

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Sofia Willoughby and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16. I support your decision because it provides kids who have been struggling in their classes a better opportunity to learn through in person studying, and your plan seems to make safety a top priority.

However, I also oppose your decision because as a senior I have already started my adult life outside of school. I am working two jobs one is the Paso Robles Pet Department and one is the Quarterdeck down in Arroyo Grande. I feel that by going back to in class learning I will have to quit one if not both of these jobs that are keeping me afloat. I have expenses such as food and other items like makeup that needs to be coming out of my pocket, so I ultimately believe that Seniors should have the option to resume distance learning.

For me, distance learning has been an opportunity to start living the college life. I only have school a few hours a day and most of my studying is done outside of class. I also enjoy being able to see people more often, and not be restricted by the bell schedule so I am able to work a job.

For me, losing senior year has meant losing sports, prom, graduation, and just seeing my friends however it has not affected me as much as I believe it has for others. As far as returning to school in person, I believe it is important for the sake of our youths educational growth, however for adults such as myself all it is doing is adding a roadblock to my soon to be adult life. Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I hope that I can just finish it on the computer and forget that COVID ever happened.

As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider the role Seniors already have in our society today and the impact that bringing them back to campus could have on their jobs and social lives. Therefore, I am urging you to make it optional for upperclassmen to return to in-school learning since it will only harm those students who are already living their adult life.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments, I hope you come to a solid conclusion and consider my point of view.

Sincerely,
Sofia Willoughby
12th Grade Student at Paso Robles High School

March 6, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Rodney Thompson and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I can see what you intend to do, but all of us kids have been doing online school for almost a year now and trying so hard. To just switch it up and make us relearn how to be in school and in the classroom is going to be very hard. Also I'm following along in all of my classes but there's where I feel like I go back. I will have to be caught up on a bunch of things we have gone over.

Another part is we're not even really going back, we're gonna have to wear a mask all day and go from class to class. As you make your decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you consider what the kids that are attending the school have to say.

Therefore, I am requesting that you look over all the outcomes and thoughts before the big decisions are made.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments, have a good day and stay safe.

Sincerely,
Rodney Thompson

March 4, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Katherine Reid and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I support your decision because getting back to the classroom would be a great chance to see my friends and interact with other people that I haven't seen in a year.

For me, distance learning has been horrible. I feel that I have not learned a single thing simply because I was not able to be in a classroom with actual people. For me, losing senior year has meant losing everything. I have looked forward to this year since I was a freshman. I had planned on going to football games and hanging out with my friends before I went off to college. Everything I had dreamt about doing my senior year was absolutely crushed. I, like many, enjoyed the dances and being with other kids supporting the hard work kid put into their sports.

As far as returning to school in person, I believe that there should be a way to make sure kids are not late to class and get through the temperature line as quickly as possible. I think teachers that are in the first period in both cohorts should not mark tardy students as the line could take awhile to get through. I also think that any available staff should have a handheld thermometer to go down the line and check the temperature of students so they can get into their first class without too much stress.

Therefore, I am urging you to be flexible with kids and the situations they might be in. Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,
Katherine Reid
Senior
Class of 2021

March 4, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Wyatt Pritchard and I am a senior at Paso Robles Highschool. I am writing this to express my concerns regarding going back to school in person. I am really concerned about the possible outcome and dangers of doing this.

I understand that it is considered "safe" for the youth because there are no deaths (among county students), but it is still transmittable to the youth This is still a new virus that we don't know much about with that being said there are also long term effects that wear down on the body over time particularly the lungs. As stated on www.mayoclinic.org saying "Covid-19 symptoms can persist for months. The virus can damage the lungs, heart and brain, which increases the risk of long term health problems." This does not sound safe to mess with if we don't know the long term effects, it almost sounds like some type of experiment bringing us back to in person school in the middle of a pandemic with barely anybody on campus even vaccinated yet.

Even with two Cohorts and 2,150 kids attending that school there will still be nearly 1,100 kids on campus daily and that's not even counting staff and faculty. It's just a farfetched idea that that many kids will abide by the rules and keep the campus safe and sanitary as expected because that was already a problem to begin with, when we left campus because of the pandemic, during that time there was only 2 bathrooms open on campus because the school couldn't keep the students under control from vaping, smoking, vandalism, and much more and they crammed everybody to use only 2 bathrooms on campus. If that continues I don't know how it will be sanitary for 1,100 kids to use 2 bathrooms then for the other Cohort to do the same after and if we do reopen the other bathrooms teenagers are going to be teenagers and go back to what they were doing before and just start passing around vapes in the bathroom and that's a direct way of spreading a virus around.

Then how will 1,100 students plus teachers maintain to all keep masks on and stay all 6 feet from each other? It all just seems too rushed and unplanned and we don't know enough about the virus to risk sending that many people back in person yet. We definitely don't know enough about the long term effects Experts from John Hopkins Medicine stated that "While most people recover from pneumonia without lasting lung damage, the pneumonia associated with Covid-19 may be much more severe. Even after the disease has passed, lung injury may result in severe breathing difficulties that might take months to improve."

Even if it doesn't directly affect the youth as of right now we don't know what it will do to our bodies in 20 years. Typically students that attend the high school go back home to their families after school. But what if you happen to contract something and it doesn't directly affect you, your still going to go home and give it to your parents which if your in my shoes, happen to be in the age range of people that could actually die from this

virus my dad's 60 and in SLO county there has been 168 cases of people ranging in age from 50-64 with 27 deaths. I also try to see my grandparents on a regular basis but they are in the 65-84 age range category along with my girlfriends grandma that I live with part time, and there have been 269 hospitalized in that age range with 93 deaths in slo county. I also live with my girlfriend's mom part time who has asthma and could be greatly affected by Covid.

