0%	0	5.0%	1	5.0%	1
Administrator	83.3%	30	13.9%	5	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	2.8%	1
Technology	28.6%	2	42.9%	3	14.3%	1	0.0%	0	14.3%	1
Buildings and Grounds	83.3%	10	8.3%	1	8.3%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Nutritional Services	72.7%	8	18.2%	2	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	9.1%	1
Health Services	76.5%	13	23.5%	4	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Transportation	66.7%	44	21.2%	14	3.0%	2	0.0%	0	9.1%	6
Custodial Services	73.3%	11	20.0%	3	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	6.7%	1

Showing rows 1 - 11 of 11

If Montgomery County is in RED, LMSD will operate a completely remote instruction schedule. How likely are you to return to work under these conditions?

Field	Very likely		Somewhat likely		Somewhat unlikely		Very unlikely		Unsure	
Professional Staff	88.4%	611	3.6%	25	1.9%	13	4.3%	30	1.7%	12
Aide	76.1%	121	9.4%	15	1.3%	2	9.4%	15	3.8%	6

Showing rows 1 - 2 of 2

What is the primary reason that you are unlikely or unsure?

Field	Concerns with health and safety		Personal needs for childcare and/or dependent care		Another reason		Total
Professional Staff	74.3%	199	9.7%	26	16.0%	43	268
Aide	79.1%	53	9.0%	6	11.9%	8	67
Transportation	88.9%	8	0.0%	0	11.1%	1	9
Secretary	66.7%	6	22.2%	2	11.1%	1	9
Other	100.0%	3	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	3
Technology	100.0%	2	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	2
Custodial Services	100.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	1
Health Services	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	100.0%	1	1
Nutritional Services	100.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	1
Buildings and Grounds	100.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	1
Administrator	100.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	1

Showing rows 1 - 11 of 11

Text entered for "Another Reason"

Another reason

Along with concerns with health and safety of my colleagues and students, I am 65 years old and have diabetes.

ALL, safety and health, childcare/dependent care

Another reason



All of the above

At risk family member who lives at my home.

BOTH - it is not safe and lack of childcare

Both Personal health needs & needs for childcare.

Both concerns with health and safety and personal needs for child/dependent care

Both concerns with health and safety as well as childcare

Both concerns with health and safety for our students, staff, and all families including my own

Both health/safety concerns, and childcare issues with children at home because neighboring districts have already committed to hybrid model.

Both of above - care for vulnerable family member

Both of the above

Both of the choices above - health & safety, and childcare

Childcare, and my spouse is immune compromised

Concern that students will not be able to effectively learn in a climate of anxiety, especially if we have 26-30 students in a classroom and masks being optional

Concerned that our previous job responsibilities won't be the same as they were prior to Covid.

Concerns with health and safety as well as the district and community's ability to actually establish and maintain all safeguards, including six feet between people, testing/quarantine protocols, etc. I am very uncomfortable returning to work five days a week with all students/staff present. There are too many risks, unanswered/unanswerable covid questions, and barriers to establishing and sustaining even perceived safety protocols in a small, old building with growing enrollment. What seems reasonable on a plan for the state may not actually be possible in a real school. I would prefer to consider a hybrid or more innovative option considered first.

Another reason

Health reasons as I'm in the At Risk Category and I have contact with the Elderly Population

I am 64 and care for elderly parents, I'm concerned about the enormous risk of sickness and/or death if the district opens with full classes (no possibility of 6 ft social distancing).

I am concern about my husband health and safety and I do not want to go to work and be exposed than expose him

I am helping to care for elderly parents who are in very high risk categories. I also feel that my age puts me at risk. In addition, I fear for the health and safety of our students.

I am immune compromised. I've had cancer within the past year. I also do not have a lot of sick days since I've had to use them for surgeries and treatments. I need my job and will do what I have to do, but if it's possible to work remotely - I would put forth all efforts to make that a successful experience for my students.

I am in the high risk group for contracting COVID, serious respiratory issues

I am not sure that I would feel safe about the inability to keep social distance and the voluntary nature of the face masks for everyone.

I am unable to wear a mask for extended periods of time due to breathing obstructions and headaches.

I did not become a teacher to babysit children during a global panedemic so parents can return to work. I have huge concerns about my health and bringing it home to my family. We are educators, and we deserve to work in a safe environment. We can effectively teach from home with district services. .

I do not want to bring anything home to my husband and elderly parents

I have a high-risk child who I feel responsible to protect. I am also worried about my own health and safety as well as that of my family and the broader community.

I have a son with a brain tumor, and another son with special needs. My husband passed away last year, and I am the only one who cares for them.

I have an autoimmune condition

I have asthma

Another reason

I have cancer and do not want to put myself at risk. I want to do what's best for my students! I love teaching! But I think we need a creative safe solution, like remote learning. I worry about not getting paid, using sick days (which I don't have a lot of), and student attendance. I had almost 100% attendance everyday in the spring, and I feel like I could have really made good use of my time with my students.

I have concerns for both health/safety and for the the care of my family. I have also worked in the district long enough to have seen countless times students that I've worked with come into school when they are clearly sick and have been the recipient of many colds/flu/etc as a result of this. Bottom line, I am 100% concerned that parents may not keep kids home if warranted. I am the sole provider for my wife and child and if I were to get sick we would have a significant problem. I love to work and am grateful to have a job, but I have concerns about going back to school like there is no pandemic going on throughout the world.

I truly believe this Covid information changes daily. At this time it is impossible to be safe at school in any model. Is the risk of illness and death worth it? We simply do not have the tools to be safe.

I was exposed to COVID via students in my class, my FIL with whom I lived later died from a blood clot we learned could have been COVID related. I'm a regular Care taker to my 92 yo grandfather and continue to have concerns about exposure.

I'm concerned with overall health and safety but I am also at high risk

If Red I think we would all be home and not "on site"

My mother, whom I live with is immunocompromised, and I have an infant at home

Personal Health -- Chronic Illness

Personal needs for childcare

Pregnant, immune system is compromised, I am concerned for my own health and well being as well as students and other staff

Primary caregiver for relative with stage 4 cancer, children with different school district schedules, health and safety

That you are asking this now, the day of board vote, is concerning. I am a high risk 52 yr old w heart condition and caring for dister with alzheimers who will be in an sdult day center with the elderly patients and with me at night.

The above : As well as health concerns between my family 3 children ages 7 and under as well as elderly grandparents ages 77& 90

Another reason

Unhappy with options given to both students and staff and lack of teacher involvement in this process

concerns with health and safety of member of my household

for everyone involved- adults and children

immuno compromised elderly family member living with me; I am high risk, ventilation system in the building is concern; currently High humidity in building over 50%; keeping mask on with high humidity, concerned about 6 ft spacing in the building, over 250 people in building; staffing/sub concern; kids are kids mask and social distancing; staff social distancing, building/classroom not prepared

serious pre-existing health condition

there are many unanswered questions for return to school to be known to be reasonably safe

If the Pennsylvania Department of Education allows schools in Montgomery County to operate a hybrid or remote schedule regardless of the county's designation for reopening (green or yellow), in your opinion which schedule is the best choice for LMSD?

Field	Onsite instruction		Hybrid instruction		Remote instruction		Something else (please describe below)		Total
While Montgomery County is GREEN	28.4%	304	42.8%	458	27.0%	289	1.9%	20	1071
While Montgomery County is YELLOW	6.0%	64	36.9%	393	55.3%	590	1.8%	19	1066

Showing rows 1 - 2 of 2

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please explain your thinking.

Responses

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

If students and staff return to school buildings in a full face-to-face model or a hybrid model, students and staff are unnecessarily exposing themselves to a risk that could result in lives lost.

I am a kindergarten teacher at Penn Wynne and we are currently in the modulars which are 21' x 24'. We are also at 18-19 in a class now and will most likely be up to 20-21 students in each class by September. With the current circumstances and the virus being as contagious as it is reported, I feel we would be unable to get that many kindergarten students to social distance in our given environment. Also, we were recently proposed a full day/full class model for yellow as well, being rationalized by saying the children were all and our class sizes were low. The kindergarten teachers shared that our classes sizes are not low and all of the reasons it would be dangerous for us to return under these conditions for both students and staff. After almost all teachers shared concerns, we all felt our concerns were being "brushed over" and Jen Gaudiouso said again, so we are looking at a full day, full class if we can lower the class size. My issue with this is during the meeting teachers asked if there were plans to higher more teachers and Coppland said no. Jen said, if we can get class sizes down to 15, it would be half of the students as your colleagues. We said no, half would be 10-12. With the great needs of kindergarten students and the close proximity we need to have to assist them, it is not safe for us to have more than 10-12 in a class..

Health and safety of students, families, and staff. Too many contractions being discovered about novel virus.

There is no testing and no vaccine. A lot of kids can be unknowingly asymptomatic. I do not feel safe around people not wearing masks. It is all very worrisome. That said I love & miss my job.

Concerns around our ability to maintain social distancing in a full opening scenario

I believe that the risk is not worth the reward. I think it will be extremely difficult to enforce social distancing and mask wrapping at the elementary level. If/when students contract the virus, the outside of transitioning to a class quarantining will be a different process for many students as they already struggle with transitions. We also have many professionals who are of the high risk population.

I feel that hybrid would be best in both yellow and green to allow for some in person instruction and smaller numbers to allow for social distancing.

I am thinking having all students and staff return to campus full time is not in everyone's best interest medically. I do not feel safe.

Begin with virtual while the district puts everything in place to keep all students and staff safe

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

figure it would be easier to start off with a hybrid scenario with the projection of the virus to spike again in the fall. Less transition back and forth for the students would be best.

Until there is more rapid test response and better tracing, I do not feel it is safe for students or staff members. I will be seeing at a minimum 150 students a day. I believe it is wishful thinking that young children can keep masks on and remain 6 feet apart from each other and their teachers. I also believe that students could be sent to school while sick like they have in the past. I am not saying that it will be COVID-19 for sure, but we cannot ensure that parents will keep their children home if they have symptoms. And, they can still be asymptomatic carriers. Our district invested a lot of time and money in professional development to prepare us to teach well remotely. The district isn't offering to pay for weekly tests of staff. If one of my many students tests positive, the chances of others, including me, is greatly increased. I just don't feel that the benefits outweigh the risks. I understand there is concern for students' emotional well-being and connection. But, expectations of them sitting for long periods of time with masks, facing forward, and remaining 6 feet apart is not necessarily going to make them feel any more connected than a small group online. I had great success connecting with students online...especially in our smaller group daily opportunities. I just don't think the potential for anyone to lose their life is worth the risk at this time. There are a lot of unknowns as far as long-term effects of COVID-19 for both children and adults as well.

I believe the children are suffering in many ways without onsite instruction and interaction with both peers and teachers. The science is evident that there is a very significantly low risk for children to be together. Many parents work outside the home. This creates a very big challenge for them and it is difficult to sustain after having to make provisions last school semester.

The health and safety factors require so much focus that in-person teaching and learning cannot be the focus - the safety and procedures MUST be the focus and thus learning will be impacted.

When a county is green there is a 25% of capacity rule for restaurants it should be the same for classrooms.

I think remote instruction is, unfortunately, our best option. However, I know there are many families who are unable to make this work. I think there should be some sort of alternate plan for those families. I am going to send an email with other ideas.

Need time to catch up on ever-growing technology deployment and re-deployment demands

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

In the green phase, there are many concerns that haven't been addressed and pose risks. For example, will students eat lunch in the classroom? If so, 25 people will be in a confined space without masks for a 30 minute period. We know that the virus can linger in the air for hours on end, that classroom will now be unsafe for everyone in it and for anyone else who enters it. I think it's impossible to open safely with every student returning full time. How are students and staff going to be screened. If temperatures are taken at the door, that would be obsolete because students and/or staff could be asymptomatic and not present with a fever. What happens when buses reach capacity to maintain social distancing? N95 masks should be provided for all staff, especially those with health conditions, because that's the only mask that will protect the wearer from the virus. I think it's important to look at the ventilation in each room. The beginning of the school year tends to be hot. So most classrooms will have windows closed and ac's on. In my room, for example, there are window units that blow back unfiltered air. That could make matters worse if someone is infected because the virus will be continually spread throughout the air.

Hybrid will hopefully allow for additional safety measures and additional (much needed) planning for teachers.

LMSD already has insufficient infrastructure to accomodate students & teachers. Teachers are instructing in hallways, closets, and kitchen areas. There is not proper ventilation in most rooms. LM is not prepared to safely open without a huge change in infrastructure & safety protocols.

Until school is 100% safe for all staff and students I do not think in person school is a good option. I understand some families need care for their children and would like to see an option where children with the most need would be at school. Those would be families of essential workers or single parents. A strict criteria would need to be developed. Students would be doing remote learning but at school with teachers that were not in high risk or with high risk family members. There have been some article describing this situation recently published.

It is a health and safety issue. I still do not think allowing 100% of the school to attend in the fall is a safe decision. Are we really thinking about all the little details to keep the children and staff safe?? We have large class sizes. Can we realistically spread out the children to be 6ft apart in our classrooms. Research is showing that this is an airborne virus, so what is 6ft going to do anyway? In addition, face masks and young children?? Has anyone seen what their name tags look like in about an hour of wearing them? I can't imagine what will happen to face masks. Also, bathroom routines. When are they going? How many are going? Who is wiping down surfaces every time, even just one child is going into the bathroom. Lunch in the classrooms? Food being eaten on their desks. When/Who is going to wipe down those surfaces?? These are just a few of the many details we need to thoroughly think about before sending 100% of the children to school.

The health and safety of staff and students should be our top priority. The COVID-19 cases are rising throughout Pennsylvania; even with face coverings, being exposed to the full school community will put staff and students at risk of this severe virus. The current green plan does not accommodate for correct social distancing. As a special area teacher, I will be exposed to 600+ students on a regular basis; I fear for my safety, my young family's safety, and my students safety for heightened risk of exposure.

If we can establish a solid sense of community in a safe live way while we are in green, there will be more buy in from kids during distance mode, which is inevitable.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

GREEN: Does not designate the same level of safety that we had last year thus we should be hybrid. Very concerned to have an already overcrowded school with new information of how the virus spreads among adolescents. YELLOW: Indicates a higher level of quarantine is necessary and thus feel very concerned to have half of the students and full staff in the building. Even with masks and possibly shields, our families are at equal risk.

The Hybrid Instruction Plan will allow for children to be in the classroom with adequate social distancing. I feel that it is better for a child to be able to take their mask off during the day. This plan will also be easier to manage the health and safety protocols for all involved. We don't have enough space in our buildings to ensure social distancing when all students are in school. This is a very difficult decision to make !

We sent all students and staff home from school in March, when the Covid numbers were much lower than they are now. I believe it would be a better use of time and energy to focus on virtual learning, which is likely inevitable by the winter anyway.

Health and safety concerns considering the recent spike in Covid 19 cases.

The COVID spread among the school age students is low. As long as keep wearing mask, social distancing and washing hands often, school should be open like other N. European Countries.

not sure what kind of plan will work now days

When we all interact INDOORS I am concerned we are going to see cases of Covid-19 rise. Young people are not necessarily immune from getting it.

I don't consider schools a safe place for in-person operation until a vaccine is available or until the county has had weeks without any new covid cases. At this time, remote instruction appears the ONLY educational option to assure the safety of all staff and students.

not safe healthwise to be in the building

I have changed my response three different times (twice today) as the plan to return to buildings is not safe. At this time information has changed since this morning...and it is not good. Please, consider remote school for the safety and well being for all stake holders. Is it perfect? No. But truthfully nothing is good right now. What this choice will allow for is the safety of all stake holders. Other districts (local) are already making this choice as it allows staff to prepare and be ready to start the school year with intention. Come on LMSD...we are supposed to be leaders in our field. It is time to lead!

Less students in the school, easier to monitor covid Transmission

I don't believe that we can safely monitor public distancing guidelines at full capacity

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I don't think going fully back will be safe until a vaccine is developed.

The risk level is too high to keep groups of people together in a building; remote instruction is the safest method and so LMSD should not hesitate to implement that, if/when "yellow" is in place.

The reality is, this virus is life threatening. Even a hybrid model is very risky. The expectation is that when you get large groups of staff/students together in an enclosed room/school/buses numbers will go up. I am entirely worried for everyone involved because any exposure, even as little as two people in an enclosed room, causes risk for all who are involved. Also teachers and staff who see large amounts of students (specials, nursing staff, recess aides, etc) are at significant risk considering the numbers of students each teacher will be exposed to.

I believe it is safer for us to return to teaching in the fall in a virtual capacity. As an instrumental music teacher, I don't know how I will be able to see my elementary students at all. Doing a hybrid will be so confusing. I would find the half in and half out of school model hard to manage. I definitely think everyone will be safest at home again.

I believe, with the instability of the covid cases, hybrid would be the safest opening in green and yellow.

I believe that having a full school every day will not be easy to maintain any social distancing within the classroom or outside of the classroom.

I think reduced amount of students in school building is best until the vaccine is available.

Safety concerns for staff, students and their families.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I believe that at the elementary level it is important to get students back into the classroom but not at the risk of the safety and health of staff and students. Elementary students are not going to socially distance. It is going to take constant reminders and change the dynamics of how kids interact as well as how teachers interact with their class. Who is enforcing the mask wearing rules? Can students be sent home if they are not wearing them properly? After how many warnings? I do not know how you can socially distance students 6 feet within the classroom with a full 100% open even with the students who opt into the virtual academy. Our elementary buildings are already overcrowded. What happens when there is a sub shortage? You cannot combine classes due to social distancing guidelines. What happens when a student becomes sick or a family member? Does the whole class have to quarantine? There are too many unknowns and bringing everyone back at 100% gives no wiggle room for when problems come up. We need a plan that provides some consistency for students. The hybrid model could give us a more consistent schedule, allowing for some face to face instruction, but not at the expense of health and safety concerns that come along with a full open. It would decrease the amount of students in the classroom and allow for a day of cleaning in between. My fear with a full open is we will quickly be sent to a hybrid model as cases increase and then to remote learning as cases continue to grow. Using the hybrid model now allows for kids to possibly have a more consistent schedule for a longer period of time. Students need to feel comfortable and be able to interact with each other to learn. Sitting in a desk isolated from others is not a healthy learning environment. I know the hybrid situation creates more childcare issues but I would rather see us all stay home and go remote learning which is the safest option than to go to a full open because of childcare issues. School is not going to be "normal" for these students and we need to provide them with as much consistency as possible as they learn the new expectations.

I don't feel it is safe for us to be in classrooms with 20-25 students as social distancing cannot happen.

I feel the safest decision for students and staff is to start the school year with remote learning until Covid-19 is under control.

I am concerned for the health of myself and staff. I am worried about the logistics of teaching in person and online at the same time. However, I don't want to get sick. I feel very unsafe going in to school 5 days a week.

Safety of the students and staff

1. The spread of this virus is still unknown. Although "lower in children" it is not zero. 2. How can we be sure that all employees take the same precautions in and out of the buildings. 3. Supporting the needs of students while continuing to social distance and sanitize properly in the elementary setting

Uncertainty drives my choices. Health concerns. Concerned about risks of exposure.

Covid-19 is an evolving pandemic that is not going away soon enough - vaccines will not be available soon enough.

Each day information changes. Based on numbers today and information today...we are not able to return to school in any model and truly be safe. I ask you is the cost worth the reward? To be clear the cost is human life.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

As a 60 year old with diabetes my concerns lie more with my colleagues assigned to be inside buildings and structures. From what we have been led to believe children handle this virus much better than older individuals. Someone who is asymptomatic may pass this along to someone who is much more vulnerable. If my wife and I had school age children we would choose to keep them home at this point until a possible vaccine or more proven treatment option is available.

I am very concerned with social distancing, my classroom is very small and only has one window. With 24 students, on average, in each class it would be close to impossible to maintain a safe distance from my students. I do want to teach in person classes and I would feel much more comfortable starting the school year with the hybrid model proposed by the district. Thank you for your consideration.

Online (hybrid) should be an option on a monthly term basis to help make people feel more comfortable

I am concerned about the conflicting and ever changing recommendations of safety and distancing when working with elementary students, especially those who benefit from and need adult close proximity in order to access learning and be successful. The recommendation may require masks and remain 6-8 feet away from students. However, that is in direct conflict to helping the student learn, grow, and succeed.

Since data from the state and the CDC point to increased risks with older age groups, the number of people we come in contact with, the length of time we are in contact, and increased indoor contact, it is hazardous to the health of students and staff to return to an indoor setting (i.e. school buildings). Currently, cases of COVID-19 are spiking all over the country as a result of increased contact in indoor spaces. Also, per the CDC guidelines (updated July 17), people of any age with certain medical conditions are at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19, including obesity (BMI of 30+) and Type 2 diabetes. Although I do not have data for what percentage of staff members fall into older age groups and/or have medical conditions that present increased risk, I suspect that this is not an insignificant number. Furthermore, because LMSD cannot control critical factors around testing and quarantine protocols, the liability is too great to place us together in school buildings. I very much look forward to the day when I can work with students in a classroom, in person! It is, by far, the best educational option under typical conditions. These conditions are far out of typical range. The desire to bring students back to school does not outweigh the current risk to the lives of students and staff, as well as all of our families since each person has a circle that will also be impacted by our return, like my elderly mother, and students' parents and grandparents. It has only been about 7 months since the first reported cases of COVID-19 on December 31, 2019 in Wuhan, China. There are far too many unanswered questions about this virus. The guidance from the CDC, the state, and other authorities has been in constant flux and often confusing and conflicting. I believe that this is a time in which our district should lead by slowing down, and refusing to risk the lives of any individuals in our community. Some districts have made the decision to begin the school year remotely. With the risk for infection still high, and so many unknowns, a remote start provides a pause button during which time, more information can be learned about the virus. It also provides more time to procure necessary supplies for creating a safe environment. As long as there are "significant supply chain" issues with garnering materials such as sinks, we should not be proceeding with plans to return to school buildings. For these reasons and more, I recommend that LMSD begin the school year with fully remote instruction.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Due to all of the Unknown with the virus at this point and the proof that cases are continuing to escalate with no vaccine in place, I see no reason why I as an educator should take the risk of contracting the virus and putting everyone I am contact in with at risk. The hybrid model still exposes me and all students to one another essentially. If we cannot all be back in school and ensure the safety and health of students and faculty, we should not be returning to on campus learning. Based on the "safety guidelines" that have been set, they are completely unrealistic for grades K-2.

Until there is more information about COVID, we should begin the year with remote instruction.

I am extremely concerned with the health and safety of staff and students if we open with 100% of the students- especially while numbers are rising in PA.

I am immune compromised. cases are rising. we should do remote for 1st semester and see from there

The children's health, safety, and well-being is of the most importance as well as the staff needed to provide students with a great education and safe environment. The presence of the virus, whether in green, yellow, or red status still poses a threat to everyone's safety considering there is only so much social distancing that a child can be expected to respect, and there is no room for mistakes considering numerous people have already died from the virus.

Statistics and human behavior

I am worried about the spread of the virus, and I think we need to remain remote until it is truly safe to return. The general public is not practicing all of the safety measures that they should, and I think it's our responsibility to protect the health and safety of everyone especially when people cannot independently make wise choices.

I am very concerned about returning to school with 100% of students in attendance as outlined in the green plan. If 100% of students were present in school at the same time, social distancing of 6 feet cannot be maintained. The state has established that this is a measure that should be followed at all times during the school day. Also, having 100% of students in attendance at the same time increases the risk exposure to infection and spread of covid-19. Minimizing risk exposure to infection and spread should be a priority. Maintaining social distancing of 6 feet should not be decreased by the district's plan.

It is not safe for teachers, students or their families to bring us all back to campus. It just is not safe. The district is opting to put the health of all of our families at risk. We should remain closed until we can open safely, which will require thorough, well thought out plans that allow for smaller classes, testing and contact tracing.

I feel if all students/staff are back in there will be a surge in covid. If students can alternate from the beginning for in person and remote learning the risk is less and they still get to have some social aspect of being in school

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I am nervous about having a full class of students in my classroom, especially because my current classroom doesn't have a sink or windows. I think a hybrid model with less students on a daily basis is safer and more manageable.

Honestly, the safest and "cleanest" option is 100% remote, but that has plenty of downsides as well. To maximize sanitizing needs and to keep kids as separate as possible, halving the student body makes sense to me no matter what color designation we're in.

Hybrid options/partial day allows for social distancing, which is the recommendation of the CDC and public health officials. The current plan of 100% return does not allow for social distancing, which is not safe. Additionally, while we are listed as "green" covid statistics are trending upward. There are more cases now than in March/April. It doesn't make sense to put staff and students at risk, when staff members - who may fall into the high risk category - have no option for virtual instruction. Again, this is not safe. We know nothing about the long-term effects of covid, but we do know that it has proven to be deadly, especially for those in the high risk category.

I am in support of the current LMSD plan for both yellow and green. Only thought is that there is a strong possibility that we will go into red/remote prior to winter. Being able to have as much face to face/relationship building time with students might be advantageous if we can maintain safe distancing.

We WILL end up in the "yellow" phase in the fall (flu season?). It will ease planning for staff and parents, and simplify instructions for students, if we have one consistent mode for delivering instruction. From the hybrid model, we can easily move to either all in person or all online if the situation dictates.

Until Pennsylvania sees a true decrease in COVID 19 cases, I think we should reopen 100% virtual for the first month and then reassess at that point.

I think the hybrid schedule is best for both green and yellow stages because it allows all students to get to school and still be as safe as we can make them. Students need to be in school but they and families both need to be safe.

More learning takes place in person

Safety!!! I teach approximately 480 students. No one has shared new thoughts of how we will be teaching such a large number of students and hopefully all of us remain safe. Hybrid would be ok if the rumor of personal development is true is true. That will have a different teaching schedule. Teaching quarter for 6-7 grade and semester for 8th grade but who would know since nothing has been shared with teachers. Less students in classrooms!!!

The Corona virus is a new disease. Since information on this seems to change constantly, I feel it's better to err on the side of caution and take things slowly since lives are at stake.

not sure we can meet the 6ft guidelines when everyone is here, also might lose staff if we bring everyone back and it could be hard to find staff at this point. if we can meet the guidelines bring everyone back

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

The Monday/Tuesday, Thursday/Friday schedule still requires teachers to interact with the entire student population. This is unfair and unsafe for teachers.

I think the kids should go back to school.

Until we know more about this virus or until there is some type of vaccine all instruction should be remote. It is quite possible that children may be asymptomatic carriers of the virus and that they will give the virus to the adults around them and take the virus home to older family members.

If students and employees wear masks I don't think hybrid is necessary

Safety

There are many unknown factors about the virus and children. Cases continue to rise in our area and there are many symptoms that overlap with flu, allergies and other illnesses including COVID 19. Given the size of our student body even the hybrid model would exceed the state recommendations for an "in person gathering". Health and safety is the number 1 priority for all involved and with the ever changing landscape of the pandemic it would be highly concerning to consider anything more than a hybrid model. Full attendance does not provide a consistent way to provide the strategies that are most likely to be effective in limiting transmission. We are talking about a highly contagious and deadly virus with unknown health implications for the long term.

my children's school will be following a hybrid schedule in the fall. I will have issues with childcare if LMSD is 100% onsite. Furthermore, im concerned with having to be at work on days that my kids are scheduled to be working from home.

I believe the research shows that the best way to stay healthy is to have six feet between people at all times and wear a mask (along with hand washing and powerful ventilation). I do not believe that ALL students can safely return to school at the same time..

I do not believe there is enough public support to have all students in, every day of the week. I would love to be back full time - in school - but I am concerned that the data tells us to keep 6ft and I do not think we can do that in each of our elementary classrooms.

too difficult, no continuity, difficult for students, parents, staff

I feel like everyone in the building will be safer with fewer students each day. I fear bringing all students back at one time (especially with cases rising everyday) will be dangerous for our students, families and teachers. Let's take our time and get this right, for everyone involved.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

The county's label of green, yellow etc has nothing to do with whether cases are in our area or whether we are safe from the virus. The only way to be safe is to keep people separated until the virus passes and/or a vaccine. We do not want to risk the health of students or staff. If just one person gets infected and dies from being onsite at one of our schools, I'm not sure how we'd be able to cope with that. It isn't worth it.

I believe kids need to be in school. I have heard too many instances of kids not using computers last Spring. Maybe not as much in our District but I think the best education is provided on campus. u I am bus driver and not a teacher so my opinion may not carry the same weight of teachers and in-building staff but I have no concerns about driving even under yellow conditions. I am sure I will practice social distancing and wear a mask and any other protective clothing that is necessary to get the kids to school.

Safety

Back to school

I do not think that social distancing and safety can be achieved in elementary schools with all staff and students in the building together everyday.

The color methodology means very little. We see students coming to school sick, I have 120 students, we know teenagers can expireate the virus like an adult. I got in to teaching to help kids. I do not want to have to pray for healing for a sick kid or colleague. It's not prudent to open.

For the best interest of our children, it seems like it's either all or nothing. The hybrid model does not seem feasible. Way too difficult to have 1/2 your class one day and trying to keep kids learning at home at the same time. At least if we are ALL virtual/distant, it would seem that we can concentrate all our efforts into creating a robust program. However, with that being said, I feel that if we are doing distant learning, we cannot tie teachers' hands by telling them that they can't present new information , require work submission, or that they must do exactly the same thing and lock step what their other colleagues are doing. Professional freedom must be given to excecute the curriculum and follow the scope and sequence.

I do not think that the guidelines for social distancing within our school buildings in the green and yellow phases are sufficient. Maintaining 6 feet of social distancing is a minimum requirement for health and safety of students and staff, and I know that the buildings I work in do not provide enough space to meet these requirements. Additionally, the number of students in our buildings seems to me to qualify as a large, indoor gathering, and I do not think that having this number of people together during this time is safe. There is an inherent risk to the communal gathering that is the nature of our schools.

see last response. Building ventilation and humidity is big factor without covid, leaking roof;

Green doesn't mean return to normal. Proceed with caution.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Just because we are currently in green does not mean we will stay that way. And since there is a two week delay between contracting Covid and knowing you have it, by the time we react to an outbreak it will be too late to prevent staff from getting the virus.

I just don't see the revolving 14 day quarantine doors ever stopping if we all set feet on campuses. We should be in remote learning, unless there's a huge issue going on at home in which the student cannot learn in that environment.

I am not a big proponent of hybrid schedules.

Hybrid is too tricky a schedule with regards to finding childcare for my own children so that I can work

The plan is not safe.

Health and safety

I don't feel safe with Covid-19 numbers continuing to rise. Teachers need proper covering as hospital workers have if we are to ensure our safety. I don't feel we can keep students safe and apart in a hybrid setting. Additionally, the emotional well being of students will be effected in the proposed design for return. I feel confident that some teachers and students will die and I am not comfortable with that. The virus can spread before symptoms are evident. Students aren't mature enough to notice the symptoms and as a result, the virus will spread.

In the midst of a pandemic, we are not ready to re-open. We are putting staff safety at risk, student safety at risk, and family/community safety at risk. We do not know the long term consequences of this virus on the body. Furthermore, schools are likely to close and reopen and have a lack of predictability - the fall is when other viruses circulate and when COVID testing will be in even shorter supply, and the many times people will need to quarantine or worry they or their child has contracted the virus will continue. We must prioritize teaching children who need services that cannot be met at home, and keeping them healthy, while forming a robust online program in which stability and strong teaching are prioritized for our students. This online program needs synchronous and asynchronous teaching by LMSD teachers. We had excellent training in June and I feel ready to teach elementary students virtually. We need to act now to begin putting a solid online program in place.

staff that have medical reasons for not coming back on site (a medical necessary stay at home list) can support student(s) virtually the entire school year

We don't know when the next wave will be. With the seasonal flu beginning in The fall it just makes it that much more difficult.

It is not possible to social distance at 100% back. 50% is much safer. Green does not mean normal

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

With the safety protocols in place it comprises the QUALITY of learning for our children. They will not be receiving developmentally appropriate education / practice with these protocols in place .. therefore, hindering their learning in addition to social / emotional well being. I fear the bulk of my day is going to be monitoring social distancing , mask wearing , and hand washing—not educating.

We won't be green and hybrid is the only way you can social distance with students and peers.

My fellow LMSD employees and I have been working a regular schedule for sometime !

I think it will be important for us to return to school on a trial basis, even if Montgomery is County is in the Green phase. There is so much involved in the transition (back to school) for students, families, staff and the community. I am speaking of health and safety- medical, mental health - social emotional, etc. Thank you

It's a toss up between physical health and mental health. We risk catching a flu and passing it to family members. My father would be my primary childcare option and he is high risk with other health issues I would be risking giving him the virus after he's been so careful.

Health and safety of all community members.

I think we need to be all in, like normal (no limitations) or all remote.

Social distancing seems impossible with 26+ students in a class.

There are too many unanswered questions. Why can restaurants only be at 25% capacity, other places 50% but schools 100%? If someone tests positive does just that person quarantine? Does the whole class? does the whole school or anybody that was in contact with them? What is the number of sick or dead people that are needed to make changes? We live in a world that lives by mathematical matrices but that is wholly missing here. The most current research out of England, South Korea and Germany indicate the children 10 - 15 have the same rate of infection and transition as adults.

This district is falling into a complacent trap and missing the seriousness of C19/its ability to spread/and the painful health repercussions it leaves in its path.

As much as I want all the children in school together I can not see how we can social distance them given space constraints. I want to be at school with all the students and staff, but I don't want anyone to become sick and I think everyone together in one building would be very risky.

With no vaccine or robust testing, we need to do all we can to minimize the spread of the virus.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I want to work and see my students face to face when appropriate.

There is insignificant data regarding children and the virus. It may not be symptomatic, we know very little about its long term effects. Teachers are too vulnerable.

Kids should be in school

It just isn't safe yet for us to be in that close quarters with that many people. It seems like a big risk considering how much numbers have spiked again recently

I am at a higher risk due to the CDC information and I am responsible for elderly parents.

After attending the Kindergarten meeting with a proposed full day, I am extremely concerned that the model had an entire class attending which could be 18-20 students at a time in our now 21' x 23' modular classroom. This model was explained by our administrator as possible, and a video was taken to share with nothing else in the classroom except 20 desks. Having taught for 27 years and 16 years being in Kindergarten, I am seriously concerned with the high number of students and being able to help children that age "social distance", remain in their desk, practice proper hygiene, and attend during a full day program. Any other year would be a welcome trial but in our current situation being expected to help students maintain 6 ft distance throughout the day in our tiny modular is close to impossible. Kindergarteners need movement, have very short attention span, need one-to-one assistance with personal care such as shoe tying, buttoning, zippering, opening everyday objects, and most everyday behaviors that are preformed easily by older students. 18-20 students requiring that level of need in a smaller room for a full day is simply TOO MUCH to expect of students and staff. This puts the teacher in at a much higher risk to catch the virus due to the number of students, typical needs of children this age, and being in such close proximity. Starting school (in green), would put us at risk due to the numbers of students and the nature of the virus. Penn Wynne is the most populated school in the district and it is difficult to keep students "within his/her personal space" in normal circumstances, adding this virus to this puts all students and staff at risk who attend Penn Wynne. The proposed model for yellow, again is almost the same risk for Kindergarten students and staff because we will have the same number of students in class, and extending the day of the young learners, some of whom will not be able to sustain in a full day program. If we were to consider the model proposed by Kindergarten teachers - half of the AM coming only in the morning and half of the class coming in the PM, Monday and Tuesday, cleaning Wednesday, and the other half of AM/PM attending on Thursday and Friday would be a much safer model, with proper cleaning done between AM and PM sessions. Teaching in person is posing enough risk for students, teachers, and staff, teaching a full group as opposed to half of a class, as our colleagues teaching in grades 1-5 not only increases the great risks but also creates an extremely inequitable experience for those in Kindergarten!

COVID cases are still increasing and I would be working with students at less than arms length. Many of these students have parents that work in hospitals, doctor's offices and travel. Young children at the elementary levels will not keep the masks on. Currently, the school board is only meeting remotely because it isn't safe to do so in person but they are expecting teachers to be in school with many other adults and children.

I don't see how we can socially distance & follow state & local guidelines with 25 students in each of my classes

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Extreme caution would be wise as the pandemic is not under control nationally. Reliable testing and tracing are still inadequate. Remote Instruction is the safest option for everyone until we are well into the green phase.

My child school is operating in Hybrid. So, the days my child is home I have no one to oversee my child instruction

If we are in yellow, then we should all be home. Even if we are in green, numbers of new cases is on the rise and the virus keeps mutating. I am afraid if shat will happen if we all got together now while the state is on the increase in cases.

Even if in green not sure that it is safe for everyone including staff and students to be back at one time

Hybrid just seems a more reaonable idea for the students. It would keep the number of people down but also allow some in school instruction.

Since LMSD itself has said that we cannot achieve the state guidelines for social distancing if we go back at all in person, we should not do it. We should start cautiously. Also, the questions about returning to work in the different situations, what choice do we have? I can't afford to not come to work. If there was some sort of strike or work action by LMEA, then I would definitely participate. As an individual, I don't think I would not come to work unless I was sick

It is unlawful to admit students without vaccines, yet we have no vaccine for an extremely contagious, deadly disease. Yoy plan a board meeting via zoom because of the virus, I guess you're afraid you could get sick and die... Me too. Yet you are demanding we return to work risking our lives amongst packed classes and hallways with a spray bottle and rag. I am in a dangerous age group with underlying risk. I want what's best for the students and staff, a full return is not it, not until every last person is vaccinated.

I am concerned with the idea of 23 young children being in the same room all day. (wearing masks) I am concerned about them being able to be 6 feet apart if the whole class is there at once. Doing guided reading under these conditions is goi g to be a challenge, and I am not sure how it would work with the whole class there with no tables, etc where we can work.

Still too many uncertainties, plus I have serious life long respiratory issues which are a result of a worker's comp issue at LM High School

I don't think the social distancing and other guidelines will be adhered to with all students returning at once. Additionally, I believe that a "soft" opening via hybrid model will allow us to trouble shoot more effectively on issues/health and safety that become apparent once staff and students are back at school (that we are missing at this point).

Take precautions and get everyone back in school.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

In the yellow I'm not sure what would be best - I'm between remote and hybrid- leaning towards remote but that's not a great scenario for the kids - especially the elementary kids

It is impossible to separate students by 6ft in full classes and I am concerned about the lack of contact tracing, as well as the blatant danger for someone over 60 to be forced into a building with over 700 people. It is too dangerous to open with full classes so I would be forced to resign.

Yellow phase is too risky for my own health and safety

We don't know enough to go all aboard. Better to be safe than sorry

Hybrid with 50% of student population at a time, not 100%

Since I teach an elective I believe my course can be taught remotely

I selected remote instruction

Each family is exposed to others in their homes, work, and neighborhoods. I'm concerned about social distancing, air quality, the lack of cleaning supplies and PPE. I feel the changing of schedules when quarantines are required due to spread of illness exposure are more disruptive than a consistent plan. I feel social distancing needs to remain in effect until a vaccine is available or the virus is controlled.

Simply not safe

Concerns regarding health/safety (in particular, the ability to follow CDC and state guidance re: social distancing with 100% in-person instruction). Additionally, childcare concerns resulting from the fact that other local districts appear to moving forward with hybrid instruction and we are parents of school age children and residents of one of those districts.

I think it's safer for the children

I don't really have an opinion on this. It's so hard to truly trust anything because the narrative changes and seems to be driven mainly politically and economically (not by LMSD, just in general) If we're in person, we need to be able to interact with and teach our kids and I'm just not understanding how we are going to do that at a distance of 6 feet,

Hopefully we open and remain in green

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I am in the most at risk age group. My husband had cancer surgery this summer. I am scared to death for me and bringing it home to him. I have not seen any social distancing plans from the district.

Healthy people, especially those under 20 years of age have have no need to worry about covid 19. Studies show covering your cough/sneeze with your elbow is more effective than a cloth mask, which is what most people wear. School, and the state/country should resume normal operations with basic sanitary precautions, i.e. wash hands, cover sneeze/coughs.

I selected hybrid

In the Physical Education setting I do not see how a hybrid model will logistically work. And if we are in yellow, I am uncomfortable being in proximity with so many students & teachers.

The students need to be in school. This is something that we need to learn to live with and the students are the biggest losers if we do not return to school.

For the health and safety of students, families and staff, it would be best to continue with remote learning for the first semester. Then depending on local numbers of people affected, plan to have the hybrid plan in January if possible.

I cannot risk the health of my children, husband and myself.

