

1 **Is there anything else you would like to share regarding our return to school in September?**

2 Please regard safety (for students and employees) as your number one priority.

3 Obviously, our kids will benefit more academically from being in-person. We just have to make sure that we can do so safely and have a clearly defined plan for what happens if someone tests positive

4 I'm concerned about not being able to maintain social distancing protocol, not having daily temperature taking of all students, inadequate disinfecting of surfaces, and the problems around ensuring that students are practicing frequent and effective handwashing. If these are not feasible because of legalities, logistics, or insufficient staffing then, according to CDC guidelines, our school environment will not and can not be safe for face-to-face learning.

5 I don't feel safe, as a teacher, returning to school in September. No matter how many safety precautions we try to implement, someone is going to get sick. I feel that we are compromising student and staff health. Are we prepared to lose someone from our Bison family over this? Is it worth it? I have many questions and concerns, but this is my main one.

6 I am very anxious about masks being worn at school. Our school dress policy is not enforced. My son is a rule follower, he will wear a mask. I fear that other kids will not be required to wear them and this could lead to a new bullying issue.

7 Most important is to ensure the safety of teachers and staff

8 I feel this is a complicated, complex issue and not as simple as whether it is "safe" for a student to return. Various families are managing this in different ways, many parents send their children to school when they are sick or have been exposed to someone so I am not sure I would trust that everyone is taking the situation seriously. Also for us living in a multigenerational household with high risk individuals my student returning to school adds risk to our household and other family members. I do not think there is a perfect solution or an easy answer. I think flexibility is very important. What may work for one family may not work for others.

9 I know that the decision of the start of school or virtual school is very hard on our Board Members and Superintendent is not something I would want to do. I hope that the decision from our school or from Governor Whitmer comes sooner than later for families and staff to be prepared. The safety of our students and staff is so important.

10 I work for a critical manufacturing facility who did not close for Covid-19 and am a member of our coronavirus task force. We've learned that the main things we can do to try to avoid infections is frequent hand washing, having hand sanitizer available in many areas, and configuring our spaces for distancing. We also do temp checks daily and our building is locked down to unauthorized visitors. I feel that if these actions can be implemented safely at NBAS along with additional cleaning, I will be able to send my daughter into the classroom with confidence. While she was successful with distance learning, she misses the structure of daily classes and the interactions with fellow students and teachers.

11 Can kids be in 'pods' to limit large group interactions? This would be for lunch, classroom activities, etc.

12 It's important to get them back to the schools in a safe manor.. Face to face is important if done correctly during the transitional period..

13 My child feels that returning to the building is a necessity and only wants to participate in virtual learning if there are no other options.

14 I feel the mental health of these children is too important for remote learning.

15 Info regarding people that are in trades. That's super hard for distance learning

16 My kids don't NEED bus service, but would be helpful. However, bussing seems difficult to do in Covid-world. Also, I am more worried about the teachers contracting Covid from the kids than the other way around. My son in highschool would be fine doing distance learning, but my middle schooler was a disaster with e-learning last school year.

17 Thank you for all you are doing. You are all in a very difficult position.

18 Thank you for all that you have done, and continue to do to care for our children.

19 I would rather see a K-12 do over/pass on the year vs. E Learning

20 We are very concerned about face-to-face school given the current state. We may consider using a formal online learning platform (instead of sending the kids back), if we don't feel comfortable with the approach. Our top priority is to ensure our kids health and safety.

21 I believe it is extremely difficult for students that are struggling with special needs to learn and maintain focus without face to face and classroom interaction.

22 Strong support for return to in-person learning!

- 23 further information on what the plan is if staff or students test positive. What is the general feeling of the community about children's safety? Do they want a virtual option if immune compromised family members? What options do staff and students and families have?
- 24 In my opinion kids need to be socialized and need this interaction just as much as the educational side of school.
- 25 Face shields instead of face masks
- 26 Please provide an online learning option for students that are high risk or have high risk family members at home (that they live with). Please do not penalize school of choice students who need this option until they can safely return and want to remain NB students-please consider them as you would a "homebound" student of NBAS during a non- Covid term.
- 27 I think E-learning would be better or at least give the parents the option for that this way the class sizes can be smaller and bus rides can maybe have less kids. I would appreciate having that option.
- If e-learning has to be implemented because, as a state, we downgrade back to Phase 3 or lower, I would like to see a more comprehensive and rigorous plan for my kid's. There really wasn't any learning happening between March-June and that cannot continue. I would like to see the district modify their e-learning plan so that kids are working with ALL of their teachers on a regular basis.
- Using the plexiglass safeguards around desks would allow my kids to get a break from wearing their masks. Please consider this. Supply some latex gloves and allow the MS kids to sanitize their own station prior to leaving a class. This will help instill some responsibility on the student part and teach the lesson of working together as a community to keep safe.
- Kids will need to be taught how to follow the guidelines during the first week so they can be responsible for following signage and keeping themselves, others, and their family's safe.
- Continue clubs, sports, and fine arts activities. This is the heartbeat of a school community and so vital to academic success.
- Thank you for your work in a situation where there is no clear winning outcome.
- 28 I appreciate NBAS and their efforts to put students as their top priority. This is difficult work and I realize how many unknown variables will be part of this last minute decision. My biggest take away from the NB Spring elearning plan was that improvements need to be made in the common platforms and expectations from my daughter's teachers. Some were expecting 20 per day and others 2 hours per day. This is an issue that needs to be clearly defined and monitored. Thank you
- 29 I feel that NOT opening the BASE program would detrimental. If BASE is open, at least those students would be in a safe place with appropriate guidelines in place until they can go home. If it's closed, where would they go and with whom? And would any guidelines be in place or would they just get more exposure to the virus? I think if we're opening school, BASE is a huge part of that.
- 30 I think it is extremely important to keep all persons not employed by NBAS or enrolled in classes to remain OUT of the building to control the environment better. Parents need to trust that all the proper channels are covered and let the children resume some normalcy to their learning.
- 31 Please offer an option for online at home learning for ALL students, so that school of choice students like me don't have to choose between being a Bison and risking my health (or the health of my grandma).
- 32 Quarantine/sick bank guidelines, structure of collab time/staff meetings/SIP meetings, etc...., will my schedule change, what additional duties am I now responsible for?, can kids shout/sing in class (birthday song)?, do they have to wear masks in my classroom?, do i have to sanitize everything they touch in my classroom?, can kids share items?, line up procedures, morning routine-meeting in the gym/cubbies, etc..., recess guidelines, substitute plans if I am quarantined or have the virus, will my administration be supportive and work with me if I make mistakes or are they going to use the fear factor and use disciplinary action to correct my mistakes, sharing of homemade treats, how do i plan and prepare to come back! Communication would be helpful!
- 33