Covid is a real thing. My co-worker got it and said it was terrible. My friend got it recently. My friend's grandpa died from this virus and it also killed 2 of my grandma's healthy friends that were only in their 60s with no underlying illnesses. There is plenty that we do not know about this virus and we should wait for a safer more practical approach. It's not just about the youth it's about the people they live with who could be affected by Covid far more drastically.

Sincerely,

Wyatt Pritchard

March 4, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Edgar Palafox and I am a Senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person Secondary school instruction beginning March 16. I want to say I appreciate your push to going back to school and trying your best to save the most that we possibly can out of our senior year. I believe going back to school will make classes such as Engineering and Design, where we work in group making projects and designs, will be positively impacted with our return to school.

Although, our return to school can bring us into an unknown territory of problems and discipline for students. For example, bathroom policies. Last year going to the bathroom was one of the most difficult things to do, one would never know if they were closed or not in order to prevent vaping in them. This year, with Covid-19 and vaping, both still being major issues in our school, our bathroom policies will have to be well thought out and be well enforced.

Again, I just want to thank you for your perseverance in bringing us back to school and allowing us to make the most out of our senior year. I know the beginning of this school year wasn't as we expected but I know we will finish strong.

Sincerely,
Edgar Palafox

March 4, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

Hello, I am Ian Murray, a senior currently attending Paso Robles High School. You are receiving this letter as I would like to address your upcoming decision on returning to in-person learning come the 16th of March.

Personally I consider the notion irresponsible at best regarding the landscape that we currently find ourselves in. Although a slow and steady decline has been the trend for the past few weeks to eventually reach to where we are now (in the red), it only takes one misstep for all of that effort to be squandered if a spike were to occur. And that is much more likely if you send us back to class.

As of now the problems we face are in regards to keeping this streak going. Opening schools for in-person learning would only jeopardize this. In general, I fail to see the point; opening this late into the school year. Risks aside, this bold action would be more suited for an earlier time. The adage, "better late than never" fails to hold its meaning when stripped of a meaningful outcome.

If you were to wait just a few more months, a brand new school year could mark a bright beginning and ample test for this new schedule as the security of more widespread vaccination would be in tow. In response to the "go to war" comment, your decision to reopen schools at this time would be more akin to leading a charge while your troop is 5 miles behind the frontline.

As such I would highly suggest weathering the storm for just a little longer. As a student I thank you for your possible consideration of these comments and your efforts towards guiding this school district down a safe and efficient path.

Sincerely,
Ian Murray

March 4, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Nathaniel J. Martin, and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I have had the pleasure of spending my freshman, sophomore, and part of my junior year on campus. This last year however we have had to go into a distanced learning environment due to the life threatening and quickly spread COVID-19 virus.

I would first like to thank our district for actively trying to find ways and solutions to the many problems that arose due to the sudden situation we were vaulted into last March. You have done the best you can to accommodate student needs and try to solve the problems you were seeing in the students within our district. You have made decisions to try and keep us all safe and to try and do what you believed to be the safest and best way to go back to campus. I would first like to say I did not approve of your decision to have a hard open date whether or not the conditions were deemed safe by the county health department. This felt to me like a blatant disregard for the physical health of the student and student's family. I also feel as though this decision went against the contract we agreed to when us as students decided that we wanted to go back to school. In the google form we filled out to say we wanted to go back to in-person learning we agreed that when the county went back into the red tier we would then wait two weeks before returning to campus. So when I heard that the decision was that no matter what we would be returning on the 16th of March, 2021 I felt as though my own school had betrayed me and broken the agreement I made with them for my safety.

I understand as well that you not only as a board must consider the physical safety of the students body but the mental safety of the student body. So upon further thought into the decision I understand that this was probably the best decision that could have been made. Seeing that most students are failing in more than one class and we as a generation are going through a time where depression is not only prevalent but thriving in this current environment. We are being socially isolated on a day to day basis. We as a species thrive on human interaction and I understand that this is what is needed to help heal a wound caused by the lack of social interaction in our lives.

I would like to see that we as a school have a plan to stay safe and hold strong through the end of this pandemic. I would hope that the students of PRHS can raise themselves to a higher level of maturity, one that has never been demanded of them. One that requires them to think not only of themselves but of the people whose lives they may affect in their day to day life. I would also hope that our district would be prepared to return us to a distanced learning format if us as students cannot reach that level of maturity and cause further harm to each other and those who we love.

Thank you for you time and consideration,
-Nathaniel J. Martin

March 5 , 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President

Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Yesenia Lopez and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to you to express some of my concerns in regards to in person instruction for secondary schools that will begin on March 16th.

The beginning of the pandemic hit us all really hard, we had many emotions throughout quarantine. Some of us had good experiences and others did not. I'm glad to say that thankfully, I had a good experience, although it was a bit difficult getting used to wearing masks all the time, I got used to it and I have been fine. I have stayed home most of the time this past year and have been really happy about not getting the virus this entire time.

Now that we will be returning to school, I have some concerns about how everything will work. I know there have been many people who continued to go out without social distancing and it concerns me being near those people because it is clear that they do not really seem to care about their own health, let alone anyone else's. I am unsure about how social distancing will be enforced.

Will there be security that will be watching us to make sure we social distance? Or will there be warnings/punishments students will get for not following the rules? My main concern is masks and how those will be enforced. If phones in class weren't able to get monitored to stay away throughout the entire class period, I don't know how mask use, that is more important, will be monitored. I know no one wants to be a mask police and I know it would be tiring to constantly remind students to keep the masks above their nose and under their chin, but it has to be done.

It also concerns me that there are people who are asymptomatic and won't show any signs of having the virus and they would be allowed in school because no one will know they have it. What will happen if someone gets the virus and does show symptoms? Will the school close down again? Will all the students be informed that someone on campus got the virus?

