

Communication from Dir. Daily 8/8/2020

Darragh, Peter

Sat 4/24/2021 11:11 AM

To: Gattenby, Eric <gattenbye@skschools.org>; Berg, John <berg@skschools.org>;

Cc: Daily, Jeff <daily@skschools.org>;

Dear Directors Gattenby and Berg,

As you move forward with the committees to investigate censure of Director Daily, I thought his communication to me last August might be relevant. Please use as you see fit.

Thank you,

Pete Darragh

From: Daily, Jeff

Sent: Saturday, August 08, 2020 10:27 AM

To: Darragh, Peter

Subject: RE: Questions to answer

Mr Darragh-

Since your intent is to incite versus understand, I will answer you as you appear to be an expert on all matters.

1. It will never be safe for your kids to go anywhere, much less the schools. You as others, seem to want a guarantee that nothing will happen. Remember, the district built the plans; not the board.
2. Until a vaccine that really works is available and 330M Americans are immunized, no one will feel relatively comfortable. I don't think Port Orchard is high on the priority list. Since this is global, you will never be safe again as different countries have different standards. No one will guarantee that to you, ever.
3. As to the health department and the Gov, they will never say it is safe to open the schools because even they cannot guarantee that no one person will die which seems to be what you and others want. All they can do is recommend for local districts to do what is right for them. So, tell me, if the cases go down to 50, is that safe, how about 25, is that safe, how about 5, is that safe, how about one? Remember, it only takes one to infect the schools. So, be prepared to be online for a long time if that is your logic. Will there be a second wave, a third wave, a fourth wave, probably. When the flu season comes, then what? Every student with a cough will be turned away because we won't want to take the chance that one may be COVID? What about the one kid who transfers to our District in November when you want to open but he has the virus? Was it safe to open then? So tell me, when will it be safe so NO child will be sick from the virus. The noble teachers talk about the virus. However, over 60 of them attended a 3 hour funeral in a church, sadly, for one of our own. So much for adhering to the guidance of no more than 5 in one place. I read about our teachers and families on facebook on vacation, theme parks, family gatherings, etc. Apparently they seem to be not all that concerned about the virus otherwise they would be home. Wouldn't they as the health department, Gov, and CDC have told all of them what is a safe practice.

Exhibit L

4. All over the country, including Idaho and many other places, folks are going to school. Have there been some failures, yes, but many have done it that you apparently haven't heard about.

5. My wife is classified and plans to return to work. She is over 65 and has no immune system. I have been in the schools and plan to be on the buses and in the schools. I also have no immune system. I wouldn't ask you to do something I wouldn't do.

6. You and others missed the points from Mr Gattenby and Mr Berg and I. Mr Gattenby told you he is willing to risk his daughter in the HS. You apparently are not so go online. Mr Berg is willing to risk his grand children in the elementary schools. You apparently are not so go on line. I went to Walmart where it was full of kids, old people, handicapped people, all over the place shopping and grabbing food over others. I assume you folks don't shop as it would endanger your kids. Does that sound like people here are worried about the virus to you. Apparently you missed all of these points in your anger and frustration. So , go online.

7. As a combat veteran, I am more familiar with death than you will ever know so unless you have been there, don't lecture me. Everyone of the men that were lost and I lost will always sadden me until I die. As a parent, don't ever tell me and my wife about the death of a child, unless you have lost one.

8. You were given three choices. 1) send your kids to school per the school plan. 2) put your kids on line until YOU feel it is safe to come out. 3) put your kids on line for the entire year. Most people like choices as it gives them control of their lives and to make the best decision for their family.

9. As for pride, I lost that long ago in addition to my arrogance. I just try to do the best I can for everyone. It is apparently not up to your standards. I assume your kids are very high functioning which begs the question of why do you have them in the SKSD?. It is the 2nd lowest academically of the 7 districts in the area. Most of your teachers live outside of PO and several have kids that do not go here. But, 40% of our kids are low income who just try to get by. Many of their parents are furloughed or laid off. They have no childcare option as do the rich district employees, Boeing employees, Shipyard employees. They want the choices we have offered because they want to make the decision, not be told how to live their lives.

10. Obviously, the union has pressured everyone for a meeting as all I got was hateful and threatening emails from teachers, other district employees, and some parents. I guess diversity and respect of others points of view is just a joke in Port Orchard as well as what the District is supposed to be teaching your kids. The ones I got from most parents, excluding you, were thankful for a choice that they can make. The March to June on line exercise was a total failure, regardless of what the district tells you. Not for your kids as they can achieve anywhere in any environment. But if you think things will be so much better, good luck convincing most of the kids who really need school. The SPED kids will never be successful in an online environment which I know since I taught SPED at the HS for 12 years. So, it is really about all kids and all needs, not just the high level kids.

11. As for the district being a business, it really is. SKSD has a monopoly on education in PO. There are no other options so they do what they the unions want. But many parents who were forced to home school or go on line or look for pods or private tutors had their world opened up. It is convenient to go to SK schools but folks see options. If the district doesn't offer what parents want, they will now go elsewhere. Many of our kids go to Peninsula and CK. The enrollment is dropping, regardless what folks think. People are finding options to best suit their kids. So, there is more than the SKSD in this world.

12. The rising salaries of teachers and classified along with the recent pay raises and taxpayer paying huge health benefits for district employees, in spite of many in this area who are furloughed and laid off, the businesses that are closed and never coming back, the retirement savings loss of many, and a coming global recession doesn't seem to register with many here, especially the well to do. But it will eventually come to PO.

13. So, my guess is that you will get what you think you want on Monday. But, regardless of if and when the district schools open, your kids will never be safe again as if it isn't this crisis, there will be another. Remember, it only takes ONE to infect the entire

system. Stay safe.

Cordially,

J Daily