- 34 I'm concerned about the mental health of the children should any of the staff/parents become sick and/or die, leaving the children feeling responsible for the spread. Also, if multiple teachers test positive the classrooms will be led by substitutes and I have to imagine the demand for subs will be much greater than any previous year. It seems inevitable that the school will need to transition again to e-learning on a full-time basis, so an attempt to initially open face-to-face seems like a risk that can easily be avoided.
- 35 I have been quarantining and social distancing since March 13. The virus has not gone anywhere, and we don't have a vaccine. Science is real. The virus is easily spread indoors through humans. With this being said, why would our actions from March and April (Stay at home orders) be any different than our actions now? It does not make sense. It is hard to continue to be diligent with not going anywhere or seeing people, but I guess that health of myself and my family is more important than my boredom. Honestly, I want to be back at school. The spring was incredibly challenging. I have to believe that there is a way to make it virtually for one year. It won't be perfect, but it will be better than spreading the virus to our families. I will NOT be comfortable going back with students in September.
- 36 While I would prefer my children to be taught by our own NB teachers online, I did read that Bridgman is offering a partnership for online learning with Lakeshore. Bridgman students can remain Bridgman Bee students and take Lakeshore's online learning program. If NB doesn't want to offer their own online learning program with our own NB teachers but could also offer such a partnership between our districts (With Lakeshore or anyone else) to best meet the needs of all of our students that would be fantastic. Please consider this option or something similar. Thank you.
- 37 I think the middle school and up students are more than capable of following guidelines and being able to attend classes safely during this time. The key will be ensuring there are enough faculty to monitor and re-educate as needed. Wearing masks, washing hands and cleaning common areas frequently should be more than enough to ensure a safe return to school.
- 38 If a virtual model is used, daily touchpoints with teachers is critical.
- 39 There are no good solutions to the pandemic problem. As such, I ask the district to put the lives of our NB kids and educators first. What would the district do if one of children or teachers fell seriously ill (or worse). Opt for a fully remote first quarter (at least), then focus resources on planning and coordinating assistance for those most in need in a remote-school environment. This is not forever. Keep us safe
- 40 I wasn't sure how to answer the "eating in the classroom" question. If social distancing practices could be implemented in the cafeteria and elsewhere on school grounds, that would be my preference. In fact, I would like the school to consider prepared box lunches that students could take outside and eat; I almost think a recess might be helpful.
- 41 I am extremely uncomfortable sending my children to in person school. I agree to all the precautions that you've mentioned. However, based upon what I see locally while shopping and driving through town, it is clear that many people are not social distancing. I've ran into students and parents in the grocery store, gas stations and banks. The vast majority are not wearing masks. Many think covid is a hoax. Local business people continue to not wear masks despite the order.. Yes you can require students to wear the masks in school but what happens when they are at home? I think it's very uncomfortable wearing the masks and to wear it all day is too much. What will you do when a student or their family tests positive? Will we be constantly closing down to clean? My 79 year old mom lives with us. If my kids attend school during the pandemic the odds increase that they will bring the virus home to us. Covid has touched our family. We've lost one family member and know of three other healthy adults that have passed away. I dread the cold and flu season. I will worry every time someone starts feeling off. I think the risks are too high. I also see the other side of the spectrum. Parents need to work and they depend on school to care for their children. I'm certain many students have not engaged in remote learning and many do not have the support from their parents. It's a catch twenty two. I truly wish you'd consider remote learning until things are safe. It's hard on everyone social distancing and being away from school and friends. It's tough on my kids. I simply am afraid that many families are not taking this seriously and that act can impact my family if my kids attend school. Worse case I'd like to have choices. Perhaps remote learning until things simmer throughout the country. When covid is under control my kids can return to school.
- 42 I do not want to return to school if I have to wear a mask all day and be separated from my friends. If I return to school I will not be able to interact with my grandma who lives with me. I will not be able to visit my great uncle because they have health issues.