I understand that everyone going back signed up and agreed to be it, but I also think that if someone on campus gets the virus, we should have the choice to not continue going, we should all get tested, and we should have the option to not return to school and not have our favorite classes taken away because of Edgenuity not having them. I haven't lost my senior year as many of my peers say they have.

Senior year to me is not the highlight of my life and I would be perfectly fine if we didn't return to school for the remainder of our senior year as long as we get our graduation or some form of graduation to honor all of our hard work. While you make the decision to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you consider all of our safety and all of the “what if’s” or things that can go wrong to make an attempt at preventing as many things that can go wrong before they do go wrong.

Thank you for all you do for our community and for considering all of my comments.

Sincerely,
Yesenia Lopez

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Elisa Hardesty and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I support your decision because we the students and losing it, we're going through so much. We're depressed and we are tired and stressed. Almost everyone I know is failing school in one way or another. We need to go back because most of us are getting borderline (if not already) suicidal we need to get out.

I have friends out there that are stuck at home in abusive households who aren't allowed to even speak to people, they get no human interaction outside of school and more than anything they need to go back so they can at least escape for a little bit.

We the students of Paso high are suffering. However, I also oppose your decision because you did not make this decision for the students. You have made it extremely clear this decision is all about making yourselves more money not about the students. When reviewing the video and transcripts of your decision not once did you mention anything about the students. Both those who agreed and opposed only talked about money.

I'm disappointed in the fact that you would rather line your own pockets then think about the safety and well being of the people you're supposed to help. However I'm not surprised either, I already know this system is corrupt and that you don't actually care for the students. You proved that to us last year during the protest at your meeting trying to prevent you from removing some very important classes from our schools to which you filibustered us and ignored us only two of your members even listening to reason to which I'm not even sure are still there. For me, distance learning has been horrible. Every day I wake up is another disappointment.

I have been disappointed and let down for the last year. I have spent so much time crying myself to sleep out of fear and sadness as I watched family die, friends suffer, I watched all the chaos of last year not only with COVID but everything else on top of it. I spent months scared of losing my family and friends either to COVID or the people who were threatening to hunt down and kill people of color and people of the lgbt community. I have spent months living in fear and now? Now I'm just tired.

For me, losing senior year has meant losing friends, prom, homecoming, everything that a senior year is supposed to be. I have lost so much happiness and good experiences. I mean just last week we were talking

about how all of us students had given up hope and that senior year was dead. It has been bad losing my senior year.

As far as returning to school in person, I believe that if given the proper measures and things done correctly could be a really really good thing. However if it is handled wrong could be the worst thing to happen in the last year. I do not want to spend what little time I have left to salvage my senior year spent watching friends and family die and being partly to blame simply for being there.

Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I still hope ... that maybe just maybe I can have a little bit of time to do something with my life and have a prom maybe. As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider the students and think about what we're going through.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely,

Elisa Hardesty

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams, and Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent.

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Andrea Gomez and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I support your decision on opening the school. I think it is a great idea of course with wearing a mask and keeping distance. I think you guys are doing a great job with opening the school in a safe way, making us wear masks, getting our temperature checked, stay distance, ect. That makes me feel safe about going back to school yeah it might not be the same as school used to be.

I'm just trying to enjoy my last months as a senior since it got taken away but with returning to school it will make it a little bit better. It will now feel like actual school.

Distance learning has been challenging having to be in the computer all day has been hard. I've felt less motivated. Not being around people and having to be at home all day has been boring but now will at least have the chance to see people.

As you make a decision to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will be strict about the mask part because I'm sure some people will be against wearing masks but it is for our safety.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,
Andrea Gomez

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President

Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Cole Eberhard and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in-person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I support your decision because the toll that distance learning has taken on the mental well being of students as well as their academic performance has been devastating. For me, distance learning has been a constant struggle to find the motivation to do assignments when there's an absence of social interaction, a lesser semblance of authority to make sure I'm doing my assignments, and the unfortunate truth that distance learning is too inadequate for teachers to teach properly, so classes end up either being frustrating and overly challenging, or so lacking in rigorous content to the point where I'm not getting anything out of the class.

For me, losing senior year has meant losing memories that I would look back fondly on, which is personally more valuable to me presently than my coursework, seeing as knowledge can be lost but memories are a more permanent mark of my high school career. As far as returning to school in person, I believe that adhering strictly to guidelines will allow for a safe learning environment; the fact that so many other facets of society have been able to continue with this idea in mind is evidence enough for that claim.

Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I still hope that the monotony of completing school work in my final stretch of high school will be supplemented by time spent safely with my peers at school and in school events. As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider that there is still an inherent danger in doing so, and that you won't bend to the will of others if they begin taking the situation lightly or fighting to lessen regulations.

Therefore, I am requesting that you do your best in handling this very complicated situation. I trust in your guidance as we make this transition and I know that you have the necessary wisdom to make decisions that will keep us safe and fully-functional. Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,
Cole Eberhard

March 3, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President

Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Tre Eade and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I support your decision because I feel like it will make me and my classmates happy and less down in these hard times. For me, distance learning has been terrible. I have no motivation to get up and get on a computer for four hours and listen to teachers drone on.

For me, losing senior year has meant losing a lot of great moments to make memories with my friends. As far as returning to school in person, I believe that you will do a good job of keeping us safe because that's your job and I hope that you are as tired of this stuff as we are.

Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I still hope to have time in the classroom and be able to play my sports. As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider how tough it has been for us to get everything taken from us. Therefore, I am requesting that you let us go back to the classroom

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely,

Tre Eade

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Antonio Bravo and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I support your decision because if given the correct information and protocol to follow all safety measures this will gradually improve many students academic performance as well as mine. For me, distance learning has been challenging at first but overall it has taken a toll in my mental health with stress and headaches a few times a week.