Hybrid allows for CDC guidelines for social distancing be enforced in the classroom. If we are in green and our numbers are trending downward, I feel that is the safest time for in-person instruction.

The virus is still an unknown. What is known is that it is highly contagious indoors. Having 50 to 100 students move through a science classroom safely is unreasonable. There is not enough room for physical distancing, not enough airflow in the rooms, and too much risk to students, their families, and teachers and their families. Health is of a higher priority than a few months of school.

Cases are increasing at an alarming rate. One carrier could cause a shelter in place for many students and staff.

There are still rising cases of COVID! The fact that these questions are be asked is mind blowing! People are dying! You are asking us to go in and be with 12-24 students in a small classroom that is barely cleaned regularly with NO protection. Does this district value its teachers? Does it care about it students? I did not enjoy remote teaching, but until the cases and deaths stop it would be recalls even to put people in direct harms way!

A hybrid schedule would be better until the pandemic is over.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Too much is unknown about the virus to take a risk. We are well equipped for remote instruction. Why take the chance that a single person could become gravely ill when this is the case?

I believe that whether the county is in green or yellow it will be logistically impossible to maintain social distancing at all times. I think that the district should move forward with a plan that requires students to be here only for core classes such as math, language arts, science and social studies. The idea that maybe less class time and having more class room space available would help with keeping staff and students socially distanced.

The spread of this virus WILL happen if people are brought together even under these precautions. I am at risk. My son is at risk. My parents are at risk.

Still too dangerous and impossible to provide safely for all students and staff members.

It is imperative that students get back to in class instruction and employees back to normal schedules

You're meeting virtually to decide what is safe- there is your answer. We are not prepared and safety first! Prepare us to effectively teach by remote instruction. You gave us PDs on them, so let's use the knowledge we were given.

GREEN allows that there will be a spike in cases; based upon experiences with those that have tried this, they have gone to RED within a month (Israel, Hong Kong, etc.). We should stay in HYBRID to REMOTE until there is a vaccine.

Consistency.

I am feeling extra cautious because I feel not all of our residents are following Covid guidelines and I would prefer to start the school year with a hybrid model even if we are green

Give time for proper cleaning. Our custodians can't keep up with cleaning all day with students always around

Social distancing is impossible in any building at this time. There should not be full time face-to-face instruction until there are no new cases for at least 14 days, or until a proven vaccine is widely available.

If we have to have zoom meetings to discuss the options why would it be safe for us to return to the building?

There are too many health and safety issues that arise from returning to the buildings, even in a hybrid model.

My wife has lupus and a compromised immune system

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Too many people in small spaces. No way to socially distance.

Too many unknowns, people don't follow health protocols as is

I feel that attending school is safe for all students.

According to the LMSD plan, returning with 100% participation will make it impossible to keep students at the recommended 6 ft apart to social distance. Merion has some of the smallest classrooms in the district and, even with removing all of the furniture, there is no way most if not all of our classrooms have the capacity to fit 20-23 students while maintaining 6 ft. If this cannot be done, it's not safe to return to school. Another concern is that it states in the plan that if we're green, it is "recommended" to wear masks. I understand that there are certain medical/educational circumstances for students not wearing a mask, but recommended feels like it's optional. I do not feel comfortable being in a classroom all day not maintaining 6 ft of distance AND possibly not having some students wearing masks.

It's not feasible to socially distance a full classroom of students, let alone a full school. The idea of going back full-time in green goes against all of the recommendations to avoid large gatherings, stay 6' apart, etc. Many businesses have opted to stay remote until 2021, yet we intend to send our children? Parents are being given a virtual option - why? - because they are concerned about the safety of their children. Why aren't those same considerations being given to teachers who have concerns? I live with two people in high-risk categories and am concerned.

There are too many questions and variables with returning to work physically. How can we make sure elementary students comply with social distancing and keeping their face masks on. What if even one student in our school is exposed and/or gets the virus? Does the whole school shut down for 14 days? There are too many risks and unknowns with opening right now while the virus is still spreading.

I believe it will be difficult to maintain distancing and wearing of masks in elementary grade levels

Based on challenges of keeping students safely distancing with full class of students in classrooms that are not large enough to do so.

I believe that in person instruction is valuable and can be done safely, however the amount of space and logistics required for social distancing make in person instruction very difficult with an entire class present at one time

You cannot have all of the students in the building at once. The Governor mandated that no more than 25 people can be together at once. There would easily be more than 25 people in many classrooms, when you factor in aides and special teachers. You cannot adequately monitor students in the restrooms; you don't know if they are keeping their masks on. The virus lingers in the air, and how can it be safe to have many people eating all together in one room? Fabric masks reduce the amount of virus particles emitted into the air, but do not completely prevent the spread of the virus particles. Students and staff would be moving throughout the buildings at some points, and the virus will be lingering from the previous groups who went down the hallways.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I would only endorse a full return to school where class sizes were reduced in such a way to allow me and all students to maintain the 6 ft. distance recommended at all times. If this can be achieved in a five day a week schedule, then I endorse that.

This is a game of risk taking/mitigation. I think LMSD should be on the more cautious side than just about anywhere. We have the resources to help "tech equip" any family that needs it. We cannot allow our schools to be the story of a big super spreader event, something that is scientifically known to happen. We should take our time and look at other district's results when they open up. There is no reason to rush in without watching what happens with other districts for the first few weeks of school. There are a host of things we don't know about the virus and how it spreads. If we are sure that we think a hybrid/full model may work, let's wait a month to see what happens elsewhere. I consider this a civic duty. Also, I have specific health concerns for myself and my child.

With flu season coming and a potential second wave of the COVID virus - I think we'd be better off with the precautions of the hybrid proposal

Being in groups of people spreads the virus. Particles can linger in the air for a long time. Until there is a vaccine, being in groups of people is not smart under any circumstances. I have underlying conditions that may affect my health. If any staff contract the virus and die it is on the heads of the administration.

I do not feel like it is safe to go back to school. I think within the first month there will be so many students and teachers who have been "exposed" and forced to self quarantine for 14 days. In doing so, if you are a teacher in school, you will be missing a lot of your students and I don't understand how they will make the work up. Teachers are going to end up having 2 coverages a day with all of the absences. If just 5 teachers are out, that is 25 coverages just in one day, let alone any other issue. I don't understand how our sick days will work if we live with someone who is exposed. Parents send their children to school with fevers all the time so I don't trust the idea that the parents are monitoring the students, especially with many children being asymptomatic. I think we are going to be shut down within the month of heading back to school. Additionally, how are we equipped to deal with the mental health of the students and staff when the first parent dies? the first teacher? What happens then. I think students middle school and above can learn online but it is tough in elementary. We could have grades 7-12 all online and then spread the k-6 classrooms throughout all the buildings in Lower Merion to really social distance and limit contact.

I do not feel that the students or staff will be able to maintain a social distance of 6' (as per Gov Wolfe's recommendations) if we are fully in-person at the elementary level. My job as a speech/language pathologist will be next to impossible to do if we are not remote. I meet with groups of children in an office that is very small. The nature of my job requires me to see a child's mouth up close. Working remotely is the only safe way I feel that I can do this job well.

To think we are going to put over a 1,000 students at Welsh Valley at one time is hard to imagine at this point. This includes close to 100 staff members. Every other district in the area seems to be going to a hybrid method. Why not us?

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Due to the rapidly changed conditions and the increasing spread of COVID, I think remote instruction is the safest way for students and staff to remain healthy. Until there is a widely available vaccine, I believe that bring students and staff back to schools is unwise.

My option is we all need to continue as close to normal as possible. If you don't try then you will never know the outcome. You can always pull back. Remember, 98% recovery rate and many no symptoms at all.

Things really don't feel different with COVID than it did in March, when the schools were shut down. Numbers are still increasing. I also think expecting students and staff to wear masks all day is very challenging, and not ideal for teaching or learning. The fact that everyone can't properly social distance is a major issue.

Safety

There are risks and rewards to both scenarios. I have looked at the risk of contracting the disease and the harm it would cause for students, and I think that the education of thousands of children outweigh the health risks. I understand that this is a much harder decision for a district, but the risks of losing another years worth of education or reduced learning is not acceptable for children..

1~When LMSD, LMOSA & LMEA are meeting remotely for the safety of its participants to discuss the reopening of schools, it demonstrates that reopening is not in the best interest of students and staff. 2~According to the Montgomery Co. Covid-19 website (<https://data-montcopa.opendata.arcgis.com/pages/covid-19>), Lower Merion Township has consistently had the highest number of positive cases and deaths attributed to Covid-19 in the county. 3~LMSD already has a shortage of teacher and staff substitutes, instruction and district operations will not be able to continue should teachers and staff who are in the "at-risk" age groups get sick.

Although we are currently in the Green phase, Governor Wolf recently added a number of restrictions on businesses due to the recent increase in positive cases. I am concerned that our plan is solely based on the "phase" we are in, which does not provide the full picture. Even in Green, business are required to conduct all or some of their business through telework if possible. Also, many of the recent restrictions apply to indoor dining and businesses and would have implications for schools as well, since we operate mostly inside and have periods when masks will need to be off (eating). Lastly, I believe there is still so much unknown with this virus, in particular how it affects students who have not been in school together since March. We know the impact will potentially be great on teachers and staff and for the safety of all adults and children and their families, it seems to me like remote learning is the best option at this time.

I think if feasible in person teaching would be the best option but if not then i think a hybrid schedule would be best to ensure everyones safety

Hybrid is too challenging academically and personally and fully on line is not good for our students

With the pattern on this pandemic constantly changing, it is not safe to be in school with the children at this time.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

lets get back to normal

it seems the states are no longer using colors...they are looking more at number of cases in local areas

I teach elementary band instruments, which requires student-musicians to blow air through their instrument, often blowing at me. I believe that band is best taught remotely via an online platform. thank you so much for everything you are doing to make this work.

I feel the district can't provide the safety measures that i am comfortable with if every student returns to the classroom. I feel masks and distance should be a non negotiable and in the green masks are "encouraged".

Given the space in my classroom there is no way to maintain a safe distance with 100% of the students present. In the document provided it is stated that masks are ENCOURAGED and not required in green. I can't work in a full classroom where a crowded room may or may not be in masks. Social distancing should NOT BE OPTIONAL. Surrounding districts have implemented hybrid. It is a perfect blend for educational purposes and safety of students and staff.

Kids need to be in their classrooms. The expectation during the virtual experience was so low that our students suffered tremendously. With proper precautions, i believe that we should do everything we can to return to the classroom and allow the staff to continue their rigorous standards.

Ability to maintain social distancing guidelines

Given the complexities and many variables for this pandemic, it feels impossible to provide a plan for any indoor learning. All it takes is one case to threaten the health of our LMSD community. I think its best to operate out of abundance of caution.

I believe to keep things moving in a positive direction and to stay in green a hybrid approach should be put in place to ensure precautions are followed to remain in green. Having less students in the building at a given time would help.

n/a

Too many students to maintain 6 ft separation.

I do not think we can provide instruction within a safe environment for both students and staff

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

It only takes one encounter to spread the virus, and measuring temperatures does not confirm that the person is not a carrier of the virus. Without a vaccine, I think it's irresponsible to open as normal. At the HS level, most students are equipped with the tools to be successful in an online environment.

I feel that there will be an increase in cases as soon as everyone is back at school since teachers and students usually get sick in the beginning of the school year anyway. It is also much harder to social distance with a full class of students in the room.

Green doesn't mean safe. There's too much at risk. Students during typical school years spread so many germs and illnesses, with Covid, too much is at risk for the staff and the adults of our students' families.

I do not see how we can maintain the appropriate distance with the entire student body in the building.

The virus has still yet to be contained, and cases in the US continue to rise without a cure. As a former middle school and elementary school aide, I don't think there are any provisions that can be made that will stop Covid from being contracted for sure. And in schools as heavily populated as our high schools and middle schools I believe the spread of the virus would be inevitable. I have a family to consider and I do not think returning to school would be in anyone's best interest. I do not understand why we would even take the chance when lives are at stake.

Rising cases of COVID cases and deaths limit the meaningfulness of the color coding system.

LMSD is prepared to provide an excellent platform of Remote Instruction and it is the safest format for children, staff and the community

I don't believe there is a safe and a unsafe answer, my concerns are that the kids come in sick and are not sent home because they don't have a fever even though they are sick. For example a student comes in and has slept for part of the morning and has green snot coming from their nose and looks sick. They are not sent home because they don't have a fever. Can you be sure they don't have the virus? That is a very big concern.

Opening in yellow will only serve to encourage the spread of this virus, then we would be back to distance learning.

I am terrified that colleagues or students will die. A recent study shows that students between ages 10-19 spread the virus as much as adults do--this has serious implications, specifically at the middle and high school levels. We simply don't know enough about the virus to make the call that it is truly safe for students and staff to return. All of the district's precautions that would give the illusion of "safety" would distract from learning and create a stressful environment for students and staff. We are fortunate to have the technology and resources to deliver higher quality instruction remotely. We moved to remote teaching in March when the COVID numbers were far lower. "Green" phase does not mean back to normal--businesses would still only be opened in reduced capacity--why is it different for schools?

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

With so much unknown about the coronavirus, I would err on the side of caution.

Full in person or remote. Hybrid is an invalid option because even medically it doesn't mitigate risk. The study PA commissioned considered the times students were out of school to be 'zero transmission' which is not true - those students will be in other care facilities or with friends actually increasing their contacts and then regrouping at school. The hybrid model is therefore medically invalid.

Childcare is a huge issue. I need to protect the health and safety of my family. If my children are receiving remote instruction I do not feel comfortable sending them to a daycare. Have considerations been made to offer emergency childcare at LMSD for employees' children?

In order to maintain an appropriate amount of physical distance between students and staff, to ensure regular deep cleaning, and to maintain a consistent routine (it's likely green will become yellow at some point during the school year), a hybrid schedule should be followed.

Unsure required measurement for safety will be followed

I think until we have the country as a whole under control, we are placing all of our LMSD families and beyond at a huge health risk by operating school in a normal way. Schools have such large gatherings in confined spaces that there will most likely be an outbreak based on the odds. We all understand that remote instruction is not ideal. However, it is safe and responsible given the current conditions. We need to do our part and keep our families and staff safe. Operating schools normally is not a safe plan. If we historically look at openings of the country in different areas, we continue to see outbreaks. Do we want to have the loss of life of community members, staff or families on our hands? That doesn't make sense.

Have students return for 2-3 weeks to meet teachers, get technology, understand remote instruction via Blackboard and then go to an online model until at least end of January and re-evaluate.

The schools are too crowded to safely space students; only the hybrid model which allows for half the population would be the safest option. Plus it's better to start at half and see how the cases rise. Also last year the school was remote when the state was yellow. Shouldn't we be sheltering at home if it's yellow.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I do not feel that the district is able to safely meet the needs of students and staff with in person instruction at this time. There is not sufficient means for contact tracing and testing is not yet meeting the needs to open an entire district or county. Testing locally can take up to 7 days for results to return and in the meantime a great deal of staff could be affected. Also, with the mandate to ensure 6 ft distance of social distance our classrooms do not have the capacity to meet this mandate at this time. Further, my classroom has no windows and concerns for my health and the health of my children are increased in an unventilated space. Additionally, how do we ensure sanitized, designated spaces are being provided to breastfeeding mothers in each building? Who is supporting the classroom during times when mothers will have to pump-(especially knowing that we should be limiting the number of people interacting with students). What are the expectations for students who have tested positive or come in contact with someone who has tested positive? If teachers are required to quarantine, are we expected to use our sick time? If we use all ten of our sick days, but have to take additional time if a family member becomes ill is that time unpaid? What if my children's school closes or the daycare facility closes while I am still expected to work? Are there accommodations for working parents who have to care for their own children at this time? If we have students in the classroom all day (including specials and lunch) how will we have enough time to plan for the students we are supporting via asynchronous instruction? This is especially stressful when we are being told that we may have to prepare and plan for a hybrid model which would require planning double the content each week.

immml do not think that large public gatherings are safe. I am also appalled that LMSD will not require mask wearing at all times. The most recent guidance from the Governor requires them. Furthermore, other schools in Montco and other Delco have interpreted the most recent guidance to require 6' distancing at all times and are unable to open secondary schools for that reason. Many schools are hybrid because 25 students cannot be in a class. Family has risk factors. I am frightened.

It is not safe to return "as normal" even if Pa is in the green phase in September. There are still restrictions that need to be followed even in the green phase. There should be limits to how many students are in a room together for social distancing, masks wearing, information to follow regarding exposure and positive testing, etc.

Concern for my health and the health of my students and their family. An abundance of evidence exists that teenagers are spreaders of the virus. I have several health conditions that if exposed to Covid- I could have a medical emergency that threatens my life.

safety for everyone

I believe that students need to be in school and that if it appears that the risk is minimal in terms of the population of the community, I will go along with the plan to teach in person, even though the measures taken by the district for health and safety fall short of what I am comfortable with . This is not a criticism of the school district but the handling of the pandemic by the government. However, if we are in "yellow" then the health risks of which I am wary multiply; for example, I cannot open the windows in my room in order to ventilate, and I cannot take reasonably take classes outside. Whether I am in a classroom with 28 students or 14, that becomes a risk, in which case I would prefer to be teaching remotely. If we are in the yellow phase and are still meeting in a confined space, then to me that means that there is a greater chance of transmission of the disease. It is all about the size of the infected population in the community.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I would like to comment that not returning to work is not an option for me. Therefore, please note that my "likely to return" answers are the only possibility and do not reflect my personal feelings about the plan.

I do not think things in the state are going to get better. I believe it is confusing to transition back and forth if and when the color scheme changes. Consistency is better for family planning and routine

Our numbers are rising quickly. I don't believe it is responsible to put all of the families and staff that have been diligent in social distancing and limiting exposure to force us to now be exposed to so many ppl. Especially when we have no idea how diligent or limited those families are related to their possible exposure

This extremely dangerous virus is still here and reopening school is not worth the risk of sickness and death.

As of yet regardless of the phase we are in our state and country continues to see a rise in case numbers. Hospitals in other states are reaching capacity and I do not see it possible to plan for a safe way to reopen while keeping our students, staff and families healthy.

I don't know how we can do recess safety

IF YELLOW: In the high schools only one grade attends each week. Ex. freshman the first week, sophomores the next, junior the next. This way distancing can be enhanced. Also, the three week gap between attendance at school would allow for COVID testing at home (if it becomes available) with enough days to quarantine positive students between in-school sessions. Asynchronous and synchronous instruction would take place for those students in the 3 week home phase.

We are in the middle of a Pandemic. I prefer to be safe than put myself and others at risk. Our school is very crowded.

I question whether the return to onsite instruction with its concerns for distance and protective equipment will be an effective delivery system. It will be novel, distracting, ultimately frustrating and discouraging. As mentioned in the email, it is not possible to absolutely detect the presence of COVID-19 even with aggressive monitoring of temperature. To return to school will prolong, even escalate, the life of this virus, putting extended families attempting to shelter in place in danger. As a society, we need to work together to curtail this killer. We need to commit fully to sheltering in place until we extinguish the virus or develop a vetted vaccine. Only when a community has proven it has no cases should that community begin to consider onsite instruction. We are wasting precious time in not planning for effective remote instruction now.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Although designated as “green”, there is still a great deal that we do not know about this virus. Directives are changing weekly, if not daily. We have not seen other countries return to school with numbers still so high. With that, we have not seen how the virus spreads in a school environment for an extended period of time. We are also not entirely certain as to how children are affected and who is at risk; there are risk factors, but sometimes it seems “random”. When gatherings of 250+ are not permitted, it is scary to think of a school setting where close to 1,500 individuals are present.

See previous response. I also believe we can do a better job online than we did in the spring with clear guidelines. I also see in person induction being ineffective knowing how hard it is to hear people in masks and the impact on time that we will encounter due to guidelines. I just think our time will be better spent online with students teaching synchronously as much as possible and recording instruction for asynchronous review.

In order to follow the health and safety guidelines, LMSD can not accommodate all students in the building at the same time. This densely populated situation is exactly the kind of close contact that will promote the spread of COVID-19 and cause members of our school community to suffer needlessly. We MUST follow the science and adhere to mitigation guidelines.

Currently restaurants can't seat at full capacity for health and safety reasons indoors. So why is it ok to put students and staff back indoors at 100%?

Working with 12 students (1/2 a class) would make it possible for me to keep myself and them safe. I do not see that being possible given the current plan to have a full class of students. I am concerned for my safety, and for the families of my students if we go back to full capacity. There's not enough space.

As I understood Hybrid was a rotation schedule. I am ok with that in the yellow or green stage

I don't think it's possible to effectively social distance according to CDC protocols while school is open. Older children can still be carriers. COVID is no joke. I don't want anyone to die. Additionally, teaching in person with a mask and all the challenges and distractions of social distancing will not be "more effective" than remote instruction.

There is too much UNKNOWN. I'm not comfortable.

There is a huge health risk involved with concentrating so many people into one building. I think opening schools in brick and mortar is a response to pressure from people who are being unrealistic and are uninformed of the risks. People are going to start getting sick right away

I think that it would be safer to operate remotely if the county is not in the Green Phase, especially since a neighboring school district may be experiencing issues with higher rates of COVID cases...and teachers' children could be in those affected areas.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

If we cannot go back full time, other schools will not go back full time and I cannot leave my elementary school aged child home alone

LMSD won't be able to successfully Social Distance with full 5 day week return,

I believe the restrictions and health concerns will make learning in-person very challenging because students will be expected to remain seated and not interacting with their peers and the staff the way they are used to. The best and most enjoyable aspects of school may be absent with the in-person model. Also, I am very concerned about putting students, their families, and my own family at risk by exposure to this virus.

With all students returning at 100% capacity, the chances of positive COVID-19 cases and school shut downs significantly increase. If all the students are present and expected to maintain 6 feet, learning will be impacted since travel within and to the classroom, bathroom breaks, etc. will take much longer.

Elementary children learn best in-person with live, loving faculty and staff. My students only learned about 15% in the last trimester and it really hurt my heart. I believe it is unethical and irresponsible.

If LMSD and other school districts closed when the number of Covid-19 numbers were low, why would schools nationwide and the economy return to learning and to business when the numbers are higher?

There are too many students in each class to allow adequate social distancing. Also, the fact that it would be optional for students to wear face masks is very troubling. I am 61 years old and have a husband who has Lupus. I don't think the school district's plan is safe or responsible. We will have no way of knowing if a student is a "spreader" until it is too late. I feel that the school district is not putting the health and safety of students and staff first in the projected Green scenario.

There is no way to keep the students and teachers safe during this pandemic if schools are open with 100% of students attending. Despite some of the drawbacks of online learning, the health of students and teachers should be the top priority for LMSD. It would not be safe to return to school full-time even if we were in GREEN. It is a huge risk that could lead to death. It's not a risk worth taking in my opinion.

In the plan outlined for the Green phase, 6 feet of social distancing, which is a key factor in mitigating the spread of COVID-19, would not be possible given the number of students and staff in the building. In order to create a safe environment for all in the building, the number of people inside at any given time needs to allow for social distancing of at least 6 feet. Though the state of Pennsylvania has not indicated the rate of increase that would warrant a change from Green to Yellow, moving to Yellow would mean that cases are again reaching increased levels. At that point, being inside for prolonged periods of time, even with social distancing and mask wearing, becomes a larger liability for the safety and health of students and staff. At this point, remote learning becomes necessary.

Too unsafe to reopen for in person

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Just because it's "green" does not mean it is safe. Cases are rising, and it is imprudent to have kids and staff return to school and risk everyone's health and safety! I love my job, but I did not sign up to risk my health or that of my family. How can LMSD say they are looking out for staff and students when they want us in a Petri dish where contagion is only a matter of time.

I like the initial plans and have no issue with them on paper. But if we are continually needing to readjust what plan we are using or how we are executing it because someone in a building is getting sick, it will be incredibly difficult to establish expectations, routines, and a rhythm for our students and our families.

Coronavirus=scary. I think we need to consider going back in January

Read the study from South Korea. LMSD's hybrid model leaves too many questions unanswered.

The inability to adhere to social distancing requirements for all students as they move through the hallways during transitions and during lunch, along with the class sizes of our middle school classes makes a full opening unsafe in my opinion

I believe that there is still so much we do not know about this virus and that we owe it to everyone involved to be safe and let things calm down and reduce in numbers before we put every single student back in a closed building.

The students will get the socialization they need if they are in school 2 days a week, and there would be less opportunity for sharing germs if they are at home.

I just want to make sure my classroom is ventilated. There are no windows for ventilation

I feel that with all the unknowns that are involved with this pandemic, it is hard to say what is going to happen in the winter months. When a student or employee tests positive for Covid, will the whole class have to quarantine for 2 weeks? If the whole class quarantines, what does that look like? One class goes home and the rest of the school stays in the building? Or similar to the spring, when LMSD has one positive case, does the whole district go remote? And my questions only refer to ONE positive case. What are the chances that we will not have any positive cases in our school district this fall or winter? Another concern I have is with a winter flu season, when a student has a fever at school, it will not be immediately known if that student has the flu or Covid. How would the schools react to that situation? I feel that going to total remote learning at some point in the fall or winter is inevitable. I feel that it would be best for the students to start the year remotely so that a big change does not have to interrupt their school year again.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I am an elementary teacher in the district, and I have an elementary student in the district as well. I speak both as an employee and a parent- I have spent a lot of time this summer thinking about what the upcoming school year will look like. I know that it is very ideal to have the students in the building, spending time forming relationships, teaching routines and expectations, creating a class community- however, it is also important that we stay consistent- I think starting, and staying hybrid for as long as possible, will allow us to form the community, while also trouble shooting virtual learning in person. The students need practice, and the teachers need practice! I also feel very strongly that the district needs to lay out CLEAR and DETAILED expectations for virtual learning- by individual grade level. There was too much inconsistency last year, which led to a lot of confusion and frustration.

The current levels of cases is on the rise. Requiring all staff and students to report is a major health risk. I selected that I would be very likely to return because that is my job if I am called to do so. However, I am concerned about the sated of both students and staff in current plan.

Right now I am not completely sure what is the best decision at this time.

Keeping elementary students 6 feet apart is very challenging. While doing ESY with a student this morning he blew his nose in his mask! I want more than anything for kids to be in school but masks and 6 ft apart are impossible to achieve. Just getting them to walk in a line is a challenge. If the number of students are reduced it could help things.

Whether the county is green or yellow, the risk is significantly higher by having school children indoors with other students and staff

It is going to be very hard to have students and adults adhere to the recommendations by CDC when so many people in our country don't adhere to the recommendations. The best way to protect each other is to wear masks, wash hands, and social distance. Yet, so many people continue to not do these simple tasks.

Concerns of health and safety

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Schools connect so many people. If one person gets infected in our district, how many people would have to quarantine and would possibly be infected? Pretty much everyone in the entire district, AND their families, AND anyone that those people have come in contact with, including their places of work. That could mean entire neighboring school districts, if someone's parent or spouse is a teacher in another district... It almost seems that if an infection occurs in a school district, there is almost instantaneous community spread that is very difficult to trace and contain. Our school district has always said that safety is number one, but by having all students return to school together, we are placing not only their lives on the line, but those of their families and friends, as well. What would we say to the families and friends of any student or staff member who contracts COVID on campus and dies as a result? By sending our students all back to school under the Green plan, we are placing all of our students (and their families) at risk of death or long-term health complications. We are also placing a heavy burden of responsibility on these kids to maintain social distancing, wear masks all day, wash hands, and eat/drink while socially distancing ALL DAY EVERY DAY without fail...and that is not only unreasonable. It's not fair to expect it of them. Even in Hybrid mode, we are still placing our entire population at risk. Additionally, at a time when our nation is struggling to bring a pandemic under control, it seems irresponsible and reckless to send hundreds and thousands of children into situations where they are bound to spread the virus. Not only are we placing a hefty responsibility on their shoulders to prevent the spread of the virus, we are putting them on the front lines where they become the most likely to contract the virus. How can we, in good conscience, consider putting our children in this precarious position?

it's not safe. it's also not fair to put students and staff at risk. My classroom is an interior classroom with no ventilation, teaching/learning in that environment is not safe. Parents selfishly drop their kids off sick as is, what is going to prevent them from dropping off a COVID positive kid? Elementary students are not going to keep masks on.

Everyone needs to get back to their normal routine. Precautions are in place. We need to be back in school.

Covid-19 cases are currently higher than they were when we went remote in March and RISING. It is unsafe for students and staff to return in full, or really at all. At the very least, LMSD should be planning for a hybrid opening like most other local districts, if not being fully remote. The safety of all should be a priority and a full opening does not provide for safety.

Half the students on Mon, Tues and the other half on Thurs, Fri is much better for the students. At least they will be in school with friends part of the time. Much better than being at home on a computer all day.

It seems imperative that our concern, as stated by Fauci, is the health and safety of our students (and staff). There is absolutely no way bringing back 100% of our students and staff at a time when current coronavirus cases rival those that were present in April would be in the best interests of our children's well-being. I understand and respect the social-emotional concerns, and those of the weight of childcare and even meals on those who rely on the school district to provide proper nutrition. With that being said, it is simply a disservice to put our community at such risk. With a hybrid model, we will be providing consistency from the start. Parents will have the next month to plan options for the beginning of the school year. Transportation and logistics can be determined. A hybrid model, in an extremely challenging worldwide pandemic, at least offers right now, an option for some sense of routine, "face to face" interaction, and normalcy. Most importantly, it allows for proper distancing and an additional day where the building can be deep cleaned mid week.

I think it is wrong to go full steam ahead. It will be easier to open up gradually than it will be to go backwards.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

With social distancing kids should still be in school. Also, deep clean on Friday, not Wed

space is limited and children are the REAL carriers as well as adults and have to be reminded personal space and hygiene etiquette, decisions are constantly changing and can go back which has happened in many instances, spikes are soon to come in the fall which will push us back, Special Ed population cant be 6' or more from each other cause they need assistance so that's a risk and not safe, how do you suppose to provide care for your child(ren) or loved ones if you are operating on a different schedule than other districts????

All scientific evidence shows that people should be 6 feet apart or should not gather in groups of more than 25 people. There is NO way for everyone to maintain six feet of social distance from others in a full return scenario, the buildings barely accommodate the students and staff with no concern for social distancing. Parents WILL be sending children to school when they are sick (we know that for a fact because it is done regularly) so not only will other students be at risks but adults as well. We also know that the virus can be transmitted by people who are not currently exhibiting symptoms, so even if every sick child or adult stays home there is no guarantee that someone with the virus will not be in school spreading it despite best efforts to exclude the sick. I strongly believe that people in the district attending school will die from COVID if we return to full time school at this time. One death of a student or adult working in the district is too many and I do not understand why the District would be willing to put any student or adult in LMSD at that risk.

The hybrid plan reduces the number of students in the building at any given time, which reduces risk for students and staff.

Children work closely together. I am concerned about maintaining social distancing and mask wearing

Fall is the beginning of influenza season. Unless there is a big change in the current Coronavirus uptick, I think it is safer to be cautious.

childcare is an issue in the Yellow phase as my children will not be in school 5 days/week in a hybrid model; therefore, I need to be at home with them

I think social distancing should be maintained as per department of health guidelines. So a hybrid schedule is best even when we are in the green zone

I am concerned for my health, and more importantly the health of my family members. I have seen my grandparents once recently after months apart, but I would have to avoid them as long as I am entering the building each day.

1. Numbers trending upwards in cases including positive cases in younger members of the community. 2. As we are on summer vacation I am worried about people returning from potential hotspots/ vacation destinations and bringing the virus unbeknown to them to the rest of the community. 3. I'm worried that not all constituents in the LM community have been as vigilant in protecting themselves and others from the virus.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I believe schools should open. Only have on-line learning if in Red. The chaos having anything other than full school is impossible to work around. Families in different districts, parents who work regular jobs. Parents that will need child care will end up sending them to overcrowded day care facilities.

Maybe start with a hybrid schedule if we are in yellow KNOWING KINDERGARTEN ALSO should be hybrid--1/2 AM class IN AM AND 1/2 PM class IN PM WITH SOME TIME TO CLEAN, IN ADDITION TO PREP AND EACH LUNCH. Maybe spacing out the AM/PM sessions by 15 extra minutes per session if teachers need to do the cleaning.

I think that remote learning is what is safest for students, families, and staff due to the extreme level of contagion of the virus.

If the county is going yellow, that indicated the cases are increasing. If students can't even go to a restaurant, how could school possibly be safe.

Currently the number of cases in PA is still rising, even though PA is in the green. I feel the risk of contracting the virus is still high even in the green. In the hybrid plan, kindergarten needs to half the size. Wednesday should be a morning meeting and then planning and staff/ Achievement Team meeting day only.

We need to get back some form of normality asap. Students just can't continue locked up at home and expect to be normal.

I am concerned for the safety and well being of staff. I am also concerned about students carrying home COVID to their parents/family members/grandparents and making this whole situation worse for our community.

A hybrid plan with more remote learning in which students and parents must realize/agree that a certain percentage of attendance during synchronous and asynchronous lessons is mandatory. I personally believe that the hybrid plan should be every other day, with required attendance remote learning on Fridays. Additionally, the schools should be cleaned appropriately every evening. Yes that requires more custodial staff but they could be part time and that would provide more local part time jobs for those in need. Unfortunately/sadly I realize this plan would be labeled "pie in the sky." I also think this plan would provide the students with the best chance for learning to the greatest degree possible.

For the safety of everyone involved, it is dangerous, possibly deadly to have 25 children in my classroom at once. we need to be certain we can provide social distancing And cannot do that with our current class sizes. If enough students choose LMVA and we have no more than 12 in our classes, that is do-able, yet still very scary given this pandemic.

Safest to not gather in groups; too many moving parts

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I think that returning to the buildings this fall is putting the health of every student and employee at serious and unnecessary risk. It also puts at risk the health of every person we go home to each day. There is data showing that the only way to get this virus under control is to limit large gatherings, wear masks, and physically distance from one another. Yet, in the green phase, every school day would be a large gathering, masks seem optional and the expectation that kids will distance themselves effectively is impractical. Even in the hybrid model, the precautions and procedures outlined do not seem adequate or acceptable when dealing with the dangers associated with this virus. The lack of proper ventilation and absence of windows in some of the classrooms/buildings is reason enough for alarm. With the increase in COVID cases across the nation in recent weeks, that we are even considering opening the doors in September seems ludicrous to me. We (students and staff) should not be putting our health or our lives at risk just to return to traditional education. Every one of us stepped up to the plate in the spring and made the adjustment to on-line instruction. And while it was very difficult and frustrating at times, we (students and staff) managed and in some cases thrived. While remote learning may not be ideal in the long term, it does keep us safe now. Until this virus is under control and entering a school building does not put our lives at risk, I think the doors should remain closed.

For high school, I suggest remote education with one day a week where each of the major subject areas could have students come in to teach outside (or in inclement weather in a ventilated tent on Arnold field). So for example, students could come in for Math instruction Monday mornings, Social Studies Tuesday, Science Wed, World Languages Thursday, Language Arts Friday. Physical Ed could be spread over afternoon. So students are in school (mostly outside) in the morning and home for the remainder of the day.

There is too much at stake to go full in. There are many teachers and students who would be put in harms way. Hybrid can lessen that risk.

1. It has been stated that the HEALTH and SAFETY of the students and staff are the top priority, the current plan contradicts this statement. 2. I consider this to be a change in working conditions. Knowing exposing students and staff to COVID...3. It is unlikely, elementary aged students will be consistently able to stay 6 ft away from each other. 4. Given our population, it is highly likely that we will have Covid introduced into the buildings. 5. My "classroom" was a closet. I work with children who have AS as well as students requiring Emotional Support. If 6ft is Social Distancing, there can be a max of 3 people in the room.

I am very nervous about having a large class size and being unable to distance. A hybrid option keepsers classes manageable and small class sizes means I will also be able to get a lot done with the students. Hallways would be less crowded and I think the building will be a lot less stressful

I think that it's necessary to take the vital precautions even if Montgomery County is in the Green phase since we don't know how safe it is to have ALL 700 students return to a building and operate as if everything went back to normal. It's necessary to see your students face-to-face in the beginning of the year if the situation allows for it, but I don't think it's appropriate to compromise the health of any one individual by bringing it the entire school and teacher community all at once at the start of the school year. Rather, small groups will yield a safer and more constructive option.

100% remote learning

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I think hybrid is the safest for all involved but would like to see a different plan. The current hybrid plan doesn't allow students to see their teachers each day. I would propose a plan where each cohort goes to school on an am or pm schedule rather than by days. This would require more bussing but would be safer as there would be less students on the busses. It would also eliminate lunch and recess issues. Asking students to sit in one spot for the entire day isn't realistic or good for children. Students who went to school in the AM would go home for lunch and "recess". The students could have specials on Zoom and then complete work assigned by teachers and/ or supplemental services such as math and reading and gifted support via Zoom. Wearing a mask all day is necessary but not realistic, especially in the elementary schools. This gives parents, students and teachers a set, predictable schedule during both green and yellow phases. All desk could be in the classroom but students would sit every other one and switch for the PM session to reduce germs spread by sharing desks. The current hybrid model isn't taking into account that we are asking teachers to be "live" and virtual teachers at the same time which is impossible. Specialists such as reading and math, could also support many students at home on work assigned to the students by their homeroom teacher.

I don't know how students are going to maintain a 6 foot distance according to the governor's guidelines.

Time to get back to work with proper precautions and safeguards. Unfortunately there have been nearly 150,000 American deaths due to Covid-19 but these numbers do not dictate shutting down schools.

The hybrid model is the easiest way to transition to remote if things get worse. Socially distancing will also be able to be done effectively.

There are too many unanswered questions. How many children/adults need to be sick before we close the school. What is an acceptable rate of infection? Who will substitute for sick staff members? How much additional custodial staff is being hired to assure that "deep" cleaning is done? How will instructional aides maintain distance while helping children with their work? And so many more questions

Remote instruction is the safest course of action for students and staff. If we open, then cases rise, then we close. Rinse and repeat. This year will be filled with stops and starts. Parents changing plans repeatedly. With a hybrid model, we may still have to close. With this novel virus, so much is unknown at this point and its long term effects. This virus has multiple symptoms where a someone could be asymptomatic, hospitalized, or death and everything in between. There are 11 symptoms and you could have 0 to 11 with any combination in between. We have testing that is limited and 80% accurate. I do not envy your position and as a LMSD employee, I KNOW you keep the safety of our students and staff in the deepest parts of your mind. In the end, when we look back on this time, what do we want to see? I want my students to be safe as well as my family. This is temporary if we can keep it contained long enough for a vaccine. Thank you for giving me the chance to voice my thoughts and I wish you and your family well.

To me, its an all or nothing type of deal.

I do not believe LM should return at full capacity if 6 feet of social distancing cannot be attained.

I feel for the safety of all of our students and staff, all in school may not be the best plan

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Even if Montgomery County/Lower Merion is in Green, I think there will still be a higher risk of getting Covid-19. Although there have been several practices in place, I think it will be too challenging for the children to wear their masks all day long.

I think that the virus spreads very easily, and if we're still in Yellow, then even if 1 kid or staff member is sick, the likelihood that we all get sick is very high. I think it doesn't make sense to risk infecting people. I think this virus is either fought completely, or we lose people. Unfortunately, I do not think there's room for the hybrid model.

I have a number of issues with the hybrid model and its effectiveness. I think we either have to be onsite or go directly to full remote. There will be less confusion for all involved.

I am concerned about the Hybrid model , on wednesdays what does the staff do ? During the clean out ?

Because of the likelihood that schools who start in green will quickly move to yellow when cases are detected (which will be quickly).

As numbers continue to increase, we are exposing our students and staff and not requiring masks which are the one safety measure shown to protect people from the virus. If masks are not required I do not see how we can return to the buildings safely. Masks are currently required to enter any business in the state, yet our schools will be places where everyone will risk exposure.

LMSD should be planning for completely remote instruction for the upcoming school year.

Masks should be required in the Green phase. This is called a "novel" coronavirus for a reason and not enough is known about the methods of transmission and the impacts. The Governor's designations are completely ad hoc and should not substitute for making the smartest decisions for our school community.

With alot of cities and states having surges of illness and having to keep pulling things back I feel it's just safer to start the year remotely rather than risk a surge of illness and possibly death. I also believe there are too many variables such as parents working and coming into contact with who knows how many people, the staff and their spouses, families, kids that work outside the district and attend other district schools, private schools etc. I personally think starting remotely and then go back to school in January would be safer and allow more time to make sure all of the buildings are properly outfitted to protect everone.

