



900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 600  
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Janet Waugh District 1	Steve Roberts District 2	Michelle Dombrosky District 3	Ann E. Mah District 4	Jean Clifford District 5
Dr. Deena Horst District 6	Ben Jones District 7	Kathy Busch District 8	Jim Porter District 9	Jim McNiece District 10

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA - VIDEO CONFERENCE

The meeting will be conducted by video conference. The public may listen to and observe the meeting through media livestreaming at:

<https://www.ksde.org/Board/Kansas-State-Board-of-Education/Streaming-Media>

Interpreter (ASL) services will be provided.

Written Public  
Comment:

Written public comments were accepted until 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 21.

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10:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order — Chairman Kathy Busch
2. Roll Call
3. Mission Statement and Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Discussion of proposed Executive Order 20-58
6. Act on Resolution 2020-1

**ADJOURNMENT**



# KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## MISSION

To prepare Kansas students for lifelong success through rigorous, quality academic instruction, career training and character development according to each student's gifts and talents.

## VISION

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

## MOTTO

Kansans CAN.

## SUCCESSFUL KANSAS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE

A successful Kansas high school graduate has the

- Academic preparation,
- Cognitive preparation,
- Technical skills,
- Employability skills and
- Civic engagement

to be successful in postsecondary education, in the attainment of an industry recognized certification or in the workforce, without the need for remediation.

## OUTCOMES FOR MEASURING PROGRESS

- Social/emotional growth measured locally
- Kindergarten readiness
- Individual Plan of Study focused on career interest
- High school graduation rates
- Postsecondary completion/attendance





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**Item Title:** Discussion of proposed Executive Order 20-58

Kansas State Board of Education members will publicly review and discuss proposed Executive Order 20-58 which has the effect of closing public or private school attendance centers in the State of Kansas.





**Item Title:**

Act on Resolution 2020-1

**Recommended Motion:**

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education affirm proposed Executive Order 20-58 by resolution that this Executive Order is in the best interests of the students in Kansas.

**Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:**

On Monday, July 20, 2020, Governor Laura Kelly announced proposed Executive Order 20-58 which has the effect of closing public or private school attendance centers in the State of Kansas.

House Bill 2016 became law in June 2020. Section 7 states: *“Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, no executive order issued by the governor pursuant to K.S.A. 48-925, and amendments thereto, that has the effect of closing public or private school attendance centers in this state shall be effective unless and until such order has been affirmed by the state board of education by adoption of a resolution by a majority of the members of the state board.”*

Attached are the proposed executive order and a resolution affirming the proposed executive order.

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-58**

Delaying the 2020-2021 K-12 school year

**WHEREAS**, securing the health, safety, and economic well-being of residents of the State of Kansas is this Administration's top priority;

**WHEREAS**, Kansas is facing a crisis-the pandemic and public health emergency of COVID-19-resulting in illness, quarantines, school closures, and temporary closure of businesses resulting in lost wages and financial hardship to Kansas citizens;

**WHEREAS**, the United States Departments of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency for COVID-19 beginning January 27, 2020, with now more than 3,698,000 cases of the illness and more than 139,000 deaths as a result of the illness across the United States;

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization declared a pandemic on March 11, 2020;

**WHEREAS**, a State of Disaster Emergency was proclaimed for the State of Kansas on March 12, 2020;

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant an emergency declaration for all states, tribes, territories, and the District of Columbia pursuant to Section 501 (b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5121-5207 (the "Stafford Act");

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States pursuant to Sections 201 and 301 of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. § 1601, et seq. and consistent with Section 1135 of the Social Security Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 1320b-5), declared a national emergency that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a national emergency beginning March 1, 2020;

**WHEREAS**, as of this date, in Kansas there have been 23,334 reported positive cases of COVID-19 spread among 102 counties, including 307 deaths;

**WHEREAS**, after a steady trend of decreasing metrics, recent weeks have seen the numbers of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths spike across the nation, including a significant increase in cases in Kansas;