For me, losing senior year has meant losing the last year of high school before going to college and prom. As far as returning to school in person, I believe it is right but only if we follow the safety protocols of the county and enforce them on students. Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I still hope to see a couple of friends before moving out to college although it will not be the same.

As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider the safety and health of others that live with students and think about the impact of a potential virus case. Therefore, I am requesting that you allow students to return to in person school but only if the county health center approves of it with a strict healthy safety protocol that will be enforced at all costs.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely,
Antonio Bravo Valle

March 5 , 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Sierra Berezay and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16. I support your decision because I have read through your safety guidelines and I agree that students need to be back at school for a better education. I also agree on enforcing mandatory mask wearing and social distancing for better safety on students and teachers.

Distance learning is tough. You need to manage your time, create less distractions, and still find a way to connect with your peers. This isn't how I wanted to spend my senior year. For me, losing senior year has meant losing the ability to go to dances, sports games, hang out with friends, go on school trips etc. I am hoping that going back to school will just give me a piece of a somewhat normal senior year.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely, Sierra Berezay

March 5, 2021

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Jennifer Armstrong, and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to share my sentiments about your new choice to authorize in-person highschool instruction starting March 16.

As far as returning to school in person, I've noticed you have a mask mandate, and I'm a little nervous as to how teachers and staff will be able to properly enforce the rules.

So, I'm hoping there won't be any problems, and I'll be able to feel safe while returning back to school. That being said, I'm glad I get to have some sense of normalcy for the rest of my senior year.

Thank you for all you've done for the community and for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Armstrong

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Angela Alaman and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16. I support your decision because for me personally I believe that learning in an environment that allows you to ask for help from your teachers in person rather than waiting on a response in an email or asking for help over a live google meet is a lot easier.

Also basic social interaction if anyone doesn't do well working alone or those that aren't typically independent, this could help them learn better in being back into school with their fellow students. For me, distance learning has been quite the challenge. For me it is easier to learn in a classroom with interaction rather than staring at a computer screen all day.

For me, losing senior year has meant losing most of my highschool experience. Your senior year is supposed to be a memorable send off into the new world as an adult and I lost most of that due to the pandemic. As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will strongly encourage people to wear a mask at all times to prevent any student catching the illness and bringing it back to any families or anyone on campus.

If students state that they don't supposedly have a mask, maybe keeping a box of mask in each classroom and the front office would be helpful for the safety and health of everyone.

Therefore, I am urging you to increase these safety precautions to keep everyone on campus and off campus happy and healthy.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments!

Sincerely,
Angela Alaman

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President

Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Jacob Marmolejo and I am a senior at Paso Robles high school. I am writing this on behalf of the people whose lives could be at stake from COVID 19.

I think that the board's decision to go back could potentially put a lot of people at risk.

I feel that there will be kids who won't listen to the rules or other problems could arise.

Sincerely,

Jacob Marmolejo

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Lauren Corippo and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16. I support your decision because I truly believe that it's in the students best interest to go back to in person instruction. The amount of friends and peers that I know that are seniors that are depressed or anxious to the point of depression is way too high. I believe that going back will alleviate some of these stresses. It also has the potential to add to this. I want to go back just as much as anyone else, I also have to see my grandpa every day and have been very cautious with my actions. I believe that this has the potential to work very well as long as we follow these guidelines that have been set, that all rules are strictly enforced.

There needs to be a protocol for teachers to do the same thing every time someone takes off their mask. It can't be like the gum rules or cell phone rules that are said to be school wide but your chill teachers let you do it anyways. This can spiral out of hand very quickly if this ends up happening. Every time there is an infringement on this the same repercussions need to be put in place. This is important so that everyone is treated fairly and the same, this is also important so that the perpetrator can't say it was ok with that teacher why am I getting in trouble with this one, and lastly so that if one gets away with it and the other doesn't it can't be viewed as discriminatory against that individual. So many things have the potential to go wrong that we need to continue to stay on top of it at all times. I truly have hope for this and look forward to it.

Please keep doing your job in keeping us safe, physically and mentally.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely,

Lauren Corippo

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Gabriel Corona and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16. I support your decision because distance learning is hard for me. With a person with ADHD, it is hard for me to focus on school work when I'm not in the correct environment. It has made schooling for me tough.

For me, distance learning has been quite sad. I've always heard that my senior year is one of the best times in your life. But have not been able to experience that. I've missed highschool events that you only experience in high school.

As far as returning to school in person, I believe if we have the right procedures in place and there are no grey areas for teacher discretion, we can do this. They should follow strict rules and regulations. The teachers should know when and how to enforce it. The students should know and understand the rules. Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I still hope we return to school.

As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider my thoughts. Hopefully we can return back to school and have a great rest of the year.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely,

Gabriel Corona

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools.

Christopher Arend, President, Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent.

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost.

My name is Joseph Dominguez, and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16. I support your decision because I think kids need to get outside and be productive. I oppose your decision because we are almost done with the year and cases of covid can rise.

For me, distance learning has been good because I'm able to keep myself busy like i've found other hobbies. But not learning as much as I would in a classroom. For me, losing senior year has meant losing a lot of friends. As far as returning to school in person,

I believe It will all work out great. Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I still hope we get to have a graduation on stage. As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider us seniors being able to walk on stage with my family watching.

Therefore, I am requesting that you please try your hardest to make this graduation happen. Therefore, I am urging you to please bring us back to a glorious last couple months of school.

Sincerely,

Joseph Dominguez

March 5 , 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President, Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams,

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Izaac Gonzalez and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I oppose your decision because many PRHS students would put not only their own health at risk, but their whole entire household that lives with the student.

For me, distance learning has been beneficial as I have had the opportunity to express my creativity and spend time doing the things I enjoy most which has led me to making my own clothing brand.