Erring on the side of caution until there is a vaccine

I sent a very detailed email to the reopening task force at approximately 4:00 today. That outlines my concerns. Also, this survey is deceptive. It should be asking how comfortable we are in coming back to work. People will "very likely" be forced to come to work so that they will get paid but may feel highly unsafe in doing so.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Would be difficult to maintain social distance in classrooms

the current plan allows a school bus to transport 50 students at a time thus greatly jeopardizing my health and the students. the idea that a bus driver is going to be able to enforce mask wearing of all students while driving is totally unrealistic. It might sound good on paper but does not work in the real world. Windows would have to be fully open no matter the weather or discomfort as being shown to be effective in reducing transmission. Lower Merions green phase plan does not even compare to the Governors more strict recommendations. (limited students, not using seats behind driver).

I think consistency allows for teachers to plan for more student-centered activities. The hybrid model does not necessarily allow for equitable access for all students at all times. It makes teacher planning difficult. In school teaching, in green, without possibility for student movement, collaboration, or shared materials, does not allow for the implementation of good teaching pedagogy. It's just a strained version of face to face version of online teaching which puts all human beings in unnecessary risk and creates unnecessary anxiety and stress in an already stressful time.

I don't think it's wise to provide any on-site instruction due to the risk of COVID infection. My husband is at an extremely high risk of death from Coronavirus complications.

In elementary classrooms, with 24-26 students per class (that has been the average) there is no feasible way to social distance w/ desks 6 ft apart. Bathrooms are "tight" as it is, there is no current "staff" dedicated bathroom which was always concerning (regardless of COVID) and sink area is small to say the least. To provide the adequate space needed for safety, all students cannot return under these conditions. Nor is it feasible to have 24-26 students eating in the classroom, doing all specials in the classroom. With things already "tight" and the distancing now in place....there is no room for our curriculum to be delivered the way it should or is supposed to be.

Due to the current spike in cases and we are only half way through the summer, number of staff members and students whose health is compromised and/or have family members whose health is compromised, staff and student anxiety around the lack of health and safety protocols that can properly be put into place, and lack of planning for staff I have great concerns about any district being able to safely re-open full time/ 100% in person. Several of our schools (especially the middle schools) are already busting at the seams for space. How can we possibly have all students and staff in at the same time safely? I have not seen any plans about what the spaces will look like, how much instruction can/will take place outdoors, and what transportation will look like. If more parents drive their students to school, will there be staggered start times to allow for the traffic that will create?

I think the hybrid plan is a better, more conservative option when considering plans if we are in green

According to the law, I will be required to return to school unless I have an underlying condition. I do not, so I do not have a choice. Until the virus is contained and the number of cases decreases dramatically, I do not feel safe returning to school and there are too many variables for the district to mitigate despite best efforts.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I do not understand how all students can be in current small lmsd classrooms and be safely spaced. As a teacher, I do believe having half the class is manageable at a time. Teachers need to feel safe and I think most teachers would feel safer with smaller class sizes.

This is risking the lives of students both students and staff, along with every single person they may come in contact with.

The current plan is vague. I am not confident at all that we can ensure the safety of staff and students for in-person learning at this time. Rather than spread teachers thin with planning for BOTH in-person and remote learning, I think efforts should be focused on making remote learning robust for the start of the school year and ensure the safety of all individuals. I think the plan to move to in-person learning should be assessed every 4 weeks.

There is too much we don't know yet. It is not worth the unnecessary risks to be in person at this time.

At this time, the number of cases are continuing to rise despite our "green" designation. When school begins, we'll have children returning who may have been exposed to the virus while vacationing, at camp, or sporting events who may spread the virus. Since 6 feet does not seem possible in classrooms & masks are only being "encouraged" there is a big risk of it spreading. Last year a number of staff, including myself, were impacted by a terrible respiratory infection that lasted for months. Covid is highly contagious, so I would expect it to spread in a similar, if not worse fashion. Who covers our responsibilities when we're out sick? How many sick days do we get? I also have significant concern for the mental health of our students should staff, kids & families get sick and even die from an outbreak. I also worry about the anxiety kids will face in a school environment where they are concerned about getting sick, may be wearing masks, & have to spread out. I just think the benefits of a full opening are minimal versus the high risk of an outbreak of open. I think our efforts are better spent planning for virtual, as it seems likely we will be virtual at some point when an outbreak occurs. I am seriously terrified that I will get sick & may be one of the unfortunate ones given my underlying asthma. I also worry about bringing it home to my family & kids. Childcare for my own personal children is also a concern. Please consider the safety of our staff & students over the pressure to open.

I would have issues with childcare because my home school district will be following a hybrid model in the fall

I do not think the plan LMSD has developed is safe for stakeholders. It feels as though there is a rush to come back even though numbers are high. After reviewing CDC guidelines and the LMSD plan we as a district are NOT keeping students or staff safe. I am incredibly frustrated with the process and the outcome. Having reviewed other local district plans they feel much more collaborative and safe. Honestly, I am disappointed in LMSD.

Even if it is green, on site instruction does not allow for the recommended CDC physical distancing for all students to return.

The yellow phase is supposed to be a short phase between the red and green phases that allows public health officials to monitor the virus' presence in the community. We still have to do our part like wear masks and social distance to stay safe. We are not supposed to gather in large groups so I do not see operating half-full as adequate social distancing.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I believe it is not safe to be in our schools at this time. I worry for my family. I have taught in the district for 25 years I do not believe we can stay 6 feet apart, I do not believe students will keep masks on as needed.

lack of childcare for own children and safety.

We cannot meet the recommendations required for safely bringing all students back into the building. It is important that we are thinking about the safety of students and staff.

I'm concerned we are running out of time to plan well for multiple scenarios and that we could provide a more quality experience with one plan that has been meticulously thought out. I recognize that remote is very hard on many families, perhaps we can find ways to identify and support those families (allocating resources to this endeavor) versus spending money on tents and shields that may not even be effective with an airborne virus. Socialization needs can be met by families selecting other children that they are comfortable with their child interacting with which would seem more beneficial than eating lunch 6 feet away from a peer. I hope this isn't coming across in a harsh way. There are so many hard decisions to make and it's impossible to make everyone happy.

Masks must be mandatory in the building at all times. It is unacceptable to expect me to teach in front of people without masks. There needs to be a clearly communicated plan for when anyone in the building tests positive. Sick days need to be revisited so that there is clear communication for what staff should expect to occur if they are sick with COVID-19, forced to quarantine because of exposure, or other circumstances related to COVID-19. Classrooms must allow for six feet of space between desks. Montgomery and neighboring counties are in Green but have regularly gone over the 50 new, confirmed cases per 100,000 in the previous 14 days.

We can not kegalky and safely return all kids to crowded classrooms and expect them to sit on auditorium floors for lunch (Merion) and be effective teachers and keep everyone safe. not possible and not very wise to think it is possible. There will be chsos to manage which would defeat any possible positive academic outcome. we are responsible for children's lives now?

Safety

The country is experiencing spikes in the virus wherever precautions begin to relax. I am in a high risk group and am very concerned about exposure in any kind of setting that puts me in any large group of people. I think that reopening the schools at all before a vaccine is available is very risky to everyone's health. The news from everywhere in the country seems to be proving that to be true.

Teachers and staff are at risk. So many things are still being questioned and until there are definite plans and answers in place, both students and staff should not be in person on a full-time basis. Schools should remain closed or hybrid until the spread of Corona has stopped. The demands of teachers to teach to the curriculum, plus be attentive to all the new health procedures in place is A LOT on teachers' plates, let alone having to worry about our own health and family's health on top of all that. Elementary kids are not guaranteed to follow or listen to all the rules set in place, guaranteeing greater risks to students and staff.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Working in a special education setting with very low functioning students who are completely unaware of the impact of COVID is terrifying. This population not only will not keep masks on they will also attempt to remove (intentionally or unintentionally) staffs PPE. Some of the students I work with purposely sneeze, spit ect on staff. I will only feel safe working remotely until this situation is under control.

I just don't understand why if the number of cases is more than it was in March (and we were remote teaching in March), why we are going back full day, even in green. Also if students don't bring supplies or follow classroom guidelines, how can I trust they will bring masks/the school will have enough for them. We don't even have enough books for students to read. Plus, classes are always oversized. I don't know how I can keep desks appropriate far apart facing forward with 20+ students (I've done it in the past but I can't move/instruct and they are less than 6ft vertically.

I need to figure out childcare for my own children and my husband works out of the home 5 days a week

Uncertainty that social distancing can be effective in a school environment. Concern for spread of covid-19 amongst those that are asymptomatic.

Well, the schools are PACKED with more students than they were designed to hold even with expansion. There is absolutely no way 6 feet distance can be maintained based on my classroom and number of rostered students. Who is watching the kids during classroom lunch? We have had ZERO substitutes for the last 4+ years. I see no mention of how you are going to handle this issue. Given the situation, are you all prepared to deal with students and staff contracted the virus, be coming sick and/or gravely ill or bringing it home to loved ones? It's ironic that board of school directors, the superintendent, and central office administrators are making the decision to bring back 9,000 students and 1,500+ staff via ZOOM! The small group of you can't meet in person BUT will mandate the underlings to pack into the compromised buildings like sardines during a pandemic?????

The I believe the procedures necessary for providing social distancing within the building are too large a task for staff, administrators, and students. For instance, my classroom cannot be distanced and the principals will need to find me a classroom to work in six periods a day. I can imagine others are in similar situations. The hybrid plan will allow us the opportunity to distance children without spending too much time going over tedious social distancing procedures. I want to start building relationships and getting kids ready for a vigorous curriculum.

The health concerns are too much for me.

K-5 onsite, dispersed through all LMSD buildings to permit social distancing. 6-12 remote. This helps parents with child care for younger children and provides remote instruction for older children who are more likely to benefit from online learning.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

The Covid 19 cases are still going up and people are still dying. I understand there is no vaccine but there are no treatments either. We have only missed 4 and a half months on in class learning. What is the rush to go back to in school learning and endanger everyone's lives. Online learning is the safest until more information about the virus comes out. We need a treatment, treatments or a vaccine for safety on our community and around the world. How can we only be in groups up to 250 people in the green phase but if we go back to school there will be around 1000 students in the same building. Please consider the safety of staff and students when making your decision. There is no need to rush back to in school learning when online learning is available and safe!

Cases are rising across the country & Montgomery County was hit hard and will be again because people don't follow the rules and wear masks. I can't imagine how it will be safe until there is a vaccine. Why risk more lives when school can be done remotely for now.

Since large gatherings are still limited and businesses such as restaurants must have limited capacity, it seems more proactive and safer to gradually ease back into safe practices in schools. It will be extremely difficult to safely social distance and properly clean with 500+ students in a school building on a given day. I hope that school does return to some normalcy soon; however, given that the data/reported cases still remains high, I would rather reduce risk as much as possible. If hybrid models can offer some type of reduction in risk, I think that is better than not trying for any risk reduction at this time when vaccines are not available (to protect students, families, and staff).

For the safety for staff & students I believe we should remain in a hybrid (yellow) status

I believe it's important for LM to consider families in the plan and offer many different options for staff and students. My biggest concern is for my own children. If their schedules don't match mine, it makes it extremely difficult for me to be at work and them to be home (they are in kindergarten and 2nd grade, so they aren't independent). I think we can get creative and satisfy the needs of everyone if we create open dialogue with parents and staff. Many will stay home, if given the option, some will attend school. There's a terrific article floating around that explains how 'needy families' can attend school whereas families that can successfully navigate remotely will be able to do so (all under the guidance of the same teacher - who is teaching remotely).

I do not feel in Reality 6 feet will be occurring in Elementary school along with effective hand washing and mask wearing. I will not feel safe but will take it day by day.

Social Distancing with 12 to 15 students in the classroom will enable us to focus more on keeping your health and welfare of those 1215 students and ourselves as teachers and also focus on teaching much easier than having 24 to 20

New things about COVID 19 are learned daily due to the fact it is a novel virus. LMSD has a responsibility to its students and staff to educate remotely until more info about the transmission of the virus is learned. Restaurants are only operating at 25% capacity, why in the world would you put people's life in danger when there is a logical alternative of remote learning.

I want to teach but I also want to survive and not get infected or infect my family.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

My mother works in healthcare and we have discussed the safety of children and teachers at length. Overall, we find that with the scientific studies it has shown that the virus is more likely spread indoors with minimal ventilation which is how schools are built. Specific to BCMS majority of the classrooms don't even have the ability to open windows let alone many don't even have windows.

I am selecting the hybrid model for both yellow and green phases because I feel that in order to maintain 6 feet apart and social distancing amongst all students this is the only model that will work. I also feel that until numbers in PA start going down, and not continue to go up, it is important we start the year with less kids together at a time, and make sure our goals of distancing and keeping a safe environment are working before opening the school to all students at once.

Postpone opening school so that teachers have time to prepare adequately for all the options in both their professional and personal lives. Provide opportunity for SPED teachers that commute, are single income OR are unable to afford childcare for own children while teaching/working the option to teach remotely with ability to return to previous classroom/building program when COVID vaccine is available/numbers are such that they are 1% or less in PA. Provide parents of students with SPED students within the specialized learning support program with in person instructors who are able and comfortable with volunteering themselves and don't feel like they are sacrificing the health of their own at risk family members and self. This specific population is comprised of immuno compromised kids who unfortunately require in person instruction. I feel for everyone involved with these students, due to the complexities of need. Implementing individualized accommodations requires special consideration not only for the students for the staff as well!!! We teach the students and parents "equal" does not look the same for everyone, why is this different for the teachers? Please don't make a canned approach one size fits all. Give teachers an opportunity to feel safe- we love what we do. We love our students and families, but feeling like (students and teachers) are being treated like sacrificial lambs.

I don't see how the school can maintain social distancing and other CDC recommendations without some kind of modification to schedule or student attendance

Because there is not a robust testing and contact-tracing regimen, I am convinced that there will be confirmed cases in the school that will not be able to be properly traced, leading to a full shutdown of school. Other than perhaps a few weeks of introduction and explaining home expectations and procedures of remote learning (if things are in the green) the only responsible way to go is fully remote until there is a vaccine or cases are orders of magnitude lower than 70k+ per day nationally.

Other countries opened their schools when their numbers were flat and they had massive spikes and had to close everything within two weeks of opening. I do not feel that it is safe even if we are in green. I am in the very at risk age group, I have a pre existing lung condition and my husband battles cancer a few months ago.

It's just not safe to go back to school yet. Too scary to potentially lose student's or staff's lives.

Science is showing that children are still safer, physically and emotionally, during onsite instruction. Also, there are physicians stating that children are not likely spreading COVID to others.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Not enough space / not enough teachers

I'm partial to the Hybrid instruction plan no matter which phase the county goes to at this time-unless cases increase significantly and we have to "shut down" again

I do not trust that it will be safe to open schools in the fall, given the spikes in cover 19 cases. These spikes seem to be the result of large group gatherings. School is one, large group gathering. The safety precautions will not be followed by 100% of the people involved. It is asking for trouble, very dangerous trouble.

I am concerned about opening at full capacity due to the recommendation to remain 6 ft from others.

Less risk for everyone for possible Covid exposure

I think until Covid -19 does not pose a health threat to our students and staff we should be cautious and keep everyone safe, teach remotely until a vaccine is available.

Care for my own children and the safety/heath of all involved

If everyone goes back for full opening, there will undoubtedly be a sharp rise in cases of COVID-19. Aside from the safety of students and their families, there are a lot of teachers/employees who are 45+ years of age who would be putting themselves and their families at risk.

This is the easiest & safest way to get everyone started since the number of cases continue to increase. We could take our time to phase into a model where we meet in person once the district has a better idea on resources and can communicate it far enough in advance for people to coordinate other responsibilities such as child care, etc.

Limiting the number of students in the classroom will be safer and allow for better assessment of students learning. The ability to due labs and activities when the classes are full is a concern. The ability to maintain social distancing protocols during the entire day with lunches and switching of classes is a concern

I do not believe that my classroom or school have adequate space or procedures (i.e. mandated mask-wearing, appropriate cleaning supplies, time to implement sanitation, adjusted scheduling, etc) in order to maintain safety of students and staff. I believe the current plan to be dangerous and not adequately adherent to state and AAP recommendations.

I do not feel safe under the current plan. By the districts own admission it is not possible to socially distance at 100% capacity. Masks aren't even required! It's not safe. No matter what next year is not going to be a normal year so I don't understand why the district is pushing to open fully. This is out of line with other districts in the area such as central bucks, wissahickon, and west Chester. I only selected somewhat likely to return because I have to or I lose my job. I do not feel safe going back at 100% capacity. I don't know of any teacher who does.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

The CDC has indicated that full-school (or even hybrid) openings are at a huge risk for the virus' spread. If we go 100% in green, then the rate of infection will certainly skyrocket, someone (adult or child) will be infected, without symptoms for several days, infecting others. We will probably skip yellow and go right back to red. Why not ensure that students and staff are virus-free for an extended period of time and then reopen? We do not know the level of precaution our district's families have made. Consequently the CDC's warnings should be heeded. Distance learning for a time, then go to yellow or green.

Even if we are in a green phase there is still no vaccine for the COVID-19 virus. I feel that if you bring such a large body of students and staff back into one location you are just asking for the virus to continue to spread. The hybrid model gives us a little bit of flexibility.

Thanks for asking - I actually wrote an essay to explain (found here: <https://sites.google.com/view/letsstayhome/lets-stay-home>) but bottom line I think socially distanced classrooms will be too stressful and static to be conducive to learning, and our practice will be so hamstrung if kids can't work together that we shouldn't go back.

Remote learning for yellow and red phases due to risk of increased infection to children and staff

Because PA is still above 5% increases daily I believe for everyone's safety it is best to err on the side of caution. Especially with the diversity in our district and the fact that parents will travel for work and that will impact their families and ultimately our staff

Large group gatherings are not safe. Teachers deserve better safety protocols than to be put in a position to see hundreds of students per week. I guarantee the board and the district administrators would never expose themselves to the numbers of people they are asking teachers to be exposed to

I do not believe we BELONG in green to start with. I believe this is dangerous for students and staff alike. We should do a better job with remote teaching and start there.

I would suggest if in green to begin with hybrid instruction and if the number of Postive Covid cases remains low for 2-3 weeks move to full in school instruction

I do not believe that students and teachers are safe in schools(elementary especially). Social Distancing, wearing masks will be near impossible. Also, school and socialization will be very different and could be scary for kids. It will not feel inviting, warm, and kid friendly. Last, I understand the percentage is low for children but risking the chance that even one student or faculty member gets a severe case should NOT be an option!

SAFETY and CARE for PEOPLE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! How do you put that many bodies in one classroom?!

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

LMSD admitted in their plan that they would not be able to conform to recommendations of 6 feet social distancing when all the students are present at school. That is not safe, and I cannot bring this virus home to my family, who is medically fragile. Parents are trusting us to keep their kids safe, that is a huge responsibility. Staff and students can die from this, you need to be more mindful of the decisions you make. Some students with special needs will not wear masks or social distance, and I understand that, but they should not be able to infect others. I live in the district and have a 12 year old autistic son that has attended a cyber charter school for the past 7 years. It has been great for him! If you cannot follow the guidelines we should not go back.

I don't believe there is a way to open our schools to in school learning that would guarantee the health and safety of those in the buildings. I don't believe this situation will get any safer until there is a vaccine made available.

I am very concerned that data collection and reporting will not be accurate and students and their parents will under-report, not go to the doctor, and not stay at home for fear of a student missing instruction or the parent missing work. Also, the logistics of students in multiple rooms, and teacher who also hold classes in multiple rooms, will only allow for additional exposure. I believe LM wants to do the right thing for students and staff, but the exponential variables of individuals and families in our community is too great.

It is not worth the risk

I do not think full in-person schedule would allow safety for students and staff.

Nothing gets more attention than in person

I do not think we can properly social distance the children with a full reopening especially in the high school. Have you ever been in the hallways during transition????

Given that my family has been practicing strict social distancing all summer, even when we are in the "green," it makes no sense to return school at full capacity, where even with a reduced number of students, it would be impossible to maintain 6 feet between people. The idea that masks would only be encouraged and not required for 100% of people makes no sense. Even if our county is "green," we are still in a pandemic with high numbers in other areas that are likely to spread and without adequate testing/contact tracing to identify and control new cases. I do not understand how teachers would be able to manage teaching 4 days in person while also managing online learning, but I do think there is a lot of value in spending some time with students to get to know them and build rapport at the onset of the year. This is why I support a hybrid model upon opening. I am disappointed that teachers have not been invited into planning conversations in more significant ways earlier in the process.

Extremely concerned for my health and the health of my young children and my husband.

I don't feel that there's enough opportunity for cleaning and disinfecting. Two instruction days and then a cleaning still allows for germs to be brought in and spread on the second instruction day.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

LMSD should offer an in-house virtual academy, fully staffed by our own teachers with our own digitized curriculum and supports. Any teacher who prefers or needs should have the opportunity to staff that virtual academy, work entirely from home, and be paid a reduced salary (perhaps 60%). Those who report to brick and mortar teaching should receive a hazard pay stipend (from funds of reduced salaries) as well as all needed PPE for students and staff.

Unless the number of students is drastically reduced, 6ft of social distance in the class rooms etc cannot be maintained, so a hybrid model is the best way to maintain social distance and maintain ventilation.

In my opinion the hybrid solution has the same amount of risk as fully onsite.

Too much unknown about the spread of this virus. Too little information as to how people will be quarantined if a staff member , student, parent etc. become infected with the virus.

I think logistically the brick and mortar full opening cannot be done safely. I believe that the hybrid model is more realistic.

The upper administration has not really thought about all that goes into social distancing elementary aged children. There is no way we can be 6 feet apart and fit 25 students in a classroom. I did the math and at most 14 would fit comfortably at 3 feet apart. We should be doing in-services now for virtual instruction and give the teachers a daily plan of what the district expects us to accomplish remotely. If board meetings are being held remotely and it is unsafe for the board then how can the district expect it to be safe for children and teachers in just over a month?

Given current COVID infection rates in the United States, the notion of gathering hundreds or even a couple thousand people indoors 5-days a week is obviously unsafe, regardless of the safety measures put in place. It is also alarming that if we are "green" students will only be encouraged to wear masks and will not be required to. If students are physically in school buildings, the district needs to take extremely stringent public health measures regardless of what phase of re-opening our state and county is.

I do not believe it will be safe to bring students back. Cases are climbing higher than when we originally shut down. Keeping elementary kids stationary all day at a desk is not appropriate especially with no shared materials. It will be near impossible to keep young students in one spot all day long and is harmful. Students move constantly in the room especially in the lower grades. Shields are being allowed without a mask which is highly concerning seeing it has been shown COVID is transfer through air particles. Shield in my opinion must be worn with a mask. Social distancing is not possible with young students for the staff. If we do that means no helping with handwriting, no zipping coats, no tie shoes, no touching their belongings. How will this not scare and frighten our littlest learners. Is it better to be in school full time in restrictions that don't even feel like school or learning at home without the movement/materials restrictions. I am very likely to return due to financial reasons regardless of the plan, however I absolutely do not feel safe doing so. I will be adhering to social distancing with students, meaning the quality of relationship building might be effected. My health and safety along with my family's is my main priority.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I think we should start with the hybrid approach and ease into fully reopening. -If Pa stays on green we can reopen completely - It would give us time to work out kinks . -If we go to yellow , we're already into a routine - saving students and staff yet another adjustment. -If/when students or staff need to isolate instruction could still go on.

I am not convinced that instruction at the high school level can be done safely (social distancing etc). High school students will be in close proximity during passing time between classes and the level of exposure will be incredibly high (one COVID+ student will come in contact with at least 5 (but probably more) teachers and hundreds of students in a single day. I am not convinced that the district is ready to shut down properly if/when positive cases are discovered.

There is not enough room in classrooms for all students to attend school AND social distance. Additionally, when one group of students leaves a classroom and another group of students enters the same classroom, there is simply not enough time to adequately clean the room for the next group. Many rooms are used by 5 or 6 different groups of students each day.

Knowing that LMSD is overcrowded, 100% in-person option is worrisome.

Safety of all -where possible remote should stay in place businesses are being encouraged to stay remote and schools should too

Hybrid and remote are decisions that promote greater safety and minimize risks to individual health.

I think that face to face interaction with the students is critical but I also feel that limiting the amount of pupils (staff and students) together in one setting would provide a safe option. Also, being a Special Education teacher, it is especially important to form trusting connections with my students. Many of my students (speaking from my experience this past spring) had difficulty navigating the technology. If I am given some face to face interaction and can use the time to teach them how to use the technology they will be able to effectively participate on their asynchronous instruction days.

Regardless of what one reads, we continue to see conflicting information about what is safe. No plan guarantees safety and I, as well as a family member, are both considered high risk. I cannot understand why staff who have been identified as high risk (per a doctor's note), are not being given the option of working remotely full time. Why are we risking lives just so we can say we are back in school? I want to be clear . . . I hated remote teaching, but it is the plan that allows for the greatest safety. Why aren't we just committing to a plan that guarantees the greatest safety for the greatest number of individuals?

I am concerned about the safety of all students, feel it is better to have them in on alternate days.

Why risk it...if there is one day online learning, why shouldn't it all?

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I believe that switching between 3 schedules throughout the year will be more disruptive and confusing. Continuity and consistency will be very difficult. Switching from virtual to in person and back will cause confusion and likely difficulties keeping up with work. While I absolutely believe face to face instruction is best, under these usual circumstances, for safety and consistency, I think virtual full time is best. If in green and everyone in school or during yellow, If a positive case confirmed, is every kid and teacher who are in class with that person supposed to quarantine for 14 days? If it's a student in my class and I have to quarantine for 14 days, what am I required to do for teaching my classes while I'm quarantined? What about my family...will they also need to quarantine with me (impacting their schooling and job)? How will substitute teachers work and will there be enough of them between quarantine coverage or if I feel remotely sick (sniffle, sore throat, etc)? I am a big fan of using manipulative, models, and doing labs, but I cannot envision how to achieve this without masks, gloves, and still some risk. So if I can't do these activities then some of the benefits of being in class are greatly diminished (minus of course the ability to build rapport which is huge). While hybrid on paper sounds good, the logistics gravely concern me. We will be teaching kids in class while other half works at home (2 lesson plans of which one is virtual and one in person, for same course per day because it will not be as simple as "repeating" same lessons since they are delivered in different order). If home students have questions, when does a teacher have time to answer them or help if they're teaching students in class all day? All of this while creating 2 lesson plans per course per day, providing timely feedback on work to students, communicating with home students in a timely fashion (or parents for that matter), attending meetings like IEPs, keeping on top of students who are slipping or struggling, and then will I need alternate lesson plans for kids who are home sick or in quarantine(?)... the list goes on and there's only 24 hours in a day and I can't imagine how I will be able to meet all of these demands. I am sincerely concerned that I may lose track of students balancing who is out sick or quarantined, IEPs, who is not sick, but falling behind, etc. The demands seem insurmountable and unachievable and I'm still hoping to have time to help my own kids at the end of the day. Logistically if hybrid option is required, then day schedule needs to be adapted for this. Would need to repeat day A, day B on Monday and Tuesday then repeat day A and day B on Thursday and Friday and same with day C and D. However, then every other week I am only seeing students in person 1 day per week (not much at all) and the other week 2 days per week because of skip days. Also what happens on week with a scheduled day off, how balance schedule so see both cohorts same amount. I don't ultimately think hybrid will be good for students either because of the inconsistency of instruction, the inability to get support and help in timely fashion since teacher will be teaching in class kids. Feedback could be greatly delayed. If student is sick or quarantined, this makes it harder for them to stay connected and up to date with the class for days that cohort is in school. Then of course, personally I have a close relative at home with stage 4 cancer undergoing chemotherapy that I am primary caregiver for that I fear bringing COVID home to. So health and safety is a big concern. These is just the tip of the iceberg for my concerns.

I think children learn better in a physical setting

Due to this s virus not being under control and still many unknowns it is not safe for staff or students to all be in a building together at the same time. Yes we need to get back to some kind of normalcy but unfortunately this virus is still very prevalent. If you are still holding meetings on zoom then how does it make sense to send everyone back into a building. We cannot put our health and safety of our students and staff at risk. At least we should be hybrid up until January than revisit the situation.

I will not feel safe and/or comfortable until there is a vaccine.

If we were closed in March with a lower infection rate, why are we opening now with the current rise in infections?

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Montgomery County continues to have new cases, and there's a growing body of knowledge related to asymptomatic transmission. Children of all ages have been found to have similar viral loads to adults. Children over the age of 10 transmit COVID-19 at the same rate as adults. We would also be exposed to other adults in the building.

In or Out, halfway either way does no one justice.

Even if Montgomery County is green, there are a number of wild cards that could still put students/staff at risk. Also, with the number of students, it will be difficult to have everyone in school while still maintaining the safety precautions that the state has set forth. I also think with the younger students (specifically, the middle grades), they may not take the threat as seriously as older, more mature students, so you may see more students engaging in unsafe behaviors or defying guidelines. We also don't know who these students are around once they leave the school building each day, so there are a lot of variables that are out of our control, and we are really depending on the community to do the right thing.

I think we need to make sure we don't move too quickly. And I believe we are currently in Green, so if we were starting now we'd be fully in under the current plan. And yet, right now, it seems too risky to jump right into all being back. I think its unfortunate the State chose 'Green' to represent a status where there is as much risk and concern as there is now (most people think of Green as everything being okay - full steam ahead). But, under the State guidelines, while in Green, indoor gatherings are still limited to 25 people, personal care is limited to 50%, and restaurants that have already operated at 50%, can switch to 75%. So why would LMSD, or schools in general jump straight to 100%. That said, I am concerned about inequities from any version that includes an at home portion.

Schools should not be open 100% be there is no way to follow mandated guidelines. Hybrid in person is not safe for myself, my family or students/families as they are immun compromised. Parents expect childcare for the SPED kids in my program and do not value instruction as much as other sped students in less intensive programs. We cannot safely program for my students without also putting teachers at risk. The priorities of parents in my program need to be explored and honestly the safety of those working correctly w this specific population need to feel supported and listened to- especially those who literally cannot afford to not work and have been forced to comeback to an unsafe unlevel playing field. Our SPED students aren't numbers and neither are the teachers and support staff. We are individuals with specific needs and concerns that do not seem to mean anything to the decision makers. Please delay the opening of school and start out with virtual. Find teachers who feel comfortable with directly servicing SPED kids during hybrid/in person or give us the option to select virtual supporting other sped students within the district. I want to teach, I want to work with Sped students but I am not comfortable with returning to any kind of I person- and that is the only way my "group" will be successful. Breaks my heart. t

The current "plan" does not protect the health and safety of staff, students, or community. It does not recognize the impossibility of meaningful social distancing with all students in the building. It does not take into account current research/data on the spread of the disease.

The numbers of COVID continue to rise. There needs to be two-three weeks of NO cases in order to open the buildings. Otherwise, the likelihood of continuous spread is too much of a risk for our community.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Concerned about the amount of students and staff safely attending school with full capacity. The guidelines require 6 feet distancing where possible and that isn't good enough.

Concerned about the amount of children and adults in school at capacity- not being able to be distanced properly.

Unfortunately, until we know for sure what we are dealing with without a vaccine, I am not willing to put myself or my family at risk. There are too many unknowns at this point. I have family members that are high risk and I am dealing with a possible auto-immune disorder that was being looked into in March. Due to shut downs further tests were halted.

Because it is not safe to reopen at full capacity. The kids can't stay 6' apart. It goes against the guidelines. It is not safe with numbers of new cases on the rise.

Lack of confidence in safety Under current plan

My mom lives with me and she is 90 years old. It is my responsibility to keep her health safe. I have done everything possible to do that during the pandemic. I feel I'm at risk of bringing health issues if working in close proximity with students and staff. It only takes one person to infect many!

I have no choice but to return to work, however, I am in no way comfortable with returning to the building to instruct my students. I am my child's only parent and I have no choice but to return to work for financial reasons. I do not in any way feel it is safe to return to the building with any number of students until there are no positive cases for a minimum of 14 consecutive days.

No where in the state are groups larger than 10-25 getting together. We struggled with space before the pandemic there is no safe way to bring back students without putting our lives at risk. Parents daycare needs should not be dictating whether or not we open our schools. Medical research should be the driving force behind these decisions. I should feel safe coming to work and right now I do not feel safe- for myself or my students. t

Given the rate at which the virus is spreading, no report indicates a level of safety or control. In the green plan, not only will we be placing students and staff in harms way, we will also be unable (due to the constraints) to provide our students with the level of education they've come to expect and deserve. The yellow phase plan brings an extreme level of complexity for teachers, administrators, parents, students, and staff. Teachers will also be required to prepare two completely different sets of instructional plans every day. This will deteriorate the quality of instruction even further. A key benefit of in person instruction is personal contact and interaction, and these things are not possible in either the yellow or green phase plans. That being the case, I cannot agree that in person instruction is worth it in any way given the current state of affairs in PA and the country at large. Our energy should instead be directed towards creating high quality virtual instruction, and not outsourcing that to the MCIU. As we are so often told, LMSD is comprised of wonderful teachers who rise to the occasion and create great things. We should be given the opportunity to meet this challenge without placing our families and students in danger.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

We cannot follow any of the CDC guidelines if we are in-person. As a teacher that is immunocompromised and expecting, this could be very dangerous for me not to mention my students.

The news is reporting all of the spikes and now Florida is thinking of shutting down again. In the green phase plan, masks are not "REQUIRED" which is a major problem. Unless there is a health issue, we know that wearing a mask helps to stop the spread of the virus so why are masks not required? If you are expected to wear a mask out in public, isn't a school a public place? We see that by large groups together without masks is spreading the virus, we are making a mistake not to make this a requirement. Once 1 teacher at the high school gets COVID, they meet with over 100 students who have now been exposed and those students have been to how many classes. So by 1 person getting the virus, how many students/staff have been exposed? Lets really think about the health and safety of the entire LMSD community.

I think a slower start that allows for more student and teacher adaptation is key. This year will be a marathon, not a sprint. If we go out too hard, we risk not making it to the end. A full reopening will make it much more difficult to make changes and adjustments. Examining the reopening model for business and restaurants, none of them went to an immediate full reopening. Stores, restaurants, and offices are still limiting the number of people present. A gradual ramp-up would be far less disruptive than a full reopening, and then a need to change to virtual learning due to an outbreak.

I think the district is placing both students and its staff at risk by having all students and staff in the building at the same time, as proper social distancing guidelines can't be maintained, and if it can be maintained, it will mean all other non essential furniture in the classroom, being taken out of the classroom. This means teachers will not be able to meet with their students in small flexible groups, because there will not be the space for it. This will lead to a very difficult situation to allow the teacher to truly differentiate and reach the need of all its students because the classroom would contain 24 desks, all facing forward, with the teacher teaching to whole group, which seems to go against all the best teaching practices.

I think it is safe for students to return to school if precautions are kept based on research available, etc. I am very concerned about the social and emotional well being of students and staff if we don't return soon. I am very concerned by the anxiety and fear I see in many without thoughtful analysis of what will happen to students and staff if we do not return.

I believe there are still too many variables in play for staff and students to feel safe on campus.

We have been socially distancing all summer and spending time with a select few extended family members and friends. My family avoids being indoors even when we spend time with this small circle. I cannot image after gathering in only small group outdoors that we would return to a building of well over 1,000 students and staff. I believe the Governor is recommending we gather in groups no more than 25. Going back at full capacity seems to go against this. My level of anxiety would be very high if we returned at full capacity. However, I do think it is important that we get to meet in person the new students to Welsh Valley. Making this in person connection and building these relationships is crucial to the success of the inevitability of the remote learning later this year.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Our schools are already very crowded. Social distancing that has been recommended is not possible, so it is hard to fathom why it is acceptable in a school setting. Also- my decision to return to work is based upon necessity, not my comfort level about returning.

It is known that children are less likely to contract and suffer from symptom of COVID 19, my worry is the exposure that reopening will cause for staff. I have 2 support staff that are over 60 with pre existing conditions. My room is very small and can have up to 12 students and adults in it at a time. I also have family who will not be able to see me if we go back due to the High risk and exposure I will be having.

The continued increasing trend of the data, as well as recent information regarding teens spreading virus in summer programs

Until there is vaccine, full time back at school not an option

Green does not mean that we are safe from the COVID 19 pandemic. We are in green now and yet number of confirmed cases keeps rising! I know we all want to return to a what it was like before the pandemic, but I think we need to let the numbers level off before we return to school. There is so much exposure with class sizes being larger and classroom sizes being smaller, lunchroom, recess, specials, and voluntary mask wearing.

Elementary in person across the buildings. Everyone else online.

It makes the most sense to enter back with caution so that issues can be addressed easier, eespecially since this is uncharted territory. This will would give teachers the chance to have a handle on the structure of building and creating content remotely versus being in person and having to go backwards; which is highly likely given what has happened in other states with cases spiking. Set us up for success and allow us to feel like our safety is valued as well.

With the plethora of uncertainty about how we could manage all of the students and staff being back in the building, I am very concerned about the health and safety of my students, my own children (who attend a district elementary school), and myself. The hybrid model offers the chance that we can socially distance and provide students with a balance of remote and live instruction.

Under the current conditions, I do not feel as though the school environment will allow for a safe learning environment for students and staff.

Social distancing cannot be maintained if we all return. Particularly difficult AND frustrating for elementary students. All the health protocols and social/emotional learning will be better handled with small class sizes. Both students and staff would feel less stress in the hybrid situation. With the country as a whole doing extremely poorly in containing the virus, I feel this would be safer for ALL.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

In truth, there are no easy, or even good, solutions to the current situation with COVID-19, as the district knows. And, I respect how difficult it must be to be in a position where decisions are needed and reactions to those decisions can be strong. With that said, it seems that all three phase plans will bring with them extreme challenges, especially in the "Green" and "Yellow" plans. First, quite simply, the "Yellow" hybrid plan seems almost impossible not just for the staff, but the parents, custodians, and the students. While I understand the logic behind it, it seems that it will make things so complicated while also being ineffective. The "Green" plan may help households tackle issues with work and schedules, as well as, seemingly provide the students with direct interactions with peers and teachers. However, being both a parent and staff member in this district, I am aware that just because students will be in school their experience will be totally different from what their experiences in school have been in the past. I do not think parents understand the details of this completely. LMSD mentions that in the "Green" phase "face coverings are encouraged". Personally, I find that unacceptable. As we see in society today, unfortunately, we cannot depend on everyone to make the decision to wear a face covering in the best interest of fellow citizens. How can we expect that to be any different in school? If we do not have the peace of mind as staff to know that face coverings are a "non-negotiable", then students and staff will be placed in a very uncomfortable position, unnecessarily. Temperature checks are also being put on the parents, which will not happen consistently from house to house. I understand the point that not all people show symptoms and it's not necessarily a great indicator of coronavirus, it is another level of security and could possibly be effective in stopping other illnesses pass in the school when colds and flu cases rise later in the fall. In truth, while not every fever indicates COVID, no student should ever enter school with a fever, especially now. Finally, the ventilation systems need updating as much as possible to have HEPA systems in place. As experts are informing all of us on their findings of how COVID is transmitted, proper ventilation is a necessity. To conclude, I do think schools could open theoretically as long as the basic guidelines that have been hammered home since March are followed - face coverings, distance, hand washing (and now air ventilation). If we cannot guarantee these things, REALLY guarantee them, then we are doing everyone a disservice. However, Remote Learning can still work even for a brief period. The district provided great PD to close the school year, and we are a staff of dedicated, talented, and caring teachers who will do everything in their power to provide our students with the best of what we can. This is not ideal, but no option is. Whether we are in-person, hybrid, or remote, we will be expected to deliver the same curriculum. Going remote will at least take away a lot of the distractions.

We should make our robust program delivered virtually, and those who need childcare or special needs can come to school for access to virtual program (and services), most likely reducing attending population even more, letting helpers like Aides do their own hybrid to reduce contacts and help with family childcare, leaving school space for being outside as much as possible, and letting those in the school provide the monitoring and safety protocols with efficacy due to not trying to deliver full instruction. Once we take away group work, moving about the room, projects, specials, lunch, kids allowed to help each other, rug meetings, etc--what do we have!?!? Monitored individual assignments, most likely on devices. Let's do it better remotely!!

100% of the students in the building at one time is not safe for everyone even in green. If cases are spiking even higher to place us in the yellow phase, then remote learning is best until cases in the county decrease.