- 43 Will the school consider clear face shields and purchase those for staff and students in lieu of cloth masks? Will kids have recess? What is the contingency plan for when a student or teacher get sick? How will the more vulnerable students and staff be accommodated? Will standardized tests be given? How will teachers be evaluated this year?
- 44 Putting children in close contact for extended periods in any scenario seems like a recipe for disaster
I am just looking for on the fly adjustments and understanding.
- 45 I think we provided the kids with plenty of learning opportunities in the spring, but we were not all on the same page. Different staff members had clearly different expectations and kids had inconsistencies within the teachers they had. Finding as consistent of a plan as possible is in the best interest of the students I believe.
- 46 Since classes are so small at New Buffalo, could half the grade go to in-person school on M-W-F and the others go on T-TH? Then switch the next week. Not sure if that would be possible.
- 47 I'm fairly comfortable however one concern is the socializing. If the kids will have to adhere to the social distancing and PPE, how is that to be enforced after school? Kids still want to go hang out and that is when they don't social distance. Will there be sports? Part of school for them is socialization. That is very important. Also will there be testing available with a parent consent if someone in the school gets sick and has it? Can it be available? Another concern I have is if my child gets covid-19 it would destroy our livelihood financially because we are in the medical field and have to abide by CDC guidelines. We will have to shut down if we are exposed possibly up to 4-6 weeks or more. I prefer my child to go back to school though. That's the healthiest for his mental health but still worry about others not following the rules. That is my biggest problem. Kids still hang out and gather and I feel horrible making my child miss out. I'm starting to give up because I appear to be the only one who has been making my child wear a mask and social distance and sanitize. I am beginning to feel it is a losing battle.
- 48 Please let the children return to class!
- 49 I hope we are looking closely at what our local Health Department is saying. I am also really concerned about getting the amount of cleaning done with the staff we currently have. How will classrooms get cleaned between periods? As a teacher, I can't be expected to make that happen, prepare for the next class, and corral students in the hallway all in four minutes time! Very stressful!
- 50 Find a way to get kids back to school even if it means more rules and regulations. NO e learning.
Hand sanitizer are being recalled students should wash hands often (soap and water). CDC recommends consumers use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol (also referred to as ethanol or ethyl alcohol). Make sure we are providing students with appropriate hand sanitizers.
As a concern parent I am not oppose to distance learning until we have a better handle on this pandemic better safe than sorry. The district should allow virtual meetings inviting parents to discuss any concerns about opening up. I want my child back in the class room my child wants to be in school for his senior year but can we guarantee safety.
- 51 One of my biggest concerns as a science teacher is how to perform labs if New Buffalo begins the school year with face-to-face interaction. The AP Bio course requires 25% of the class to be labs, which I think will be difficult to carry out with all of the restrictions. As I'm planning out my lesson plans right now, I'm not sure if I should invest more time in search for virtual labs/lab recordings or figuring out a way to perform the labs at the school (if we do the face-to-face option).
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I feel extremely strongly that there should be an option for those who would like to keep their children at home for elearning. Some parents may not be able to do this at home but my situation allows it. My daughter is asthmatic and I have spoken to her specialists. They are willing to provide documentation stating she cannot make it through a full day with a mask due to the severity. I would prefer to keep her home and allow her to elearn through NB.

There are several questions I feel should be addressed:

1. If elearning is an option, than I hope the school district allows them to have a Google Chromebook with all info preloaded just like they had in the spring.
2. Again, if elearning is on the table, then I want to ensure that NO Pokagon scholarship \$ is lost or deducted from those students. I would hope the Pokagon Fund would allow the scholarship to be flexible at this time of uncertainty.
3. If brought back to in person learning. Would this be certain days of the week like many other districts in the area or full time?

I strongly urge our leaders to allow the parents to choose. Either have in person learning or elearning. Have them make the decision by a certain date and do not allow changes. I feel if this is left as a choice many parents will choose to keep their kids at home. Therefore also freeing up potential teachers to lead these elearning programs. You could also allow them an assigned day and time to set up questions with the instructor, etc.

There has been talk that other districts may not offer an elearning program but may partner with other districts to have their students use the other districts program. If this is done, that is fine but I would like to know again how the Pokagon Scholarship program will be affected.

Thank you for your time.

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It is clear that those individuals "at risk" should protect themselves and their families. All others should live as "normally" as possible.

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55 none

56 I feel our awesome staff will do the best they can to protect our kids. I fully trust any decision that is made.

57 Social distancing would be impossible for social distancing for preschool age children. Additional support for teachers to maintain sanitation. Class sizes.

58 I think a hybrid classroom online mix would be good to ease in.

59 We need to have these kids interacting normally - without face masks. Protect those at risk, all others return to a normal life.

60 I feel it is extremely important for face-to-face interaction among students and teachers in a learning environment.

61 There is a dramatic difference in quality of education between remote learning and in-seat learning.

62 Would like to see virtual learning as an option.

63 I would like to know more about how band classes would be handled as this is a situation that students will not be able to wear masks at all times.

64 I just want to go back to school and have normalcy. See my teachers and friends. To learn and have my school life back.

65 Not very comfortable with the kids all being together as they will ultimately bring home to families and infect staff and each other. If they don't let small gathering really happen, I don't see why putting tons of kids in the same building no matter how safe we all try to be, it will ultimately end with a bad situation I feel.

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Our children need to be in a socialized environment with kids their age. There is minimal risk associated for them and our families for them to return to school. Some guidance at the school as far as cleanliness with their hands and basic monitoring of specific signs of covid are sufficient. There are many families that will be burdened severely by having to stay home with a child for online learning. We pay taxes for our child to be in this public learning system. As I know, teachers still have to work hard to put together these schedules of learning, but our tax dollars are not being used the same way. This is a gross misuse of public funds to spend our money trying to update our school for a non threatening virus. Further more, what will happen if a child that was in class is tested positive? I was recently tested and it took 11 days to get results. What do you do then? My child will be in first grade and I will not require her to wear a mask at any time. It is child abuse to make them be masked. Shame on the media for driving this issue. Good luck trying to enforce that. Any reasonable person that has ever been around a 6-7 year old would know this is a joke. Send them back!

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66 Welcome back!