For me, losing senior year has meant losing memories, nor experience. I feel as if I am growing up faster realising what the real world truly is and how it runs. As far as returning to school in person, I believe it is a bad idea. Most families are not even close to getting vaccinated, yet the school is stressing about the students going back rather than if it is actually a smart idea to go back.

Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I still hope we have a meaningful graduation as I worked very hard throughout highschool. As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider their families health first as many families are not prepared to deal with covid-19 just because their child wants to be inside of a classroom to learn when they have been doing so safely in their own home.

Therefore, I am requesting that you not open school until we are definitely sure our lives are not at risk. Therefore, I am urging you to first worry about our families safety before the school worries about how they will keep students from being unsafe and doing wrong things. As the staff has been failing to do so even before covid-19. Our school has many people who will not follow the rules as I know for a fact, one person will spread the virus putting parents and grandparents at risk of death/health complications.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely,
Izaac Gonzalez

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Gavin Hamamoto and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

For me, distance learning has been alright since school was out. I've been getting more time to finish my schoolwork and more time to sleep as well. But it's kinda difficult to learn because I am more of a hand on learner so It takes me longer to understand what I am supposed to do.

I think coming back to school would be great idea for students because most of them have trouble learning and staying engaged while there is no one to look over them to keep them motivated. There is another half of me saying I am already used to doing classes online so what Is the point in coming back to school if we only have 3 months left and at this point I can say most of us

Seniors just want to graduate at this moment.

Sincerely,

Gavin Hamamoto

March 5th , 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President

Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Jacob Lambeth and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I oppose your decision because of really one reason although that reason does tie into a couple of bullet points. It appears with returning back to school, there is really a higher risk than reward. As much as I want to return to class and personally meet my teachers, and create that bond, I am aware that if things go downhill, we will just be sent back to online school, followed by potentially the cancellation of sports, which is ultimately my fuel to succeed in school. The reward is really for the seniors, because it is their last year. Have a graduation, perhaps something special at the end of the year... but who knows. That all can be stripped with a sudden increase. Now I hope I am not mistaken, but as of now we are in the red tier and our cases continue to decrease. So the reason to going back to school is valid, but at the end of the day, I do feel like as a football player and student at Paso Robles High School, the risk is much higher than the reward.

For me, distance learning has been torture. I am not a very good at bringing motivation upon myself, and when not being able to interact with the teacher in the ways you have been able to your entire life, learning new and quite more difficult things become harder. Now I don't have the work ethic compared to some stallions that attend Paso Robles High School, but I will say that I speak for a large group that learning online is a lot more difficult than learning in-person, simply off of the fact that there is a lot more self teaching than there was with in person.

For me, losing senior year has meant losing a year of my life. I know that to some, senior year is just another year, but for myself, I was ultimately looking forward to my senior year. Senior year is supposed to be the best year of high school according to many, but when you aren't able to live and learn through your senior year, what does that ultimately mean to yourself and peers? The wisdom that you could have received, the special bond of teacher and student, officially suppressed due to this virus.

As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider the risk, and if putting us back to school for just the last quarter, is ultimately worth it. We are coming up on a year of online school, and at this point I speak for most of my fellow seniors, that we are used to it and have accepted the loss of our senior year.

I will still be attending in person school, mainly for that connection with teachers. But I really want you to consider this risk of going back to school and if you truly believe that it is worth it, and if you really do, than I will stand by your side. Convince me with others included, because I don't stand alone with this fear; that going back to in-person school is the best thing for everyone.

Therefore, I am requesting that you look into all scenarios, and handle this with great logic and decision making. Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely,
Jacob Lambeth

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Frank Mabien and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I support your decision because I feel like California for a long time has been lagging, especially highschools, and It's been time for a change.

For me, distance learning has been awful, teachers assigning lots of busy work and some respectfully have not been cognate of our times. It's been pretty stressful trying to get all of my work on time and completing it all. For me, losing senior year has meant losing a lot of good, productive plans I had for my senior year . It was kinda hard.

As far as returning to school in person, I believe that it'll be a really good experience. Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I still hope that we can salvage some sort of normality when we go back to school in a week.

As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider that it's past overdue. It needs to happen sooner than later.

Therefore, I am requesting that you do it safely but speedily. I am urging you to make this as close to a normal senior year as possible

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely, Frank Mabien

March 1, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President

Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Erika Matthews and I am Senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16th. I support your decision because I think we should go back to school.

I think if we abide by wearing masks and following protocols we can have a successful remaining school year on campus. For me distance learning has been nothing interesting. I haven't had trouble yet I miss being on campus with friends and just having that in class learning. It will be an adjustment for all of us going back to school.

Though I know when we go back it won't be quite the same I think going back on campus will be better for everyone. For me Senior year has meant losing probably the best year of high school. I've lost half the year to not going to dances, not going to football games, all the student events, not being able to see my friends and connect with old ones.

Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I still hope that we all can make the rest of the year great and end it on a good note. Also to make up for some of the missing events.

As you make sure to bring students back to PRHS I still hope you consider the wellbeing of all the students and the school. Thank you for pushing to make the rest of the school year work and your service to the community, and your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Erika Matthews

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Eva, and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I strongly oppose your decision because it does not appear to me that you have taken into account the psychological well being of the students. This year definitely was not an easy year, it has been the most stressful and depressing year I have ever had, I know from talking to my peers that everyone is excited for things to go back to normal, but we all know that “normal” is not coming anytime soon. Everyone wants to go back to school to see our friends, to laugh together at lunch and vent about all the homework we have, but even if we go back on the 16th we won't get that. Instead we get 6ft of space, masks, and the looming knowledge that at any moment we could get covid and potentially bring it home to our vulnerable family members.

When we began online distance learning, we saw a 50% fail rate nationwide. My question is, now that we have gotten used to this routine and system, what will happen when we have to make another large transition back to in-person learning? Do you really think these rates will improve?