**WHEREAS**, this worrying trend of increased COVID-19 spread is a danger to the health and safety of every Kansan and also presents a serious threat to reopening and reviving the Kansas economy;

**WHEREAS**, the State of Kansas must remain flexible to account for the evolving nature and scope of the unprecedented public health emergency posed by COVID-19, and school administrators and teachers must have an opportunity to prepare for safe and effective student instruction in light of the current status of the pandemic with the beginning of the school year approaching;

**WHEREAS**, the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic, in which disease spread is steadily increasing in Kansas and the number of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths from COVID-19 are spiking nationally, delaying the beginning of the fall 2020 K-12 semester until after Labor Day will give schools time to plan accordingly and will give our state a chance to reverse these dangerous trends;

**WHEREAS**, for the aforementioned and other reasons, and in recognition and furtherance of my responsibility to provide for and ensure the health, safety, security, and welfare of the people of the State of Kansas, delaying in-person instruction in K-12 public and private schools is necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the civilian population;

**WHEREAS**, Pursuant to L. 2020 Special Session Ch. 1, Sec. 7, an order that has the effect of closing public or private school attendance centers is only effective after a majority of the members of the State Board of Education determines such order is in the best interests of the students in this state and the Board adopts a resolution affirming such an order;

**WHEREAS**, on July 22, 2020, the State Board of Education determined that this order is in the best interests of the students in this state and adopted the necessary resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, in these challenging times, this Administration will do whatever it can to avoid immediate dangers to the health, safety, and welfare of Kansans.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Kansas, including the authority granted me by K.S.A 48-924 and K.S.A 48-925(b) and (c)(11), and pursuant to the authority granted me and the State Board of Education in L. 2020 Special Session Ch. 1, Sec. 7, in order to ensure that Kansans can help keep each other safe and keep our businesses and schools open as we restore our economy, I hereby direct and order the following:

1. K-12 public and private schools shall not allow attendance, instruction, athletic practice or competition, rehearsal, performance, or other interaction of an instructional manner—including virtual, online, and any other direct or indirect means of providing instruction—between faculty/staff and students of public or private K-12 schools from August 10, 2020, through Sept. 8, 2020, except that the following activities may occur:
  - a. Students enrolled concurrently to receive college credit may attend classes and K-12 faculty/staff may provide instruction for college credit in locations other than K-12 school attendance centers;

- b. Enrollment of students for the 2020-2021 school year and other administrative activities may occur in K-12 school attendance centers or elsewhere; or
  - c. Screenings and evaluations of students to determine accommodations and placement needs for the 2020-2021 school year may occur in K-12 school attendance centers or elsewhere.
2. All schools should work with their local governments and county health departments to determine whether to continue appropriate non-prohibited meal provision, childcare, or other community uses of school facilities or resources while complying with all directives regarding social distancing, hygiene, and other methods of slowing the spread of COVID-19.
  3. Non-accredited private home schools are not subject to the provisions of this order.
  4. This order should be read in conjunction with other executive orders responding to the COVID-19 pandemic that are still in effect and supersedes any contrary provisions of previous orders.

This document shall be filed with the Secretary of State as Executive Order No. 20-58. It shall become effective immediately and remain in force until rescinded or until the statewide State of Disaster Emergency extended by House Bill 2016 enacted during the June 2020 special session relating to COVID-19 expires, whichever is earlier. This order may be extended or modified as circumstances dictate.

THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

BY THE GOVERNOR \_\_\_\_\_

DATED \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant Secretary of State



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## RESOLUTION 2020-1

July 22, 2020

WHEREAS, the Kansas State Board of Education is responsible for the general supervision of Kansas' K-12 public schools comprised of nearly 500,000 students;

WHEREAS, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Kansas schools find themselves thrust into a period of rapid change, uncertainty, and heightened stress and anxiety for educators, parents and students for the coming year;

WHEREAS, Kansas schools, based on the Navigating Change guidance document developed by nearly 1,000 Kansans and distributed by the Kansas State Department of Education, are currently developing local plans to reopen K-12 schools this fall;

WHEREAS, delaying the start of the 2020-2021 school year until after Labor Day Weekend will provide educators across the state much-needed time to prepare themselves, their classrooms, and their materials in accordance with locally-developed plans to reopen K-12 schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority granted by L. 2020 Special Session Ch. 1, Sec. 7, we the Kansas State Board of Education determine that Executive Order 20-58 – which has the effect of closing public and private school attendance centers – to be in the best interest of the students in the State of Kansas.

AS SUCH, the Kansas State Board of Education hereby affirms proposed Executive Order 20-58 on this the 22nd day of July, 2020.

Signed,

Kathy Busch  
Chairwoman  
Kansas State Board of Education

Timestamp	First Name	Last Name	Organization you represent	City respondent resides	Comments
7/20/2020 16:19:44	Susan	Eder		Bonner Springs, KS Lea	I teach kindergarten in the Basehor-Linwood school district, USD 458. I strongly support postponing our start date until after Labor Day. Our district is working hard with parents and teachers to formulate a plan to keep everyone safe when we return to school. The extra time would allow for a more successful opening of schools, including time for professional development, teacher collaboration, adoption of safety protocols and rearranging schools to accommodate changes for safety. The steep rise of coronavirus cases in Kansas is very alarming. A postponed start date might give the mask mandate time to take effect and improve conditions. Thank you for your consideration.
7/20/2020 16:24:07	Alison	Parnacott	USD 259 employee	Wichita	It is imperative that your body votes to affirm the governor's EO. Covid 19 is spreading rapidly through my community. The plans currently proposed by my district are insufficient to protect students or staff from harm. I am relying on you to protect my students, my family, and myself. This isn't about politics; it isn't about precedent or local control. This is about science, safety, and public health. Please do the right thing.
7/20/2020 16:24:51	Maria	Ramirez	Teacher	Wichita	School should be delayed until cases have lessened.
7/20/2020 16:25:00	Karla	McGinnis		Derby	Please pass EO 2058. Give us time to get superior safety measures in place. We can go forward after Labor Day knowing that we have ensured safety for our students and staff. Kansas kids deserve the best we can give them.
7/20/2020 16:26:01	Amy	Hageman		Manhattan	Please vote in favor of delaying the start of the school year until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 16:28:09	Shaunna	Millar		Wichita	Please delay the start of the school year. Our cases are continuing to rise in Sedgwick county, and we need more time help mitigate the risk to our teachers, staff, students, and families. We owe our community every chance to be healthy and safe. I am the parent of a middle schooler and feel that this is imperative for the preparation for the school year, whether students attend in person, online, or remotely.  Thank you.
7/20/2020 16:28:45	Nancy	Smith	Teacher	Olathe	Thank you for your consideration of pushing back the start of school until after Labor Day. As a parent and a teacher, I feel that this time frame would hopefully make Kansans more aware of what they can do to slow down the spread of Covid-19 so that schools can open safely. In order for teachers to be properly inserviced and buildings prepared, the extra three weeks would make for a much smoother start to the school year. Our lives could possibly be in your hands and your decisions could impact the health and safety of our children and school personnel. Please do not take that responsibility lightly. The Governor is a strong advocate for the safety and health of Kansas children and school personnel...I hope you are also!!
7/20/2020 16:28:59	Marisa	Moreno		Wichita	I emailed the following to all of you but am sending this because I know you have been bombarded with emails and this might be a better way to communicate with you.  I am in support of Governor Kelly's desire to postpone the start of the 2020/2021 school year. While I understand the myriad benefits that children get from being in school, I do not think Kansas is ready for physical attendance. I am a social worker for Wichita Public Schools. I know that one of the arguments against delaying is the worsening of children's mental health. But how will their mental health be any better if they are physically in an environment that is potentially damaging to their health or their loved ones' health? How will they even be able to concentrate on learning? And what about staff? How will staff be able to support students if they have the same worries? More affluent families (families of both students and staff) will have more choices - such as the decision to homeschool or quit jobs - but how is this fair to our less affluent families? Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 16:30:32	Emily	Judson		Wichita	Please support the Governor's order delaying school.
7/20/2020 16:32:25	Jocelyn	Baeza	USD 259	Wichita	Please vote to delay the start of school as Gov Kelly mandated.
7/20/2020 16:34:07	Elizabeth	Upton		Wichita	Protect our children and educators, delay the start of school.
7/20/2020 16:34:12	Richard	Fischer		Park City	Please do the right thing and delay the school opening as the Governor has outlined.
7/20/2020 16:36:34	Shellby	Bevan		Cheney	I feel that delaying the start date for school would be most beneficial for student and staff safety.
7/20/2020 16:36:42	Rebecca	Killen		Lawrence	Please approve this Executive Order to keep Kansas students and teachers and all their families safe. We are counting on you.
7/20/2020 16:37:44	Kolt	Bevan		Cheney	Respecting Governor Kelly's order to delay the start date for school in Kansas will protect student safety.