67 If kids go back to school are extra school activities occurring?

68 No, thank you

69 A definitive plan and something from the school. With the rise of cases, especially in younger people, it's probably unwise to reopen at least the first trimesters.

70 No

71 I'm more concerned with what not going to back to school means. I believe mentally it's hard on kids and they can't always express how they feel. It's important for them to have routine, sports, activities and the socialization it gives them. I would love to see them get back to normal sooner than later and just be safe. I do not like masks all day. I think that is the toughest part of this. Good luck in your decisions. I can't even imagine how hard it is for all of you. We support any choices you make.!!!

72 Reminding families/parents to practice/re-enforce safe COVID guidelines at home, as well.

73 Will a nurse be available to elementary students? Is a hybrid learning model being considered? Can classes be held outdoors weather permitting?

74 It is extremely important New Buffalo Area Schools have a full-time registered nurse on-site. Please consider this for the safety and well-being of all students and staff. It is not only important during this Covid-19 crisis, but also for those with various underlying medical conditions.

75 It's hard - we're doing the best we can

Safety and comfort of the teachers and staff is very important.

-classroom ventilation; continual airflow is best

-how will children change classrooms

-how many children will be allowed in a classroom

-staggered schedules, shorter days

-markings on floor regarding single direction to walk in

-video to view prior to start of face to face lessons that may explain about drop-off e.g., students need to have mask on when exiting car, students driving must not mingle in parking-lot, etc., entering the building e.g., use of hand sanitizer when entering building, etc., in the classroom, e.g., no shared supplies, what instruction will look like with all students facing front and spaced apart, etc.

76 Kids should be able to get to school and enjoy the school and everything it has to offer in it fullest potential. Children deserve and demand a full unobtrusive opportunity to learn and live!

77 Children need to be back in the building receiving quality instruction along with social interactions with their peers. Let's get back to teaching children and remove all the extra nice to do things and get back to the basics.

78 Maybe there could be a combination of remote learning and face to face learning

79 Are HVAC systems or filters being updated, what policy/ procedure is going to be if someone in the building is presumed positive or tested positive for Covid 19.

80 I feel it is extremely important for my child to start school in September.

81 It would be important to remind people to keep Health guidelines at home too to maximize the effort we'd be doing at school. If kids wear masks and social distance at school, but then go to multi kid parties or playdates...

82 For e-learning days, please consider having your teachers meet with students for the full duration of the scheduled class and actually teach. Last year included mostly check-ins for 5-10 minutes and then they provided links to the kids to either watch videos or read articles on their own. From our experience, only 1 teacher held a regular class (which was only 2x/week). Other schools are holding regular classes, virtually. This allows students to keep a normal school day and still keep up with their academics. Is there a reason why NB can't do this also - at least for their middle school and high school students?

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There are only a few proven ways to stop the spread of Covid-19: wear masks, frequently wash hands and observe social distancing. The more stridently we observe those recommendations, even if they temporarily hinder student interaction, the more quickly we'll be able to return to a more normal school day. I feel like all of those basic recommendations need to be given top priority.

Removing any symptomatic person seems basic.

I didn't notice anything about activities outside in the survey. Its reported that the virus is less likely to spread outdoors. We'd like our kids to spend as much time outside as possible. Many of the elementary classrooms were designed with an outdoor garden area – maybe utilize those areas for outdoor learning or art class. Especially allow plenty of time outdoors for play. There is little chance of contracting the virus from outdoor play equipment and, outside, mask use and social distancing rules can be relaxed.

I'm comfortable with a distance learning model unless it is similar to last spring. While I understand that e-learning was quickly cobbled together to address an unexpected pandemic, aspects of the plan were exasperating. Meeting once a week with our teacher for 45 minutes via Zoom to primarily catch-up socially with classmates was useless. The weekly lesson plans were confusing – enough work was assigned to fill hours every Monday, Wednesday and Friday yet the plan specified a maximum time limit per exercise. If we had adhered to the time requirement, we would have completed very few of the assignments. The ridiculous discrepancy between time allotment and assigned work made little sense.

The assignments in IXL were painfully repetitive.

One application – Pearson Realize, I think – provided worksheets without providing a way to digitally complete the worksheet. We had to open the worksheet in the application, print the worksheet, complete the printed worksheet and then take a picture of the completed worksheet to upload through the application. The worksheets took minutes for my student to complete. The process was infuriating. If an application is that cumbersome, don't use it. Anything worthwhile gained from the assignments was negated by sheer frustration.

We used an iPad for e-learning and Clever was supposed to streamline the process of hopping between applications. Clever was a boggy mess. Each time we switched between applications – which was multiple times during each e-learning session – Clever would default to camera view, expecting a scannable badge. We weren't given a badge so we had to click a button to login using Google. There was no discernible way to change the default login to Google.

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We are a low risk population, let's base our decisions on berrien county data and not fear.

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I think for the next school year, we should do online learning.

I understand the importance of sending students back to school for face to face learning. I want to return to my job and have my kids return to school. However, I have concerns that with even with all of the safety protocols in place it may not be enough to keep students and staff members safe.

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Keep me at home and let me work on a computer.

There needs to be a mask requirement for the elementary school. I'd like to better understand how distance learning is going to work as it seems inevitable it will happen again. There has been no detail provided this far and with months to plan for it, details should be available so parents are as ready as possible.

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I feel that it is not safe to send our children into this environment. Many families have high risk parents and family members living with them. This would greatly put lives in jeopardy. I worry about our teachers and staff, some of whom I am sure are high risk also.