I think hybrid makes no sense whatsoever. Teachers will still be exposed to every student in the district, just on different days. The options should be either 100% in person or 100% virtual. The logistics of a hybrid model are impossible to overcome.

It is unsafe to return to schools full time even while in green w

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Based on the awful state of testing in PA, we have no idea how bad community spread actually is. Safety requires us to err conservatively. Even in "green," PA is nowhere near the European or Asian countries that have successfully reopened schools. We are still dealing with rates of transmission that are too high for full reopening. The plans described indicate there will be abundant instances in green where social distancing will be impossible, and suggests that mask use will be optional when there is space for distancing. These are unacceptable. The hybrid model, while I don't like it because of its child care implications, is the only one that cuts the numbers of students in half, allowing for social distancing. In view of the realities of community spread, schools cannot open without social distancing.

If the district has to have a zoom meeting to talk about things how is it safe for us to come back? A lot is still unknown about this disease, how do I know I'm not going to bring it home. That's my biggest fear. Not all of the students are going to follow the "rules". What if a student decides to not wear a mask. How do I know they aren't infected? Parents send in sick kids all the time. How do I know if the student has a fever. Are staff members going to be the ones cleaning the rooms after the kids leave? Doesn't this put us at risk?

Remote Learning, while not ideal, puts the safety of students, staff, and our community as the top priority.

There are too simply many hurdles to jump to make this a pleasant learning/work environment for students and staff. Even with all safety measures in place, we are still at risk with being in a large group setting. I am also unsure of how we can social distance with the number of students in the building.

I'm concerned about the size of the gathering and availability of space in classrooms. In green, guidelines still state for distancing of 6' apart. This is not able to be accomplished at full capacity in the current plan. Additionally, guidelines state that people should work remotely whenever possible. I believe that it will be a significant challenge to deliver effective, in person instruction with distancing, masks covering faces, handwashing procedures, lack of manipulatives, shared books, and lack of targeted small group instruction. I think that best practices in education can be better achieved remotely while students and staff remain safest. Students will be able to see lip movement (so important for early elementary, speech and language, and ELD students.) Teachers can hold small group zoom lessons with targeted instruction. Students can use household objects as manipulatives to tap into kinesthetic and visual learning. I think we are more limited in delivering effective instruction in the in-person classroom given the distancing and safety measures that need to be in place. I think the in-person setting is too high a risk with not enough educational benefit.

I think Schools are too overcrowded for 100% attendance and to control social distancing, even with marks. Also, currently, there is just not enough consistent information regarding the re-opening of states.

We are in Green now and can't/won't have the board meeting to vote on this in person. How can a virtual meeting decide to send us into a high exposure work environment? I work with students that will likely snatch of my mask, will not wear a mask, and have trouble with hygiene. (all of these intentionally and unintentionally). There is increased exposure for IAs such as myself and no plan of additional compensation (hazard pay) for dealing with this exposure during a global pandemic.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I strongly believe that even under green, all members of our school community are at risk. I take issue that only certain staff would be behind plexiglass barriers. Teaching staff, especially at the elementary level, would be in classrooms for a very long duration. Data has shown that the higher the duration of exposure, the risk becomes increased. So now, I am being asked to be in a class with the same group of students, all day, and I have no idea of their exposure. In my 30 years of experience with this district, I am certain that there will be children that will not comply with what is asked of them regarding masks or social distancing. No one knows or understands the behaviors of our youngest students better than the classroom teachers who are basically in the "trenches" with them. Administrators, superintendents, researchers - they have been making decisions for us. I wonder how they would feel if they were in a room of up to 25 children, for 6.5 hours a day, and at any time any one or more of those children is likely to take a mask off, try to be silly and sneeze or cough on purpose. Yes I do mean likely. And likely means there is a risk for all. I am not going to go on and on with a never ending list of "what ifs" because I am sure you are aware of most of them. Maintaining social distancing "to the extent possible" is simply unacceptable when it comes to lives. The emotional and mental health of our staff and students is also at risk. I believe that returning to buildings now increases that risk.

Children are unable to comply with safety guidelines regardless of how many systems and structures are put in place. With this in mind, we are putting not only students, faculty, and staff at risk of being exposed to the virus, but also the families of all people walking through the doors of LMSD. "Green" and "Yellow" does not mean it is safe, just safer than red. Until the virus is controlled on a regional level, I cannot justify going back to a building where people are interacting with various other individuals who we have no idea what they are doing outside of school.

The Covid numbers are going up and we're still in green. It's impossible to ask a class of kindergartners to social distance and have great hygiene. In addition, kindergartners need movement and a lot of hands-on help. There is no way to protect staff and other students from that.

I believe that reducing the number of students in the building will help to keep students and faculty safer. It is also more realistic to implement the safety protocols outlined by PA Department of Ed with a hybrid option.

Colors don't matter. Science does.

Although we are in the "green phase", the numbers are right where they were back at the end of March and we had a number of positive cases in my building at that time. Once a student or staff member tests positive, we will likely need to move to remote instruction quickly anyway; it would be much easier to begin the year with a strong remote learning plan than transition early in the year.

While the state may be in GREEN, the hybrid option would help minimize the spreading of the virus and provide opportunities to clean the buildings. As a result, we can help to reduce the chance for a resurgence until a vaccine can be used.

I am confident that the suggested safety protocols (e.g. masks, distancing awareness, enhanced personal hygiene and building cleaning practices) make onsite instruction safe for students and adults who are at low-risk of serious complications from COVID-19.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Once people get close again, the spread will surely increase and people will get sick or die. Not one human being should be scarified until we have a vaccine or absolute certainty of how to contain the spread.

The amount of safety measures that need to take place to be in person at the elementary level is nearly impossible. The covid testing is very delayed which will lead to unnecessary spread. Figuring attendance/isolation/childcare is mind boggling and nearly impossible with each district having different plans.

As much as I am hoping we can return to school with a normal five day schedule I'm very concerned about the recent surges in cases and am worried if we returned as usual many student and staff members would fall ill.

In hybrid, the likelihood of the virus spreading is high, and then we will be forced to shift to remote. So it's better to begin remote anyway.

I am currently on immuno suppressants and have 2 children in the district. The implications are immense. At best, all students and staff follow all safety protocols, which is HIGHLY unlikely to be able to maintain. At worst, my courses require shared tools and materials. There are no guidelines for whom is responsible for cleaning before use, and from what budget cleaning supplies come from, let alone the actual size of my classroom would make it impossible to physically distance. There are too many variables to plan for.

I think someone will test positive for COVID and the schools will shut down shortly after reopening. It is better to plan for a stellar online curriculum until there is a vaccine.

The federal government is blocking data from going to the CDC about COVID-19 numbers, the CDC is being blocked from giving actual health guidelines and regulations, and testing (along with the timeline to receive results) is not reliable. It is not in the best interest of our students and staff to reopen until their is AT LEAST green phase in the tri-state area, but I would wait for a reliable vaccine. Over 130,000 people have died.

I don't know how all the students can be present all day and social distance throughout the day.

I am unsure how safe it will be for all students to return and feel the hybrid option with smaller groups makes the most sense.

With the cases of Covid continuing, I feel it is unrealistic and too risky to return to school 5 days a week. This virus is still not under control and we can't control the parents and children from coming to school with symptoms. I also think we need to do our part in society to protect those at high risk and not provide an environment that would easily spread the virus.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Because of my age, I'm at risk of dying from Covid-19. On the other hand, I haven't been teaching that long and can't afford to retire. I'm put in the horrible position of having to choose between compromising my physical health and compromising my financial health. Also, I can't imagine losing a student to the virus. Think about how devastating that would be. Why not simply hold classes remotely? Finally, if you think I'm being too dramatic about the possibility of dying from Covid-19, permit me to explain. I'm having difficulty getting life insurance. My level-term policy expired this month. I've applied for a new policy but have been told that it will be difficult to get because my age and occupation put me at risk of contracting Covid-19. I have NO other underlying conditions. Life insurance companies know more about risk than anyone on the planet, and they're balking at insuring teachers. What does that tell you?

We are barely in Green right now and a slower opening would help to see how the Covid case numbers develop in the first month or so. I think students will be too close together and it's only going to take that one student or staff member to test positive to completely shut us down. Starting with hybrid gives us the opportunity to meet our students while also getting them familiar with the online resources. This way if we can go back at capacity, the student have met their teachers and if we go to strictly remote teaching, students are familiar with the technology. I do not want to see a student or staff member getting sick because we opened too quickly. I think hybrid gives a balance to what students, staff, and families need.

Yellow phase is still a great risk to anyone in large groups. Green phase is as well, because there is no vaccine yet.

I am very concerned about opening fully on site too quickly. I think it would be wisest to take a phased approach as staff and students become familiar with newly established protocols.

During green, my students won't be masked if they have an IEP or a 504, plus there will be too many students together in one space. I have health conditions that would make a COVID diagnosis dangerous, plus I am a single mother to two young children.

I feel we need to be sure everyone is safe. New studies have shown that children with no symptoms are showing lung damage. Without knowing the long term effects of this it is scary to think of the damage and lifelong problems this could cause. Caution is always best in my opinion. I am also greatly concerned about the families and staff we will be working with that have not been taking this all seriously and taking proper precautions. That puts everyone at risk. The students I work with will need the most hands on support and will need to come into contact with other professionals frequently. Real social distancing will be a challenge as many of these children often need hands on help and support.

I believe the lengthy, strict, and necessary requirements for a safe and sanitary school environment cannot be effectively carried out on a daily, or even hourly basis given the physical layout and student population numbers in our buildings.

One thought I had was operating at full capacity in person on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Wednesday could be a full virtual day for deep cleaning.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I feel a Hybrid system is safest even in green

Plan it safe. An online or hybrid option (one day a week for each group) would be best. We could reevaluate after we get into the fall or after January. The nature of the virus is that it spreads very quickly. Especially in light of the new studies showing the virus can be airborne and survive for several hours indoors and possibly circulated in the air conditioning systems. No matter the latest filtration systems and ionizers, the number of bodies (even half masked) in the buildings in a school setting at once during green and yellow may not prove to be very effective in preventing the spread. The virus can also spread via older students (10-19 years old) just as easily as between adults. Our school buildings/classrooms/hallways/cafeterias were not designed to provide proper social distancing space in this pandemic. The wording of both the green and yellow phases in the proposed guidance does not follow current CDC guidelines. Green phase seems to loosen almost like it is back to "normal" school. It is far from Pre COVID school. It also suggests we will not be observing smaller class sizes or observing the current PA mask required mask mandate for all students and staff. "Strongly recommending" masks for students and staff is very risky to the community health. Look at the current state of all the hot spots in the country where not requiring masks have failed. Why would our schools be any different? Yellow phase still allows too much exposure to teachers and staff and does not fully observe the current PA mask required mask mandate. The guidance provided does not seem up to date with the current virus data or proper precautions for everyone's health and safety. It is like driving at night without headlights. I love my job. I love my students, but I want everyone to be learning and teaching in the safest environment possible. The current guidance does not instill confidence that this can happen.

The health issues we are currently facing in our country are being downplayed. Our current issues with cover-19 are much worse than when we closed down last March. I have serious doubts in the ability of our students to follow safety guidelines, and do not want to put any faculty or staff in a position to contract the virus especially because we do not know the longterm effects of this virus.

The number of cases is higher now than they were in March when school closure was mandated. The risk has NOT changed regardless of the Governor's phases of opening. The virus is transmitted by close, sustained contact via the air. A school is a breeding ground for the virus. The district cannot ensure student or staff safety. Students need consistency of instruction and remote instruction can provide and meet their needs with LMSD staff. Having the MCIU provide instruction is not why community members choose LMSD schools - they want LMSD teachers.

We need to consider children in the worst circumstance at home and away from school. Prioritize their futures. Daycare centers and preschools operated in yellow phase. Some nursing homes had zero infections even at the worst times of the pandemic. We have plenty of space for tents and outdoor classes etc. Students need to be in school. We can work hard to follow protocols and keep everybody safe. We need to think strategically and creatively to be the cutting edge educational system in the state. We can do it.

The counties were moved into "green" and "yellow" under revised expectations. The original requirements for decrease in number of cases was not met, and there are many indications that spread will continue in school conditions. Schools in other countries who went back without outbreaks, thus far, had met zero cases or case increases before doing so. Spread is too unpredictable at this time and will not result in optimal learning environment

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Safety is paramount. Hybrid with an emphasis on getting to know students and building social capacity, not instruction per se. That can be done remotely once rapport and relationships have been established. If students have to stay at their desks, six feet apart, without physical interaction, it doesn't seem worth the risks and what's the point? Instruction occurring outdoors is a great option to begin for hybrid as well. or at home

Split the staff and students in half. Have am (7:30 - 2:30) and pm (3:00 - 10:00 pm) sessions. Mask wearing has to be mandatory!

I believe that this is not in the best interest of students or teachers! I do not want to get sick, I do not want my students or my own family to get sick. I think that this is dangerous and shows a lack of responsibility and care for the staff and students! There is NO way elementary children can social distance. Students are not going to sit in their seat all day. I believe that the district will not be able to safely bring back everyone at this time, especially with cases rising. I see LMSD families posting on social media without masks, not social distancing. There are too many what ifs.

Based on my reading and understanding of the endless unknowns surrounding this virus and its effects on children, older adults, I think that the risks are many and remain unknown. We can always recover a child's academics, but we cannot recover a child's life or the life of an educator, staff, or family member. Being optimistic is nice, but what would actually happen to people in a fully opened school is completely unknowable...as cases increase nearby (Philadelphia is currently on Gov's short list to possibly go back into Red). Opening fully is a huge gamble to take with people's lives and one that makes me extremely anxious and uncomfortable. I don't understand how the benefits outweigh the enormous and permanent risks. Has the district considered how many illnesses/positive tests in one building would result in its closing? I absolutely LOVE my job and teaching students, but a full opening right now seems to risk too much for too many. If we opened remotely or hybrid instead and things go well, case numbers locally improve...we could consider fully opening when we know more. Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns. I realize what pressure leadership is under and what a massive weight is on everyone's shoulders.

I am concerned about how it is possible for 23 students to be 6 feet apart in a classroom. I am also concerned about young students sitting in the same room all day, with masks on. Having children sitting in the same place all day goes against my teaching philosophy. The report from the district states they children can't be six feet apart if they all return at the same time.

The current pandemic situation has not yet gone away. Maintenance will eventually need time to catch up with clean up.

I think with cases on the rise again we should limit close encounters at least until January. Then reassess the situation with the potential for full return in January.

With case counts/death rates increasing nationally, combined with no national government response plan to contain the virus, it is too risky to return to full in campus/in person instruction. If case counts are extremely low, testing availability has increased, and a track and trace strategy is implemented, then a hybrid model would be the best option to protect the health and safety of students, staff, and the community.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I need more details about what in person learning will look like, there are many areas of concern that have yet to be addressed, is mask wearing required of all students, how does class rotation work, who fills in for coverages if teachers are out, what happens if a student, family member, staff, staff family member tests positive, in hybrid mode do we teach same lesson twice or will it be broadcast so we keep moving, is there a pay difference for teachers who come in and those who stay home...there just is not enough information for me to choose anything else

It is entirely unsafe to return to 100% open without a vaccine. You don't allow children without their vaccines to come to school with known affects. We KNOW COVID KILLS, how in the world can you possibly approve returning. Not one life should be lost

Much of this plan is not in proper compliance with CDC guidelines. The associated risks with in person instruction are too grave. There are many staff with health issues, including myself, who would be at serious risk if forced to return to in person instruction. Also, many staff members live with and care for children and other family members who are at risk for dying from complications associated with COVID-19. Never throughout my tenure over the past 14 years with LMSD, did I once say "I need to finalize and update my will immediately;" so this would be done before the start of the school year because I'm afraid going to work could lead to my eventually getting ill and dying. Well, I've literally not only said but am now in the process of finalizing changed to my will. So I ask you, is it worth it? Is forcing teachers to return to work worth compromising the health and safety of students, their families, staff and their families? No. It certainly is not worth it. If you can help prevent the loss of just one student, staff, family or community member's life than you should do just that. Help prevent loss of life. Help stop the spread of COVID19. And it's not fair that teachers should be forced to work under such hazardous life threatening conditions that could potentially harm an innocent family member. We are not first responders. As confirmed cases of Covid-19 continue to now surge again, I implore you to please reconsider the option of going to full time in person instruction.

should open elementary 1st, on limited basis, with middle and HS on remote, work out schedules and busing

With the number of COVID 19 cases continually rising in Delaware County and Montgomery County, I am hesitant and not comfortable to return with all buildings and offices operating on a regular schedule as we did before March 12, 2020.

Whether we are in "Green" or "Yellow" I think a hybrid plan to start the school is what would be most beneficial to students. Returning after an unprecedented and extended break is going to be a difficult adjustment; the forced break in school likely inflicted some trauma on students emotional health, and I believe it would be further traumatizing to fully re-open schools without providing students some type of acclimation period. Being back in the school building will not only be a shock to our students, but the extensive changes in norms/expectations will also be a difficult adjustment. It's important that we are mindful of the social/emotional impacts this will have on our students, and proceed with deliberate caution in how we re-introduce children to the "new normal" of the school environment. A hybrid not only allows students time for adjustment, but also allows teachers opportunity time for trial/error for responsive teaching. I believe I can say with certainty these new health & safety procedures will bring unforeseen challenges, and a hybrid model will allow teachers the ability to problem solve and make adjustments; this will ultimately result in better care and instruction for our students, as well as less stress and frustration for teachers.

I do not think we can safely return in green with all students in the building. Guidelines for green indicate 6 ft social distancing which does not seem possible if full return.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

The current plan goes against many current guidelines. A full opening that is unable to enact social distancing unless student attendance is at 50% is incredibly dangerous for students, staff, and all families. Social distancing guidelines should be enforced. If it is not possible to maintain 6 ft of distance and if handwashing stations are not available, then we should not be opening. Many of the enhanced cleaning measures listed are reactionary, and only occur AFTER a positive COVID case has been found. Teachers will have a bottle of cleaning solution, but with strict notes not to use it while students are present in the room. Since elementary students will be in their rooms almost all day, this is minimally effective. The consequences of opening schools without being able to adhere to guidelines ultimately results in increased spread of the virus, and increased confusion for students as they transition back and forth between plans.

I believe remote is the safest for all at this point and remote should be taught by LMSD employees

Two things. 1. According to most medical guidelines for the general public the three most important things for transmissions of COVID-19 is being in a confined space, long term exposure (10 minutes or more) and being around a large number of people. This perfectly describes schools (secondary schools specifically) 2. The idea that the students will get an education anywhere near the quality they are used to is untrue. Having the students distance and facing the same way... make the teaching strategies which have been so successful not usable.

CDC guidance says 6 feet of distancing needs to be maintained. The schools plan of having classrooms full with 3 feet of spacing does not comply with these guidelines. A hybrid model would allow for adequate spacing and limit exposure. I personally have not been indoors with anyone outside of my family, aside from trips to the grocery store or other large stores (while wearing a mask). Now, I'm asked to return to a building and be exposed to hundreds of individuals a day. I am a speech-language pathologist and the risk of being exposed to respiratory droplets is high, and my office does not allow for social distancing due to its small size. In order to feel safe to return to work, I HIGHLY prefer the hybrid or virtual only models.

I am concerned that any measures indicated here and implemented prior to the development of a vaccine will be inadequate to prevent the spread

Our plan should be one that maximizes effective instruction, both days of in person instruction but also the routine and normalcy of the schedule we acclimate students to. Opening with 5 day in person instruction, especially for secondary students, will accelerate the spread to the point where there will be limited, if any "yellow phase". The district is working on the assumption of a linear growth that will allow a green period, followed by a sustained yellow, then red. This will not occur. The progress will be green, sliver of yellow followed by red due to the exponential nature of spread. So any plan should maximize the green period by not over taxing that period, hence the argument for hybrid in the green phase as well.

The only safe plan is to have remote learning. It's not worth taking the risk.

Because there remain questions about the safety and health of both adult staff and students, I suggest a hybrid opening gives the district and administrators and staff and families and students a balance among desirable, face-to-face school days and online learning, and also gives the school district the flexibility to adapt to ever-changing conditions.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Although Montgomery County is currently listed as Green, the numbers of COVID cases are significantly higher now than they were when we first closed. I am truly worried about packing 22 kids in a classroom without the ability to social distance properly. The sheer numbers are students in the building at one time for a full opening violates the governor's mandate prohibiting gathers of more than 25. If think it is best to do a hybrid model at this point, allowing students an opportunity for some face to face instruction, but with significantly fewer students in the classroom. This would also mean less families are exposed in the event a student is diagnosed with COVID. I do truly feel that a full opening right now would be irresponsible and not in alignment with current mandates from our governor. To me, hybrid or virtual are the only options that make sense in this moment.

Students will not be able to safely practice social distance when returning to school in the green phase. It is my fear that this is not the best way to support our students at this time.

I don't understand how it will be possible to maintain social distancing and thus health and safety for all if we have all kids in school.

I think the safest way to teach would be With 1/2 the students so social distancing within the classroom, halls, etc would be possible. Safest way to teach & safest for students

I really appreciate the efforts our district is making to keep children and staff safe and to make sure genuine learning continues. I also very much appreciate you asking for staff opinions. Our schools are overcrowded. Maintaining six feet distance will be very difficult if not impossible. Cloth masks are not medical grade. They are better than no face covering at all but will not protect us sufficiently given the amount of time we may be spending with an infected individual. The long-term effects of the disease for children and adults are unknown. I think we have a better chance of protecting community health with the hybrid model during the green phase because we will be able to physically distance ourselves better. Rates of transmission see to go up now as communities more fully open. If we go to yellow phases, it means our community is heading in the wrong direction and action is needed to flatten the curve again. Yellow should indicate distance learning so that we are protecting our community as much as possible.

It will be much easier under a hybrid scenario to ensure social distancing and still provided face to face instruction.

I think all in it's just too many kids in too small a space. Spreading the kids out over letter days would make the numbers even less. Middle school kids will struggle with this even more than other grades.

This is a novel virus. There is limited data upon which to base our safety assessments. Teenager transmission appears to be on-par with that of adults (again, I think the world needs time to gather and analyze more data).

Daily, in person instruction for those that were not able to access learning online. Daily, remote learning for those who were successful with online learning. Cohort for those in the middle who struggled with on-line but with some in person support, would be able to access online learning.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

There are more virus cases now vs in March when we closed prefer a conservative approach to health and safety especially knowing high school students transmit the virus.

I do not see the situation as being any better than it was in March. Numbers have continued upward. It seems many people in the general population are lax in following safety recommendations and the virus continues to spread.

Yellow means more risk, would be easier, safer, and more cost efficient to do online until 2nd semester and switch to full if safe at that time

There are too many logistical concerns to be resolved within the next month. The health and safety of students and staff should be the priority.

Since we can't seem to meet the requirements for social distancing, I think that having all students back in a classroom of 25 is not safe or smart for anyone. Having less students would be beneficial to everyone involved in terms of safety and the health of the staff that is needed to teach students. Disregarding the guidelines and using "where feasible" as an excuse to work around it is irresponsible and disrespectful to your faculty and staff. I want to be in the classroom but I have a family at home that I also need to be worried about and concerned with. I think a full opening with the current infection rate is not safe for anyone and the students won't be receiving the best education because we will be spending so much time hand washing, cleaning, and worrying about keepings students apart.

I work at Penn Wynne Elementary and we have 800 students and at least 75 staff members. I just don't see how there can SAFELY be a whole school opening with that number of people in one building. If bars are only allowed to have 25% capacity, why is it okay for schools to be at 100% capacity?

I do not that it is safe for the well-being of all parties within the school building to risk exposure to COVID-19 with no vaccine, a lack of adequate space, and risking the exposure of families of all parties by resuming business as normal.

If we are in green and return to full instruction, will we be able to maintain CDC guidelines? In order to return to school, I would like for the district to follow these guidelines and allow us the space to be able to social distance in school.

A hybrid plan would allow for students to attend in-person classes without crowding classrooms and hallways.

Give families (and teachers) the option in person (full time) remote (full time) .Run remote through the district with district curriculum and district teachers.

Allows for safer distancing of students as less students would be in the building.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

It is impossible to socially distance 20 K students for a full day. The hybrid model presented has K students attending full day. In addition, the model is a full K class, not half, as with other grades.

I have a family member who would be in jeopardy if they ended up with covid

I do not feel we can adequately address elementary students' needs if we are full time in person. The current restrictions that need to take place will not allow for quality small group guided reading or math. Students need this small group attention and I believe this could be done better through hybrid or remote instruction. I also think it is wiser to invest our time preparing high quality virtual lessons to help assist if/when a pivot is needed. I love being in school and would love to be in the classroom with all of my students but I fear for our safety and the safety of our families as well.

Many factors - if we are in the building in any capacity, instruction will not be the same - no opportunities for students to collaborate, difficulty maintaining social distance between students/teacher and students, VERY difficult if not impossible to manage social distancing and requiring students to wear masks. Too many questions about WHEN (not if) teachers and students begin getting sick. How will the district differentiate cold symptoms vs. covid. What will happen when parents send their child to school sick (this happens ALL THE TIME at the elem. level)

I do not think it's a risk that should be taken. The science and data have made it clear there is no way to insure the safety of all involved.

I truly feel that we will go to remote rather fast. If we start with remote, it will give our teacher's time to set up their remote instruction so that it is very good, and not rushed. I believe that teachers can plan more appropriately if we start as remote. Teachers are scared right now, and rightfully so. Let's open remotely and have awesome remote instruction. At the Middle School Level there is an increased risk of getting COVID. A lot of personnel do not feel safe.

Health concerns during yellow phase worries me if attending school in person

I do not feel that it is safe for anyone, children or staff, to return to schools for 5 days a week. In LMSD's green model we would NOT be meeting the guidelines set forth by the state. In that scenario, as stated in the plan, we would NOT be able to keep the appropriate amount of distance. It is a lot to ask of the students, especially our littlest ones, to wear a mask all day, don't touch anyone, sit in your seat all day, even to have lunch and specials, is asking too much!! PLEASE....we are begging you...for the safety of everyone, please consider a hybrid model until the data shows that the new cases are going down sufficiently. The school board is meeting via Zoom, but yet they want us to be a room with 22 other people, all day??? That doesn't seem very fair to me. Safety of ALL should be priority.

If the county is in Green, it is not predicted that we will remain in green for a significant amount of time. The COVID trend is increasing in our area and a disruption of instruction would be more difficult than keeping the same schedule for the entire year.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I am concerned with the district's position that masks will be "encouraged" in green phase when distancing is not possible. This relies on thousands of staff and students willingly acting for the good of the whole. With the exception of those who are unable to mask for health reasons, my understanding from the state is that masks should be required indoors when distancing is not possible. Also, plexiglass shields I have seen on desks are not tall enough or plentiful enough to offer protection to staff to allow them to safely remove their masks while at their desks. I feel it would be safer for schools to open with a hybrid model, for staff and students to be assigned days in a team setting to allow for tracing when someone tests positive, help staff and students adapt to the new procedures, then after a couple of weeks, if possible, try a full opening if health situations warrant it.

less students interacting is better. And the school can deep clean the school on days they/we are off

While it is imperative to have face-to-face instruction with students, we are nowhere near ready to return 100%, especially given the current increase in numbers. Many students continue to travel during the summer and it is clear that not all families are not taking adequate safety procedures during this time. (I have seen this first hand through conversations with students during the ESY program.) Schools MUST step up to take temperatures and have additional health precautions EACH day at the start of school. It is unfortunate but not all parents can be trusted to accurately report and in return put not only the other staff and students at risk but our families as well. If stores, business, and restaurants are closing down and putting heightened protocol in place, there is no way that we should be opening at 100%. If we cannot safely follow safety protocols of social distancing, we are intentionally putting our staff and students at risk!

If we are go back to yellow the reason would be due to exposure, having staff and students in the buildings would not be safe and throw us into red.

There is no way students can be 6 feet apart in our current buildings. I do not want to lose my life and put my family at risk. Until there is a vaccine, the instruction needs to be remote.

I think it is difficult to get the general public to follow rules regarding social distancing and wearing masks that a hybrid instruction would be safer until we have a vaccine or the pandemic is over completely.

We should be 14 days free of virus before returning full-time

Would love to be in the building with everyone and think that is always the best plan for learning, but just concerned about the spread of the virus among students/staff/their families; starting to hear of more local people who started back to work and sports within past few weeks contracting virus.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

We do not know this virus as well as we are planning. The infection rates of children may be lower or they might be less detected. We do know that a child over 12 breaths closer to the rate of an adult and can spread the disease the same as adults. We know that children can silent spreaders. Sometimes super spreaders. We also know that a kid may get less ill but spread at the same rate as an adult. Those make the student population very challenging to work with. A hybrid in green allows for us to exercise caution and value everyones health. Student health. Parent and family health. Teacher and staff health. And the health of our teacher and staff's family. We should take full precautions to prevent the spread of this disease and the possible death that could result. In addition, all students, teachers, and staff should were masks at all times. To wait for an outcome to change our behavior could result in the worst scenario. With scientific evidence that states this is a deadly pandemic, we should plan for the safest measures to keep everyone safe. Fall sports should be delayed, rescheduled, or suspended. The sacrifice is certainly greater than we had hoped for, but our students and families deserve the tough decisions being made for their safety. Green should be a Hybrid and Yellow should be all online remote learning.

With the current state of the spread of this virus in our country, there is nothing that indicates to me that things are safe or under control. In the green plan, we will be putting students and teachers into situations where social distancing is not possible, putting the health of everyone involved at great risk all so that we can provide a level of education that, due to the constraints on our interactions, will still be sub-standard. The yellow phase plan brings in a level of complexity for teachers, administrators, parents, students, and other staff that is simply mind boggling. On top of that, teachers will be required to prepare two completely different sets of instructional plans every day, which will only serve to further rely on worksheets and busy work, deteriorating the quality of instruction even further. The benefits of in person instruction are in large part due to personal contact and interaction, and these things are not possible in either the yellow or green phase plans. Since that is the case, then I simply cannot agree that in person instruction is worth it in any way with the current state of affairs in PA and the country at large. Instead, we should be focusing our energies on creating high quality virtual instruction, and not outsourcing that to the MCIU. As we are told on a regular basis, Lower Merion is filled with exceptional teachers who can do amazing things. Let's give them the opportunity to do so and not put them, their families, or our students in harm's way.

Our classrooms at PV use recycled air-we should not be in a classroom for 7+ hours in recycled air and wearing masks with little ones.

While we are in the green phase numbers continue to rise! It does not seem realistic to have schools at full capacity when restaurants can only have 25% capacity indoors!

I think this is putting the health of staff and students' families and the community at risk. Students and families are not social distancing (nor are a lot of employees and community members). This is not controlled and there is not accurate data. Class coverages, substitutes, teachers taking leave/getting sick will become difficult to cover. The instruction will not be the rich instruction that LM families value. I think we should be considering prioritizing students under 10, ELD, Learning support, and maybe bringing in classes for isolated, optional experiences (science labs, for example) if there are willing teachers and students who want to participate. For HS, there should be online learning.

Worried about My special education students ability to follow social distancing guidelines

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

The hybrid model seems to try to placate everyone; however, it appears to over complicate many issues, including childcare for families and staff on days we are not in school, a continuously fluid schedule that will be a struggle for many of our students to get used to or establish a routine, and still put us at risk of exposure to Covid 19. This is why I think we should commit to returning to school in person or go fully remote. Sitting on the fence rarely is a good idea.

It is virtually impossible to keep everyone safe from this virus. If one student comes into one school, they will spread to classmates and teachers, who will spread to other students, teachers, staff, etc. Then all those people will go home and infect their families and then into the community. It is a bad domino affect that nobody can control and/or predict at this point. Wiping down surfaces is only good until the first person touches it, then it is no longer sanitized. It's less convenient for double income families, but it is truly safer for ALL.

Going back full force is not realistic in my opinion

Even with half capacity, I am not convinced that there will still be enough room to effectively social distance. The district needs to prioritize allowing students whose parents CANNOT care for them during the day to return to school (even if they go about taking online courses at school).

The virus will spread shortly after schools reopen in person at all. It is uncontrollable. We must open virtually during a global pandemic.

The CDC has indicated that full-school (or even hybrid) openings are at a huge risk for the virus' spread. Within a month, someone (adult or child) in our building will test positive for COVID-19, especially if we 100% at green, which it looks like we're doing. That's essentially what the CDC's recommendation is implying about any full or hybrid reopening. More cases will then develop. Then we go back home, back to remote, back to red, at which point we'll ask ourselves if the risk of life and health really worth it? I say go remote the first half of the year, or at least until Thanksgiving.

Because of the schools size, I do not know how all safety measures can be followed if all students and staff are in the building at one time.

everyone back at the same time NOW is TOO RISKY --- plan to open fully in January

I do not feel that LMSD can safely provide basic educational experiences for a classroom full of students. There is not adequate space for social distancing with 25+ students in a room. I also do not feel confident that there will strict follow through enforcing mask wearing for all students. I predict families who do not want to wear masks will find loopholes to ensure their child will not wear one, putting the whole building at risk.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I believe that the green yellow and red designations have more to do with the political climate of our nation and not really are the representative of the nature of the spread of the COVID-19 virus. So much is still unknown about the virus and about the way that school age children transmit the virus. Until we have some sort of vaccination or a way to protect the community against community spread of the virus in very uncertain times I believe it would be safer for us to set in place our remote learning environment that we can throw ourselves into fully and completely and offer that to the community. I am a firm believer that health comes before any type of learning. If we are not a healthy community we cannot be a learning community. Currently Pennsylvania is in the green and like I said before if you were to really look at the numbers of the virus and the checklists that were supposed to have been followed initially when the phases were implemented we really should not be in the green we should currently be in the red so in my thinking regarding health we are actually in the red. Under no circumstances do I think that school should open for in person learning during this time especially because we will also be moving into the cold and flu season which will only compound the problems. Also because there are no clear-cut answers to a variety of different questions regarding whether or not a teacher is to get sick whether or not a teacher is to pass whether or not a student is to get sick or student is to pass or an extended family member until those questions can be silently answered I do not think we should open regardless of the color phase we are in. Simply put there are way too many unanswered questions regarding this virus and to put the health and welfare of teachers staff and students as well as the community as a whole at further risk to me would be very important I would expect that Lower Merion School District would make a better choice for people who have dedicated a good portion of their teaching careers to the district on the community Simply put there are way too many unanswered questions regarding this virus and to put the health and welfare of teachers staff and students as well as the community as a whole at further risk to me would be very important I would expect that Lower Merion School District would make a better choice for people who have dedicated a good portion of their teaching careers to the district and the community

Hybrid instruction - but less than 50% of the student body in schools at the same time.

If we don't have a vaccine, I don't feel safe.

Even in the Green I do not feel it is safe to have hundreds or thousands together inside buildings with no possible way of always having no less than 6ft of social distance. Being in the Yellow, I would say to go to online in order to keep us in the Yellow and not move to Red again.

I believe hybrid instruction will be best in both green and yellow. Hybrid allows for consistent social distancing and also provides custodial staff time to thoroughly clean the buildings. This would help to prevent a resurgence of cases in Montgomery County and would keep us all safer.

It's still unsafe for people to return to school with no cure for the virus

please see next text box.

Must adapt to new norms and social distancing , due to space restrictions I don't see how to be safe without some kind of restrictions to limit contact due to the amount of people in a particular space/ school/ building . I don't know what to think really , but adapting to new concerns for everyone's safety is essential.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

Testing is still inadequate overall and asymptomatic students are less likely to get tested. Also New South Korean study shows children above age 10 are as infectious as adults.

Keeping HYBRID is the most sustainable across more situations. It would decrease the transitions back and forth between onsite/hybrid if we hop between yellow and green phases. In addition, Full Onsite is SIMPLY NOT SAFE for anyone

I think hybrid is best since there are still an increase in cases.

It is not safe for the students, the adults, or their families to return to school due to the present health climate and I am not willing to gamble with people's lives.

I concerned about ample space for social distancing within the classroom. I am worried that while students may at lower risk of carrying the virus, they will bring contagions into a very small, in closed space with the possibility of spreading to teachers and staff who will then spread to their own families. While I feel it is very important for face time with our students, there is no way to keep 24 students six feet apart in our classroom spaces. If we had half the kids, we would be able to spread out, feel safer, while still getting that much needed time in the classroom.

There are way to many people to follow the guidelines.

Too many unknowns and unanswered questions. People can be unsymthomic

Just because the county is in green, does not mean that cases could not appear. The reopening plan should be gradual and not so drastic. The reopenings during the summer just brought on more cases and upsurges, which may happen again.

Even in green or yellow there is no way to ensure that gatherings of people, students and adults, in classrooms can operate safely enough. Children will struggle to use masks, parents will send children to school even if sick. Buses and classrooms are simply not big enough even at half capacity because children will not easily adhere to social distancing guidelines. Bathrooms are a big concern, how can we ensure children will maintain adequate distancing in spaces without adults? The day is simply too long for children to be engaged in learning while adequately distanced from each other and the adults.

There is too much unknown about this virus. If we go remote from the beginning we can be better prepared to serve our students well, and not have to shut down, open, rinse and repeat any time someone tests positive (and they will)

Numbers seem to be increasing, I think it makes sense to play it on the safe side rather than have all students in thr building at the same time to maintain appropriate distancing and Still be able to handle some of the learning in person.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

If we are in yellow, it may only be time until back in red. Why risk the health of so many and complicate matters even more

At this point, with cases continuing to arise, I don't think it is safe for teachers and students to go back in full. I think it would be best to operate on a hybrid schedule and then if we get to the red phase, operate remotely only.

To put the health of individuals at risk for any reason is to great a risk. This virus will pass; we will develop a vaccine and this moment in time will pass but a person's life and health is not just a moment in time.

I do not feel completely comfortable going on campus with all students and staff members.

There is no way to be socially distant with 26 kids in a classroom and over 800 kids in a school. Covid Testing is still taking too long.

I have a lot of questions regarding the health and safety of everyone who returns to the buildings. My main concern is that a staff member who has an underlying medical condition or an immediate family member in their care.

There are no guidelines for what situations will change out county from green to yellow. There is no set number of cases. With the cases on the rise and increasing in the fall to higher rates, I feel it is safest for my and my family to have remote instruction. I am a full time single parents of a child with immunodeficiency and I worry that cases will increase too quickly. this is not worth risking the lives of students, family or teachers.

The health risks are still to high for staff and students for in-person education.

Schools MUST remain closed until we are safe from the spread of coronavirus disease 2019. The proposals and recommendations put forth thus far are unrealistic and unsafe. Children are NOT robots who will stay 6 feet apart, keep masks on, wash hands without oversight (think the girls' and boys' rooms), sit facing forwards at all times etc etc etc. However, students WILL touch each other, cough and sneeze (outside of their mask), pick their nose and not wash their hands, go to the bathroom and not wash their hands, be up and around their classmates (not 6 feet apart) etc etc etc. There WILL be a spread of this disease that will be traced back to a student or staff member if schools are open before COVID-19 is under control and it is not under control, even if Montgomery County is "green". Time and effort preparing and planning for in-person school is a terrible and sinful waste of time when, before time runs out, efforts could be put into planning how to begin the year virtually — because that, more than likely, will be the case

I do not believe that the Hybrid model will keep our teachers and staff safe. It might be ok for many of the kids. But NOT for most of the teachers.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

1) health concerns for myself and my family. Not possible to spread out students- once masks come off whether due to ieps or "break" or lunch- no pint in wearing at all- families won't follow protocol- childcare issues as well- our children's schools- 3 different ones have all taken 5 days a week off the table

The rising coronavirus cases in PA, the seriousness of this awful virus and the risk of being on the frontlines is terrifying, the new information that kids and teens spread the virus, childcare issues, and the fact that I wont be able to see my parents (childcare help for my kids) if we are all at school and exposed is a huge issue. I can't afford no not work and I can't afford to pay for full time help for my children.

