

The Christina Education Association is concerned about the Christina School Board's inability to announce its decision regarding the modality in which to return to school. During this time of crisis, a decision is needed. Teachers were given days to change to remote learning, and we rose to the occasion as professionals. Our school board has had four months, surveys, emails, discussions, and very clear messages from CEA and DSEA of a return #OnlyWhenItsSafe, and yet we have heard no hint of taking action on any of the plans which have been created. We appreciate the delay of the students' return, yet there are unanswered questions as to how we will all safely return.

The daily stress of not knowing and trying to be prepared for all possible outcomes is draining, and frankly, unfair. You have a duty to the people of the Christina School District.

We know that, regardless of the decision, some won't be happy; that is inevitable. What CEA is asking is for our school board to honor the position they accepted and represent and protect their students, teachers, and support staff, and open #OnlyWhenItsSafe.

July 14, 2020

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/israelis-fear-schools-reopened-too-soon-as-covid-19-cases-climb-11594760001>

"Outbreaks in schools had infected at least 1,335 students and 691 staff by Monday since the reopening in early May"

August 1, 2020

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/01/us/schools-reopening-indiana-coronavirus.html>

"Just hours into the first day of classes on Thursday, a call from the county health department notified Greenfield Central Junior High School in Indiana that a student who had walked the halls and sat in various classrooms had tested positive for the coronavirus.

Administrators began an emergency protocol, isolating the student and ordering everyone who had come into close contact with the person, including other students, to quarantine for 14 days. It is unclear whether the student infected anyone else."

August 4, 2020

<https://www.ajc.com/education/covid-cases-reported-as-schools-reopen-in-georgia/EDLZC5UF45CFZBJNGNCTIIUOS4/>

"The pandemic did not stay outside the schoolhouse doors in Canton. In its second day of the new school year, the Cherokee County School District shut down a second-grade classroom at Sixes Elementary School after a student tested positive for COVID-19, spokeswoman Barbara Jacoby said Tuesday, adding that the teacher and 20 other students in the class must quarantine for two weeks. The teacher, who is symptom-free, will teach the class online from home and the classroom will be deep cleaned.

Jacoby said the Sixes Elementary student showed no symptoms during school on Monday; when the symptoms began after school, the student's parents sought medical assistance and testing that resulted in the positive diagnosis.

Also, on the first day of school Tuesday in Marietta, where students are fully remote, a spokeswoman said five district employees had tested positive for COVID-19."

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/education/2020/08/04/with-coronavirus-cases-reported-some-reopened-schools-protesters-take-streets-with-fake-coffins/>

"In Georgia's Gwinnett County, some 260 employees tested positive or had possibly been exposed to the coronavirus a day after teachers returned to work last week and were told to stay home. Alcoa City Schools in Tennessee recently opened, but a few days later a student tested positive for the virus. At Corinth High School in Mississippi, in-person classes started last week and within days five students tested positive for the coronavirus and others went into quarantine as a result of contact tracing, the school district said."