Will substitutes be traveling between multiple schools? Who quarantines if one of them get Covid19.....just the school that they are at that week or any and all schools that they may have subbed at prior to a positive test result? Will our kids and staff be sent back into schools before our government offices feel it's safe to open their doors to the public again? Will we be asked to sign a Covid19 release for legal purposes because our kids really aren't safe and are at risk of getting it spreading the virus? I have many more concerns but I think I have made it clear that I will not be sending my child into a situation that could put her life in jeopardy. It is my job, as a parent, to nurture protect and keep her safe.

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Proactive communication

In the event that the children have to go back to distance learning, I want there to be daily live instruction. I feel that 1 to 3 hours (depending on the ages) is sufficient. The kids need to hear from their teachers and need to know what the expectations are and be held accountable.

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93	I would like to have a choice of either distance learning or face to face. Everyone feels differently so we should be afforded a choice based on our individual perspectives and comfort levels
94	so many are a-symptomatic, the temp checks don't catch these virus spreaders - whats they plan for this?
95	I think it would be good to offer an orientation regarding all new COVID-19 measures prior to the start of school.
96	Not at this time
97	I think it's absolutely insane that you're considering putting children back into the classrooms. This is a new virus and we can't even keep restaurants open but we're rushing to open schools. You have got to be out of your minds.
98	2 of my children in elementary have asthma. They can still wear a cover/mask however asthma makes them more at risk! we also have a high risk infant in the home with heart issues! This is very unsettling until more is learned about this illness. I've kept my children all safe thus far...going to school means they are around everyone in their classroom their families and who ever their families have been around...so while it may be 10-20 students in an elementary class they've been exposed to people outside the school each day...with a 2 week period before possible symptoms how could anything be stopped, when confined to such small rooms w out the ability to maintain 6feet? Then we have A symptomatic people who show nothing so taking a temperature stops nothing and makes contact tracing almost impossible to trace back. And our teachers are one of a kind here I don't feel until COVID19 is truly put in its place the risk to them is just! While I would love nothing more for life to return to somewhat normal I want to wake up and know that those I love in and outside my home are safe and healthy. Remote learning is the safest option available. I also feel that due to the high numbers of out of towners waiting to start school until the vast majority of visitors have left our town allowing us to regain control of this virus in our County. Thank you for everything you're all working for and so hard on. I know that any choices being made do not come easy and have not been thought of lightly.
99	I believe everyone (students as well) should have a temperature check. I believe third grade and up should wear masks. How can we social distance in the classroom? How will we monitor the halls or bathrooms? What will sports, music, band or gym look like? If infected or I have to self quarantine (due to students) will I ever have to use my sick bank? Will the expectations/procedures of the school be communicated to everyone involved? Do you expect personnel to sign Covid-19 liability waivers and what happens if we refuse?
100	COVID numbers are equal to the data from late-April and mid-May and, therefore, multiple other districts in the county are offering a virtual learning option for families – What are the discussions around this and where are we in the decision making process regarding a virtual option?
101	Although our numbers are low I think it is too soon for children to gather together in school. The seniors graduated on Friday and we were unable to gather outdoors for a somewhat normal ceremony on the field. In my opinion attendees could have been limited to two parents. People could have been safely spaced outdoors between to the two stands and the football field. If it was so unsafe to do that, how is it safe to gather students and staff together indoors for in person instruction? People will wear masks all day everyday? What happens during the cold and flu season? Do they cough and sneeze in their masks? Will school routinely be shut down due to a student, staff, or family member of someone testing positive for covid? My kids enjoy school. They look forward to seeing their friends, interacting with teachers, staff, and participating in extracurricular activities. I get it that most students perform better when they engage in in person learning vs remotely but I'm extremely fearful that once we start gathering in groups our numbers will rise and our risk of getting sick will rise. Family is important to us and we are uncomfortable at putting our children and ourselves at risk.
102	What exactly is "Distance Learning"
103	Covid testing for all campus employees before returning.

At this time, I'm on the fence. Part of me would love to send my son to school (if we have the option) because he's an only child and he needs social interaction. He's been experiencing profound loneliness and I'm worried about the psychological/emotional effects it will have long term. But the other part of me thinks we're not ready to go back because in addition to putting the kids and teachers/staff at risk, we have a lot of people in our area who are not taking this seriously, still think it's a hoax, and refuse to wear masks. It's infuriating! I personally know local families who have tested positive, but have not quarantined and, therefore, put everyone who they come into contact with at risk. You can't assume people are going to do the "right" thing. Which is why I don't think there's a "right" answer. I feel like every family's situation is different and, therefore, everyone needs to do what's best for them. However, if given the option to return to school, I think the number one priority should be to make every child (and staff member) feel safe and comfortable. Covid has triggered severe anxiety within my son and he's now afraid to leave the house. He's afraid to be with people in public, he won't use a public restroom, he won't touch any door handles, he notices if people aren't wearing a mask, etc. His fear is real. And I'm doing everything I can to help alleviate his anxiety, but I truly don't know if he can handle going back to school until there is a vaccine. I'm afraid that the second a child coughs, he'll have a panic attack and want to come home. How are children going to keep their masks on all day? Has the district thought about providing face shields to all staff and students? We went to the dentist (Dr. Hillary knight) last week, and they took our temperature when we walked in with a touchless scanner. I don't know if something like this is possible, but I do think he would feel more comfortable knowing that no one in his class or school had a fever. Thank you to the NBAS administration for all who have done and continue to do.

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Student Pods or Cohorts maybe something to consider. Also, school year round could be an option I believe we need to identify the teachers, administrators, children, and parents who are at high risk of illness due to chronic conditions, compromised immune systems, or other high risk factors. Once you have identified all at risk stakeholders, you could then build your plan from there. If we send kids back without identifying who is at high risk then I do not think in person instruction can be successful. If we ring-fence our highest risk, then I think in school instruction would be fine. We must identify the highest risk teachers, administrators, students, and parents to be successful.