I am very concerned about the health and safety of students and staff. There are TOO many questions that cannot be answered in regards to health and safety. I am not willing to be put at significant risk like a guinea pig. I feel outright scared to return to work. Furthermore, there is no comprehensive plan on quarantining those who get covid. That circle will include so many others that need to be quarantined, that our buildings will not be able to operate. Those of us left standing will be put into an extremely risky scenario. For example, if a teacher gets covid and is out for 2 weeks- how will we get a sub in a potentially exposed classroom of children? If no sub, will the children now be split among the other classes? It is a recipe for a super spreader scenario. While I understand this is an impossible situation, why wouldn't we ramp up our distance learning and technology for families instead of wasting money to outfit buildings with plexi glass, PPE, and other expensive miscellaneous equipment. Our community deserves a stronger plan that respects that we are in a pandemic. It is upsetting to learn LMSD is even considering being in-session during these times. We are forward-thinking and the current plan does not show it. Lastly, consider, "Feeling safe at school translates into higher academic achievement, increased student well-being, and greater engagement. Children who don't feel safe can't concentrate on their studies, don't connect with their classmates, or don't go to school at all." -ASCD's Whole Child Approach to Education

With 100% capacity in the building, the safety and health of the students and staff members cannot be accomplished. With the building at capacity level, there are no available options for social distancing.

I feel it would be better to start the school year following the hybrid schedule regardless of whether the county is in the green or yellow phase.

With all of the unknowns and the ever-changing guidance (or lack thereof) from officials, I just don't see how we can SAFELY bring everyone or even smaller cohorts back to campus at this time. We cannot guarantee the social distancing. We cannot guarantee the mask-wearing. We cannot guarantee that parents won't send sick children to school. We cannot guarantee that staff won't come to work when they're not feeling well. We can't guarantee that there will be subs. There's too much that we can't control and even one illness or, God forbid, one death is too many. We have the resources to provide a quality program online and we should do that until we are sure it is safe for ALL to return. There are too many risks and they all far outweigh the rewards of bringing students and staff back to campus.

Too risky being in school five days a week. It's ridiculous to think people won't get it and what is then the plan??

Concerns regarding the increased vulnerability to contracting Covid 19, placing the students, myself and my family at an increased and unnecessary risk

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I am a specialist and I believe my health is being compromised no matter how they organize the schedule at the elementary level due to the number of children I see. Also, due to my subject matter I am able to teach my subject remotely but there are many more restrictions in person which makes it extremely difficult.

Hybrid instruction will not be feasible for elementary classroom teachers for a variety of reasons, let alone the risks faculty and staff will face working in school buildings.

Most classrooms in my building cannot maintain 3-6 ft. of social distancing between kids, even with extra furniture removed. If we are mandated to put desks in every space in our classroom, many students who would have to sit towards the back of the room either won't be able to see the board or hear instruction given that teachers will be wearing masks that limit their ability to project. The hybrid model allows for in-person instruction that is safer and more meaningful for both the students and teachers. With the hybrid model, there will be less anxiety about being too close to others, as only half the class will be present each day. Hand washing and sanitizing is also much more manageable for teachers with half the class, as we only have one sink in our classrooms. It would take at least 8 minutes (without transitions and drying) for 24 students to properly wash their hands, with teachers most likely needing to monitor so that students wash appropriately.

While in green, restaurants can only operate at 50% capacity. Most businesses at 75%. Telework is still the recommended option. How do we expect schools, which are crowded and poorly ventilated by nature, to reopen at 100% capacity? No other profession has been asked to return to work under these conditions and this this little possibility for a guarantee of safety. I am terrified for the health of my students, their families, myself, and my own family. The educational experience of my students will be more disrupted and traumatizing when we start in person, then, inevitably, start dealing once again with fear, spikes in cases, and increased closures. This will make it incredibly hard to focus on creating meaningful discussions of content, never mind race and social justice like we are currently planning.

Student and Teacher Safety

Personally, I do not see how as an elementary teacher I will be able to deliver curriculum adequately while monitoring students with masks, not sharing supplies, navigating bathroom, close proximity to help students, etc. I DO want to return, but I don't think we are ready with such uncertainty. I am also concerned about my own health, and transmitting anything to my family.

There are too many students to ensure the safety of students and staff. By implementing a hybrid model you reduce the numbers while still providing live instruction.

Given the high nature that a staff member can or will become ill, this causes great concern. The District will not be able to combine classes to absorb the teachers absence. In addition, the middle school has historically found it hard to obtain enough substitute teachers. If more than 3 teacher are out for any reason, this will have a huge impact on our ability to conduct services in a safe manner. Until this pandemic is under control, we should remain remotely.

Offer hybrid at any phase to minimize student count in buildings

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I am concerned with the health and safety of the staff and students, the ability to properly clean in between classes (especially teachers who share classrooms), and the students wearing masks.

I dont know how it's possible to maintain the PA recommended 6' without going to at least hybrid solution for schools. I work out of the offices at Rock Hill Road and can do 90% of my job remote, and would appreciate the flexibility to continue to do so. Though I am not high risk, I am the primary care taker for my parents who are and lessening the risk of being an asymptomatic carrier is important to me.

In my opinion, it is absolutely reckless to not require students to wear masks in the "green" phase but only "encourage" them to do so. A hybrid option in the "green" phase allows us to maintain more safety protocols to keep everyone healthy and safe, while allowing for some face-to-face instruction, which, generally, benefits students academically and from a social-emotional perspective.

Given that cases are increasing across the state, it seems likely that they will go up by the time school begins. It will also be very difficult to form relationships with students who are have the majority of their faves covered. Virtual option allows us to see them and review procedures etc for the upcoming fall. Also, given that most people have been keeping 6' of distance and not gathering in inclosed large groups, it's irresponsible to open up in person before we witness the ramifications. If we hold off for the first few weeks, we can see how in person effects infection rates in those areas. We need more data on infection spread in school settings

I think consistency with remote instruction would be best. I think it would not only be the safest option, but also allow for more consistency.

I do not think it will. E possible for the elementary students to remain socially distant from each other if we have a full class size. It is illogical and reckless to expect young children to be able to maintain these safety protocols.

With the current number of cases on the rise, I believe that we need to protect the students and staff as best we can.

If Montgomery County is in the labeled Green or Yellow phases, bringing people together will make numbers of COVID-19 cases increase and then make us return to Red Phase. I believe we need to do our part as a community and help lower the numbers by providing remote learning until we can feel safer in the buildings. No other profession or business is allowed to work with 100% capacity in the green phase. Why are schools allowed too?

I do not believe we are ready to address the needs of so many children and adults in an indoor environment. At this point in time, there are too many fluctuations regarding RED, YELLOW, GREEN. Families have been traveling, children have not all been told how to keep a safe distance and wear a mask. Particularly elementary children. Our neighborhood is one of many that has many elementary school age families that are back to lessons in private homes, swimming pools, sleep overs and playing together, even though it is still thought to be unsafe.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I work with low incidence AS population- my students will not tolerate masks and will engage in behaviors/attempts to remove ours. I understand the remote learning platform is not conducive for their learning needs, however our (students, staff and families) healthy and safety should be priority and not even in question.

As a parent of school-aged children, i am concerned that a full return will result in unnecessary exposure causing illness in staff and students that will result in many school closings, both in LMSD and in my home district. The uncertainty of this is very challenging to working parents and, while remote is not ideal, it offers consistency to allow us to make arrangements for our children and provides them with a learning plan that will not vary day to day or week to week. I don't envy the decision makers as there is no perfect answer to this problem. I am concerned that as staff fall ill, we will not be able to get the needed replacement staff in place and there will be even more issues to deal with. My preference is to limit building access to true as-needed staff at this time and see where the numbers take us. While the efforts made in my location were much appreciated, there are many gaps that were not addressed and as more staff return, the chances increase that someone, or many, will get sick as we ramp up for the final push to reopen school (in any configuration). At the very least, I feel remote work flexibility is going to be needed for staff as our home districts may not adhere to the same plan as LMSD and this will force some staff to take leave, or worse, resign there positions due to childcare concerns. There aren't many options available, and the costs of such care in a COVID world will force some to make tough decisions. Any support that be given to staff to help their home situation this fall will go a long way in assuring that LMSD students and families are not left in the dark if last second decisions leave the district short-staffed this fall. Thank you for everything that has been done so far, and i wish you the best in your decision.

We are in a global pandemic. In the green you are to operate at 25% capacity. We cannot do this in a hybrid schedule. You are putting the entire community at risk so parents can have a break from their children. We need to all come together and be safe. Teachers can teach remotely, effectively, and with our PD trainings- virtually learning can be meaningful and effective. We didn't sign up to work in the front lines. Children are spreading the virus. If you are holding meetings virtually to decide the fall???? That's your answer. We should remain virtual as well. If you all can't meet in a room, why would you plan to send all your teachers??? You stay safe in your homes and closed off offices while we expose ourselves?? How is this fair!?!?! Parents are against going back 5 days. Listen to the CDC!! Teachers will not return and take family leave. Trust me.

I work with students that are not able to wear masks, in a room with no windows, in groups of 4-5 pulling from different grades/classrooms. How can we maintain social distancing in my small space? Even if I move rooms, significant measures will need to be in place for us to safely work with the ASD population (which is fine as long as those supports are in place). I have asthma and worry about what contracting this virus could mean for me. I understand parents want their kids back in school (I want mine back in school too). However, our numbers are much higher than when we shut down in March. How can we possibly return to full time in-person with higher numbers than the shutdown in March? The hybrid approach allows us more distance to work safely with students. I know it isn't ideal, but this is a pandemic and best balances the interests and needs of all students.

Until a vaccine exists, opening school risks the lives of our most vulnerable students, staff, and community members.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

While students, staff, and families would love the opportunity to get back to "normal" the reality of the situation is that we aren't ready to get back to the "normal" that we once knew. For the sake of safety, and consistency in education, planning 100% virtual instruction, until it is safe to do otherwise, would be the most responsible decision. This would offer students and staff the time to plan for and develop the best virtual learning experience possible, without sacrificing anyone's safety, and without dividing our focus.

With so many unknowns in this rapidly changing event, I feel we should not expose ourselves or our children to become data that reveals the negative impact of reopening.... RTjose states that have reopened have seen significant rise in disease... I feel Reopening our schools will bring a similar rise in cases which will necessitate a closing. With several risk factors, I personally do to see it worth the risk.

The reason why we are in green is because of social distancing and the elimination of large indoor groups. Schools are not able to adhere to the recommended indoor crowd size nor the 6ft social distancing.

even though the county is in green, not all surrounding counties may be - there are so many unknowns with the virus and its lasting effects, that jumping right back into full operation seems risky, especially given a hybrid option is available - i understand that not everyone's role in the district can be easily realized under the hybrid or remote models, so this is a personal response

I believe the current plan is reckless and dangerous for many because there is no possible way for social distancing or containing the pandemic.

It is not safe to have school open 100% in the green phase.

We do not know enough about this killer virus to risk people's lives. Safety of everyone is paramount! There is not enough space in most classrooms for proper social distancing

I feel like it is obvious that we will need to shut down again soon after restarting, many districts in the nation are proactively shutting down now. We have the resources to keep people safe, why are we risking the community? Last year we shut down early for "an abundance of caution" things are *worse* now, where is the caution?

I am worried we will move into the red phase in the Fall.

If the health and safety of students and staff is actually the number one priority, remote instruction is the only relatively safe option. The only reason to consider a hybrid model is that we also understand that our students need to interact with each other as being isolated for them has significant negative health consequences as well. The hybrid model is also relatively safe if (and this is currently not the case) there is a coordinated and well followed response that stops community spread. While there is even medium community spread, the hybrid model will only exacerbate things. If the goal is to spend as much of the year as possible in person, starting completely online until community spread has been managed is the best option. When we go back either full or hybrid, we will end up shutting down within a month due to significant increases in community spread and within the school system.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I'm hearing from more and more staff members expressing great concern over returning, brick and mortar, full day. Some are concerned returning brick and mortar at all. Staff absences concern me in better scenarios; students and staff contracting COVID is very concerning in more dire scenarios. Outside of health and safety, the ramifications seem tremendous (who quarantines and for how long...how many people quarantine?).

The hybrid plan will be extremely challenging for myself and my family. The only two options that make sense are to be back completely or completely use at home instruction. The hybrid model will not be beneficial for the students or the staff. How could I manage that workload while also helping my young children with their workload. The demand that puts on the staff is very high. All in or all home.

I think the current trend of increasing cases along with young children being less likely to follow mask rules, we should stay remote until it is safe for everyone.

I'd prefer to see a plan that begins with all virtual (regardless of red/yellow/green status) and then ramps up to full time in-person instruction over time based on infection trends. If we take a step and see an increase in infection/exposure, then we immediately go back a step until it is safe to move forward again. Gradual steps to keep everybody safe!

As a high school teacher I believe it will be virtually impossible for students to maintain social distancing from each other. As a teacher of students with significant disabilities I know my students will not be able to wear masks and due to the nature of their disabilities I will not be able to distance from them e.g. toileting, feeding, and self help skills. As an expectant father I am fearful of bringing Covid home to my pregnant wife. I want the district to limit exposure for students and staff. It is the right thing to do. The current plan does not detail how we will enforce mask wearing and does not take into account that teenagers are inherently social. The current plan only discusses face shields as added protection for staff working in special education. Our classrooms are small and shared. We need to see a clear plan for the Full time Autistic Support and Life Skills Classes that includes how we can lay out furniture to encourage social distancing. Our classrooms also bring in large numbers of Instructional aides which reduces the space to distance.

The amount of logistics involved in planning for hybrid is cumbersome. I'd think the effort would better be spend on a known safe route - remote to start.

Hybrid during the green phase is more closely aligned with the restrictions placed on organizations other than schools. It creates consistency for stakeholders and also that the district values teacher and student safety, even in green.

We still don't know a lot, and I work in the AS program where students come in sick and hygiene isn't always the best. My wife has a compromised immune system. She has lupus and has had 2 mini strokes.

A couple days a week in class a couple days online

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

If other districts are giving a hybrid option for "green", I don't understand why LMSD can't do the same.

If Green the Elementary and Life Skill/AS special needs level should go back spread throughout the district using social distancing and the secondary levels should continue remote learning. One related death is not a chance we should take..

We're in the middle of a national health crisis, and that condition should be resolved before we return to anything resembling normal. Put simply: if it's generally accepted that Zoom meetings are preferred, if the Board and the community members don't want to gather together for a meeting, it's difficult to accept those parties would send children to school.

Too many people in one place if we do a full opening. It is not safe and we would not be able to properly implement physical distance with that many people.

Until Covid-19 is under control and almost no cases are being found, we need to protect students, families and staff. Places that have opened have seen spikes - some serious. I feel the only way to get things under control and manageable, is to close every state down until we flatten the curve. Even if our state is in the Green, people are visiting and returning to PA from states that aren't in the Green. Also, just the nature of our schools and the small enclosed spaces we are required to teach in do not allow for safe distancing and the ability to make students and some staff to comply with safety measures. I have several medical issues that make me vulnerable to illness in general and this dangerous one in particular. My doctor - without any prompting from me - told me at my last appointment that i SHOULD not return to work at this time and should work remotely to be safe.

Health and Safety concerns

Based on the information I do not feel that we would be able to socially distance and keep everyone safe opening fully.

The cases are still climbing. I have a compromised immune system and family member with cancer in the same household. Why would we risk students, staff, and families when it's not contained.

Will you take care of my children when I die from Covid?

I think that 5 days in the building is not the safest environment for everyone involved.

I'm not opposed to any of the plans to go back, I will happily follow any plan that LMSD has in place for our upcoming school year. It just does not add up when businesses are only allowed to have 25 people inside their businesses at the green phase, but somehow schools can have over 1000 children inside a school all day.

You selected something different than the current plan for LMSD. Please exp...

I believe even in the green phase, LMSD should implement a hybrid method of instruction to accommodate the comfort level and needs of the majority

I think that maintaining safety will be hard with all students in the building. I have at least 24 students in a class at round tables. Not sure how it will work.

I think there is a lot of risk involved in bring all students back to school. I feel like if we go back to school in full capacity, we will be out for remote instruction within a weeks time.

Green status not the same for schools as restaurants and stores. Too many people together.

I don't see a way that we can keep all students and staff safe with full buildings. At the high school level that would be close to 2,000 people a day in the building. If most indoor seating can only be at 50% capacity, how can we justify fully opening schools?

The welfare and concern of health is not the focus if it is a different plan.

The social distancing recommended by the experts is flat-out unattainable with 100% of the student population in the building. We should not be back at 100% until the pandemic has ended.

I am in the high risk category so would feel safest teaching remotely. Being exposed to hundreds of children a day who may not wear masks appropriately or wash hands thoroughly poses a risk to my and my family's health.

I think we have to try a hybrid at least so we know what that will look like. If numbers go down, then we could go to 100% in person

I think that any Yellow or Red should have extra precautions. You can't be cautious enough when people can die.

I would rather be overcautious due to the extensive amount of factors that could be harmful to students, staff, and community.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, or LMOSA to know at this time? If yes, please share here.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Penn Wynne also does not have the land or outside space to take a break or teach outside as the discussed model represents. Last year, Kindergarten had 15 minutes in the AM and 15 minutes for the PM class to play outside as a grade. All other times were scheduled back to back due to the population of our school. Now we would not be able to go out as a grade level and we don't see how we would have time to even take the children out for recess, or any type of outside relief for the students to relax and remove their masks.

All stakeholders would be at risk

Please do not follow through with the IU Virtual Academy. Please find a way to have a virtual program staffed by LMSD staff who are unable to teach in person due to health concerns. We can offer better and I wish this would have been the plan and started months ago in preparation for this scenario. We can do better than outsourcing- we are Lower Merion!

If we are expected to teach inside for long periods of time over a hundred students a day, then the district should be testing us on a regular basis.

If we would be forced to go back to school, who is teach what adults how to properly and safely clean items that need to be cleaned? Gloves needed for all adults who are expected to clean things. What time is being allotted for adults to clean things doing the day? All teachers need FM systems for volume. Elementary and all schools - Why not SKIP lunch, kids bring snacks to school and school supplies HEALTHY snacks to those students on free and reduced lunch and send the kids home earlier each day? Are all classrooms in K-5 having 1:1 computers? Where and how do we teach small and whole group if we are social distancing? We need NOT be back in school - NOT safe nor does it logistically make sense if we are expected to teach with all of the other distractions, safety guidelines, etc.

A hybrid plan is the best option for both students, staff and families because studies have show that the more you gather (even with a mask and social distancing), the more this virus will spread. The CDC has also stated that until 80% of the the population has been infected or until a dependable vaccine is produced, the public will continue to be at risk.

The kids need to be in school. The school district's plan reflects this and I support it. I'll gladly do my part (bus driver).

Please keep in mind the multi-generational effects of contamination. Students and teachers are part of a community that touch many people out side of school.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Thank you for offering this survey! Great idea!! If we wind up going hybrid, I wonder if we can create opportunities for those teachers that can't be in school in person for health reasons, to possibly work with the students on their remote days as perhaps a live "help center" or something like this? We have so many staff members that are, from what I've hear, being shown the door if they cant show up in person... we are such a creative and innovative school district. I feel like we can do better than choosing either FMLA or resigning/retiring.

First of all, I have a 3 month old baby at home, and numerous children under the age of one in Texas have become sick infected by the virus. I'm fearful of bringing this virus home to my daughter or wife. My mother offered to help watch her, but my mother is in her 70's and has some medical issues. This adds to my stress because I wouldn't want to get my mother sick either. I also have a niece and a nephew with heart conditions. I would not be able to see them until this pandemic ends.

If LM goes to Hybrid or fully virtual learning the district must ensure that teachers are prepared and also are given the resources to teach online Many departments have no materials, a poor & outdated curriculum, and no platform to teach effectively virtually. If teachers are not given aligned programs & training, virtual learning will be a failure.

I feel the decision needs to be less political and based on health and safety of Staff and students. I want nothing more than to be in school with my students but not if even one person will be at risk.

Communication please. Talk to your faculty and staff. They are feeling anxious as well.

Thank you for taking the survey results seriously. This is a very trying time, and I know LMSD, LMEA, and LMOSA have difficult decisions to make.

My mother is dying from cancer, I want to be able to see her and still commit to educating our kids in the safest possible way. I should not have to choose- I know that a lot of this is out of our control but more training on the pedagogy of online teaching would be really helpful.

Due to increased enrollment and overcrowded building, many teachers share classrooms. We have limited planning space where classrooms are not in use. There is no planning center for teachers to distance themselves from faculty and students. Even with half of the students in the building, all staff will be there. It will be necessary to have space available to adequately allow teachers to plan and communicate with students and families that are on virtual learning those days and will need a space for them to do so that allows for proper social distancing from staff and students. Concerned at the teacher schedule under a hybrid model. Effectively teaching and communicating with students and families in the classroom as well as those on the virtual schedule, and then vice versa the other days.

I am nervous with in person instruction being possibly exposed to Covid 19 and then endangering my pregnant wife who is considered high risk if exposed to the virus.

FDA is expected to approve the COVID vaccine at the end of the year. This should help to stop the spread of the virus.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

What is going to be done for the older teachers in the district and also those teachers that have serious pre-existing conditions? Opening 100% until a vaccine is found puts teachers and students at the most risk. The risk can be easily decreased with a hybrid model.

Staff, Families and community need time to prepare for the Fall. At this time, the only option that we could prepare for now and guarantee that we could still operate in September is remote instruction. I strongly encourage that we commit to remote instruction for at least the first marking period of the school year. A hybrid model does not remove all of the the safety concerns involved with in-person instruction. I think many would agree that they'd rather invest the month of August planning for instruction that they know can happen and have the time to plan to implement it well. Thanks to all for taking the time to survey staff. Truly appreciate all of your efforts this summer.

LMEA we need your voice to be our voice. At this point I have spoken to countless staff across the district and we are frustrated. We need time to plan and be ready. Any brick and mortar version is wrought with challenges but the bottom line is it is not safe. Period. Nurse Quinlan shared an honest answer at the board meeting. Many of the safety protocols are not able to be followed. People will get sick...and some may die. Consider that outcome.

Concerns for personal high risk diagnosis. Seeing 50-70 kids a day in nurses office in a normal year, childcare concerns along with virtual learning. Would like to hold my position at LM, but feel as though I am faced with not many choices.

I'm concerned about front office traffic and handling of papers/notes. I think attendance and dr notes should all be done online, email or via fax. I believe CES has Piloted use of a terminal for parent online note use in their office. I think it would be safer for secretaries if all offices had this since poor cell reception prevents many parents from using their phones to submit online notes. I also think there should be an office phone designated for student use with long distance, so students do not have to use secretaries phones to call parents on cell phones outside of our local area codes. It seems easier to keep a sanitizing spray bottle in the office to spray before or after use of these devices allocated for public use. We may also want to think about the handling of the excessive amount of items that are dropped off for students daily.

I'm confused about why Lower Merion is not offering their own Virtual Academy. I thought this was the original plan. I believe parents were expecting the virtual academy to be uniquely an LMSD offering rather than having it be something offered by MCIU. I believe other school districts have been working on this model and are handling their virtual academy as part of the district and not from the IU. It will also be confusing if we move into a different phase of our plan when we're back in yellow or red. Can the students who sign up for the virtual academy return to LMSD if we're back in the red or yellow phase, or are parents stuck with the decisions they make now? This is so hard because our information is changing constantly.

Education of parent, faculty and staff concerning covid and prevention. Meetings with staff to continue to update on Covid status, prevention measures and opportunity for questions and answers.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I have spent a lot of time this summer thinking about what the upcoming school year will look like. With that brings a lot of questions and unknowns. It is important for students to be in school, meeting their teachers and classmates, establishing routines taught by teachers and creating a class community. However, it is also important to stay consistent, for example staying in a hybrid model from the beginning so that we can maintain and establish that community, teach our students what they will need to know in the likely event that we will have to go back to remote teaching at some point in the school year. It will help both the teachers and students to troubleshoot any technology issues, as well as teach the students how to log into the computers and navigate any online programs we might expect the students to have to work with. We as teachers, need clear and detailed expectations for virtual learning- by grade level. I know that plans were being created as things were happening in the spring, but that led to every school doing something different with information that was given and that led to much frustration and confusion. Please take into account the teachers and employees who will be risking their health and safety to come in to do our jobs, jobs that we love. We will need much training that relates to virtual learning, as well as safety training for when we are in the classrooms with our students. I know that you have been under enormous pressure and stress to come up with the best and safest plans for everyone, and I thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns.

Thank you for all efforts to provide safe environment.

There are numerous teachers with medical issues that would make it very challenging to be in the classroom -- it would be a risk to our own health and welfare. Most of us would give anything to teach "the way we used to" -- but we cannot risk our own health and safety to return to a classroom with this virus uncontrolled. It is painful to have to choose between our calling and our lives.

I will not be able to make a decision on my return until all decisions have been finalized, due to child care and personal health concerns due to being exposed to so many students and staff in one day.

Will there be substitute teachers for on site and hybrid learning scenarios?

You are doing a great job and I trust in your choice for 20/21

My classes are mostly 25 students. How can you physically distance that many desks even if you remove all teachers desks, chairs, podiums, etc?

Childcare for our own children who are school age in different districts is a MAJOR issue for families of faculty and staff. This is especially true for employees who do not have family close by to assist and/or if family is compromised with health conditions. Also, there are some employees who are dealing with a situation where neither spouse is able to work from home. This is a major financial 'hit' for these families as one of the parents may need to take an unpaid leave from work to provide childcare so that the other can go to work. This is true in my situation.

Teachers and staff have not had The opportunity to truly share thoughts and concerns. Everyone with the exception of one person are frightened at the possibility of being in brick and mortar.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Given the social distancing requirements has the option of having teachers in the classrooms and keeping the children home continuing remote learning been discussed ?

I appreciate all your help! Please take a look at the small classrooms and consider social distance (im)possibilities when making decisions to move forward. Thank you

Many teachers have children currently in schools within other districts. The plan and schedule of LMSD may differ in the plan and schedule of a teacher's hometown district. This could lead to child care issues, negative impacts on their own child's learning, and the inability to adequately prepare for all the different possible scenarios of the different school districts, especially with the different districts' completely conflicting schedules and expectations happening simultaneously. This presents many difficulties and challenges, particularly when working with the elementary level, both in terms of "students" and "own children", because of the level of adult support needed for this age group.

Educators will do what it takes to meet the needs of students, whether we are in school buildings or not. A return to school will not mean a return to normal, or life as we knew it before COVID-19 started. The coming school year will be different no matter what. However, a return to school buildings will bring greater risk to our community. Parents can choose to keep their students home in order to protect their families. Staff will not get a choice. We rely on the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, and LMOSA to keep us all safe. The virus is no less infectious than it was on March 12th. We have stayed safe by staying apart. In order for students to continue to benefit from LMSD's exceptional staff and their expertise, staff need to be protected from getting COVID-19. It is imperative that we slow down and not feel pressured to reopen our buildings just because the calendar says it's September. The virus can't read and won't stop spreading just because it's "time" to go back to school. The priority of educating students needs to be coupled with prioritizing the safety of the staff and thereby, students and their families. It is clear that no decision will please all parties. All districts have been placed in a terrible predicament of having to calculate the risk in reopening. It is an unenviable position, but it is in your hands to protect us all. As for me, I am afraid. I am afraid to get this virus. I am afraid that my age puts me at greater risk for serious complications should I become ill. I am afraid the stress that will come from being in prolonged contact with others indoors while teaching in an atypical configuration, will only make it harder to stay healthy. I am downright terrified about the exposure to my mother and husband if I return to school. I am not alone. Other educators are also afraid, here and around the country. We want to teach, but we also want to live and stay healthy. I advocate for pressing the pause button to gain the needed time to be better informed as the situation unfolds and evolves, and to be better prepared to meet the health and safety needs of all members of our community. I recommend that the leaders of LMSD, LMEA, and LMOSA make the decision to start the year remotely.

I hope that all administrators and those making the decisions realize the how much they are asking of us to return to buildings and realizing the risks we are exposing not only to ourselves but everyone we come in contact with. There are far too many unknowns, variables, and inconsistencies with the virus at this time. While remote teaching isn't ideal, especially in a K-2 setting, I'm hopeful that if we are extremely cautious in the beginning of the school year, we'll be able to return in a few months in person with less restrictions and more normalcy. What is asked for elementary school teachers and students is unrealistic.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

What will be the expectations, during Hybrid time, for teachers in terms of planning lessons for students in the classroom and also providing asynchronous lessons for those who are at home those days? Additionally, what will teacher prep time look like with students possibly coming in to school earlier in the morning and also having students in the classroom all day?

It is critical that teachers are included in the Reopening Plan.

Rollover for power school is 7/31 and we GG a vent scheduled the kids yet because decisions have not been made. This is becoming an absolute nightmare for scheduling. We have 1 week left to use power scheduler. The stress from this is unbelievable.

Thank you for your time and efforts towards figuring out a plan for our schools. I realize this is an extremely complex and challenging problem to solve. I urge you to continue to ask questions, seek out experts, and to think of new, creative solutions. Some questions to consider/research (if not done already or to continue): -How are communities in other countries successfully reopening their schools? -How could the school district and township utilize the school buildings and other public buildings such as the public libraries in new and different ways to ensure full social distancing? Thank you for providing this poll to staff members and for taking into account ideas from the school community.

The district, at the very least, should be offering teachers the ability to teach the online students. It is horrible to make them choose between their safety, their families' safety, and their jobs. I do not believe we can actually implement social distancing and proper sanitation in full classrooms and I believe we should be using this time to develop thoughtful, intentional online learning that will keep our students safe. My child's pediatrician was flabbergasted to hear that LMSD was returning to 100 percent in person learning. It just is not safe.

If any of the in person scenarios come to fruition, I do NOT feel comfortable or safe going into multiple classrooms each day. The risk is too high and I would have to quarantine if anyone of the students gets sick. Large groups would need to quarantine if I get sick. As a special area teacher I feel most comfortable delivering instruction remotely. As a parent in the district, I would like my children to interact with the smallest amount of people possible, so I support this model for my own children as well. Students should be with the same one or two adults during their in-person time. Thank you.

Child Care is going to be the hardest problem during and after pandemic. If a child has a fever or slight temperature, they cannot return to daycare for a period of time. In addition, Child Care will be difficult to find considering the reduced number of facilities and spots available. The leadership needs to consider allowing flexible days, hours, and working from home until both child care and COVID-19 has been put in a safer state. For flexible days, perhaps the administrative staff works Sunday through Thursday or Saturday through Wednesday. This would allow some flexibility to parents especially if the other parent's work is not flexible.

Thank you for the hard work on really challenging logistics. It's really hard to weigh health concerns with the need and mission to provide outstanding education.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I'm concerned that a family member may have the virus but the parent/caretaker stills send their child to school.

Has the district conducted any type of parent survey to see how many parents plan for 100% in-person instruction vs. the virtual option? This information would be valuable in planning to see if social distancing can be safely achieved in our schools.

There are items that are currently in a holding pattern based on state guidance and health department directive, but while we are waiting, we need to make concrete decisions on things we can to allow for collaborative planning and preparation.

Student schedules should be created with the hybrid model in mind. For example, if my largest class is 26 students, then they should be scheduled so that half of them are out at a time. (just thinking about how to do this...once students are scheduled, look at every "large" class to determine which students would be present on Monday and Tuesday...if that number is drastically different than half of the class, then alter some schedules to even out the number of students that will be present) As opening nears, science teachers will need guidance on how much lab equipment we can or cannot have students use. Teachers, like myself, who are very near to the 200 accumulated sick days may have our saved days negatively impacted as a result of COVID. It would be great to reward teachers that have been prudent with their sick days, for if they realize that this virus will cause them to fall short of 200 with no way to reach that mark, they may begin over-using sick days since the financial benefit of hitting that number can no longer be recognized. On the topic of sick days, it is ESSENTIAL to have a more solid plan for providing substitute teachers. We will WANT teachers to stay home if they have a fever or any other symptoms, and I imagine fewer teachers will "push through" their illnesses this year...thus exacerbating the need for more substitutes. Finally, I want you to know that many of your stakeholders thank you for the extreme and unique efforts that you've needed to go to in this time. Further, many of us recognize that even when something goes wrong, we're all doing the best we can given that there is no playbook to follow. So, thank you and good luck with the difficult work ahead.

I am feeling very anxious about getting sick or bringing home the virus to my husband who has a heart issue.

no

I do not agree with using MCIU for a virtual option. It should be LmSD teachers

Communication is very helpful the LMEA has shared what they know. LMSD has not shared much but the red, yellow, green scenario. Without communication there is little confidence. As previously stated if the schedule is changed I would continue to see the same amount of students but in smaller amounts. It is still not clearly shared with us what we may teach and not teach because teach a personal development class. Perhaps an update from our school administration would be helpful.

Transportation Lounges are too small 4 all employees 2 rest between am n pm runs. Need bigger space 2 hang out between runs as it's not feasible to travel home n back in between run schedules.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Will there be an air spray available that can be used on the bus throughout the route? Since there is no guarantee that children will wear masks correctly and properly, having a disinfectant air spray on hand would help me feel a little more at ease transporting students.

The district is doing the best job it can during this time.

The health and safety of the students should be top priority. I don't think it's okay to say that all professions should work remotely when possible, but then throw caution to the wind when it comes to schools. If I can't eat indoors or gather in groups outside of school, I should not be expected to put myself in an unknown or unsafe position by returning to school when all the safety protocols cannot be properly implemented.

"When social distance cannot be maintained, cloth or disposable masks will be required in "Yellow" and strongly encouraged in "Green." I am unable to wear a face mask due to breathing issues and severe headaches. If green is "strongly encouraged" what accommodations/exceptions will be provided for teachers that cannot wear a mask for extended periods of time?

If the instruction is going to be remote, it would be helpful if teachers could have access to their classrooms. This could be done easily with social distance, mask, and glove-wearing and ensuring that the teacher is only using their classroom.

childcare

This is a very challenging situation without an ideal solution. I am extremely worried about the health and safety of teachers and children upon return to the school building. Individuals are going to get sick. At the elementary level it will be difficult for teachers to differentiate if students are exhibiting COVID 19 symptoms or symptoms of something else since many of the signs are the same. It would not be effective to send students to the nurse in these situations if there are others that are truly sick and are waiting there for pick up. Teachers are not medical professionals and this is not a responsibility that they should have. Another issue is the mental health of faculty and staff. This is stressful time for all and there are measures in the district plan that account for the mental health of students, but I don't see any supports there for staff. In reality teachers will become sick or exposed and need to quarantine. How will substitute coverage be provided? What is the procedure if coverage is not available? The virus infects everyone and there is no telling what the duration or severity will be for an individual. How will this be addressed if a staff member needs time to recover that exceeds the allotted sick time? What will be done for the education of students who cannot attend due to illness? There are many unknowns and I would love to be able to say that we "overreacted" due to a more conservative approach. At the current time I am strongly considering a fully remote option for my own children who are LMSD students. I realize that this is not a choice that all families have, but one where I can be most confident in their health and safety.

Is there a way to hold outside classes while the weather is good in September?

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I would strongly recommend different hybrid models than what is being suggested. I know that Rose Tree Media is doing a Mon/Wed group and a Tues/Thurs group. This makes more sense to me bc we can teach the skills and apply them and then students can practice at home on the alternate days they are not in school. A Mon/Tue group and a Wed/Thurs group is logistically challenging and I do not think it makes the best sense academically. I have also heard the suggestion of 5 days a week - 1/2 class is AM and 1/2 class is PM (like Kindergarten). Academically and social emotionally, I think this is a great hybrid alternative.

Do all we can to insure everyone is comfortable and confident in what we are doing.

Please consider our own children's schedule and if possible to allow us to work from home if possible. My kids live in Philadelphia and will more then likely using a hybrid model.

The statistics from medical professionals show that the spread of the virus greatly reduced or removed with the use of masks and distance. If we want to safely go back to in-person school or a sense of normalcy, I believe everyone should be required to wear a mask indoors, regardless of being in green or yellow. If a portion of our instruction must be remote, I believe students must be required to attend synchronous classes. Anything less is a statement that it's ok to not attend school.

please open normally - the statistics show 99% recover if they do get it.

You (the administration) are faced with a very tough decision, and we know that the best interest of our families is at heart. Please consider the health and safety of all, as we tread through unprecedented times.

Please put health and safety first. We will figure everything else out around that focus.

I suggest the District review the temperature setting of the hot water in the schools. We must wash our hands much more frequently and I want hot water to wash my hands. For the past several years, there has been no hot water in the student men's bathrooms at Harrition. I don't know how that passes health codes.

70% of viruses don't begin to burn themselves out until 70% of the population has been exposed to such viruses and begin to make up antibodies against it, then it can begin to burn itself out. Were just delaying this viruses existence. That's a medical fact, what we need to do now, is protect the most vulnerable citizens and let the healthy one's get it so it will wipe itself out.

We need to start planning for robust virtual now. Make the decision and let educators get organized and execute strong programming. Also, teachers who contacted hr have heard nothing. It's really disheartening to acknowledge health and safety needs publicly and not even get a "received, thank you" email. In trying times, it would be nice to think hr could at least pretend to care.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Just to reiterate that should remote learning take place, I think it is critical that the district and administration clearly communicate to the parental constituency that just like in "brick and mortar" not every classroom, teaching style, methodology, and personality are going to be the same, so too will there be those same differences in remote instruction. Each teacher's style will be reflected in their "virtual" classroom. That is also important to communicate to the teachers so that they can feel free to exercise their craft with freedom; of course keeping in mind that the curriculum and scope and sequence remain the same from class to class.

Safety of Students and Staff must be priority. Actions speak louder than words. Parents need time to prepare for childcare if we do the hybrid we are now racing against time and trying to get the building ready but feel we won't be ready and every day you hear and read something different.

Everyone's safety is important-students, staff and caregivers!

I think that LMSD missed the ball last spring on a few things: 1. Teachers were expected to be online teachers after a 2 day Pandemic Break. Then there was a very busy 1 day of training about 4-6 weeks later as well as AFTER the school year was over. 1 day. Can you imagine doing your job a totally new way after along weekend and then being told to give work and check it all...but only count it if it helped a grade...but that grades didn't really matter...but make sure that all grades are updated by Friday night...but be flexible with students turning in late work...but why aren't all of your grades in yet?...but only teach what's essential...but also add in some talk about how all 112 of your students are doing during these trying times...but also make sure to put some time in there to teach social justice and how to be an Antiracist...I could go on and on, but my brain has allowed me to erase some memories so that I can again want to come back to my career that I love because of my students. 2. Instead of having teachers be taught about how to online each after the matter (in June), the school totally missed an opportunity there to bring in professionals to teach u about how to be Antiracists and allies to our minority students. Because at the end of the year THAT was the pandemic we were being exposed to. Instead it was business as usual. There was no thought to cancel final exams so that teachers could focus on more important things like take time out to reflect on what was happening in rthe country at the time. Did some of us address the racial civil war that the USA is going through now? Yes. But during our own private time in which students could come back optionally because there was no actual time given by our district. There were suggestions given to us, but with the 30 minute class time limits, there was no way to have an actual a serious conversation about anything. 3. I truly despised being told to be flexible with my students, when nobody was being flexible with me. There was no consideration for the emotional well-being of the teachers. But this is something that is not new; global pandemic or not. 4. Being told that "we have such amazing teachers doing amazing things" in our district was actually comical because I have spoken to over 50 teachers in our district and not one of the ones I spoke to had been observed by a principal during the pandemic. So the "thank you" messages to us seemed very fake and super insincere. It's just best to be honest and say something like, "I've only seen (insert teacher names or an actual number of teachers here) teaching and I've been impressed with what these teachers are doing in their classrooms." I am hoping that LMSD will finally look at their teachers also as human beings and stop being so afraid of what "the parents will think" of them or "we will get sued if...". Please get a backbone and let's stand united as a unit. Keep us in the loop. Ask us how we're doing way more often. We had 1 "temperature check" from March 12-July 20. Now this is the second one. How is this even a thing? You guys have zero clue how we are drowning in so much stress. I had to get a therapist from how exponentially hard my job got and there was literally no slack on anything.

Online learning does not meet the needs of special education students or young students at the elementary level. Education needs to be in person for our mental health.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

This is an unprecedented world wide event. Members who who have compromised situations are not being considered and put at risk. It is very disheartening.

If we return to a hybrid design. Wednesday's should be wellness days without instruction for students. These should be set aside for IEP, AT, staff, and team meetings. Additionally, a big concern is the turn around time for getting results of testing. How will we be able to support students if we fins staff having to remain at home waiting for results. Our bubbles will be expanding. Currently, I am safe at home in my bubble. Once schools open, all of the bubbles will becoming together...these bubbles will pop and all of our safety will be gone. I feel we need to continue with remote instruction. Opening schools is gambling with lives. Will administrators be in the schools or safe in the bubbles of your offices?