So many times I have heard people say that it is a shame that we have lost so much of our senior year. Most of us have accepted this reality, and we have for a while now, all I want is to get through the rest of this year and move on. At this point we don't have much left of this school year, and what would be the quality of school once we go back? For me just the thought of going back makes me anxious and stressed, I can only guess how it will be once I am actually on campus. On top of the stress from the sudden transition, we will soon have the added stress of finals and AP exams.

As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider, not just the health risks, but the mental and emotional risk as well. All I ask is that when we go back to school, we will be going back to a safe learning environment. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Eva Rodrigues-Henderson

March 5th, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President

Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Jillian Root and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16. I support your decision because as a senior I can personally state that I've been looking forward to a senior year, prom, and graduation since I can remember.

At this time our county's covid cases are dropping down to where it can and should be safe to return to school. My Mom teaches 1st grade at Pifer and thoroughly enjoyed teaching in her classroom rather than over a computer. I wish to finish my senior year with the same smile and enthusiasm at the end of every school day as she does.

I believe it is the right decision to go back because students want to be there so they hopefully will follow all the guidelines and respect everyone's safety and comfort. For me, distance learning has been kind of a joke. Yes, I'm learning new things and getting A's.

But is it really school when you're on each call for an extremely short time a few times a week only listening to the teacher talk to himself. For me, losing senior year has meant losing the many cherishable memories I planned on making in my senior year and telling my kids when i'm an adult. It meant missing out on pep rallies, football games, and dances. Even just laughing and being around my fellow peers on campus; that is what I miss the most.

As far as returning to school in person, I believe students need to understand the responsibility they have. They are held accountable to follow the rules and in the end are the deciding factor if our county is capable of social distancing and avoiding a spike in Covid cases. Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I still hope to have an in person graduation on the football field in War Memorial where it belongs. I wish to finish out the school year with my peers in person and in a classroom.

Also if possible at all I feel we need a prom. The senior class lost our Jr. prom and now possibly senior year, that means that our seniors haven't been able to attend a single prom which is something everyone looks forward to from a very young age. As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider the fact that the students are ready to come back.

Masks on and socially distanced from one another. Therefore, I am requesting that you allow for highschoolers to return to school on March 16th and allow for seniors to finish out their high school career in a classroom surrounded by students who we started our journey with.

Therefore, I am urging you to make your decision in favor of returning to school, and think about how much students have missed out on already and how as long as our Covid cases stay down there should be no question about keeping us from attending in person school.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely,
Jillian Root

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Luis Salas and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to you because I want to be able to properly share my thoughts, feelings, and different states that I have generated ever since Covid hit. I don't hope for you to show any pity towards what I have gone through from losing half of my junior year and senior year. I say this because although I am always reminded by so many individuals in my life who were blessed with a Covid free graduation. They always express to me how great their senior was and how they feel for me not being able to experience that. I feel like everytime I hear someone say that I just completely dismiss the whole conversation and say something on the lines of "I just want to receive my diploma already".

I must say that I tend to stop and think about how much joy it would have been to experience senioritis and all that consist of senior year. Therefore, I must say that for me distance learning, losing my senior year, and Covid hitting really woke me up to figure out some of the most important life lessons that I could have learned. I have come to terms with so much in such horrendous times which is so ironic to recall on. I do not agree with the opinions that the members of trustees have based on their strong urge to come back to schools especially in the conditions that we are still facing.

When I read the article on how the "Paso Robles district may 'go to war' with health officials, teachers by reopening some schools" by Mackenzie Shuman. I was very on the opposing side based on how the whole article revolved on the opinions of all these board members yet students aren't even being truly acknowledged anywhere. In my opinion I am truly prepared to get my diploma and go off to college, but I feel like we should take account of all the students that lost their loved ones due to Covid and bring in what their situation and feelings might now be.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely,
Luis Salas

March 4, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Elena Ybarra and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I support your decision because this online distance learning is probably not the best for the students social skills.

For me, distance learning has been easier, but more boring. I stay home more often and don't get to do all the things I was looking forward to my senior year.

For me, losing senior year has meant losing great memories that could have been made. I lost the chance to meet new friends. I think that returning to school will help the students better, but it can work if everyone wears a mask and follows the safety protocols. Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I still hope to have a prom and have a good time with my friends before we leave high school to go our separate ways.

As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider that the seniors haven't been able to make most of the traditional memories. Therefore, I am requesting that you let us go back to school and that we please have a prom.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely, Elena Ybarra

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Brady Carr and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School, I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning on March 16th.

I support your decision to reopen schools because we have gone a whole year now without being able to go to REAL school and actually learn things that we will be able to absorb. For me, distance learning has been a hassle and it seems like I am always drowning in work because now we don't really get the class time to do the assignments that would normally be class work but are now turned into homework.

As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider the fact that most of us are struggling right now and teen depression is at an all time high due to distance learning.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely,
Brady Carr

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost

My name is Octavio Gonzalez and I am a Senior at Paso Robles Highschool.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your decision to authorities in person secondary school instruction starting on March 16.

I support your decision to send us back to class because for me distance learning has been very difficult. I have had a hard time focusing and a lack of motivation.

As far as returning to school I feel it will be beneficial to me and other students. Even though we have lost most of our senior year I hope that we can go back and make the most of the time we have left. Therefore I am requesting you send us back to school.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments

Sincerely, Octavio Gonzalez

March 9, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President

Dorian Baker, Lance Gamon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Reveca Herrera and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16. I support your decision because I have a little brother, nephews, and nieces who miss being in school. My little brother is actually not doing well in online school, so I think opening up the schools is a good thing.

Also because I know my little brother misses his friends, playing with them, and talking to them. And honestly who doesn't miss being with friends and talking to them without a face mask. I know it's been a hard year for all of us, my friends and I talked about going to prom on our senior year.