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I don't like the idea of students having to wear mask all day while in classrooms Grades 6-12. If they have to wear it to get to their class room, they should be able to take it off once they get there, just like in a restaurant

I'd like to be able to voice concerns in an open, virtual meeting with the elementary school administration. Other schools are offering several options to parents for the fall: in-person, e-learning, hybrid, virtual. Is New Buffalo going to offer any options aside from 100% in-person instruction?

School is scheduled to start in a month. There has been no communication from the elementary school regarding any sort of action plan (outside of this survey). All that I know, I've heard from other parents who've personally contacted a school official. I cannot stress how disappointed I've been in your effort to communicate with parents.

Is NBAS taking the pandemic seriously? The questions asked on this survey make me question your commitment to our children's safety. To protect ourselves from the virus we can social distance, wash hands, and wear masks. Why am I being asked to prioritize basic, Epidemiologist endorsed safety measures? Why is any consensus needed to provide "Hand sanitizer in all areas", "Opportunities for frequent hand washing", and "Restroom hand-washing signage"? Why isn't the school going to screen employees rather than surveying how important "employee self-screening" is to me? Why wouldn't "Six feet of distance at all times" and "Social distance markings" be mandatory? For both your staff and our children, shouldn't the administration of NBAS be upholding the highest safety standards in our schools rather than surveying for passable measures?

It is unacceptable to open school for face-to-face instruction without offering parents any sort of reasonable stay-at-home option – short of enrolling in Berrien Springs – and then NOT require masks at ALL times. I am relying on you to keep my students safe. Michigan and surrounding states all have an indoor mask mandates yet the school only requires "facial coverings for all staff and students during the transition times like passing in the hallway or riding the bus"? How absurd!

Michigan's mask mandate says:

"We can only contain the virus and keep Michigan open if everyone stays careful and masks up every time they leave home, whether they feel sick or not. Michiganders are required to wear a face covering every time they leave their home or place of residence including:

1. In any indoor public space.
2. In outdoor spaces where 6 feet of distancing is not possible.

The remote learning structure in the Spring was suboptimal, and pass / fail grades are unacceptable. What further action has been taken by the school to significantly improve a remote learning scenario (assuming MI will go back to phase 3), not only for Covid, but for snow days and other scenarios that cause a cancelled school day?

Interested in pod learnin/ cohort learning. Not entirely comfortable with face-to-face learning with full grade in attendance

While I hope NBAS would do everything possible to ensure the safety for the children and staff, it is difficult to feel comfortable after seeing pictures from graduation on social media of schools administrators next to children— not six feet apart—and not wearing masks.

I would like to be given the option for each trimester to do face-to-face or online learning. Also, in the elementary school, the children should be routinely given time to use the restroom to wash their hands. Signage is not enough.

My son is eager to return to in class learning this fall. (He will be a Junior) He had a hard time focusing in the spring with online classes. I am comfortable sending him to in person classes as long as there is a system in place to respond to individuals in school who have Covid symptoms. (Hopefully schools will be given priority in testing so that a student with allergies or a common cold will get a quick test result to get back in the classroom). Thank you for asking our opinion in this matter.

Would students be set up with their chrome books like they were in the spring? Also, can the student be dropped at the parents work if it is in the Township? I just have concerns about her going to a Great Grandparents after attending school all day.

If we went to any kind of E learning
We still would have to do packets

If the Board of Education can not meet in person. Then the school should Elearn and not reopen until a vaccine is ready.

- 116 Just looking forward to seeing a concrete plan. And hoping everyone is willing to work together (parents, staff, students) to try to make this very difficult process work for everyone.
- Perhaps more classes could move in the direction of project based instruction so the students can continue their work both individually (should they need to go home for illness) and as part of a group should remote learning or shut downs be necessary. I also think it would be great for teachers to be able to zoom if they need to stay home or students to be able to enter the zoom into the classroom if they needed to be home. I like the idea of a 4 day week which could allow extra rest (amazing for immune systems) for teachers and students.
- 117 I'd prefer to see students begin either at home or in an outdoor setting.
- 118 Having masks worn is vital to keeping the spread down, but I don't think it will be handled well by students. Kids not wanting to wear them, being distracted by them and not being able to hear/understand the curriculum.
- I'm concerned with pushing into face-to-face with strict guidelines that will make it a difficult environment for learning as well as not a positive environment for social interaction. I understand the tough decisions that have to be made during this time, but also wonder what environment would be "healthier" in more ways than just Covid prevention, and if it makes more sense to utilize distance learning vs. expecting young kids to follow and thrive through strict protocols.
- 119 I know that the majority of students will learn better in a face-to-face environment, but if one student is infected with COVID-19, then we (and our families) are all at risk of being infected. If just one person tied to NBAS dies of COVID-19, then people are going to wonder why we didn't offer virtual learning instead, especially with our outstanding technology and tech people. I think the recent debacle with the Marlins in MLB proves my point. If a few grown millionaires could not stop the spread, how will middle schoolers and their families (who don't get to live in a bubble) be able to withstand it?
- 120
- 121 Let's get this party started!
- 122 I'm person learning is vital
- 123 I would like kids in middle school to not have to wear masks all day. This should be optional.
- 124 Yes I think we should be offered a choice to do elearning I do not feel it is going to be possible to adhere to all of these precautions
- 125 masks should not be required due to the evidence that they ineffective against the virus.
- 126 Families who have immune compromised children or adults at home would be extremely welcomed.
- 127 Though i believe is crucial for kids to return to in person learning, I am extremely concerned about the health risks associated with having to wear a mask all day at school. Especially since the US Department of Labor clearly states on their website that surgical and cloth masks have little to no effect due to their lack of filtration and inadequate fit. I believe parents should have a choice as to whether or not they want their children to wear one.
- 128 Please reconsider mandating masks at any grade or at least give parents the option! Those high risk or that fearful can choose to wear one but that shouldn't be put all students to bear that burden to make those people comfortable while making themselves uncomfortable!
- 129 My reasoning for being uncomfortable with returning to school even with protocol in place is due to the amount of people not following the mandates already put in place. I see kids and parents around town every day in groups not wearing mask.
- 130 Mixed feelings about it all. They aren't going to read signs, immune systems are going to be weak from isolation and they are not going to stay 6ft apart around their friends. Plus parents will send their kids to school sick no matter what.
- 131 That the kids are allowed to be kids
- 132 I would be in favor of a hybrid plan with kids in the building some, but not all, days. Online school is extremely difficult for my 6th grader, while not such a challenge for my 9th grader. I realize there is no perfect plan and I don't know how we are going to be able to safely to go school with covid cases consistently on the rise in Berrien County. Thanks for sending this survey.
- 133 I understand the need to wear face coverings in school at all times, but I feel for our less... mature students, it will be a distraction and will be uncomfortable for everyone.
- 134 Nope
- 135 I would like to receive updates through email or text of updates.
- 136 That you not cancel anything for us seniors. It shouldn't matter about following guidelines. Us seniors have been looking forward to certain events for a long time now and none of us want to get screwed out of those events.