It is not safe or responsible to return to school at this time. Returning in person would cause enormous stress to staff and students, both due to the virus itself and the ways teaching in person will have to change (enforcing social distancing, enforcing mask wearing, student bathroom use, repetitive hand washing, hearing the teacher through a mask, hearing a shy student through a mask, communicating and interpreting emotions, and this list goes on... ultimately, a return to in person schooling while we have not gotten this virus under control, is physically unsafe and can hurt the mental health and well-being of young students and staff members throughout the school. We need to consider how young students will handle prolonged illness (or death) of a family member, classmate, teacher, custodian etc. And how will families and children cope with multiple school closures and multiple unnecessary exposures to COVID and the anxiety and instability this brings?

please don't make decisions for on-site learning without due consideration for the staff that cannot be put at ANY risk!
Thank you

We need a plan if a teacher gets sick. We are short on subs now.

When taking this survey, the questions asked did not change when touched

I believe that onsite instruction is extremely important in the educational development of our children . I also believe that healthcare professionals have stated that the risk is extremely remote to children and adults alike !

PPE- will families be responsible for providing their own masks, etc. Will the PPE need to be approved by a regulating entity? Thank you

Teachers put in a lot more time planning remotely than in class, but we can be creative and productive as cyber teachers.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

There are too many unanswered questions. Why can restaurants only be at 25% capacity, other places 50% but schools 100%? If someone tests positive does just that person quarantine? Does the whole class? does the whole school or anybody that was in contact with them? What is the number of sick or dead people that are needed to make changes? We live in a world that lives by mathematical matrices but that is wholly missing here. The most current research out of England, South Korea and Germany indicate the children 10 - 15 have the same rate of infection and transition as adults.

There is a trust issue with the district leadership, LMEA and LMOSA and their ability to keep professional staff safe. Can any of you guarantee staff members that they will not catch C19 due to being in our building? Can you guarantee that every student that enters the building will be healthy and free of C19? If the answer to these questions is YES, then I have no problem teaching in our buildings, but if you can't guarantee the health safety during a pandemic then it would be malpractice on the districts part to conduct anything but virtual learning. I don't like teaching via the internet but I also would like to live to a ripe old age and would love to see all of my students have that same opportunity. Remember, a vaccine is coming quickly, so six more months of "online" learning is not too much to ask.

I appreciate everyone's efforts at this time and have confidence we are all doing our best to put our students and staff in the safest position possible. I think safety is the most important, but I am sure you are doing everything possible to achieve the safest environment possible.

I believe it to be obvious that the time frame regarding the virus itself is too fluid for a safe Fall start under any circumstance. The risk to children, their parents and teachers is too extreme.

There had to be a better answer for our high risk faculty members

Whatever is decided, it is important that the decision be state wide to assist with parents with school age children attending schools other than LM.

We were in close to the same situation in the Spring when the district took precautions to keep students, families, teachers, and staff safe with remote learning. The now proposed full class- full day is the opposite of the plan for safety for all, provided in the Spring. The half class, half day model proposed by the Kindergarten teachers is safer but PW students, families, teachers, and have an added risk due to our over population issues and lack of outside area, that has also been proposed to be used to for safer alternative environment. In typical times Kindergarten had 15 minutes in the morning, 15 minutes in the PM, as all other grades did but now we will be dividing all outside areas and will not be allowed to be together with all of the other Kindergarten classes, as we will not be able to ensure social distancing.

none

We need more robust prof dev to prepare us better for remote learning! We were complete unprepared & the June in-service was only a beginning, more collaboration & guidance to help us teachers with remote learning

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Thank you for reaching out for our opinions!

I work in Special Ed & my position involves close proximity. I can not foresee how I can distance myself 6feet according to my position. What supplies will be provided such as mask, gloves etc to keep me & my colleagues safe in order to do my job effectively.

Please have more staff And parents join the discussion. It's not just a district admin decision. This decision could end someone's life; it could prevent many of us from seeing our elderly parents who rely on us; it could cause complications with far reaching effects of its victims...this virus is no joke! I don't want to be part of the statistics rated off every day on the news. I don't want my mother or my student or a parent to become of part of those stats either. Please make the right decision and keep us all safe!

I'm very concerned about my physical health and safety and the health and safety of my fellow teachers and staff. I'm also concerned for what I could bring home to my family and the repercussions of that.

Being onsite allows social/emotional support as well as academic.

Iam the senior plumber for the district, iam very concerned about the used of warter fountians.

no not at this time, I think everyone is trying the best

Please decide ASAP what the plan is so we can focus our resources and parents can prepare.

How and who will be scheduling IA's carefully, ensuring they're not in multiple rooms throughout the day. I historically travel between 10 classes rooms a day. This needs to be carefully planned by an administrator.

I understand wanting the children back in the classroom. But I don't know if them sitting at desks all day long, in a room with nothing but desk, all while wearing masks , is best for their social emotional needs. I feel like the hybrid is a better way to manages the students

There needs to be a plan for what happens when, inevitably, staff members can't report to work and LMSD isn't able to find substitute teachers. It is hard enough to staff schools in the best of times, the start of this school year will most certainly add to this challenge. We can't wing it and we can't expect teachers to cover classes each and every day above and beyond their normal schedules of teaching, attendance at iep/504 meetings, PLC planning.

I don't see how social distancing will be possible- especially on a bus

Please, please do not open with full classes. I care for several elderly relatives and could not risk coming back if I put them in such danger. A hybrid model is a good compromise.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Yes

This survey is entirely invalid because it is poorly designed. Secondly, what is the plan when someone or a known number of people test positive? There needs to be a predetermined plan and number. This is one of a litany of questions that need to be answered before I can take this survey. While I appreciate the district's and LMEA's desire to seek input, this survey will only yield invalid results given the questions' wordings and the lack of information.

How will transition between classes be handled? How about the cleaning of desks in between classes? How will teachers manage two sets of cohorts that are in different schedules of synchronous and on site instruction?

Class size when we left BC for physical Education had over 100 students in our large gym. For scheduling purposes I wanted to bring that to light for reopening . Thank you for all your work thus far!

no

please involve teachers In this decision process. And start training teachers ASAP for remote learning. We are waiting until the last minute to prepare for this.

Not at this time.

No

I have children in Haverford School District so it would be beneficial to have the same plan across local school districts.

I'm not worried about how you'll handle health information from the state. You showed last year that you are ready to act when conditions become bad from a health perspective. I am however worried about work expectations as things move and change. It seems like A LOT is going to end up piling on homeroom teachers at the elementary level and there isnt going to be much time in our day to have a break to plan and reenergize (lunch and recess are incredibly important for my daily afternoon reset to get ready for the afternoon) I understand that no decisions that are made are good decisions and want you to know that I truly appreciate all you have done to try to figure this out.

If one child comes in asymptomatic, the entire school is at risk of being infected.

N/A

Students have shared that they really are interested in virtual academy in collaboration with MCIU but really desire LM teachers

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Physical Education is unique and should take advantage of large rooms like a gym and outdoor spaces like a track and field to allow students to exercise safely and socialize with classmates.

If in the event that virtual schooling needs to be reinstated because of a surge in the county then high standards have to be implemented. Kids need to attend all classes. They need to turn on their cameras, participate and do their assignments. Grades must be assigned as well. If we expect high quality work, the kids will comply. If we expect little that is exactly what we will get.

Please consider how difficult it is for staff members with children and family members that are at risk due to health conditions. If airing on the side of caution and providing remote learning instruction can help keep them healthy, then that is what we should do!

Teachers and students who fall into the high risk category (or have an immediate family member in the high risk category) should have the opportunity to limit exposure to Covid as much as possible. We are still following quarantine and social distancing guidelines for the safety of our families due to the unknown of Covid and should have that opportunity in teaching and learning.

Please understand that we all know that remote instruction is not ideal. But death and sickness is worse.

Shortage of staff due to a split schedule when child care is considered.

School did not stop! We need to think of what is best for the students and staff. What will happen if we wait to go back in person for 1-4 months? What will really happen?

Wait for science to catch up to the virus in a more definitive way before forcing us into a closed building for 8 hours with over 1000 people, any number of whom might be unknowingly carrying a virus that impacts older people (i.e., many high school staff) disproportionately and drastically.

I was in one of four buildings. A custodian was talking to a secretary UNMASKED and was 2 feet from her. SO... how will we expect children to follow protocol if employees are not. The ONLY WAY TO ENSURE our safety is by teaching remotely.

My family already suffered the loss of one family member to Covid-19, and several others needed to be quarantined due to exposure. I don't want my family to worry or suffer (emotionally and financially) if I become ill or die.

We need to be back!

Listen to the news- it's not safe!!! Remote learning should be the only choice. You will create another LM hot spot and loss of life will be for selfish reasons.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

If we lose control of this containment by trying to normalize an abnormal learning environment, then we will lose all control and be back in RED.

I have many questions about the specifics of how the building will be "deep cleaned" if/when we do hybrid instruction. Specifically, how will classrooms be sanitized? Equipment exists that can 100% clean a room. Are we using something other than "elbow grease" and manpower??

Think of the staff with kids. They have germs from home, bus and any extra curricular activities. Students have the same worries of germs from so many other sources though the day. Once exposed that's the entire class and staff out for 14 days.

Teachers are scared. Teachers want to be with kids, but no teacher (myself included) signed up to be working in life-threatening conditions. As someone who skews older but is not able to retire, I fear for my safety as well as the safety of my family and of my students (and their families).

No

We have no subs so what happens when someone is out

I am very fearful for the children. I am concerned bringing them together in large groups will cause them to get very ill and die. We already know they can carry the virus, increasing the virus among adults, both staff and their families

I hope that LM considers the emotional health of students, as well as their physical health.

I selected "Very likely" for following the district plans because I cannot afford to not work or take any type of leave to start the year. As stated previously, I am very uncomfortable beginning the school year with 100% participation, especially given the rising Covid cases in the country currently. I would also like more details about what happens in the future if we do go back brick and mortar in any capacity such as... What happens if a student in my class tests positive? Does the whole class switch to remote learning? Am I as the teacher required to teach via remote learning during this quarantine period? If we go with the hybrid model... Will teachers be required to manage both remote learning and in-class learning every day? How will students who need help on their remote days receive support if I'm teaching live? Will the remote learning be a requirement that will count towards a child's grade? Will I be expected to keep track of assignments completed as "attendance" for those days? A side note about optional/recommended attendance for remote learning--while I understand that there may be circumstances where students may not be able to attend synchronous sessions, all of my students from last year were able to. I received an immense amount of parent feedback that giving kids the option to attend a session would most likely result in them not attending unless being forced to which put many parents in a tough situation. On the flip side, if I told the parent they could tell their child it was mandatory, the child was responsible and attended meetings without any support from the parents. It is enough of a struggle at home maintaining household schedules. This should be a requirement we set as a "must", and if families or individual students have extenuating circumstances, then they can and should reach out to the teacher, counselor, principal, etc. It's not optional to go to school on a daily basis, so why would it be optional to receive face-to-face (digitally of course) instruction if at all possible?

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I appreciate the opportunity for input and understand that this is a difficult decision. Please consider the perspective of the students and staff in the classrooms surrounded by others on a daily basis who are then returning home each day. There is simply not enough room to socially distance in our schools.

I think it is critical for these leaderships to really listen to (and follow when appropriate) teachers' input because we are the ones on the "front lines" having direct contact with the children. Thank you.

As an elementary classroom teacher, I am concerned about being responsible for in person and synchronous learning at the same time

I will not be sending my student to school in Lower Merion in the fall because my concerns for their health. I feel that you are asking people to choose between their own health and supporting their families. You have alternative options! There is time to figure out how to get the on-line synchronous sessions to go more smoothly!!

My husband and I both teach in the district, and our children attend school in the district. Because of this, we cannot opt to enroll our kids in LMVA because as of now, we have no one to watch our kids while we are at work (and can't afford to hire someone anyway). Our number one issue right now is, who will take care of our children while we are working in the fall; our usual friends and family who would help us have said they don't want to expose themselves by helping us once school is in session.

People are scared. They will feel so much better if we declare a finite amount of time as remote. Could be a few weeks even. Just run remote while we observe what is happening locally and nationally. This will show the staff and community that we are not rushing into anything, and will allow time for some unknowns to be worked out before we jump in. There is no reason to lead a charge at the moment. Patience is prudence here.

Protect the staff!!! Until there is a vaccine, remote learning is the best option. If staff die, it will be on the heads of the administration!

Sick days. We get 5 a year and should not be forced to use more just because we have some built up from other years. If we are forced to self-quarantine due to exposure, we shouldn't have to use more than 5 days or else people will be going to work and possibly infect more people. There needs to be a set discipline for those who do not want to wear a mask, this should not be left up to teachers to be the only enforcers of this rule. Every student should have an electronic device and synchronous sessions should be mandatory if we go online. For any hybrid model, please note that teaching online is a different lesson than in person. If we are required to have asynchronous work for the students at home and teach another lesson in person, that is double the prep. For those teachers who have multiple preps already (I have 3), this is double the work.

The leadership is doing an excellent job during this challenging time. Thank you for listening!

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

The speech staff has shown that they can handle their full caseloads and responsibilities from March until June. We were one of the only groups of professional staff that serviced our entire caseload with all the services listed on the IEP. It is possible to do. I feel strongly that we cannot do the same job if we were to be in-person, knowing now that we need to maintain a social distance of 6' that was mandated by the governor. When this mandate is lifted, I would feel capable of performing my jobs to ensure student progress. Until then, I feel we need to remain seeing students virtually, whether they are in school or not in school.

I have taught at Welsh Valley for 27 years. This fall will be the most difficult of my career. All I can hope is that we provide consistency to our teachers. Everyone should be using the same platform for teaching. Assessments should be the same Homework should also be the same. This would be so helpful for our community. I am hoping this can happen.

I am not opposed to LMSD going back to on-site or hybrid instruction as long as it is done with care and precautions and not just to get the kids back in school not matter what.

I feel like teachers in the district should have a choice/opportunity to teach in a remote learning model, if their situation prevents them from returning to work safely, whether they have an immunocompromised family member, or health conditions themselves.

While Mont. Co. is in the "green", LMSD needs a balance between in-person and remote learning until a vaccine is widely available...period.

N/A

It will be impossible to expect teachers (who are also parents) to be able to do both. I have a feeling that as soon as we start, we will shut down. The right decision needs to be made for everyone involved which is parents, teachers, students and all professional staff.

logistical nightmare for anything other than opening normally

I feel the admin team has been negligent in asking for staff input this survey is too late

I am concerned that students/staff may unknowingly transmit COVID-19 to others within LMSD, leading to possible fatalities that would forever impact that lives of so many...far-reaching, long-lasting effects that we can not even begin to predict or imagine. I love my job, but am so nervous about this virus.

Concern that some health offices do not have window ventilation.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

During this time, what is the impact for school and office secretaries? Will they be in the buildings 5 days a week during green and 4 days a week during yellow? What happens when it is remote learning only. Will they be required to be in the office 5 days a week? every other day? 1 day a week?

If we go online, attendance should be required at ALL levels not just elementary. There should be a clear expectation that is consistent across the district.

When/If we have online learning, attendance needs to be mandatory at some if not all sessions. If we are providing students with devices students must attend sessions.

In the event that we go virtual, expectations need to be changed. All students must attend all classes, cameras need to be turned on, participation must be expected, and grades must be given for work completed.

PPE for staff? What kind of materials are we going to be provided?

I want on site learning to occur next year because the experience in the building is much more enriching for the instructor and the learner. We do need to have a safety plan in place for all who enter the buildings and everyone should adhere to the plan.

Nothing at this time.

n/a

Please make sure that the HIVAC systems have been checked so that air is not recirculating. If possible periodic COVID rapid testing should be offered to staff

Just things to consider: HS students go fully online and MS and elementary can use the HS buildings for more social distance. It may make for a stronger academic year to start with a plan in place (online) that wouldn't have to be altered should the virus surge.

In the plan provided, it said that all desks would be facing forward. Does that mean that K-1 classes that usually have tables will be given individual desks instead? Will we also have to eliminate any small group instruction? In order to prepare for a hybrid learning environment, could teachers be given time in school before professional development (or during) to prepare materials that students can use at home while participating in asynchronous learning?

The biggest concern I have is child care for my own children. I have no problem returning to work, but if my own children are on a hybrid or remote learning plan, I am having a lot of difficulty finding child care in that case.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

How are we supposed to handle this situation? We still have no real idea of how instruction is supposed to look this school year. All we know is what the school is doing when it comes to social distancing. What is instruction supposed to look like?

If we have a hybrid instruction will all staff be in the buildings for the 4 days? The risk is lower for the children but seems higher for the staff.

Our first priority is protecting our students. In my experience, distance learning went fairly well, and students are learning to overcome adversity while doing so, therefore I believe we should continue remote learning until November and revisit at that point.

Too little is known about this virus, tests have false negatives at a rate that is unacceptable and the antibody testing is not yet developed enough to use reliably to determine safety. Until these issues are better understood and known, it does not feel at all safe to resume in person school.

Could the district consider a delayed start time for remote learning for the secondary schools which would allow the younger students to be online early for synchronous instruction options (7:30 am) and then delay any synchronous instruction for the secondary students until 9:00 am (extending the instructional day to 4:30pm)? Perhaps this approach would allow the older students to get their requisite sleep and it would also allow the younger students to not have to compete for the internet or computer time early in the morning. This trial would also give LMSD some real data on delayed start time that could prove useful for future planning and implementation.

I would love to get back to the regular way of life and not have to worry about all of the what if's. My feeling is that for all of us to be safe we should start as though we are in the yellow. Monday Tuesday in and Thursday Friday in. This is such an unsure time and I am will do what is safe for me and our students.

Special consideration should be given to teachers who do not have a fixed classroom. I teach in three to four different locations on any given day, if I'm asymptomatic, then I will be a super spreader.

You keep saying that the health and safety of students, staff and their families is your top priority. If this is true, the only way you can keep all of us safe is through remote instruction.

I think the leadership is doing a very good job handling the coronavirus crisis; keep up the good work and the good communication.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

The communication has been abysmal. Just because things are challenging does not mean you have a right to not be perfectly transparent about the process. This conversation should have been started in June. The objections you get from teachers and parents now could have been placated weeks ago even in the absence of a definitive plan. You have made it feel like we are not even on the same team by hiding behind closed doors and zoom meetings. It is still unclear to my why a hybrid model is a defacto choice for yellow phase. While you have fewer students in the building, they will be coming to school having more contacts in the community due to childcare or more free time for older students. While this is challenging, it is the job of leaders to step up at these times and accept responsibility. I don't want to sit in on any more meetings where you try and act like martyrs. You are the leaders, pull it together.

My spouse is working on the front line treating COVID patients. While we are taking every precaution as a family, I have concerns that I may be inadvertently exposed. Does the district have recommendations for situations like this? Also, would the district be willing to offer additional emergency "childcare" days in Addition to personal or sick days?

I am very, very, concern to open school under the current numbers and without the benefits of a vaccine.

what ever. we do ,,it is important that we have the children's. and teachers and staff, welfare as top priority,,,

Let's focus on training and preparing our staff well for remote instruction and giving time to plan and be ready to do this as this is the most likely situation we will face. Let everyone plan and prepare vs. having the unknown and the risk looming.

I have no knowledge of how classrooms will have less students or will be spread out, how will we transition in the halls or students remain in class, how middle schoolers will respond to wearing masks, ie on their head not their face, how they will eat lunch, how adults will be protected, ie, air quality, space around them, chemicals from continual cleaning, will teachers get shields, so that visually students can see them explaining instruction. I cannot effort to get infected as I am the caretaker of two parents 85 and 89, how can I feel safe when I don't know what my classes or precautions look like. This happens every hundred years and 5 more months of waiting for in person instruction as numbers go up will not make or break us. But returning too soon may.

The over crowded schools make this a safety problem for schools like Penn Wynne, Penn Valley and Bala. It seems unrealistic that the students will maintain distance if the schools open up at 100% because it will feel normal but the hybrid model is different and will create different behaviors sending a message that the students need to really keep their distance and take things seriously. Also for the younger kids where social distancing is hard having half the class will naturally give them more space. Plus lunch logistics in the crowded schools would be easier at half capacity as they could still go to the cafeteria and be more spaced out and provide the teachers a break in the classroom to wash things down.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

While I understand that you do not have direct answers to all of these questions, I would like to voice my concerns and make you acutely aware of the fears that I have going to sleep each night. I love my job and I adore the students whom I teach. I live for my career and I consider my students and families an extension of my own family. That said, I cannot come back to the building and leave my own family without a great deal of clarity and answers from the district and a sense that we are being protected and supported. I came to Lower Merion school district because I felt that it was on the forefront of cutting edge educational practices and the district was extremely forward thinking in their ability to prepare students and meet their needs. I have to say that I am very disappointed in the handling of this pandemic situation. This is a circumstance unlike any other and therefore requires even greater thinking outside of the box to meet student needs. You have employed some of the greatest educators in the country and we are more than able to meet student needs virtually. Other surrounding districts have put together some really impressive virtual plans for students including district staff. I would expect the district to put their time and energy into developing a strong virtual program for our students that utilizes district staff. I would be very willing to devote some of my time this summer to prepare for this and take additional coursework in order to expand my ability to teach virtually and I believe that many of my colleagues would also take this on in order to keep ourselves, our students, and our families safe. I am hoping Lower Merion can start developing a more comprehensive virtual plan at this time and taking teacher and professional feedback into consideration.

From everything I have read, schools cannot open safely. I understand the child care horrors. I also understand children. We do not have the skills or staff to open. My school district sent the Montco guidance on exclusion and return to schools. It is complicated and frightening. How can and will LMSD treat families who ignore these rules? How will/can they be enforced? When we read the story of the callous behavior of the Montco soccer coach, who may have infected 100+, how can the district believe that every LM parent, child and employee will put the greater good first? For years, teachers have come to school sick, because writing lesson plans for subs is difficult. Will LMSD have enough substitutes? Many of LM's regular subs are older. It will not be safe for them to work. I don't want to teach remotely. I hate it. I also do not know how students will receive books and class materials. However, there are large amounts of evidence that opening is unsafe. Israel couldn't do it. Japan, on the other hand, has a national ethos of appropriate behavior and putting others before one's self. America hasn't displayed that sort of behavior in nearly 80 years.

There is no perfect solution for students and staff. There is risk and danger when returning to school. Safety needs to be the #1 concern. A hybrid model which reduces the number of students in school and classrooms is helpful to reduce that risk. I am shocked and disappointed to hear that LMSD is considering go back as normal an option for September.

It is hard to respond to the survey with so many unknowns. One of my biggest concerns is aerosol transmission of the virus.

My sense is that the faculty is committed to the students' social and intellectual development, which is our responsibility. Many of us feel the need to be on board with the school district in this regard. It is important to indicate that we are NOT only babysitters; this is a highly political period and I hope that the local government stands above the fray. It is also important to understand that there are a number of reasonable, excellent, healthy teachers who are nevertheless not consoled by the measures taken by the district; that the very notion of returning to a closed-spaced building is too great a risk.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

In the likelihood that I contract the COVID 19 virus during in-school instruction, will there be plans in place to support me and my family while we deal with it? Who will accept liability for this probability?

I know this is not going to be an easy decision and I do not envy you. Please consider the safety of ALL involved and not just the convenience of the families and parents in the district

To expect staff to return to buildings at this time shows a complete disrespect for the staff. While I will return because I am a single mother and am the sole provider for my family, I am also 51 years old and have asthma. It terrifies me that I could get sick and infect my daughter or worse become seriously ill. I need my pay but I also need to be healthy to raise my daughter. It is my belief that asking me to risk the health of my family during a global pandemic is asking too much of an employee when I am able to do my job remotely. The governor's current recommendation is to work remotely if at all possible. It is totally possible to do that and to do it well.

While in person instruction is obviously the way I feel I can be most effective. I am deeply concerned that we are not thinking about the amount of instructional time that will be lost due to the fear of both staff and students if we open. I am unsure how to address cleaning, hygiene, and possible lack of mask wearing with students.

If there is no accountability for attendance in the synchronous instruction it will fail - as it did in April - June of this year. Students must have cameras on otherwise they log in and disappear.

Please find a way to make more room in the school.

I will not return to the campus until it is safe...nor should anyone else.

We want to go back to school, but we want to go back under the safest possible circumstances. It's hard to know what is safest when the information about COVID changes so often.

How will students be transported safely for them and drivers and aides

With sub failures being a CONSTANT problem, what is the plan when teachers are Normal sick/ call out/ take personal days/ attend meetings/ trainings etc, and subs are unavailable? I can't count the number of times classes were split last year, yet nothing has been done at the district level for years to resolve this.

By outsourcing remote learning entirely, the district has left compromised professional staff with few options should they be unable to return to work. Accommodations should be made so that there are more options than unpaid leave or resignation for our most vulnerable staff members.

Please consider staff who have health issues who maybe should not return. Think of families who may live w elderly. Mothers that are pregnant. The AS population young and old, who cannot social distance for their own safety of exposing them to us or us to them and their families.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

It makes sense to consider opening small class sizes for the students with greatest needs. Not all students, but the students and families who are most on the margins, who are at greatest risk if school buildings remain closed, who cannot meet their basic needs without them. Give these students full days and full weeks so that their families have a reasonable chance of being able to support them.

I think it will be very difficult if we do go back to school either full time or hybrid for the kids and teachers to wear masks. I currently have no problem wearing a mask. Are shields acceptable for a face covering. This way the students and teachers will be able to understand and have a good sense of expression. I think this is crucial if the shields are acceptable.

Wait for a vaccine to re-open schools.

ALL classrooms Should be divided in half if we are forced to return (in either green or yellow phases). at a meeting today, it was Suggested that Kindergarten should attend as a whole group while older students are halved

Faculty want to ensure the safety of their students and their own safety so that education can occur in an environment that makes everyone comfortable, which will likely be a hybrid or remote at any point the county is not in the Green Phase.

There will be gross neglect will attendance and this will be a major issue with having enough bus drivers.

Wear a mask!

Can you share how staff can opt for remote work?

More information regarding the virtual academy. Are LMSD employees expected to provide spec ed or related services?

At this point, no. I do consider my personal health as I have two pre-existing conditions that put me in the compromised population. However, I think wisdom and safety are paramount in ensuring we are as safe as we can be.

Get kids back in school. I'm very concerned about the long-term social/emotional and educational implications of children not being together in a school setting!

Not at this time.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

In the proposed Green full opening plan, I would not feel safe to do my job. I work closely with Learning support students and want the best for them. My family and friends who are employed in other school districts are shocked by the full opening plan as it is proposed. I hope the school district reconsiders. As a parent, I would not feel comfortable sending my children to school at this time, if they were still school age. I place my confidence in the good sense of our union reps and administrators to change this plan.

You need to listen to parents and teachers in making your decision. You also need to be more transparent with your plans. As a district teacher and parent of a LMSD elementary student, I have felt extremely stressed about the fact that we have heard nothing until now about the plans for reopening in several weeks. In comparison, many other parents I know with students in neighboring districts have been surveyed and contacted multiple times this summer.

Given the number of rising cases in our country and state, returning to school without strict social distancing does not meet the needs of safety, both physically and emotionally, for students and staff to create an environment conducive to learning. I urge LMSD to prioritize social distancing, along with the other measures such as mask wearing and increased sanitizing outlined in the Yellow Phase plans, when considering reopening schools regardless of whether the state is in a Green or Yellow Phase.

Please keep in mind the health of the staff, their families and students when making your decision. This is a serious matter and although it is understandable why everyone wants to go back the "traditional" way, we are not living in "traditional" times. Many of us are very concerned at what is at stake and the health and safety of all involved.

I am 51 years old, but have no other health issues. My age may put me at a higher risk for Covid-19. How many of our teachers and staff are over 50? Over 60? Have health issues that put them in a higher risk group? I would like to know.

Is LMSD associated with any facility to offer "sneeze/cough" shields to purchase for staff and children?

I just do not see any reason why we can start off on the conservative end, to lighten up later on as opposed to pushing things and potentially making them far worse.

I would like to see everyone back @ 100% safely and protected.

PLEASE take your employees into account, PLEASE go above and beyond for them- provide us with every amount of PPE necessary, and then some. We pride ourselves in being LMSD teachers, and we want to feel supported by LMSD. Please also provide extensive, and relevant, training for virtual learning- what we know so far is not enough. We need clear expectations, by grade level, parents need clear expectations. Please consider the teachers at all times.

I do not have confidence in returning to a fully staffed school with all students attending that we will be successful in curbing the spread of Covid 19 - even with safety measures in place. While education of our students is a high priority, the health and well being of all people involved is more important.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Just concerned how the students will react to all the new rules and safety precautions being put into place.

People will be forced to go back to work but the fear of the virus will weigh heavily and it won't feel like a safe learning environment for anyone.

I would implore you to think about how horrible we would all feel if something were to happen. Going back so soon, even for a worthy cause as in person instruction is, is unwise and potentially unsafe.

I am a science teacher, and it will be very difficult to do any kind of lab next year due to the cleaning protocols that will need to be in place. Since this is a situation that no one could have predicted back when the budget was completed, we should be able to make special considerations for being able to purchase online lab programs for science classes.

I don't know if the Governor's new restriction on indoor gatherings to 25 people or less applies to schools, but either way, it just seems reckless to let children go to school where that number will definitely be exceeded at some point in hallways. And I just read that indoor dining is one of the behaviors that pose the greatest risk in spreading the virus, so even if kids are 6 feet apart, there is still a big risk that they will be spreading the virus.

We are not glorified babysitters. Proceed with extreme caution knowing that people are currently being dishonest about the state of their health due to fear of missing out and or wanting to get away from their kids.

Everyone needs to get back into their normal routines. We need to get back to school.

Please consider the science and data being published surrounding the need for 6' social distancing and the use of masks. Under a full opening, there is no way to guarantee social distancing at all. It is irresponsible for the safety of all involved to even consider fully opening the district at a time when Covid-19 cases are rising and higher than ever before. Being "in green" isn't what it meant at the time when it was published. The state and local governments have already rolled back openings while keeping us in "green". The county recommends 6' of social distance. I am disheartened that LMSD would open us without finding a way to keep us at least 6' apart at all times.

It is so important that we have the right supplies for the students. Each student will need their own manipulatives, devices, and supplies. Masks must be worn by each student all day. Also if teachers are asked to go back with these circumstances, we need plenty of prep time and sick days. If we got into a hybrid model especially because it will be a lot of extra time to plan accordingly. Also additional in school business days, sick days and personal days would help with faculty with children at home. That way planning can get finished at school and sick days can actually be taken when faculty and their family members are sick.

As a special educator, it is difficult to actively engage my students virtually. In my opinion, it is essential for my students to attend school to some capacity.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

We all need more non contact hand sanitizing machines, the ones that you have to touch are not good at this moment in time.

I appreciate the hard work and diligence being put forth as you navigate these uncharted waters. I trust the district to make the decision that allows our students (and staff) to stay safe. I love what I do- and am so grateful we have the resources and support from administration to find a way to make the virtual learning experience a meaningful one.

Health and safety come first. The colors of red, yellow, green phases keep shifting back and forth too quickly too often due to the alarming lack of honoring the societal behavior (civil) contract by too many citizens who refuse to abide by science directions. There is the total lack of a stable national government to uniformly move us all together successfully as a nation...additionally, we are always 2 weeks behind knowing the "reality curve" of number of cases, number of deaths, number of positive tests; we do not have a 24 hour turn around to know the results of a CoVid test in order to arrest the spread and to successfully trace sources...many of these U.S. local citizens travel and mingle without a care in the world...they care not about the rules nor consider them necessary. We all are mandated by Governor Wolf. who is trying hard to get people to listen. We are to fully mitigate as per scientists' requests and ESPECIALLY must be careful because the health stats of CoVid cases are now as of this week hidden from the public at the direction of the present administration in DC. Additionally, the CDC has been sidelined by this DC administration.; the issues about schools have become a political football at the expense of exposing staff and students to those who do not comply with safety. Gambling with health of staff and student safety is not the hallmark of LMSD. It is imperative that a decision be made to favor 100% REQUIRED remote now for Fall...it should also not be a choice whether or not to attend the asynchronous sessions....Deciding now will allow educators to prepare lessons now for remote. A decision cannot wait until the day before school starts to announce we are going one way or another. One in 3 children are testing positive in FLA now as we learn more and more with each passing week. The busing plan presented by LMSD is a huge danger to the children and an inadequate solution; it is shocking to present such a bus plan ...to expect 6 ft social distancing on a bus and 6 feet sitting apart ..which would allow max of 10 kids on a bus total on one bus run... It is also dangerous and shocking to expect bus drivers to work this way. How long will they last? We all worked hard March-June remote and we can do so Sept-Jan and then see where we are as a country after inauguration... January will provide intelligent nationally coordinated directors at the helm delivering proposals and safety measures to assist us and who will be thinking of the BEST interests of students and staff. It is essential that remote learning be required of all the children and to supply them necessary laptops and home free Wifi to make it happen for them. There is no clear plan offered to protect any of us in the hallways with proper social distancing 6 ft apart. It is all vaguely described. How may we make a decision to sign up for this? Bathrooms will require extra sinks, many soap stations, running hot water (which we never had) , plenty of towel supply stations and other such enhancements for cleanliness....sanitizers added around the building are not enough..social distancing would require limiting the number of people in the bathrooms...who will monitor that?.it sounds like an incomplete make-shift plan being offered...not laid out in description to insure trust of following guidelines of social distancing.....ideas presented to us have not been fully worked out; in winter when our dear over worked custodial staff must come out to shovel snow , how will the extra cleaning get done? are the custodial staff miracle workers? science classes would be crippled from doing lab experimentation and these labs will work better online remotely. No equipment should be shared in science classrooms without mitigation...equipment cannot be shared...equipment cannot be PROPERLY cleaned after each use; the "specials" subjects plan LMSD presented can be better delivered more appropriately and professionally by remote means; the lunches description is unsafe with people eating and drinking with no masks unless you have no more 6-8 kids in the small rooms because they won't have masks on at that time...and 8-10 kids in larger rooms to keep 6 feet part. we cannot accommodate 500 kids during the hybrid day in the building; who are we trying to fool or please? How will stair wells work 6 ft apart between staggered classroom movements through the building throughout the day? How often can everything be properly cleaned during an in person teaching day? What will school do when a (low estimate) group of 20 kids come down every day experiencing CoVid or flu-like symptoms? The expanded nursing stations will still be flooded by these kids...flood the nursing

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

area...will nurse areas somehow magically expand? How many back up nurses do we have if one gets ill? Will parents actually pick up their sick child ON TIME? We have all experienced the delayed picking up of children by parents in the past. Only in the past, it was acceptable to just wait for a parent to pick up a child because our lives were not endangered by being around those children awaiting a ride home. CoVid is a game changer and it puts staff up against the wall. Why must all those who are concerned for safety (parents and staff) be stressed with all of this when we have already invested in successful remote learning? What will happen when custodial staff must be absent due to health concerns or exhaustion? They are such hard workers under "normal" times. How many extra custodial staff are ready and hired to work at a moment's notice for Fall? What will school do when teachers decide they need to be absent to avoid this district in person plan presented? We had staff absentee problems prior to CoVid . What will happen with staff absenteeism rate in the Fall with in person learning due to the CoVid threat? realistically it will sky rocket. What will happen to the school climate when strong experienced seasoned staff suddenly retire out of health and safety concerns for themselves, or/ and for their family members' health?... These staff members have so much to give through teaching and who are presently at the top of their game may be sidelined if we don't go remote to protect everybody. What happens when teachers who live in other districts are in a different color phase than LMSD and when so much is at stake to report to school becomes a hardship? This plan makes people chose between family, health, and job. Finally, the ventilation system is not up to par. we need air purifiers, humidifiers to ensure air quality during cold weather. To teach outside during good weather will be a free for all teachers attempting to locate a safe spot outside to learn, to herd the kids to the spot or to hunt for a spot. A preconceived plan of who goes where would be needed and of course in need of enforcement for good will, and enforcement by whom? (not an easy task). How much teaching time would be lost to "travel" in out of building and adhering to 6 feet apart in order to teach outside?

It is smarter to start slower.

Less absenteeism if cleaning is on Friday. If workers need off for weekend there will be less impact. Don't see the difference of cleaning in between the two groups of students.

1. I think that conflicting scheduling of hybrid days can be a hardship if we have to go to school/work on monday and tuesday and parents of children outside of the district go to school on thursday and friday, how will that handled? 2. possibility that parents with out of district children doesn't attend in person instruction they will be doing virtual learning, how will that work for employees? 3. I think that first, LMSD should start off school in the fall remotely

I would like to order individual Art packs and a small carry badgs for all my Art students. I have not been given a green light to order form school specialty. My fear like PPE there will be a shortage of "packs"for my students. I am an Art teacher and have a very big class load. Also, I would like some face shields. Reason = I am sometimes the only regular ed teacher for many students with disabilities. I can pay but I would like to have access. I am 54 years old and worry about exposure.

I would like the District to prioritize student and faculty safety over the rush to return to school.

Fifth grade students rotate classes for math due to advanced 6th grade math. Will this still be done? How will social distancing be addressed and minimizing contact with other students/ teachers?

Lmsd has done a great job of keeping its students and staff safe.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Teachers who are parents of young children have childcare concerns. My children's school district has ruled out a 5 day return to school; if I am in school teaching 5 days, then I do not have childcare. I have one living parent who is high risk and will not be able to help me. They are too old for daycare and that would pose a great infectious risk anyway.

Please take in account the number of staff that is not going to return to work due to medical concerns

Just the obvious. School is a social climate, and should follow social gathering restrictions. There is no way to effectively teach a student from six feet away.

If the district needs to do a type of hybrid type of learning - then eliminate non-core classes until (FCS, Art, Music, PE courses not needed to graduate). While they are important they are not essential. On-line learning can also eliminate some extra personnel (Campus Aides, Secretarial, teachers) Hate to say it but LMSD can cut some fat

If we are in a hybrid schedule it would be helpful to have Wednesday open for meetings and planning. Asynchronous learning can take place on W/TH/F for cohort A and M/T/W for cohort B. Teaching both in class and making asynchronous lessons will be very daunting. Having this day to touch base with team members to plan, meet as a faculty, or even to touch base with students that have questions or need some extra help would be great to do on Wednesdays. We could also do some 1:1 assessment on this day.

I am most concerned about the cleaning of classrooms, as it has been my experience that the cleaning that occurs nightly is just the emptying of trash and occasionally sweeping and vacuuming. I know that the plan includes increased cleaning and sanitizing. My concern comes with my experiences in the past that rooms have never been cleaned to past expectations.

I feel to keep all individuals safe, we need to be remote. I do not feel that the schools are ventilated enough to lower the risk for students and staff. I am very confident that in a hybrid model some students and teachers will die. If we are okay with some students and staff dying...then hybrid works. Teachers should have been involved in the decisions. Many of the people making these decisions were NEVER classroom teachers.

I think LMSD staff should be included more in this whole process. I think LMSD staff should be given the opportunity to provide virtual learning instead of MCIU. Look at West Chester Area SD's plan-- it's collaborative, creative and has used great problem solving skills-- exactly what you have outlines in the LM strategic plan!

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Without the ability to share materials, the district must be clear in how this will be managed. It is obviously necessary for us to provide 1:1 devices, but we also must have specific 'packages' of Items such as math manipulatives, reading books, Basic school Supplies, Etc. in order for our students to be Safe and successful. Additionally, we must consider the repercussions for students who refuse to follow protocol and make these consequences abundantly clear to our parents. Obviously under FAPE all students are entitled to their education, however, it has been my personal experience that certain children's education suffers due to behavioral issues of other children. While teachers and IAs deal with these issues annually, this year we need support to keep all children and staff safe. As a RAM teacher, I have also experienced the importance of proper training for STUDENTS in the use of devices, programs, GC, etc., as classroom teachers are learning this themselves and without proper tech training, we will be wasting an incredible amount of precious instructional time. Finally, I believe the district should supply PPE, etc, to any staff member who requests it, not just those that work with specific students. You are requiring us to risk ours, our students and our families lives by returning to a brick and mortar building. While I desperately want to be in my classroom and obviously will do everything in my power to educate and protect these children (and my family), you simply must listen to those of us who are on the front lines so that we are all safe.