We knew we could have gone on our junior year. But we refused to go because we all decided to wait for our senior year, since it was our last year with each other. Because you know everybody starts going to a different university or college. So prom was gonna be our memory with each other, but knowing that prom is not going to happen this year is sad.

But now getting notified that we are entering school on March, 16 is somewhat making things normal again. Like seeing your friends, being with your classmates again, and writing notes from your class.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely, Reveca Herrera

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Ethan Payne and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in-person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I support your decision because Kids need an in-school person home life is hard for some people. Mental health is a problem. I oppose your decision because kids might catch corona cases may go up we just need to be smart about it.

For me, distance learning has been hard I felt like I haven't learned as much as I should have. For me, losing senior year has meant losing a year of school. As far as returning to school in person, I believe we need to social distance wear a mask. Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I still hope I can experience some of it.

As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider the safety. Therefore, I am requesting that you have kids wear a mask and social distance. Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,
Ethan Payne

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President

Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearheart, Jim Reed, Nathen Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost

My name is Jesus Perez. I am a senior at the high school and I am sending this letter to express my concerns on the fact that we might go back to school.

I am glad that we are going back but I am concerned that people will not listen to the rules. When we were in school and there was no corona or nothing like that it was still hard enough to control the students. I feel since we had so much freedom and we didn't do as much work online I feel like the students are not going to want to be in school.

Online school is hard. We have too many distractions at the house whether it be a phone, a T.V or a little brother. We just want to do something else than to sit all day and stare at a computer. I try hard to do my work and pay attention in class but it's so hard because I can be tired or just have this urge to watch T.V or go on my phone causing me to lose attention.

One other problem is the mask. I have a job and I know about how people don't like to wear masks and that it is uncomfortable wearing them but when people do use them there is a less chance of getting sick.

Sincerely,
Jesus Perez

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President

Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearheart, Jim Reed, Nathen Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members,

My name is Noah Reeves and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I support and thank you for allowing us to return to school. I think distance learning has affected most of us students in a negative way. I feel that we don't get the right help we need from at home. Some kids are more visual learners and it's hard for them to see what they need to do from the chromebook. It has been a very disappointing year so far.

Especially for us seniors. Senior year was supposed to be the most fun and exciting year for all of the seniors. It's our last year and we couldn't wait for all the senior activities.

As far as returning to school, I am excited and hopeful that we can go back to school as normal as possible. I am also hopeful that we can possibly get some of our senior activities back as well.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Noah Reeves

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Alex Seigris and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16. I support your decision because learning online is extremely hard to do because it's so much harder to pay attention and it is so much easier to fall asleep when you aren't supposed to.

For me, distance learning has been honestly boring there's no excitement of in person lessons would have. For me, losing senior year has meant losing a lot of things like the dances, pep rallies, and prom which I'll never get to experience.

As far as returning to school in person, I believe we should if it's the right time and we shouldn't push anything, if we don't have the right health requirements we shouldn't start school but if we do I'd be glad to go back. Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I still hope we at least have a good graduation in compensation.

As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider all the outcomes and determine what's best for everyone.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely, Alex Seigris

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President

Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearheart, Jim Reed, Nathen Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Roberto Gomez and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I support your decision because I miss going to school in person and I want to have a good senior year. For me, distance learning has been a little bit okay because I have missed assignments. As far as returning to school in person, I believe the school will be great and hopefully nothing bad will happen.

Therefore, I am requesting that you will try to protect the school from having a Covid 19. Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely,
Roberto Gomez

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President

Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearheart, Jim Reed, Nathen Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Kolby Gidcumb and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to you my elected officials who represent us and our community. I am writing to you because you are the only one that has the sole responsibility to look after our best interests. The teachers are there to assess us, the administrators are there to police us and you are there to ensure we are properly receiving the best education possible. I hope you are taking that into consideration. It is a big evolving process that has a lot of people involved. There are people that try to influence your decision to think that you are not the ultimate boss.

There is a reason our school boards are elected officials. Each child in the United States has a right to a Free and Public education. These officials are supposed to ensure that each child has access to this. During this time of a Pandemic it has been violated. The reverse has happened, Generally in a pandemic we quarantine the sick not the healthy. In the past our country would go to great lengths to make sure the sick were educated and even the prisoners and the condemned.

Why did you as a school board consider our constitutional rights to our education? Other states in our own country never shut down. They did not fall to fear, were tricked with numbers, colored maps, fun looking tiers, and graphs that we chased after. Remember 14 days to stop the spread. Then 30,60,90. No kids were dying and people in nursing homes. Then we closed the schools and not the nursing homes.

I got the virus in October and I only lost my taste and smell. My sister, mom, dad, grandma (74), grandma (76), grandma(82), aunt, uncle, 3 cousins and friends have all had the virus. That is over 30 people's worst symptoms are runny nose. There is no critical thinking going on here. Quarantine the healthy to place where it is proven to spread. Lockdown schools but not nursing homes. Our elected officials abide by Recommendations of a department , not by any law by legislatures. There is a serious problem of understanding government control.

Open the schools full time back to normal. There is nowhere else in this world where schools spread the virus.

Sincerely,
Kolby Gidcumb

March 2, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Xena Finnegan Stanko and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16. I support your decision because for me distance learning has been a living hell.

Ever since quarantine began I've lost social skills, patience, the ability to focus, and I've been experiencing bad mood swings. I've been locked inside, not able to have real conversations, experience real class time and lessons, and I haven't been able to see my peers and talk to people on a regular day basis.

I think having conversations and the ability to be in person and experience real school and doing things you like, like playing sports is a super important aspect to life.

Returning back to school would take away so many issues that not only I have but the rest of the students who have been stuck in quarantine.

I think we can make things happen and finish off the school year. Students just have to be disciplined and follow safety guidelines, wear a mask, keep your distance, wash your hands, and keep areas clean. If students don't want to follow basic rules they can simply leave.