- 137 I am highly disappointed that there is not a virtual option for those families that would choose to not send their child
- 138 I personally learn better in the classroom, so I'd much rather be in the classroom than online.
- 139 Going back is best for the kids.
- 140 Yes, the science is clear... school and social interaction is extremely important to the wellbeing and development of our children. CDC as well as other nations recommend that kids be in school (low infection rates and are not super spreaders of COVID-19). Please follow rational science not the media hysteria. You are all learned people with advanced degrees, please behave as such.
- 141 Wouldn't it be easier for teachers to move classrooms? It would be less movement, and less interaction. If kids stayed in one class all day it would cut down and help to determine where if there was someone that contracted Covid-19. I'd much rather have 10 teachers moving versus 200 students
- 142 If E learning is put back into place I feel the teachers need to make the students more responsible for returning work as if in the classroom (homework due next day instead of Sunday), being on Zoom calls, participation during Zoom calls, etc. We appreciate all that the staff and teachers are doing during this crazy time. None of this is easy for them or for the kids. Hopefully we can get through all this soon and back to some kind of normal.
- 143 This is going to be an incredibly dangerous situation. The school administration's trustworthiness regarding safety has varied widely, so I greatly hope that serious safety measures will be enforced and taken seriously.
- 144 The trustworthiness of the school administration regarding safety has varied widely. It is crucial that safety measures are taken extremely seriously and all precautions possibly are used. The health and safety of our students, not the school's image, is the most important thing. Lives are on the line.
- I wish e-learning was possible or a consideration. (Even if it was 2 days a week)—it seems like the way everything is going that we'll be back to school then all will be shut down again when numbers spike.
- I also have concerns about the effectiveness / plan if/when someone gets sick and/or signs of Covid. How will this be handled? Will everyone in the classroom require isolation if one child is sick? If a teacher is sick—will their classroom need to quarantine?
- 145
- 146 Need options for in school and remote learning.
- 147 At this time I'm very uncomfortable with the idea of in person learning. There are so many variables and potential exposure points. I can't wrap my head around all of the "what ifs".
- 148 A hybrid option where we can do e learning in line with face to face learning. All or nothing option doesn't work in today's environment.
- 149 If any student reject to wear mask, how school handle the situation?
- 150 I believe it is extremely important for NBAS students and staff to assess how they feel each and every day. If someone feels sick then they stay home. If a child has a Covid positive parent, then the child should also stay home as well and learn from home without attendance issues. People need to be reminded that they should stay home and that should be across-the-board. Staff and teachers should be able to have time off when they don't feel well and because it's a safety issue for all. Teachers and staff need to have a replacement/ substitute in their place without being penalized.
- 151 We think the school should consider incorporating e-learning 2 or 3 days a week to help with social distancing and disinfecting the school.
- 152 I would like to have the option of online schooling because I have asthma and would be easier.
- 153 Kids MUST be able to return to school. It is vital for their well being.
- 154 What steps will be taken if a student (or staff) has covid and everyone has been exposed to said person? Also, I have 2 children that have bad allergies, 1 with asthma, and fall is a very bad time for them to trigger asthma and to get colds with cough easily every year. How is this going to affect them going to school, will they be allowed to attend and will they have to be tested for covid every time due to cough but no fever? Will I have to keep them home during this time which could be for a couple of weeks. Will they be allowed to do online schooling during the time they are sick? I have mixed emotions for returning to school. I would love for them to return to school but at the same time it does concern me greatly since there are 2 members in our home that are high risk.