Please see and consider the issues presented here: <https://tinyurl.com/yy56dn3t>

As a veteran teacher in the district and a parent of an incoming kindergartener, I'm shocked and disappointed that you're even considering FTF instruction to begin the year. We know we can't meet guidelines with full classes at the elementary level and yet you're still considering it? We are supposed to be leaders in education; the ones that other districts put on a pedestal. And here we are, one of the last to make decisions and considering putting our staff AND students at risk. It is a disgrace. Additionally, the fact that we are being surveyed less than 8 hours before the board meeting to vote on this plan makes it quite obvious that you don't want our opinions and really just want to tell the parents that you asked for our input. Concerns: 1 If in hybrid, who is virtually teaching the half of the students at home. The classroom teacher will have a FULL workload just preparing the for the section that is in school. 2. What are the procedures when a student tests positive, staff, staff family member? Will the entire class be quarantined? 3. How will those days be counted against the staff member? Sick days? FMLA COVID days? 4. How are you even considering bringing in a FULL CLASS of kindergarteners during the hybrid plan? If the purpose is to lessen class size to allow for distance how can you rectify bringing in a full class? 5. Many other districts currently have staff being paid to work over the summer to turn the curriculum into online lessons. Who is adapting lessons? Or is it just on each individual teacher to create their own lessons? There are more questions than answers and therefore I am hoping that you will make the right choice, even though it is the difficult one to CHOOSE REMOTE LEARNING for the start of the year.

Schools should be a safe place. I do not feel safe returning to the buildings in September. The risks are far too great.

I read over the health safety plans, but there was no mention of restroom use. While this may be uncomfortable to discuss, there are several studies that conclude that COVID-19 can be spread through feces, which is aerosolized by flushing toilets. No toilets at the high school buildings have seat covers that can be lowered before flushing. I would not be comfortable entering a restroom unless there were covers on seats and all students and staff were instructed to close the cover before flushing.

We need to listen to the requests of our parents and teachers at this time. It's important to really consider what the community and staff are thinking.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Outsourcing for the Academy should concern LMEA!! WSSD teachers will be teaching their Academy.

Please keep class sizes down. Please be really firm with students about masking. That is essential. If you want me to teach (and I really want to), please make me safe(r) by insisting on masks. It is unfair and dangerous for me and other students to interact with unmasked classmates.

I have a underling condition.

I am a specialist in a large elementary school-I don't understand how we will be able to teach while wearing masks and having our students wear masks. Our school has old window units as AC, it will be hot and stuffy. As we remove our masks to eat/drink we are letting the virus in. I believe 100% remote learning is necessary.

Read research if you can't put people in a bar in close quarters you can't put kids in a classroom. Research says kids transmit

I think the main problem for us as teachers and parents is the fact that each locality is developing their own plans. This will cause great difficulties with child care and may force many personnel including myself to have to use FFCRA in order to be at home because our children's schools are closed. I do not want this but as a single dad I may have no choice if the schedules are conflicting. Truly a logistical nightmare for many as we approach the start of the school year.

What is the air quality in the elementary classrooms? Elementary classrooms are extremely hot, 80 degrees or above in the early fall and late spring, will there be air conditioners installed? Will the entire class need to be quarantined, along with the teacher for 15 days if one person in the class tests positive? Will the staff members need to take their personal days if the class or school needs to be quarantined? Where will children go if they have symptoms of Covid at school? Will there be a quarantine room? Who will watch the children in this quarantine space? Will a schedule and designated spots be determined to take children outside (when it is not raining) to hold class so that several classes are not out at once? When are teachers expected to wipe down materials when specials will be in their classrooms and emails and materials need to be prepared during the classes special times?

We need more information. How will you protect staff and students who are at high risk or who live with someone who is high risk?

Not at this time, thank you so much.

I am worried about childcare. I have two young children at home. The spring was very difficult to manage their schedules and my own. I have no idea what I will do in the fall in any of these scenarios to the point where I find myself having to chose between my child learning to read or a job I love.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Students benefit most from in person instruction. The mental health of children is going to be impacted long term if remote instruction is the only option.

At this time my own children will likely be returning to a hybrid model. If this is the case I will struggle to be in work 5 days per week.

The students and staff will be exposed to a great deal of possible infections if we are in school with large groups (i.e. class size of 20 or more). How will the district cover the staff, should the staff become ill?

Can you provide more information on how related services will be treated

Often in the past, when the children were sent to the nurse for a fever, throwing up or not feeling well, they were still allowed to return to class. There is supposed to be a 24 hour rule that if a student is sent home with a fever, they may not return for 24 hours. This was really not enforced at our school. Now with Covid-19, I feel that if we return to on campus training, these policies should be strictly enforced.

The CDC isn't always operating under scientific parameters and have allowed politics to taint the organization. I am very doubtful of what they say, as it may not be based in facts.

I appreciate your taking the time to consider all options. Most staff members do not live in the district and for those of us with children, whose school districts may choose an option other than the one LM is choosing, may have childcare issues. This is an important area to consider as we move forward.

Working with children with special needs / autism who will not be wearing masks. How safe are the educators ? Staff. ? Keeping 6 feet from these students ?

Now that teachers and staff are considered front line workers, I am hoping that testing for Covid19 will be performed on faculty and staff on a biweekly basis as it is for nurses and staff in hospitals and nursing homes.

It would be best practice to start remotely, with a time range expressed for when to reevaluate the possibility of returning to schools. If numbers of cases do not increase as expected in September, then we could start a hybrid model later in the fall. I do not believe our students' education will suffer if we have the time to plan now for online instruction. We cannot possibly meet expectations for a return to education as it was last fall. We need to be concerned with safety first before we can expect that our students will feel comfortable enough to be able to learn.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I am 55 with an underlying health condition, asthma. I have had asthma my entire life, it is hereditary as both of my parents have asthma. For me, returning to the school building to teach is an extremely scary proposition. Under normal circumstances, students are carriers of all kinds of contagious illnesses. Kids are not very good at maintaining distance. Teaching is a very hands on and up-close profession. If we are required to return to teach in person, I may have to retire many years earlier than I originally planned. I hope that it will not come to this. LM is in a good position, unlike many other school districts, to teach remotely. Let us embrace the flexibility that our technology allows and bring teaching into the 21st century. LMSD could lead the way for other districts.

Be decisive before it's too late. Do what LA, San Diego, and an increasing number of districts around the country (North Carolina, Texas, etc.) have elected to do: all online for at least the fall semester while the world tries to figure this thing out. Why ask us to assume a risk (even a small one) of a catastrophic result. We'll be all-remote anyway as soon as a few of us get sick and blocks of kids are in quarantine. Then it'll be too late for parents to make child care arrangements.

Again, please read my email sent at approximately 4:00 this afternoon to the reopening task force.

In the current climate, virus rising throughout the summer, it seems radical for the school district to think they can open fully and not in a reduced capacity. This after having been totally closed. The more conservative approach, with fall coming and infections possibly rising it would seem prudent to start out slowly and open more fully at a later date if the virus is under better control. As a busdriver the only precaution you have given is for children to wear a mask. Sitting 2 to a seat is simply driven by economics and not health. I work to help support my life, not jeopardize it.

I'm curious as to what the final goal is at this point. If it is to provide the strongest education possible, in the most consistent and equitable way across the district, year long remote teaching until there is a vaccine seems to be the most logical response. If parents are concerned about students feeling isolated, perhaps the district could help to facilitate social opportunities. Having students sit in forward facing seats, in small groups, where they cannot move around or interact with each other or touch anything does not establish an environment for pedagogically sound teaching. It is a holding ground for kids that simultaneously creates unnecessary risk for some vulnerable human beings. This is not actually in the best interest of anyone, unfortunately.

Is there any thought being given to having students completely remote- and having teachers deliver instruction from their classroom where all of their materials are (document cameras, smart boards, books, reproducibles, books/read aloud that compliments the curriculum just to name a few? We can be synchronous during certain hours, teachers being live streamed into the students homes....and teachers be available for asynchronous hours in the afternoon.

Is the district considering a delayed start date so that teachers/staff can get training (especially around mental health and safety) and planning time? Our in-service days are not enough time to do everything we normally do, the trainings that are already scheduled, prepare our rooms and plan for in person and virtual. How much time is the district allotting for staff and students to re-acclimate socially and review the new safety procedures? We have students and staff returning from so many different scenarios over the last 6 months, everyone will need time to re-acclimate.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

We need to proceed cautiously to ensure the health and safety of all stakeholders. I would much rather see the school year begin with the hybrid model and have it stay open rather than have all students come back and have to close soon thereafter.

I answered this in the previous question, but would like to repeat that I do not feel it is safe to return at this time, nor does the forecast playing out look as if things will improve. Staff will be at considerable risk.

Without knowing what will happen for my children's school district, I can not decide how I can return to work or how I can arrange childcare. It is not as though there is an obvious course of action for parents needing childcare. Many childcare providers are no longer offering care as they typically would. It truly feels impossible to make any plan at this time and that is completely unsettling, never mind the risks associated with Covid. Another fear I have is that I will be expected to be even more of a sub since I am not a classroom teacher. I am not ok with this. And truthfully, before covid, I was expected to sub 1-2x a week. This is a huge concern of mine. I hope somehow the school district can return to treating us with more concern and care. Unfortunately, much of what seems to be happening seems like teachers are faced with less and less respect and basically being told they do not have options and will be expected to do as told. I've wanted to be a teacher my whole life and while there were some things to complain about for quite a few years, it's never been more depressing a time to be in this role. If nothing else, LMSD please treat teachers with respect, care and concern. These times are not normal and people are on the brink of tears at any given moment. Have a heart. It will help.

That COVID-19 stress is not the only problems facing the employees of LMSD. Some of us have lingering problems that we need to be addressed.

Communicate better with the staff. It feels as if information is not being readily shared. Many employees I've spoken feel that the district does not value them. Also, please look at West Chester's plan. This is one of the better ones I have seen.

That NO TEACHER PLANS TO GO BACK

Thank you for all your hard work in figuring out the impossible! I know it's a no-win situation. If we do open, please ensure the cdc guidelines are implemented, including social distancing & masks at all times. Also, can we consider scrubs for teachers/ staff? I'm also concerned about ventilation in the buildings, particularly for those of us with interior rooms with no windows to open. Thank you!

I believe easing into the school year with half online half in person would be ideal. This way we can look at the data and decide whether to push forward or scale back without it becoming too hard to control.

I would like the union to have a meeting to speak with all of us. And LMSD needs to reevaluate their priorities. This is simply NOT SAFE.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

There is not sufficient data to show how this virus spreads among children. The district needs to spend time, energy, and money into implementing an online learning experience for children.

As we get closer to the start of school, anxiety is starting to rise amongst, staff, students and families. While we would all love to return to school, the fact remains that it is still not safe for large groups to be assembled. A full reopening brings barriers to planning, safety, and assurances for all stakeholders.

Your current plan does not adequately address or commit to steps that will be taken for obvious areas of concerns including use of sick-time (no mention), professional interactions (e.g. PLC meetings and PD; no mention), what will occur if there is a suspected or confirmed case in a building (no mention), procedures for use of common areas (e.g. stairs, copiers; no mention), contact tracing of students and staff (no mention), procedures for when students are suspected of COVID-19 while in school, new infrastructure to address emergent cases (e.g. an isolation room), protections for at-risk staff (at-risk students have the option for the virtual academy), training for students on COVID-19 risk factors and protective behaviors beyond hand washing and hygiene, training for staff for effective use of PPE, rethinking student assessments to essentialize learning, additional learning supports to make up for lost instructional time

It is critical for you to know the community at large is losing patience and confidence. we need to do what is right even if it is hard ... you have lives at stake. do the right thing and follow advice of doctors and scientists. If 6 ft not possible ALL DAY then neither is in school learning.

If the health and safety of the children and staff are our primary concern, then we should listen to the science. They are still saying to avoid of crowd of larger than 10 people. We can't do that with schools open. I really hope that none of us are put in that kind of danger.

Teachers' health and safety needs to be prioritized. Please listen to the feedback and voices from concerned staff.

Special needs students need to be taken into account and their educational needs need to be planned for possibly differently. Working in the AS rooms there is no such thing as social distancing - also our students will not keep masks on.

I believe that you will make the right decision for us all.

I'm really worried about classroom sizes, about using up those 80 days for covid illness every time my family and I quarantine out of safety whenever one of us has a cold. I'm worried about running out of the cleaning solution AND hand sanitizer. I'm worried about my room that has no AC being a problem with kids who have masks and breathing problems (and other rooms). I'm worried if I'm asked to teach online (not remotely in a red phase) I'll lose my position (maybe not this year but next year), so I feel pressured to go to work in house. I worry about people covering my class if I get sick, and about my colleagues with singleton classes who won't have a counterpart. I'm worried about building safety (our initiative a few years ago) and people with faces covered, more access to going outside, etc. I'm worried about child care if my sons school's schedule is different than LMSD's.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I am unsure why LMSD isn't following the same options that most of the other Montgomery County schools are giving their students and families.

Well, I sure wish this survey was sent out way before the night of the school board meeting where opening decisions are being discussed/made. Not sure who dropped the ball but....

Thank you for all of your communications and bravery during this difficult time :)

LMSD should find ways to be flexible and creative to allow teachers with medical circumstances to work without being onsite.

Staff bathrooms have disappeared in some buildings due to individual bathrooms now offered as "gender neutral." While I support this progressive and important decision, I truly feel staff would feel much more comfortable and sanitary if several designated staff bathrooms are made available in all buildings. When elementary students use restroom facilities, they are not always clean after student use. This would also somewhat limit exposure and usage for staff bathrooms instead of having these bathrooms available to hundreds of people on a given day.

It is going to be very difficult for students to remain with mask on daily even with mask breaks so I believe a modified schedule such as hybrid would be beneficial for all.

As stated, many families are stressing childcare for their own children (as well as health and safety of everyone). We can get creative and do something extraordinary, we just need to develop solutions and not complaints. We (teachers) can do this! I hope that our voice is heard.

If virtual learning we need more teacher training days. Not enough to watch the tutorials as not every situation explained. Also, many families had issues with technology and I am not an IT person. There needs to be an on call help service for families.

I feel like the survey question about returning to work was hard to answer. Will I come back? Yes, it's my job and I can't afford to lose it but I do not feel comfortable if 6 ft isn't truly adhered to.

Who are the adults were expected to wipe off the desk, Any staff member who is expected to clean the tables will need to be provided with plastic gloves for each cleaning. What is the plan for where teachers will eat their lunch as I do not want to takeoff our masks to eat while the children are in the classroom. Speaking with a mascon and having your voice project to the back of the room is very unhealthy for vocal cords. Is the district planning on purchasing FM systems with speakers for the teachers to be able to be heard all the way to the back of the room where the some of the children be sitting in order to social distance ? If the school specialist will be having their lessons projected remotely, why don't we have every grade level have specials at the same time with the same specialist ? When are the teachers going to be getting their planning time, if they are required to be with the children for lunch in the room & to be with the children for specials How do you be wiping down tables and counters and to be making sure that the children are washing your hands, etc.?

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Teachers and students are terrified to return. How can we expect educational goals to be met when the mental and physical well being of every person/child in the school is in jeopardy? You are putting the lives of every single person in danger who interacts with anyone who walks through LMSD doors, including the medically fragile members of families.

Following the strict guidelines for wearing a mask, disinfecting schools, and social distancing. I practiced these during our shut down and do not want to get sick. It frightens me that I have to choose between work and my life.

I personally see my parents on a regular basis who are withing the age "danger zone." Along with that, I have only just cleared a year of being uncompromised.

How can the school do what he has done in the past (# of students in classroom, cafeteria, sports/activities) when need to have students 6 feet apart.

Postponing opening and offering virtual only will allow opportunity to collect additional SCIENTIFIC DATA in our surrounding communities, learn from lessons and management how to address areas of concern and or surge in cases . For our complex SPED kids who definitely require IN PERSON- that should be done by voluntary teachers- not by teachers who cannot afford to quit (own childcare issues) & have high risk family members/or are high risk ourselves. Our immuno compromised students need special consideration due to the intensity of support required AND those teaching them need special consideration accommodations as well.

Teachers are terrified. There is no way to safely open the schools in person with our population and the current state of the pandemic. As one of the younger teachers, I'll be there, but I worry that anyone eligible to retire will do so, making a staffing crisis that throws the future into even greater doubt.

In person instruction is meaningless if students, teachers, and other school personnel are at risk of dying.

We really need to know how the district will handle sick days, etc if a teacher gets COVID. What considerations are made for teachers with health concerns or for those who are older. How will the district handle instrumental music education? Safety, instrument sharing, remote beginner instruction, teaching in very small rooms with no chance of social distancing, ensembles?

Locking at the total picture, we should strive to have the students back in school. I'm sure many parents will want to have their children do online instruction so, as long as that remains an option until a vaccine is produced, we should remain onsite.

I feel as long as CDC guidelines are followed and the health and safety of students and staff are taken seriously (especially for those of us with underlying health issues) opening under the Hybrid plan should work

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Although I am generally a healthy person, because of my age, I am in a high-risk category. I am concerned that we are heading back to the building much too early and that I am at risk.

I think it will be almost impossible to have our youngest students in k and 1st to social distance and keep masks on all day for safe instruction.

What do I do with my own children if their district differs???

I think a major reason we are hesitant to going fully online is because it was deemed "emergency remote teaching," without any formal training. I completed a Master's degree recently in online teaching and learning and there is a lot that goes into effective online instruction. I am interested in supporting an initiative like this to improve online instruction/blended learning.

I am concerned about what happens if a student tests positive. I'm also concerned about how quickly the district will react if the status of the county and region changes. What are the parameters for returning if we do go fully online at some point.

The health and lives of Lower Merion staff, students and families are in your hands. I implore you to take that seriously and listen to the people who will be on the front lines working for you.

There has been a complete lack of transparency. Saying that there is an email address we can send our concerns to but not to expect a response is inadequate. While I am glad this survey exists, the fact that it did not exist until today (and was originally supposed to be deployed AFTER the board voted) is shameful. I am disappointed by my district and union thus far. But there's still time to turn it around. Make masks mandatory unless a student has medical documentation. Go to a hybrid schedule. Set up town hall meetings with faculty and staff. If we need to re-evaluate later so be it, but starting with the most risky scenario feels unwise. Many staff are also concerned about running out of sick days because of the high likelihood of multiple quarantines next year. Personally my husband works in a different district and my son goes to daycare. Our chances of having multiple quarantines are high. I don't want to have to choose between providing for my family and keeping my students safe.

What are the plans for the district if one school Has a high infection rate while others may have few or none?

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Here are series of points/questions I have posed to LMEA and the reopening committee: I am still unclear as to whether or not the district believes it can offer students the option of wearing a mask. If it's optional, we can guarantee we'll go to back to red in a month or two. We must add many additional hand washing stations, other than in bathrooms. Hand sanitizing machines need to be widely available, perhaps to each classroom. What are the new protocols being discussed regarding student passage in the hallway? Though the district has made clear in rather strong language that it would prefer us to not travel to the states that have essentially screwed up their rollouts, has the district also sent at least a gentler, comparable reminder to parents and district families of the state's rules for compliance for similar such travel? The parents I've surveyed have said no. What good is our restriction on travel if the parents of our students are not similarly reminded of the risks of travel, and of the need for compliance? There are many theories going around with respect to how lunches will be handled, including having students lunch in classrooms. I don't necessarily believe that, but please understand that if this is on the table, then the picture of students, eating and talking, without masks, in an even closer space than the cafeteria sounds like a highly contagious virus' dream come true. How will the normally chaotic process of purchasing lunch be modified? What steps are being taken to alert students of the entirely new procedures they will have to follow for the sake of everyone's health? What I envision needing to be communicated to make life safe for students at Harriton, for example, could fill a large handbook.

I have a question. If you need to quarantine for 14 days because you were around someone who was exposed does that mean you have to use 14 of your sick days? The reason I am asking is I float throughout the district and if Lower Merion has an case of covid-19 and I need to quarantine because I was there, and when I come back I go to Penn Wynne and they have a case now I have to use another 14 days. Plus my wife is a Teacher in a different school district, what if she has a case at her school? It seems like there are alot of questions that are unanswered and I understand this is new to everybody but if you don't know the answer how can you ask someone someone to put themselves and their family in dangers way?

Teachers are feeling undervalued, left out and scared. The current plan seems to put our worth as babysitters over our worth as educators. We love our jobs and we love our students and we are problem-solvers - please let us help solve this problem. Let teaching begin remotely and use school buildings as SCOLs as outlined here: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/20/opinion/coronavirus-reopen-schools-economy.html> . We are the best. Let's show everyone the way.

Our children our our future. We have to do this right by them and keep them safe at all costs. Putting teachers and staff at risk only further interrupts their learning when teachers and staff get exposed and sick. We should only return to in-school learning when the Covid-19 numbers are safely decreasing.

It is critical to realize that just one child, or one staff member that has been exposed and returns to school can cause an entire school to have to close down potentially. Especially if it is said that social distancing at 6 feet will not always be possible, but " whenever possible ". Many of my colleagues are 55 years or older and are in high risk catagory, and have parents they are taking care of as well with many high risk health issues that could possibly be catastrophic if exposed to this virus.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I feel unvalued as a human, as a teacher. I am seeing friends and colleagues agonizing over the choices of quitting or retiring, or taking unpaid leave even if they want to continue teaching but not at the risk of jeopardizing their and their family's lives by spending 7 hours a day in a building with others whose behaviors they can not control. Remote learning is safest at this time. Spend our money on supplies? Sure. Call and email parents at all hours of the day/night? Absolutely. Counsel, guide, parent children as needed? You know it. Learn to Run, Hide, Fight? Yes. But this request will not lead to normalcy in school. This request is not right.

Our nation is in a pandemic. School districts across the country are making the decision to operate remotely for the safety and well being of their students and staff. This is an opportunity for LMSD to make the right choice and not try to be trendsetters in uncharted waters. I think we need to go with the motto "better to be safe than sorry"

It is appalling that it is understood we can not meet guidelines, yet being put at risk with all bodies in a classroom. I am flabbergasted by the lack of care and concerned about the health of all individuals

When you make decisions about others lives, you need to ask them how they feel about it. You will vote to approve your health and safety plan tonight at the 7/20 meeting, but did not bother to ask the staff who will be the ones to implement your plan how they felt until a few hours before your meeting. You admit in the plan that you cannot keep the 6 ft distance in many buildings if all the students are present, but you could do so if only half are there, then why are you risking it? You do understand people can die??

I am concerned as a person with a serious pre-existing health condition, I may be discriminated against for asking for accommodations such as a virtual teaching assignment. In addition to the health of our students and colleagues, I am really worried about my own health and the anxiety of possibly exposing myself. I really wish the Governor would jump in and suspend the start of school. Even in counties that appear to have fewer cases, the numbers are only as good as the reporting and the reporting is so incredibly politicized. I think we should embrace online learning model until the end of the first quarter. If we were working on a plan to start "something" in November, we should know more with additional data and be better prepared by then with less of this "roll the dice" thinking.

People are very, very scared.

Thank you for guiding us thoughtfully.

I work with the English Learners who struggled with the online instruction. Since my classes are small, I would love the opportunity to work with small groups of English Learners for more than 2 days if we move into the hybrid model.

Too Maximize social Distancing Among the Support staff, IE Bus drivers and mechanics and maintenance staff. Have (Krono's) install wireless Badge-in terminals outside of all essential clock-in /out points. And nobody has to go into the building or gather by the clock. People can stay in there cars till its time to clock in and walk to there bus.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Neighboring school districts are rolling out different plans. My husband and I are both teachers in 2 different school districts, our children attend a 3rd district. Currently all 3 districts have different reopening plans which is causing an enormous amount of stress and anxiety. Additionally, we have a daughter with significant special needs and health concerns. Full reopening has me extremely concerned.

They need to ask themselves how many Students, Staff, and their Families they feel comfortable with being Responsible for their getting sick and potentially dying from COVIV-19. If, the answer is none, then they need to rethink how they will reopen.

Please provide an option for staff who need to take an unpaid leave. Some staff members do not qualify for health sabbaticals, but cannot report in because it is unsafe for their family members and/or they lack childcare. HR has shared that the only option is to take 12 weeks of FMLA and then resign. I urge you to please consider other options. Please allow teachers to distance teach (I personally would be happy to do this at a reduced salary if brick and mortar is open but I do not report in). Please do not force staff members to permanently resign from their jobs due to scary and unprecedented, but likely temporary, circumstances. Please offer options!

Concern about safety for staff working with students with disabilities that cannot comply well to the social distancing and protection requirements.

If the governor of PA states that businesses (salons, gyms, churches, retail) should not fill their premises with 100% capacity, why would we? If masks are required for people to enter the grocery store, salon, or any public building, why can't LMSD require students to wear masks? Obviously, there may be health concerns for some students, but the majority of students should be required to wear masks and maintain 6ft of social distance. When teachers must quarantine, who will take over their classes for the 10 working days? There are no substitutes, and those who used to work are high-risk. If we are worried about the continuity of education for children, this is a major concern. Teachers cannot "cover" classes day-in/day-out for an indeterminate amount of time. This will greatly affect morale, which I'm thinking is already on shaky ground. Adequate air circulation (outside air coming in to class rooms) has been stated as a critical factor in dispersing the airborne virus. Is the district going to provide fans for class rooms? Will the air conditioners be serviced or upgraded (filters changed regularly)? What about the already ancient heating systems? The filters will need to be changed with significant regularity. I'd like to see creative scheduling of classes for example- 6th grade students have the same reading and writing teacher for a block of class time. This equals less movement of the students, and lessens the number of students the teacher is exposed to and vice-versa.

Online, distance learning and teaching at the elementary level is very ineffective.

I strongly believe that students need to be in the classroom come September 8th. Teachers and students both need to build a rapport to have a successful school year. I had numerous students last year who said that the online learning was not as beneficial as face to face learning. Students need to be in the classroom not only for the face to face interaction with teachers and students, but they need to develop social skills that will help them in everything they do. School can be opened successfully with safety measures put in place. The students in our district need to receive the best education possible and I feel that face to face on-site learning will do that.

Continue on-going updates

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Just the fact that it would be virtually impossible to have 25 students in a classroom and follow the 6 feet of social distancing rule.

This whole decision is mind blowing and I can't imagine making such a crucial decision. As much as we all need to get back into the normal routine I honestly want ALL aspects taken into consideration. For those of us who have followed the rules and self-isolated ourselves and families for months so that we do not get this virus, it would be tragic to come back and have anyone get sick.

Masks MUST be required for all staff and students to give the community any semblance of confidence that returning to school is safe. Thank you.

I have so many concerns with the health and safety plan being presented. Throughout the whole document it says a full opening cannot allow for many of the requirements for a safe opening, however that is still the main plan. This goes from cleaning to ventilation to social distancing. I am very concerned political and parent influence is taking precedent over the facts and science of the disease. The COVID death rate for young children is around 0.01 depending on the reporting of the state. That means we are risking 2 in every 200 students in the district dying. That's not to mention the adult rate for staff. I feel we shouldn't be juggling with student or staff's lives without a form of treatment.

Montgomery county is reporting more cases.

The district has not done an adequate job of convincing me that you care about my safety at all.

While I agree that "in-person" education is the best educational model, ignoring the social distance and crowd gathering guidance from the state is irresponsible. If indoor gatherings are limited to less than 25 people, why do we think it is okay to bring in 1000+ students and 150+ adults to an indoor facility? Think about the impact of even one death in the school community.

Children and families of all should be protected as much as possible

While I am technically a high-risk employee (Crohn's Disease), I think that getting even a little bit of face to face time with the students is necessary. I understand whole heartedly why many people are nervous and unwilling to return, but currently, my opinion is that hybrid is the way to go, at least to start. My only major concern is with the cleaning expectations. On a daily basis under normal circumstances, my classroom is "cleaned" very carelessly and inconsistently. Dirt is frequently left on tables, floors and it is apparent when only the only job completed was emptying the trashcan. I do not have faith that items will be cleaned in the manner in which the health and safety plan depict.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I am also concerned about the interactions between students and teachers. The students can bring covid 19 to the teachers and vice versa. Another factor is if you have a family member who is elderly or someone else with a preexisting medical condition. I also think it should be up to the parents to make a decision that they think is better for their children. Once a vaccine is active and viable then changes can be made.

very concerned with what happens should a student or teacher contract COVID-19.

I really feel strongly that full time virtual is best course of action even though I do not believe as strongly in virtual education as I do in face to face instruction. Just under the circumstances, it really seems the best option for many reasons. If want to consider a few weeks in school to establish rapport and procedures with students, then go virtual....maybe that could work, but really I imagine if we go back that it will only be a matter of time before go virtual and until then, all the issues with teachers and students getting sick and quarantined will make for a lot of confusion and inconsistency.

I appreciate how hard you all have been working

I strongly disagree with 100% fully in. I would feel more comfortable with hybrid for first semester.

1. Although I desperately want to meet my new class in person, I question the wisdom of opening under current circumstances and am concerned about the exposure risks to myself and family. 2. I am also concerned that a hybrid form of teaching will require twice the work that the all in-school or all remote teaching plans would require.

Although, not ideal, Lower Merion CAN provide an exceptional remote learning experience for our students. I'm sure most teachers want to teach face-to-face, but it's simply not safe to do so at this time and virtually impossible to practice safe social distancing, especially with elementary age students. We have to consider the lives of our students and staff that are at stake as a result of this decision. I recently read on social media, "If your school board is holding a virtual meeting to discuss in-person school, then maybe it isn't the best time to send kids back to the classrooms." I'm honestly scared...scared that I may get sick and lose my life doing my job, because my school district made the wrong decision.

Every option has an inherent risk or drawback. Start with clearly state simple goals, move in those directions to seek benefits while weighing risk fairly (e.g. numerically rather than headlines.)

Offer childcare Accommodations for teachers- (continue teaching sped virtually) if they cannot afford to pay for childcare for own children who are on conflicting hybrid schedules w LMSD. Specifically for teachers who live 45 mins + outside of district and no family within state to lean on.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

This "plan" suggests that LMSD, LMEA, and LMOSA have not really thought out the specific problems involved in trying to maintain health and safety under real conditions. Sending this to the buildings and telling them to make it work is setting them up for failure. LMSD, LMEA and LMOSA must be fully aware that this will facilitate spread of a disease which, even when it's not deadly, can leave people with organ damage. That's horrifying and unconscionable. LMSD, LMEA, and LMOSA are playing fast and loose with the safety of human beings.

We need to take care of one another and make a decision that is SAFE and driven by concern for our wellbeing and those of our school communities, and the ones around us.

Hoping that if school opens with a hybrid model that the school will have plexiglass partitions between students/ staff.

Don't let vendors come in from out of state without being checked for Covid. Coworkers that travel to different states and countries that have Covid should be tested also in quarantine for 14 days. Both of these scenarios happened in July.

I do not feel comfortable at all returning to the building during this pandemic. I am fully committed to teaching and educating and encouraging, but it seems like a grave mistake to ask hundreds, if not thousands, of people to gather in a building during this time.

Explain to taxpayers that with current plan , students in the virtual schooling will not be receiving a LMSD education. There is not enough transparency in this area. Also, concerns of mental health and socialization of in school. Students will not enjoy socializing as in past! Being in this environment will be emotionally exhausting for all concerned!

I'm also at risk being a breast cancer survivor!

How are we to handle students who are tardy to school? At HHS they would enter their student number on a keypad one after another? This, I presume will no longer be the procedure. If we are to keep it safe for all students then I would suggest that the student use their student ID cards instead and swipe in, would this mean an upgrade to the attendance software presently in use? What about students who usually get elevator passes for various reasons, there is no way to have social distancing and how many students would be permitted to ride the elevator at a time?

If we do go back under green, how will substitutes work into this? Will substitutes be assigned to work at one particular school? This applies to teachers, IAs, Cafeteria workers & Recess aides.

There are staff who have children attending schools in other districts. Personally, my sons school has notified parents that they will operate 100% online for at least the first 3 weeks of instruction. As an only parent to a school aged child I am hoping that if required to physically be in my schools building that accommodations and exceptions will be made where staff have no other options.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I think the mask/face shield policy should be strict and non-negotiable. Being able to have face-to-face instruction depends on the community doing everything possible to not spread COVID-19. It won't take much to send us into the yellow or red phases. I would also think that face shields would be good for all staff. This way facial expressions could be seen by our students which would be beneficial in regards to communication and community building.

I feel very in the dark in terms of info about what is going on. It feels like a ton of info is going to be dropped on us at the last minute and we'll just have to adjust to it instead of having planning time.

What is the plan for action and communication if a LMSD student, LMSD family, or LMSD staff member tests positive for Covid-19 or has been exposed to someone who has tested positive for Covid-19?

It is predicted that if we offer in-person instruction students of color and students with economy inequity will attend at higher rates than white students and students with wealth. We have to consider how a return to in-person instruction would cause physical harm to these students at a higher rate.

1. I feel like the whole planning process has been backwards. There is a vote on 7/20, on a plan that was developed with no input from the staff that is responsible for implementing it. This survey is being administered after the plan has been written and just hours before it's voted on! Teachers only found out about it through a chance posting on a Facebook group. 2. The hybrid option would be the best option to reopen due to its scalability. If no outbreak occurs, numbers of students or days of attendance can scale up. If infections increase, schools can scale down to the virtual option. This can be reevaluated either every quarter, or halfway through the year. 3. We can't ignore the science. One of the biggest criticism of the current presidential administration is its (seemingly) unwillingness to heed credible studies and scientists. Let's not make the same mistake. Any plan should be based on the best available data and research, and should be specifically cited in the decisions made. 4. There needs to be more creative problem solving, and drawing on the knowledge and expertise of the community and staff. 5. According to the Montgomery County Guidance for Reopening for Pre-K to 12 Schools, " Students and staff with higher risk for severe illness should be supported and encouraged options to telework. Explore offering activities that will minimize higher risk individuals having contact with others." The current perception by staff who are pregnant or have pre-existing medical conditions that have contacted HR is that the only options that they have are to take a leave of absence.

Teachers need more training on online instructional tools. I have been spending my summer trying to learn online tools that I think will be beneficial, but the district needs to be offering trainings as well, so that its teachers areas prepared as possible for this new reality of teaching.

I am a nurse and I should be the most concerned about returning. I think I may be the least concerned of those I Have spoken to(teachers, nurses, staff). I am very concerned that people are allowing fear to dictate our next move in terms of returning to school. The staff and entire LMSD community can feel that fear and anxiety; it is palpable.

If we are returning in any capacity, my hope is LMSD and LMEA have purchased in abundance for all teachers face shields, plexiglass partitions to surround teacher desks, masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, etc.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Not at this time. My opinion may change as we get closer to the start of school and also based on the number of positive cases in our county.

As a special area teacher, I have stated in several areas that I am very uncomfortable returning to a normal five day cycle seeing all of the students in the school once a week. That exposes me to a lot of students and staff areas. It also exposes a lot of students to me if I were to be infected. Though I have seen that it is not available, I would also like to see at least staff be provided with testing prior to our return.

I hope that there can be an understanding of the risk that teachers will have not only in their own lives, but the lives of their families as well.

I think it is important at the very least to get a feel for how many teachers and support staff are not comfortable working on site at this time and to plan accordingly. Ideally those that are uncomfortable or concerned for the health of themselves or their family could work remotely and others that are unconcerned (or willing) could work on site for smaller programs with students properly masked and distanced. I am in favor of starting the semester remotely no matter what color we are in. We just don't know enough about transmission in students under 18 because they were distancing since March. Starting off the school year online with the ability to phase in opening buildings later (if determined safe and safety measures are fully in place) would be the way to go, this way we can see how the community spread is trending. It would be very detrimental and concerning to open our buildings and then find the resulting exponential growth in school cases, (as well as continued community spread) and then having to quickly shut back down. Starting remotely would ensure the least disruption in education and routines at this point in time. Many universities have already made the call for the fall semester to be online. Announcing this decision to faculty would allow for dedicated planning for this outcome, instead of the anxiety of teachers trying to frantically plan for 3 possible pathways.

Teachers in support and specialist positions concerned they will be used as subs rather than in their ideal role of supporting students

1-Masks should be mandatory (with exceptions if needed, of course) for all. 2-Curriculum expectations should reflect the (optional) distance learning at the end of last year and the amount of time that will be spent to help the emotional well being of kids this upcoming school year. (As well as the additional time classroom teachers will need to sanitize the frequently touched surfaces in their own rooms.)

If my child's school district (TE) operates on a different type of model as LM I may be forced to make changes as to what is best for my family. There is no way I am comfortable letting my middle schoolers manage distance learning on their own for 7+ hours a day (either hybrid or full time model) if LM is working on a full time in person model.

I am deeply concerned about social distancing as well as proper air ventilation/circulation at the Welsh Valley campus.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I strongly believe elementary should be in person in yellow and green. Everyone else online. Studies show high school students spread COVID. It is not worth risking staff and student lives. Evidence seems to show young students cannot learn online. Older students are more likely to adapt.

Not at this time.

Staff will need support with childcare options. My family had an incredibly difficult time juggling homeschool, my teaching, and my husband's work. We were able to get through it, but it will not be a sustainable option moving forward.

Look around the world at what worked and didn't work and WHY.

The quarantine issues will disrupt so much, even if no one gets seriously sick! If one of my 4 own children is in a classroom with a positive case, I assume I will need to quarantine with my family, as well as all of the classrooms I have entered as an Aide, as well as all of my kids classrooms? If we don't follow this idea, then we would be contributing to major community spread.

Please consider starting the school year with a hybrid model. It is difficult to imagine maintaining a safe environment with 750+ students attending at once.

I definitely have concerns about my classroom specifically (very small, no windows, packed with desks not spaced apart) but as long as that can be worked out somehow I'd like to try to return to full-time school.

Teachers should be afforded the option to teach remotely. Subbing out virtual learning to the MCIU is a slap in the face to current staff who now may have no choice to return to the classroom if they want to retain their job/pay status. Other districts are offering more flexibility and consideration to their staff. LMSD promotes a growth mindset when it comes to how we teach, yet is being incredibly fixed mindset at this time. There are many possible models that would keep staff safer and offer more flexibility yet we still seem locked in to doing things the usual way. Furthermore the lack of communication this summer (as compared to other districts in the area who are having town halls, board meetings with staff input welcome, etc) is really egregious.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

- I'm still having trouble believing that I'm reading about allowing students to be in the building without masks or without social distancing. I will not show up for work in these conditions. - To the question of "what happens when someone tests positive" (student, teacher, peer, family member), the district says, effectively, TBA. But this information is vital for teachers to judge their safety levels and for the district to plan curricular needs. Have you seen the Chester County rules? Please check them out if you haven't. The implications are daunting. - How will the district handle the inevitable crisis level substitute teacher shortages when teachers are out for minor (or major) symptoms, or awaiting mandatory test results? - It's my impression that the district has not showed energy or creativity in trying to create a space for vulnerable teachers to work remotely. This would preempt the substitute shortages, promote more continuity for students, and have classes taught by regular teachers instead of long term substitutes. - The cyber academy will be a pale facsimile of anything that would happen in the schools - including REMOTELY in the schools. By instead allowing school based teams to create cyber versions of the classes, the district would have a much more effective cyber academy, would create a space for vulnerable teachers to keep working, and would avoid the massive conflict with the public if schools close early, and suddenly students are stuck in the "fake LMSD" cyber academy, and not allowed to take classes in the "real LMSD" with current teachers.

COVID-19 is extreme. Our response to it will need to be extreme. Remote Learning is very challenging for families and staff but we must deal with the safety of everyone before we sacrifice the health of our Lower Merion community. What occurs within the walls of our schools WILL impact our children and our community. We need to be strong and make the right decision to have remote learning. Young children don't like to take medicine that tastes bad but the adult knows that they have to take it to get better. The parents will accept the decision of LMSD to go remote if they have time to make plans. Please make the right decision to protect everyone.

Starting school in person with modifications in Green phase is how it MUST begin while training kids further in case of online only instruction. Electronic everything for LMSD staff - minimize contact. If cases in LMSD begin to increase be prepared to take swift action and make further adjustments - perhaps even before the Health Dept tells us to. Get the teachers and aides involved in the monitoring of students actions. Make certain the student population complies with the rules. I like the full time masks and no lockers. No visitors or lunchroom. Outside gym time (while we can) with an activity that allows separation. I wish we could continue to offer support for special needs kids or provide a daycare option if we go into Yellow phase for parents who must work - to avoid the loss of income to families.

In Lower Merion we have a history of using data to inform our decision making. The data related to covid19 supports physical distancing and reduced sized gatherings. The current reopening plan goes against the guidelines that were set based on this data to maintain 6' of physical space. I am very concerned about appropriate physical distancing to prevent the spread of coronavirus, and how staff will be able to support students safely with the proposed model for reopening.

IAs and bus drivers, 2 of the lowest paid positions in LMSD, that can't just be 'not likely to report' will face the brunt of the exposure with no additional compensation.