I am urging you to please begin the process of reopening schools.

Thank you for your service to the community

Sincerely, Xena Finnegan Stanko

March 5, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President

Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Gabe Contreras and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16.

I support your decision because many seniors feel that our last valuable experience has been robbed from us, and at the very least we feel that a few weeks or months will be able to at least give us a taste of what a genuine senior year is like. For me, distance learning has been an interesting experience, good in which there are less hours of class, and we have a more comfortable environment. But school isn't about laying in bed and staring at a screen and listening to a 30 minute instructional video on calculus.

For me, losing senior year has meant losing many little experiences, such as the experiences you wouldn't have outside of school, like the little activities and interactions we get in real life class. As far as returning to school in person, I believe that even if there are any minor risks involved, it is worth the experience of a lifetime.

Even though I have lost so much of my senior year, I still hope that we all get a sense of graduation at some point this school year. As you make decisions to bring back students to PRHS, I hope you will consider what is at risk, along with what students have missed, and will never get the opportunity to receive again.

Therefore, I am requesting that you understand that the 2021 class deserves a genuine senior experience like the generations before us, and the generations after us. Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely, Gabe Contreras

March 6 , 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Jalen Cullors and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16. I support your decision fully because I feel like that our senior year has been stripped from us and I feel like this is a good decision to go back.

Everyone can agree that this has been a strange school year, and for me I believe that this school year has taken an emotional toll on me. My junior year I was a social person, playing baseball, participating in my CTE Practicum course, and supporting my High School Sports events.

With this taken away for me I feel my social skills have also been taken away for I have regressed to my Freshman year where I was an antisocial person. Not that there's anything wrong with that. I just enjoyed being able to talk to my teacher and my classmates because it made me happier as a person. I also feel that my motivation has also been taken from me. I have always been an A-B student with an average of 4 missing assignments at most.

This year I have had over 12 missing assignments. While this due to my procrastination skills, I also feel like this is because schooling has been online. I don't feel objected to doing my work because I feel like there is no punishment. I feel like missing assignments have become a normal thing for me and I hope that returning to school fixes it for me. When I am at school I feel more like a student and more connected to my teacher than just a student in the numbers.

While most of the school year is already over, I am happy that we are able to scrap a little bit of the school year before we graduate. I want to thank you for your service, to the community and your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely, Jalen Cullors

March 4, 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Marlon Bonilla and I am a senior at Paso Robles High School.

I am writing to express my thoughts about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning March 16. I support your decision because I truly believe that teenagers need to clear our brains by going out everyday.

It is not healthy for us to wake up every single day and turn on our computer and spend hours on it doing homework, meetings, etc. For me distance learning has been stressful, hard to deal with, I just don't feel like I learn much.

The best thing about my senior year was that sports are coming back and I am super excited about it.

Therefore, I'm requesting you to please consider my letter and let us the seniors and our peers to enjoy our last year.

Sincerely,
Marlon Bonilla

March 3 , 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools
Christopher Arend, President
Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

I am writing this message to express the way I feel about Reopening the Paso Robles High School into the Hybrid learning Decision. I support the decision because as a senior I want somewhat of a good senior year and This is supposed to be the best year of high school and so far it hasn't been. I haven't learned anything in this to me it's just a waste of time. For me distance learning has been a major struggle and I haven't learned a thing and I'm really struggling. Losing senior year for me has meant losing lots of memories and the biggest year of my school Career, and it really sucks.

As of returning to school I hope and believe I can at least get some of senior year maybe 40% if that. As a senior this was my last year to Do high school sports and I wanted to do Track, Basketball and football but Covid has only a certain amount of sports going and I only get football and don't get me wrong some people don't even get that and I'm thankful that I atleast got something. I still hope I can get some of a senior year. As you bring back students I hope that we can Finish out the last few months completely in Hybrid. I also wished there was a decision to do school or not this year for seniors.

Because I know if I had a choice I would definitely stay back a year in High school For school, sports and that senior year vibe. Therefore I'm arguing that you guys bring something like that to the community and give seniors the option to stay back or not.

Thank you for your service to the community and for your consideration of these comments,

Sincerely,
DeVante Bailey

March 3 , 2021

To: Board of Trustees, Paso Robles Public Schools

Christopher Arend, President

Dorian Baker, Lance Gannon, Tim Gearhart, Jim Reed, Nathan Williams

Dr. Curtis Dubost, Superintendent

Dear Board Members and Superintendent Dubost,

My name is Mikayla Adams and I am currently a senior at Paso Robles High School. I am writing to all of you today to express my thoughts as a High School student about your recent decision to authorize in person secondary school instruction beginning on the date of March 16th.

With this decision the board has my full support, the news alone has brought tears of pure joy to my eyes. So much of my Senior year has been stolen from not only me but many other hard working students, we have yet to reap the benefits of our dedication to education for the past four years.

On top of that many students including myself have felt the tremendous burden of distance learning on our young shoulders, those burdens have a wide range as well coming from mental health concerns to even emotional barriers that seem like they are constantly piling up on top of us.

This year has not been easy in any shape or form, that statement can attest to many students not just the Senior Class. I have a younger sibling that has been suffering terribly in his academics from learning behind a screen, I believe with us returning that all students including my younger middle school sibling will kick start us to succeed once more and once again begin a life of normalcy.

Even though I have lost so much of my precious senior year, I still hope that the rest of what we have of this year as a student body and as well as staff be made to the point that every second is made to the fullest with everyone being healthy and safe.

Therefore, I ask a request of the board to please allow us the full chance of being within our campus once more with the secured feelings of our safety at heart and the comforting feeling of Bearcat Spirit. Thank you for your service to our community that we call home and for your careful consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Mikayla Adams

Class of 2020-2021