- 155 I hope school can go back to normal but with masks. As a student whose family has a very high risk of fatality from COVID I hope that people will wear masks because it does help and I think it's really important. Having lunch in classrooms is a good idea, we could have them in our bonus classes. I also think that masks should be required to enter the school to make sure everyone is safe! Thank you I appreciate this :)
- 156 I would be more comfortable with half days where students can eat at home.
- 157 Will there be an e learning option
- 158 Eating in the classroom is a higher risk therefore I am not comfortable with the idea. The question does not give this option.
- 159 I don't feel the students should have to wear face masks all day long. I am strongly against this!
- 160 Myself and my children are all for returning to school. My son especially needs the classroom interaction in person. We will be happy to abide by any regulations for this to happen. I will support NB schools in any way I can.
- 161 I think wearing masks all day is going to be difficult the school needs to figure space so that masks will not have to be worn all day.
- How do we get to our lockers and be 6ft apart?
- There is more room to separate in the lunch room then class rooms for eating but maybe do one grade at a time.
- Home school there were a lot of glitches and while I was able to get into my programs others I talked to had a hard time. Spanish stuff was hard with those programs for me though and a lot of others. It wasn't Spanish that was hard just the program and getting it to work or understanding how to use it. WAY to many emails for me to keep up with.
- I have asthma and this would make keeping myself and family members at home safe and will cause me additional stress and I already have anxiety and panic attacks.
- 162
- 163 Curious of impacts to the Preschool Program.
- 164 I'm most concerned about the teachers & how they feel. I hope their honest opinions are being sought. My kids REALLY miss their friends but a mixed plan of starting at home & transitioning to in person as COVID numbers drop seems safest to me.
- 165 It is a tough decision you are having to make. I have one kid that NEEDS the socializing and structure aspect of school, but it will be hard to make him wear a mask or social distance. I think he would definitely need an adult on the bus to make sure they're wearing their masks. I know he would take his off any chance he got. My high school age kids blew off classes and had bad communication due to no structure last spring. Overall I think they would all be better off being face to face, but I think it will be hard for you as teachers and administrators to keep them socially distanced. Good luck. Please let us know what sort of mask policy would look like, and if social distancing at school was difficult behavior wise, if an at home alternative could be an option. Specifically if my kid was the one violating the distancing rules, what disciplinary actions might you take?
- 166 I think the teachers should check temperatures for their kids each morning in their classrooms, specials class should be held in the classroom. Just not a lot of moving around. I don't think kids will do well with e learning.
- 167 There needs to be a plan for contact tracing, informing the community and how to procede WHEN a student tests positive.
- 168 I would prefer E-Learning for the first semester.
- 169 E-learning should be an option for all students. I do not feel comfortable sending my children to school currently. It's impossible for you to know if anyone is contagious or not. Students may be symptomatic but still contagious. Students at this age are resilient and will overcome this. Please allow the option for in home learning
- 170 My name is kinsley and I'm scared to go back to school. I wear glasses and hearing aids and I have asthma I don't want to wear a mask and mom says I'm not supposed to. It's already hard with glasses and hearing aids on my ears. But how I'll I hear my teacher in the class because I was told my teacher has to wear a mask. It gets loud in my class and sometimes it hard to hear. And I don't want to die or get sick like this. And I will miss my friends if they die or get sick. And my baby sister at home could get really sick to she has problems that worry my parents but I don't know them all. I don't want to worry all day at school. I was told we have to stay in our class it does not feel like it will be school anymore.

I would just like to encourage the Board to remember that all peoples' situations are different, and a 'one size fits all' (i.e. ALL face-to-face or ALL virtual) approach during this time will undoubtedly cause mental/emotional/potentially physical stressors to the majority. If a student, teacher, parent/guardian, sibling, employee, etc. has an underlying health condition, it is extremely risky for them to be exposed to constant potential COVID exposure that a full time face-to-face school environment would provide. This is a new situation for all, and the health and wellness of the NBAS family should not be dealt with, with a guinea pig type mindset; but rather one of flexibility and fairness. I trust that the Board will have open ears and make trustworthy decisions for all.

171

172 Thank you for utilizing our feedback!

This is my 2nd time filling out this survey but am becoming increasingly nervous about returning to school as normal. I am extremely worried for teachers and staff. I believe everyone should have an option to work remotely if they or someone in their family has ANY concern for safety. I've recently heard NBAS will have NO access to remote learning and I don't think that is fair or acceptable--these are our lives! I would appreciate more communication with parents about plans and options. This is keeping me up at night thinking about what will happen to our community when there is an outbreak. Maybe teachers who aren't comfortable teaching in a classroom could head an optional elearning curriculum? That would potentially mean less kids in the classroom for families who really need to send kids to school.

173

I appreciate that you've reached out to families. I feel we are often left out of conversations concerning our MS/HS student. I have some concern about how the staff is going to enforce the mask wearing. My past experience with the secondary principals does not give me confidence that rules will be carried out. I think teachers will do their best, I'm just concerned they won't get much support. There are many unknowns at this time--will my child have to quarantine if a teacher/classmate ends up testing positive? If my child is in quarantine, how will we be expected to complete school work? Overall, I support going back to school and agree all should be wearing masks and practicing social distancing.

174

This survey did not seem specific to staff, it is obviously more for parents. I do not think the staff self-screening will be helpful. I think most will just click through it with thumbs up daily, regardless of how they are truly feeling.

175

Suggestion for disinfecting areas - Give wipes to middle/hs students before class and have them wipe down the area that they will be using.

176

Is it worth getting someone in the Bison community really sick just to return to school? Let's hold off until the end of the trimester or winter break. Maybe there will be more developments in treatments or a vaccine by then. Hopefully the number of positive cases will be trending downward instead of how everything is currently going upward.

177

The entire town of New Buffalo (and Harbor Country, in general) seems to be heavily overrun with tourist plates. Neighboring city, Michigan City has opted for the first two months to be distance learning through Oct 19. Many families in New Buffalo shop these same stores.

We're concerned for our son's increased risk for more significant symptoms and my husband's high risk if exposed. Our family's #1 concern is preservation of life and health over any other considerations.

178

Please consider beginning the school year with distance learning, at least as an option. Thank you.

179

Like to know what the plan is

180

I don't believe we would wear mask or do what they ask because it's hard to stay away and we all get sick so fast I think school should be a option