

Online Learning Questions

Tina Rice <trice711@hotmail.com>

Sat 12/5/2020 10:01 AM

To: Daily, Jeff <daily@skschools.org>; gattenby@skschools.org <gattenby@skschools.org>; Diehl, Rebecca <diehl@skschools.org>; Berg, John <berg@skschools.org>; Sebren, Liz <sebren@skschools.org>; Winter, Tim <winter@skschools.org>;

Cc: Jason Rice <jmrice2@yahoo.com>;

Good Morning Elected School Board Members,

After 4 months of fully online learning, what are you learning? Is this really the best situation for South Kitsap students? **Have you checked in with the community you serve?** How are you ensuring that the desires of the community you serve are met?

We have received your updates **to us** and appreciate those updates, however, **your community should also have a voice**. This one-way communication is not giving your community a chance to be heard. How do you know that you are serving the majority and not just the most vocal? While you are "pleased to share that 129 special education students are receiving in person services", this may not be a positive message to the other 99% students that are NOT receiving in person instruction. Outreach is critical during this time and allowing your community to have a voice will help engage the parents and students that you serve.

Some additional questions:

- What percentage of students signed up for in person learning?
- How have the enrollment numbers been impacted by COVID-19?
- Are there long term funding challenges for South Kitsap due to COVID-19?
- Is South Kitsap considering/planning for a full return (M-F) to in person learning in the 2020-21 school year?
- What type of impact did the message from the state superintendent have on our Board
 - [State superintendent says distance learning is not working for a lot of kids | KNKX](#)



State superintendent says distance learning is not working for a lot of kids

More than half of the state's public school students are in districts offering almost exclusively remote learning , but state Superintendent of Public

www.knkx.org

We look forward to your response.

The Rice Family

From: Tina Rice <trice711@hotmail.com>

Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 8:10 PM

To: Daily, Jeff <daily@skschools.org>; gattenby@skschools.org <gattenby@skschools.org>; diehl@skschools.org <diehl@skschools.org>; berg@skschools.org <berg@skschools.org>; sebren@skschools.org <sebren@skschools.org>; Winter, Tim <winter@skschools.org>

Cc: Jason Rice <jmrice2@yahoo.com>

Subject: Re: Public Comment - Jason and Tina Rice, Port Orchard

Dear Directors & Superintendent Winter,

While I appreciate your acknowledgement of 300+ community members who voiced their opinions about having a choice, you have chosen to take away that choice. Additionally, you have chosen to leave the circumstances vague as to when our children may ever return to in person instruction. Director Sebren's continued emphasis on "re-evaluating the plan" as opposed to firmly stating something like'children **will** return to school in 9 weeks unless it is deemed unsafe' is just not unacceptable for parents. We will be back in this position of uncertainty again in 9 weeks because cases will not decrease.

I fully understand the health concerns. I want our children and our teachers to be safe. I don't disagree with that fact. However, we have made it possible to safely engage in essential activities around our state. Superintendent Winter stated that "every one of our employees are essential". Let's get ready for **safe** return to school. I think we have all accepted the fact that it will be limited to 2 days in person instruction initially. We are ok with that. Let's get there and have a definitive plan for transition to full time, in person instruction for families in our community that need that choice.

Finally, I would suggest that Superintendent Winter help to outline that transition plan in advance of any future Board discussions. This meeting was difficult to watch and keep on track.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jason and Tina Rice

From: Jason Rice <jmrice2@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 12:40 PM

To: info@skschools.org <info@skschools.org>

Cc: daily@skschools.org <daily@skschools.org>; gattenby@skschools.org <gattenby@skschools.org>; berg@skschools.org <berg@skschools.org>; diehl@skschools.org <diehl@skschools.org>; sebren@skschools.org <sebren@skschools.org>; winter@skschools.org <winter@skschools.org>; Tina Rice <trice711@hotmail.com>

Subject: Public Comment - Jason and Tina Rice, Port Orchard

Dear SKSD Board Members,

Thank you for providing South Kitsap families choices for our children to return to school in the Fall. We applaud the flexible and adaptable plan that considers the education and safety of our children. By offering choices you have listened to feedback from the community that you serve. These choices will enable some children to have in person instruction and lead to a reduced number of in person students and staff. This is a good thing for our community. We are certain that it was not an easy decision. We support your decision for options and would like you to hear our voices in support of standing firm in that decision.

The [South Kitsap Families for Offering Choices petition](#) was started less than 48 hours ago and was simply a way in which public comment could easily be collected to show our support of the approved plan. This petition was not intended to be competitive with any other petitions that might be in the community against the plan. We understand that there is a very vocal minority that does not support the plan and who are committed to reversing your decision. **Please consider that if you do reverse your decision, the possibility of any in person instruction may not be a possibility for the entire school year.** This could be devastating for many families in our community. **What would compel the SKSD Board Members to allow any in person instruction if you don't start with that option?** As Director Berg has stated, "the number of new cases throughout

Kitsap County has dropped precipitously over the past week”. We should be planning for this adaptable and flexible plan that allows choices for the community based upon what’s happening in our own South Kitsap community.

Petition SKSD Family Choice for Return to School

South Kitsap School District (SKSD) Families for Offering Choices needs your help in supporting the already appr...

Finally, and most importantly, we care about the students and teachers in our community. We appreciate the planning that is required to ensure their safety. There are many in our community that are willing to step up and help our schools get prepared for our students and teachers. **What can we do to help?**

Thank you in advance for bravely leading our community and enabling South Kitsap families to have a choice for returning to school in the Fall.

Sincerely,

Jason & Tina Rice,
and 300+ SKSD Families for Offering Choices