As sad as it sounds, I think that there are probably many teachers who would be interested in early retirement incentives even though they would much rather continue doing what they love best; teaching. Risk increases with age, and that impacts the health and welfare of their family members.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Maslow's hierarchy of needs states that an individual must feel safe in their environment in order to complete the functions of their job. Teachers will not be effective instructors and students will not be effective learners if they do not feel safe. There is nothing LMSD has proposed that makes me feel safe to return to in-person teaching. A scenario with half in person/half online each day is the only idea I have heard from neighboring districts that would alleviate some distress. Eliminating lunch from school and having AM/PM classes would cut the students present in half and allow students and staff to feel more comfortable when in the building. An AM in person student would have online work from home during the PM class times.

I think these are incredibly hard times and I applaud and admire the leaders of LMSD, LMEA & LMOSA for their efforts

Is the district prepared for when Covid cases start appearing among the staff, students, and their families due to school opening? What about when the first person dies from contracting Covid at school?

Please explain how there can't be gatherings larger than 25, but we can cram 600 students plus 150 faculty and staff into a middle school?

I am feeling very unvalued by this district and can not understand why the district would outsource virtual teaching rather than having its own staff teach our students. I most likely will be resigning.

Please base your decision off of what is safest for our students and employees and not just what is popular among parents. Please remember that many staff members are parents too and are dealing with very difficult child care issues which may seriously affect our ability to do our jobs as we normally would. A ton of pressure was put on teachers last year, which made remote teaching very stressful.

Childcare could become an issue for me if we are hybrid.

I believe some "in person" instruction would be important but I just don't see how we can all be in the building TOGETHER safely each day.

I understand and appreciate all the time and effort everyone is putting into this decision. I just ask that you consider what is the best decision for the health of the whole community so we can get a handle on this virus. We have to do our part to keep everyone safe.

I don't understand the rush to reopen schools in person, particularly high schools, given the current conditions. Why not wait to reopen schools until we know more about the spread of the virus? Will the fall bring a second, more virulent wave? Remember, it wasn't the first wave of the 1918 flu that killed the most people; it was the second wave.

Teachers feel like their health and safety aren't being considered in the district plans.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I do not feel safe returning to the classroom until there are reliable treatments or a vaccine for the current health threat. I also lack child care for my own children and want to be able to teach full-time from home.

Safety first. Safety always.

I worry the most about our special education population. We work with students that are driven to touch everything and put things in their mouths. Before Covid we frequently had difficulty helping those students suppress those urges. How do we keep them safe?

I'm sure it's been stated often but all parties involved must realize that in places where restrictions have been relaxed too soon, the virus has roared back and is overwhelming health care systems. Are all parties in LMSD ready for that? Also, how far will the district go if a child refuses to wear a mask? Will the student be automatically sent home? Will they be sequestered in a 'holding' room? Also, if teachers will have to disinfect every table top/desk between classes, where do all of the incoming students wait while this task is accomplished? In the high schools many teachers share rooms and have 5 mins to get to their next room/class. Will they be tasked with disinfecting tables too? There are far too many situations (on a 'normal' day) that put high school students in close proximity with each other and staff (25+ students in a class, the HS library, lunch and learn, study halls in the LGI, to name a few) - I hope the district makes the right decision for this situation and chooses remote learning for the start of the 2020-21 school year. Make the decision sooner rather than later so families can prepare.

We need to look at typical shared resources that our students use in class and how we can get, or ask students to get, additional resources to help maintain our quality education. Examples would be lab equipment, calculators, and books. We also need to look at how pens and pencils cannot be shared during this time. Many students find themselves unprepared for class and ask students or teachers for the tools they need to be successful. In our current environment that can be an issue.

By returning to the buildings with a treatment/cure with cases of COVID increasing, the health and safety of teachers/students is compromised. Please look at other states who have reopened and needed to close again. This would not be in the best interest of students or their families.

The media hype is scaring everyone It would be great if district admin can have virtual townhalls or some communication weekly to keep the truth out there and calm those that are afraid. We need nurses and doctors that are working the front lines and surviving and thriving to give us direction on maintaining the same high level of protection while doing our most important work....teaching our children.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Though I will return to work if it is required of me, because I need my job, I am very uncomfortable with it. If we are prohibiting indoor bars and restaurants, then why is 7+ hours inside, including eating and drinking acceptable for teachers and students? I think it is irresponsible to bring everyone back and risk spread of infection. In some countries, like South Korea, they had outbreaks after returning to school too early, and it is being found that students 10 and older transmit the disease at the same rate adults do, and children under 10 at half the rate (perhaps because they are smaller and the aerosols are not at the same level as adults). I am working on the summer program and think that we can improve the quality of online instruction from the "crisis intervention" that was in the fall. With a good use of time/scheduling, including time to conference with students individually or in small groups, instruction and learning can be more effective through online at this time. Stress and anxiety only decrease the ability to focus and learn---for students and teachers. I think it is wrong to say that online instruction cannot be done better than it was before.

None

The health and well being of teachers and students should be of the most importance! Waiting until new cases goes down is not going to be the end. Having staff and children getting sick could be.

How would the district systematically and safely consider: quarantine measures, testing, substitute teachers, pulling teachers to sub in other teacher's classes last minute, switching classes, teaching outside, forming student cohorts, providing PPE to all staff, etc. With the enormous energy that would go into all of those concerns and more, how much energy is practically left over to plan and deliver instruction effectively each day? Many teachers have personally shared with me that their driving mandate consciously and subconsciously each day would be to stay alive and keep kids alive...then teach. If we teach remotely, would could channel all of our energy into instruction, be more prepared this time, and do it all so much better. Personally, I have learned so much since March. I would also ask the district to consider the trauma teachers and students have already experienced during the spring and summer related to covid illnesses and loss of life. Does opening schools and having to quickly pivot to close or restructure add to that trauma for our families? Thank you so much for your endless work on this issue and for the opportunity to share concerns. I am so thankful.

What is in place for the social/emotional well being of the students? How will we do guided math and reading?

We have very little information about what the district is thinking an opening will look like. I have not been contacted to be on a committee and frankly many teachers i work with say they have not. I do think it is is wise to go into something with so many people having so little information

As an Instructional Asst. I work with up to 8 different students and visit 10 different classes a day. Will a qualified administrator be making our schedules to ensure less contact with so many classes/students. If I were a carrier, the implications and damage would be great. As a person in a dangerous age group and with high blood pressure, I'm concerned for my safety as my children are. There's so much to be considered and too much at stake for someone to die... I don't envy you, but I do hope you plan carefully, like YOUR life depends on it.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

n/a

Many teachers, including myself, can't return to in person instruction due to personal preexisting health conditions, living with at risk family members and having to care for small children at home.

how can we solicit our members to help out those (medical and/or age risk concerns)

While I appreciate the many efforts made to assist with the safeguarding of our DAO staff with plexiglass shields, face shields etc., I am still uncomfortable with the significant rise in cases for our area. Our DAO offices have many visitors typically going in/out of our building. The outside traffic should be limited to help ensure the safety of all of us.

I'm sure there isn't much that I can say that hasn't already been considered, debated, and argued on behalf of students and teachers alike. I suppose my biggest concern is that teachers are often told to make personal/professional sacrifices due to "what's best for children" over ourselves; I would urge administration to head those words now and act on what is best for the emotional and social health of our children, and I do not believe rushing them into an unpredictable situation is what is best.

I am so disappointed that the Virtual Academy was contracted out to the MCIU instead of being used as an opportunity to provide alternate work assignments to those staff members who are high risk. As someone who is at an increased risk, I am contemplating all options for next year as plans develop, including resignation. I am so grateful for the many essential workers who have been working through this pandemic, but I would argue that most are in different circumstances than what is being asked of teachers in this plan. In stores, masks are required, plexiglass shields are up at registers, and social distancing is able to occur. In hospitals, most healthcare workers have PPE and they are not in the same room with the viral load of 20+ individuals for an entire day. Schools are a different situation entirely, and without proper measures it is incredibly unsafe to have buildings open for in-person instruction. I absolutely believe that students need the consistency of education right now. I absolutely believe that everyone wants to return to normalcy, but doing it unsafely is not the right choice.

I have not heard plans for what happens when/if someone in the building tests positive. Does just that person quarantine? Do the students whom where in close contact quarantine? Will mask rules be enforced? If more than 50 or 60% are in school and we can not social distance what do we do? How do we social distance in the hall way? Will teachers be expected to be remote instructors and teach face to face (yellow phase)? How/Can students share communal material (manipulatives/lab equipment) How will be monitoring students during lunches?

Working with the special education population, I am fearful of being exposed to the virus by students who are unable to wear a mask and then exposing my family, including 4 young children (one of whom has previously been hospitalized due to lung issues). We are in a Global pandemic and need to be taking the safest route to open schools and prevent further spread of the virus. The considerations of staff feels like an after thought as you are voting tonight on a plan and just now surveying us. The district needs to be planning for a strong virtual learning platform as most likely, the schools will be shut down in the near future.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I am concerned for my health, the health of my family, and the health of the students. I want to make sure that the district has exhausted their options for opening and made sure that all health and safety protocols have been followed. I want especially to make sure that ventilation in my building at WV (E bottom floor) has been worked on and improved since we do not have windows that can be opened. There have been issues in the past and with Covid-19, it is even more important that ventilation has been checked and improved. Also, cleaning in my building is a concern on a daily basis and needs to improve if we go back, no matter the capacity.

While I find it very unlikely that I would not report in September, I worry from the anecdotal conversations I am having with my colleagues that the district is not prepared for the reality of the staffing nightmare that may be coming.

Remote learning is the only 100% guarantee to provide safe instruction for our students and keep teachers and staff safe as well.

It is still unknown if children can transmit the virus. There are too many unanswered questions and few facts about this. You are putting human lives in danger by allowing in person instruction. It will not be safe until a vaccine had been developed and administered,

1) The language of either 'exemption from' or 'exception' regarding mask wearing in the LMSD plan of 7.17 does not yet address the related reality of an earlier admission that the school district's attorneys are 'looking into' or attempting to clarify this language. It seems to me that wearing a mask is the single most important thing everyone in the district must do. Those exemptions must be defined more concretely than the current language suggests, and minimized; something that, from experience, is difficult for us all in the LMSD. 2) The Monday, 7.20.20 edition of the Philadelphia Inquirer, page A10, contains a letter to the editor with numerous thoughtful questions to answer. The LMSD plan addresses many of them. However, a question in that letter, about the possibility of the need for a teacher or other staff member to quarantine for the necessary fourteen days, asks a related question regarding whose responsibility it is to pay for that quarantine. Using all available sick days per the LMSD / LMEA contract is a likely answer, but that one requires examination, because it could leave a staff member otherwise without contracted, paid sick leave, the result of a teacher or staff member complying with the reopening plan in the name of teaching, but required to quarantine as the consequence of a positive test for the virus.

There was a recent New York Times article outlining an extensive study on COVID and adolescents. The study found that both middle and high school students transmit the virus the same as adults do. This has serious implications for a full opening for our middle and high schools.

No not at this time. I feel the children will get the most of their education by being in the classroom

Just how unnerving the not knowing is. The longer we wait to have a firm plan, the more difficult it will be for teachers to be well prepared for the start of the year.

There needs to be a robust in-service in Aug/Sept in preparing teaching when & if the district goes remote. The June in-service gave little time for teams & PLC's to collaborate & plan. It's a must!!

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I think your plan is very comprehensive and you have considered all aspects. Thank you.

I feel this is a severe lack of communication with the district's thinking. I find it offensive when we get information through a copy of a letter addressed to parents. I'm also disappointed that we were never surveyed for our thoughts on what could improve remote learning or ideas for coming up with a plan. The PD days in June were helpful, but with the same LMS in place and limitations on what technology we could use (screencastify for example), I'm not exactly sure how "robust" things will be if we are remote at any point. I'm also having difficulty visualizing 24 middle school kids facing the same direction listening to me teach science with a mask on with no collaboration - at least online they can talk and work together.

1. Worried about sharing a classroom with other teachers and their students (special education). 2. Highly concerned about working in an enclosed classroom with no windows to the outside for ventilation. 3. Worried about the distance of the bathroom from my classroom in terms of easy access to handwashing (tremendously far). 4. My students with IEP's were largely unable to access any form of learning online. Most kids passed their classes due to the forgiving grading system and adjustment of expectations.

I'm sure there is, but I am not the expert. I listen to Dr. Fauci

If not safe enough to open full time, what will happen if teachers, nurses, administrators need to be quarantined due to exposure from a student or coworker. Especially health care workers who are likely to come in contact with sick students or staff. Will there be a rapid testing capability for staff that are exposed? Rather than wait for a week for results is there a company that can produce quicker results? Is it safer to work remote if in yellow and restart in January, hopefully after a vaccine is developed ?

Although remote learning, in my opinion, is the best option at this time, it will only work if there is an increase in student expectations and accountability.

We need to follow the guidelines put out and not find ways to work around them with the terms "where feasible" and "to the extent possible". Think about the staff you are putting out there and the risk you are making us take. I know I am one of many teachers who is currently updating my will and also making sure my life insurance is up to date. I feel like you are asking us to come back into a burning building when the data is worse now than when we closed in March. Kids are being infected, and although it may not be as severe as adults, the adults will catch it. One staff member or student life lost is one too many.

I believe that everyone - staff, parents, students - want to get students back to school, but it has to be done responsibly. It's my opinion that having 100% of students back in school come September, 2020 is quite irresponsible. I'm scared, my co-workers are scared and I know parents are scared. Why aren't you scared??

Is it safe for me to be in multiple buildings over the course of the day?

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Consider eliminating PIAA sanctioned competition in all sports unless physical distancing is possible (eg tennis singles, and possible cross country). Football & soccer are too much contact. PE classes should happen but likely with modifications so that student contact is avoided. Students/staff should be required to wear masks at all times when 6ft separation is not possible during green phase as well.

N/A

It's not a matter of if someone gets sick it's a matter of when. Our time should be spent on improving, developing and focusing on remote learning and not trying to appease parents and politicians during a pandemic that has a virus so contagious, dangerous and potentially fatal raging in our country and around the world. I've already heard of parents trying to find doctors that will exempt their children from wearing masks etc. I personally do not trust that all will maintain the guidelines at school or at home. The science tells us it only takes one infected person to cause it to spread throughout. We have one imperfect option the we can improve on. We will all recover from remote learning and no one will get sick or die. The same cannot be said for in person learning.

Concerns over living with a very elderly relative while attending school in person has me somewhat nervous

Please know that many of us have older parents who are compromised, we have little ones of our own to protect, we have ourselves to protect. I cannot afford to become ill and loose sick leave. I cannot afford to be sick and leave my son alone. I cannot afford to see my own mother for fear of infecting her. There has got to be a way to compromise. PLEASE....reconsider opening in full in September. We are scared...really scared, about the far-reaching effects of this decision.

Will staff get additional sick days? If we are exposed and have to quarantine will that count as sick days?

The PA Governor and Secretary of Health have recently upgraded the state's order to decrease capacity of indoor gatherings; and unless impossible, for workers able to telework to do so either fully or partially. Even if students are fully brought back to school on-site, any adults who can perform their work remotely, full or partially, should continue to do so to reduce the risk of adults spreading of the virus, which is still high. Also, if the increased use of disinfectant solution is considered necessary to mitigate risk, it would be better for all concerned to proceed with a hybrid model, rather than full on-site attendance for both staff and students. The increased effort to disinfect is done out of concern for students and staff and is appreciated, but unfortunately comes with its own drawbacks, such as irritation and allergic relation from continued exposure.

To meet the academic, emotional, and social needs of students and staff while considering the health and wellbeing of all individuals, we MUST start the school year in a hybrid approach!!

I would like to leadership to put themselves in our position. Would they want to be in a small room with 12-24 kids in a class for 6 1/2 hours a day? We will become mask police and worried about spacing and having kids not touch anything that isn't theirs. All of this makes for a stressful environment- just not worth the risk. Even if one person dies from exposure, it is one too many.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Yes!! Look at other districts. So many are using some type of hybrid going into the school year and their teachers are staffing the virtual programs. I feel like we just decided that green would be safe when really the numbers are skyrocketing.

Thank you for the time and energy working through these challenges!

As a teacher, I would be flexible during this time to add hours and instruction time to facilitate online remote learning. The cost of safety could result in a change of professional practice during the Pandemic. This might be hours, remote learning curriculum building, additional responsibilities for communication and collaboration. I would like to work as a team to find ways to make online learning as powerful as it can be until we can safely return to the classroom based on vaccines, therapies, or drug advancement. This can be an exciting opportunity to reimagine our delivery of content and our education of our students.

I just think that these questions should have been asked sooner. I also think, because things continue to shift so rapidly, that it would be a prudent course of action to regularly conduct surveys like this in order to both get the temperature of the teachers and to give them a sense that they have a say in matters. Similarly, this same sort of thing should be happening with parents.

Teachers with underlying health issues, such as myself, should have been given an opportunity to teach the cyber option for those families in the district who are choosing not to send their kids back. outsourcing to the MCIU is not right.

Thank you for your leadership in this impossible time. Thank you for trying to keep all of us safe.

Worried about our own childcare options and being able to drop child off in time to make it to work- flexible arrival and departure for teachers needed

I appreciate your hard work and how much thought you are clearly putting into this. I also greatly appreciate you hearing out our opinions on the matter. I know many other districts have not been so considerate of their staffs. So thank you all!

Not everyone will agree with any decision you make, however if it's the health and safety of the students, faculty, staff and community, the only decision is to teach remotely for the time being. LMSD teachers are amazing and I am sure they will teach like they would in school. Thank you for your interest in our thoughts. Have a safe and cool day.

Thanks for all your considerations

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

This on repeat. I have already shared this with LMEA and the reopening group: Under what circumstances will students be exempted from wearing face coverings, which are a simple and essential means of keeping from spreading the virus? Exemption will guarantee the spread of the virus in green. Other points/questions for a green or yellow return: We need many additional hand washing stations, other than in bathrooms. Hand sanitizing should be widely available, perhaps to each classroom. What are the new protocols being discussed regarding student passage in the hallway? Though the district has made clear in rather strong language that it would prefer us to not travel to the states that have essentially screwed up their rollouts, has the district also sent at least a gentler, comparable reminder to parents and district families of the state's rules for compliance for similar such travel? The parents I've surveyed have said no. What good is our restriction on travel if the parents of our students are not similarly reminded of the risks of travel, and of the need for compliance? There are many theories going around with respect to how lunches will be handled, including having students lunch in classrooms. I don't necessarily believe that, but please understand that if this is on the table, then the picture of students, eating and talking, without masks, in an even closer space than the cafeteria sounds like a highly contagious virus' dream come true. How will the normally chaotic process of purchasing lunch be modified? What steps are being taken to alert students of the entirely new procedures they will have to follow for the sake of everyone's health? What I envision needing to be communicated to make life safe for students at Harriton, for example, could fill a large handbook.

What do I do if I find other staff NOT WEARING MASKS as required? I have already encountered this.... among transportation staff

I am most concerned about how safety procedures will be enforced at the building level. How will administration ensure the safety of all teachers, staff and students when there will be families who do not believe they need to follow the guidelines?

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Yes I believe it is also critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA and LMOSA to understand that in this time of uncertainty A return to in person learning would be very imprudent. There are a variety of questions we still cannot answer and if a teacher were to fall ill or a student or an extended family member and possibly die it would be very detrimental to the well-being of the children in our school the faculty and the community as a whole. Until we are able to have some sort of vaccination and some sort of way of treating this virus it is important to keep our community members safe. Without our health we do not have much and we certainly cannot expect children to learn in a unhealthy environment or teachers to teach effectively under the conditions that are outlined. There will be no sense of normalcy for the children when they return to school. Nothing about their experience will be anywhere near what it was like before all of this happened. The majority of the day will be spent trying to enforce distance and mask wearing. If we cannot get people to even wear their masks in public or on their own time what makes anybody think it's going to happen in a school setting and how are we supposed to maintain 6 feet of distance all the time under all circumstances in a school. Also how would we hold shelter in place drill or fire drills? There are just too many unanswered what if's and taking risks with peoples lives it's completely unfair. So much of our staff and faculty have given years and dedication to the district and to the community as a whole and you ask them to rest their lives and the lives of their extended family is unfair. What provisions are being put in place for the family of teachers who may become ill or die? When we became educators we did not think we would be putting our lives at risk on a daily basis and that is exactly what will be happening. If we make the decision now to return to school remotely we have the next six weeks to plan accordingly and put together the best platform we possibly can to serve the community. If we return to in person teaching whether 100% or hybrid model there will be a real chance that in the first couple of weeks faculty members and students will fall ill and then we will be forced to close anyway and vastly unprepared for remote learning. Wouldn't it make much more sense to put that plan in place now and embrace it and move forward with it knowing that we could offer a decent education to our students and also keep our families the Lower Merion School District community the faculty and the staff everybody involved healthy and safe? We could be a part of the solution instead of part of the problem. There's so much we do not know about the virus and the way that it affects school-age children primarily because when we shut down kids were taken out of school and not put in large groups together so we really do not have any hard and fast data as to how they affect the spread of the virus. I do not believe our children should be used as guinea pigs and I do not believe our faculty should become Science experiments.

We need to know what's going on ASAP to plan and prepare for the school year. Please don't forget that your employees are people too. If those who work at the DAO do not feel comfortable meeting us in person, then why is it ok for us to be in school with hundreds of kids each day in person?

Some employees have been living in multigenerational homes since Covid started. Working in our district isn't the big problem. I'm in a home if seven and we'll all be coming home each day from different contexts and possible cross contamination.

Safety is the utmost concern for students as well as staff...if students or staff are not following protocols a plan of action should be in place (before it happens) to ensure the safety of those who are following protocols

Students with special needs, as well as adults who work with them, need to be prioritized. Many of these students travel between their homerooms, special education classrooms, and related service providers, making social distancing and limited exposure difficult. We need to consider how special education services are going to look/function. We need to ensure FAPE within the LRE, but the definitions of these terms has most certainly been altered given the current circumstances.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I think that we need to consider the fact that hundreds to thousands of students are coming back from many different parts of our country from summer vacation. To bring everyone back in full (if green), like the pandemic doesn't exist is irresponsible. I am still very hesitant in utilizing the hybrid model within our schools. The numbers of cases within Montgomery County fluctuate daily. I think our safest and best bet as a school and community is to open under the online platform and continue what we have already established this past spring. We should then look to come back during the second semester (under the hybrid model) once a vaccine is (hopefully) available and we are able to view the current data trend as people have gotten back to their "normal" routines.

What accommodations are available for high risk employees?

The push should NOT be back to full onsite. Instead it should be to find the most sustainable option and provide the most support for staff to support and instruct the students. IF STAFF DOES NOT FEEL SAFE AND SUPPORTED THE QUALITY OF INSTRUCTION WILL SUFFER.

I am concerned about the MCIU virtual program being taught by non-LMSD teachers. I think that LMSD teachers should have been given the option to teach virtually.

I am also very concerned with different school districts having different plans. My four children go to school in two districts other than LM. If district plans do not align, I am concerned about how I will manage.

Yes in school education is important but we need to think about safety first. What if someone becomes sick then everyone in contact is quarantine? Who pays for testing. In elementary, students will not abuse to social distancing and wearing masks... How do you get kindergartners and first graders to wear masks? Let's start remote learning for a few months until all states are in better position. Parents are going to travel and not let school know. people may not show symptoms. Many staff is older and has health concerns. Too afraid to talk to HR due to wanting to keep their jobs

So many questions, so little answers. Creates an environment of anxiety, fear, panic and is certainly not conducive to educational systems and learning

I think the amount of attention to detail to be effective at hybrid requires a tremendous amount of effort of the part of administration and custodial staff.

A full reopening is an unsafe option and puts to many at risk. Safety needs to be the priority and hybrid or remote are the only options that should be considered. Also while I marked very likely for returning, it is only because I don't have the choice to not work. It does not mean I am okay with reopening.

We all desperately want to be back in school with our kids. We want to do the right way, where everyone will be safe and not scared to be at school.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

What happens if a staff member becomes ill with COVID-19 and has to quarantine? Who else has to quarantine? The class? The school? The district? Who will be a substitute?

In other parts of the nation where daycares, school sports programs, summer programs have opened, many have recently shut all down (even after just a few weeks) because the numbers of students with covid have increased significantly. Kids can get this. infants can get this.... teachers can get this. as well as spread it to others. when infections hits a school it is rampant. can we really risk losing some of our students to this?

Schools MUST remain closed until we are safe from the spread of coronavirus disease 2019. The proposals and recommendations put forth thus far are unrealistic and unsafe. Children are NOT robots who will stay 6 feet apart, keep masks on, wash hands without oversight (think the girls' and boys' rooms), sit facing forwards at all times etc etc etc. However, students WILL touch each other, cough and sneeze (outside of their mask), pick their nose and not wash their hands, go to the bathroom and not wash their hands, be up and around their classmates (not 6 feet apart) etc etc etc. There WILL be a spread of this disease that will be traced back to a student or staff member if schools are open before COVID-19 is under control and it is not under control, even if Montgomery County is "green". Time and effort preparing and planning for in-person school is a terrible and sinful waste of time when, before time runs out, efforts could be put into planning how to begin the year virtually.

I do not completely trust the parents to monitor their children's health before sending them to school based on previous experience. I'm not sure if COVID 19 would change that for some of the parents. The special ed kids we work with need help with handwashing, nose blowing, feeding and handling their clothing, outergarments, general hygiene, and school belongings in the best of circumstances.

I ask you to have the same consideration for the staff, their families, and the students as you have been having over the summer- everything has been via Zoom. This is not a problem we can fix (which not one likes) until their is a vaccine. Health and safety should be priority #1 bottom line. Doctor offices, businesses, etc are not having multiple people in a room at once even if just masked adults. No has mentioned either at what point if people do go back that we would go virtual- how can we decide what number is the number too high fo is to switch? I say the district can prevent just one they have the responsibility to do so. I also question how going in can work without providing childcare for staff and having a fleet of subs ready to go. Many daycares and schools have already established very strict protocol so teachers with children will be in and out anywhere from 2 to 14 days at a time. I feel this will cause more damage to the students, their families, and the staff. All parties need to feel a sense of safety, routine, and comfort level to best learn. By moving our focus to remote learning, I have great faith that the LM staff and admin can accomplish this.

Please think about your teachers as the front line workers, being in the classroom with students all day, is truly scary and keeps me and so many others up all night. I love my job. I love my students. I want to be teaching them but only when it is totally safe. In addition, as a small group teacher, instruction will be more effective virtually because I will not be able to pull kids in groups and I will be at risk going into so many classrooms. One death from this virus is not ok in my eyes. I know there are so many factors but with so many kids in our schools, the spread will happen fast. Last winter, the flu spread in elementary schools was unreal and now we add this deadly virus. How could we even begin school when cases are in the rise? So many factors for the district, teachers and parents. There is no ideal situation but I feel that its important we make the best decision as a community for everyone involved.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

The teachers I have spoke with (10-15) are terrified to return.

If we are holding virtual board meetings and PD and such, why is in-person learning an option right now? It just doesn't make sense that high schools couldn't host graduations, restaurants can't be full, but we can bring thousands of staff and students together all day, every day. We have the resources to offer quality online learning. That's what we should be doing at this point. There hasn't been any positive changes to the disease or the situation since the buildings were closed in March. If anything, things have gotten worse. If we closed then, we should not reopen now. And to do anything else is completely irresponsible and very dangerous.

What happens if a student or teacher gets it? What is a child refuses to wear a mask?

Please do not base any decision solely upon increased pressures that will undoubtedly place people at an even higher risk. The long term effects, even in children, regarding this virus are not truly understood or known at this point. Thank you for involving everyone in this decision and for taking the health and safety of the entire LMSD community into account.

How is it that School Board meetings are being held via Zoom, yet having faculty and students back in buildings is acceptable? How many faculty or staff deaths due to COVI-19 are acceptable to LMSD leadership?

Teachers very badly want to return to their classrooms and students, but also want and need to feel safe doing so. In keeping 3-6 ft. apart from others, it becomes very challenging to engage with and provide all the support a student may need, whether academic or social.

not at this time but thanks for asking.

Elementary should go back 1st spread between all buildings And busses for safety . Middle and HS should remain with remote learning.

Just to remember that the health and safety of every person is the top priority.

Your staff's health and well being should be a major priority or the quality of instruction will suffer.

None at this time.

The communication is very confusing. Even though I want to go back want work live the students will be using computers anyway so let's spend the time improving out on line learning so we are ready either way.

Not at this time.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Please consider that some support positions have the ability to successfully and productively work from home, so please consider a hybrid work-from-home option 2 days in building/3 days WFH for the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year.

Governor Wolfe is stating that no more than 25 people can be together for an indoor gathering. Can you guarantee all classes/classrooms will have less than 24 students? Can you guarantee that students will wear masks and the classrooms will be cleaned several times throughout the day? What about teachers who share classrooms? Will there be an area for the teacher to have "mask" breaks throughout the day. Students eating in teacher's classrooms without a mask and then putting the mask on to begin class 25 minutes later?

I'm concerned with the district being able to keep its staff safe and healthy. I'm concerned for my colleagues who are high risk and are not getting accommodations that will keep them safe. This is a dangerous time and I'd hope the district really does not want to see staff members become seriously ill and deal with the ramifications for the rest of their life, including not being able to ever teach in the district again and becoming permanently disabled. Opening up with all students and staff is incredibly irresponsible regardless of what state "guidelines" maybe. We know better and must do better. Each district is given the ability to choose for their own community so we should be seeing all schools have mirror image "plans" for opening. Also concerned about the frequent use of the term "when feasible" because we know many of these spacing options are not feasible. It's a way for the district to shirk responsibility and does not give confidence to the staff or parents in the community.

I am really worried about going back. I think schools needs and all in approach - either all remote or all together at school like normal. Safety protocols are just not very realistically maintained for primary aged students.

I have concerns about the substitute shortages and how schools will manage when staff isn't available to cover classes. In the past we have combined classes and that isn't safe to do in these circumstances. How is this going to work?!

I think that having a plan to start the school year and notifying students and staff as early as possible allows teachers and families to plan for that scenario. Moving to anything other than full time in school requires much planning for both families and teachers.

I do not believe elementary school gyms should be used for outside organizations. Also, RAS should not be using Merion Elementary as a facility, they should have a separate building to ensure safety of students and staff members.

Involve teachers!!!! We actually have ideas and want to share our voice.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

1) Will the speech-language staff have plexiglass dividers as we work in interactive student groups (students engage in activities together, using and touching the same materials)? 2) Some of our groups have 5 students in them. Will we be allowed to have groups of 4-5 this year? If not, this may impact the number of students we are able to service on our caseload due to needing to see smaller groups during the school day. 3) Many of the SLPs (myself and my colleague at BHES included) work in small rooms without windows and limited air circulation. Has thought been given to increasing air circulation or relocating the SLPs to different rooms for this school year? 4) Will the speech staff be provided with cleaning materials to wipe down all shared therapy materials, tables, and chairs in between sessions? If students are not allowed to share materials in our groups, will we be allowed to use teletherapy supports as we did in Spring (will access to such accounts/websites be provided)? 5) Many of our students are working on articulation and need to see our mouths as we model sounds. We may need to see the mouths of the students to assess how they are making the sounds, and to determine if they are making them correctly. Similarly, many of our students have IEP goals targeting interpretation and use of facial expressions, which is also a challenge when wearing masks. Will SLPs be issued clear face shields? Will they be provided for our students working on articulation or pragmatic language needs? Further, face shields alone have been proven not effective enough so if we wear shields, what other safety supports can we use? 6) The CDC recommends working with the same groups of students. This will make it much more difficult to provide makeups for students when services are missed when SLPs are participating in meetings, etc., as we may not be able to pull a student we missed to participate in an alternate group. Has thought been given to how SLPs will be supported in providing makeup services? 7) Will extra supports be put in place and additional PPE provided when working with our students that need significant levels of support, are unable to wear masks/understand or implement social distancing and safe hygiene habits unassisted? 8) Is there consideration of continued teletherapy services if students are in on alternate days so that they miss less instruction (e.g., if a student is in on Monday/Tuesday in the hybrid model, would teletherapy be provided on Thursday/Friday so as to avoid pulling the student from the classroom setting while they are physically present)? 9) I recognize that there is a professional dress code we maintain within LMSD. Many school-based SLPs (nationwide) are planning to wear scrubs (typically worn by SLPs working in medical and rehabilitation settings), so that they can shed/wash the scrubs quickly upon returning home (as opposed to wearing dry clean only or multi-wear before wash clothing) until there is an effective treatment or vaccine. Is this something that would be allowed/supported, for safety purposes?

Why is that certain personnel has to report to work, while others are staying home? Isn't everyone's life important? We are in the green and still not everyone is back to work. Those staying home and not working, still get paid; but we have people who come in and work and not getting anything extra for coming in...BUT those staying home get their pay and it's a mini vacation for them. The whole situation at the school district isn't under control and is unfair for a lot of employees. This was not thought out and planned.

Putting us back into the school buildings, under unsafe working and learning conditions, is NOT the right thing to do. Teachers cannot effectively do our jobs under those circumstances, and students cannot effectively learn, both when fearing our physical safety.

I believe special consideration should be explored for related service providers as they are typically thought to have the same needs as teachers (which is not the case). Speech and Language Therapists roles are unique and we interact with many staff members and students across all grade levels. Consideration pertaining to privacy, attendance, protection, evaluations, make-up sessions, lack of substitutes, group sizes and caseload sizes all need to be discussed with this group of professionals in order to identify their needs and to help brainstorm ideas with the actual therapists who perform these duties on a daily basis. Too often, information is presented without any input from our department which makes things more difficult and complicated. A discussion with the speech therapists would be welcomed and encouraged.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Several staff are cancer survivors with compromised immune systems. There are at least 3 in my building. Several others have children with significantly compromised immune systems, reopening school is asking them to risk the health of themselves or their families. Too much is unknown for this risk to be worthwhile. Reopening virtually at first will allow us to see what the Fall brings...

It's a very difficult situation to be in. Thank you for not taking it lightly. Do what is best for the students and the educators who share the responsibility for maintaining safe learning environments.

No

I have carefully considered the challenges that educators and parents face for the upcoming school year, as I am both an educator and parent of elementary school aged children. Please consider my idea below: Delayed and Condensed School Year, but schools provide childcare - Do not start any schooling, online nor in person, until COVID19 cases significantly decline and a low case number is maintained OR until a safe vaccine is established. Give parents notice of approximately 2 weeks of the "new" start to the school year. During this period, schools would still provide ONLY childcare (for free) for families who qualify (children who need supervision while parents are working or at work). If the driving force for reopening is so parents can return to work, provide the childcare but delay the education.

Please do not force me into retiring At the last minute for fear of my life vs a career I love. Please, please do not open with full classes-the risk is so much greater than the reward.

Please let's make this decision based on science and the health and safety of everyone involved and not because of politics or certain group requests. Outdoor sporting events are not allowing fans and yet we want children and teachers to be in an indoor room without proper ventilation all day long?

I feel like I am risking my life needlessly. I have small children and risk factors. My summer has been spent thinking that I am entering a gauntlet *especially* if we have a full reopening. I don't want to die or become medically injured for the rest of my life. Older students *can* stay home and get educated if we go all in on an at home plan. K-5 students need more classroom work, if we *must* go back spread them throughout the buildings in our district and allow 6-12 students to receive at home instruction. If we move on with a full opening students and the community will be traumatized when people die. And the benefits of opening, the social aspects, will not be able to happen anyway. No group work, no lunch time socialization, no one-to-one teacher help. Make the right choice to protect lives.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

It seems important to keep in mind that if we are teaching in the full or hybrid in person model, the current policy towards sick leave encourages staff to come to work even if they have mild symptoms given that they can only quarantine once for 10 days and expect to get paid. If you want to do a better job of keeping staff and students safe, you should have more specific plans for what staff should do when they feel sick, whether they can get tested and then return to work if they are not positive or allowing for multiple quarantines with pay. Most staff want to do their jobs, the assumption that everyone is just trying to take advantage of the system to do as little work as possible is both denigrating to us as professionals but also pushes administration and the board to make decisions that are both unsafe and less effective than assuming that people want to work and want to do a good job. Some basic understanding of management principles and human nature would go a long way towards helping craft better policies in this case and many others.

Given recent events and rash of media and social media coverage, and more and more educators becoming more outspoken about COVID concerns...whichever way we go, the sooner the better regarding communicating our intentions.

Many of us have elderly family members, sick family members and those at high risk and that is why we feel unsafe going back to school so soon when COVID-19 is still so powerful.

You all know that we want to get back in the classroom with the kids. Anything else is a major headache. But there is SO MUCH FEAR amongst staff about returning to the classroom and nobody seems to be doing anything to help allay that fear. If we're going to be going in full-time in September, we need the people in our leadership to address that fear and help us through it. Right now everybody I talk to is terrified. If you can help us with that, then you'll have a strong buy-in. If not, you'll have a building full of adults who aren't capable of effectively teaching.

The lack of substitutes before covid and the likely increase in staff absences needs to be a consideration. How will we safely supervise children without adequate staffing?

Even if a hybrid or 100% return scenario is in place, consider allowing people who have the ability to do their job remotely to remain at home. There really isn't a need to unnecessarily have extra bodies on campus if the same job can be accomplished working remotely.

Your staff is terrified of either dying or seeing their students die. TERRIFIED!!!!!!

Safety for students and staff is my main concern.

I know everyone is working incredibly hard, and that these circumstances are impossible. I appreciate the effort. Thank you.

Will staff have sick days deducted if they are required to quarantine following in-school exposure to Covid-19?

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

Be mindful of how much is being put on teacher's plates at once. If we are doing a hybrid model please consider the amount of work and time it will take to teach both in person and virtually at the same time. Support will be necessary such a professional development days dedicate solely to preparation of lesson and materials.

no

Please think of everyone, yes I want to see students in person. The population I work with in Special Ed already come to school sick with "normal" type of germs. I feel more uncomfortable with the running nose and sneeze and cough than I did last year. There also has been situations when we have had students come back to school within 24 hours with a fever or vomiting....These parents are going to change the say home habit if they don't follow the policy now. I also understand that parents need to work, but our lively hood wont matter if student or staff are out for 14 days or longer sick.

Making sure that everyone understands that the safety precautions are not up for debate, private opinion, or political opinion, they are a term of employment when they come in to work.

It would be helpful for teachers and parents of students with moderate to severe special needs if plans for their specific classrooms could be shared. There is a lot of time and preparation that will need to go into preparing these students and staff for the reopening of schools, and therefore it would be greatly appreciated to be given adequate time to prepare materials for the students as well as ensure there are plans for different sceneros within the classroom.

I have a child who is high risk as well as a grandparent who lives with us whom is 87. My wife and I are both teachers and we have no idea what to do.

When you asked in the survey how likely I was to return in Green - I had to choose likely because I have to work I do not have a choice whether to go back and I feel I am at the mercy of the district making these decisions. I am unclear why some districts chose hybrid and our district plans to return 100 percent? I believe kids need to be in school and you can only socially distance when you are reduced in capacity. I will not effectively be able to do my job if I am worried about the health of my family when I go to work. The hybrid model at least gives us a chance for some success. Our district must be proactive not reactive. Start small see how it goes and then add more experiences in order to be safe and cautious.

No, I am very happy with how everything is being handled! It's a totally new situation for everyone.

No!

I am going to do whatever is decided but feel it might be best to start slow and add people as time goes on.

Is there anything else that is critical for the leadership of LMSD, LMEA, o...

I am non-tenured teacher and worried about my job. What happens if my numbers drop because of the number of students who enroll in the virtual academy through the MCIU? Will I potentially lose my job?

I feel as though going back to school at this current time is unsafe for students and staff. It will be extremely uncomfortable to teach and learn all day while social distancing and wearing a mask. I understand remote learning limits social interactions for students, however they will be able read teachers And friends lips, see facial expressions, and have a better understand of learning and level of concentration without worrying about masks and the virus.

As a parent of 3 boys, their state of return for each of their schools impacts my ability to return to work. As of now, I am not aware of how my youngest boys' two schools plan to reopen. If they are not in physical school, it will be difficult for me to return to work.

I am not one of them, but many teachers are considering premature retirement or flat-out quitting because they feel unsafe. There are many of us (and I include myself here) that feel that, up o this point, teachers and other staff were never consulted or considered in these reopening plans. This survey is a small step in the right direction

Health is #1 for everyone.

End of Report