7/20/2020 16:38:07	César	Miran		Wichita	Delay school
7/20/2020 16:38:23	Kathrin	Wohlford	Parents everywhere	Wichita	Please do the right thing and DELAY the school opening as the Governor has outlined. Save Our future leaders and their families.
7/20/2020 16:39:35	Kimberly	Garnica		Wichita	I believe that local control is best when possible, but local areas are NOT doing what is necessary. Please uphold the governor's executive order to give districts time to do what is best for students, staff and the community.
7/20/2020 16:40:05	Jill	Dodge	USD 491	Eudora	I am in favor of delaying school until September 8.
7/20/2020 16:40:07	Allison	Polanis		Leawood, KS	Please vote to accept Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school opening until after Labor Day. COVID-19 cases are increasing at an incredible rate in Kansas and it would not be prudent to send students, teachers, staff, and others (bus drivers, for instance) back into schools just yet. School districts need more time to make sure that a return to school is safe.
7/20/2020 16:40:41	Bobbie Jo	Moran		Wichita	I am a teacher and a parent. I know it is inconvenient, but it is best for the health of school staff and students to delay the opening of school until after Labor Day. I have class sizes of 32 students, with 6-8 classes a day. There is no way to social distance in my room unless I would have only 1/3 of my students. I have asthma, and I am very concerned about getting ill. With cases rising, delaying school is the right thing to do.
7/20/2020 16:41:16	Sharon	Powell Quincy	personal	Wichita, KS	I believe we should follow the Executive Order of the Governor of Ks. She is following the science and medicine and that is the only path available to any one of us with health issues of KS residents at heart. Economy, "socialization" of the kids, are second and third. The children are resilient and will recover from this. We need to make absolutely certain the health of our students and our staff is of the highest concern when making this decision!
7/20/2020 16:42:29	Robert	Roth		Stilwell	The Kansas BOE should vote to open schools without delay. According to the state's own statistics, no person under the age of 29 has died from Covid19 and the number total number died under age 65 is 68 people, a relatively small number well under pandemic level. It should also be noted that out of 307 total deaths, 180 (58.6%) have occurred in long term care facilities. Kansas has many counties with very low case rates and many with no reported cases. I had two grand children go through distance learning in Miami county. It was little better than no learning at all. The subject matter will need to be taught again from the beginning but now at the next grade level. Keeping schools closed any longer cannot be justified.
7/20/2020 16:43:46	Fernanda	Belton	Usd259	Wichita	Please... wait to open schools...
7/20/2020 16:43:56	Cara	Snyder	Myself	Topeka	As a parent of a school age child and a teacher
7/20/2020 16:44:03	Chandra	Stauffer	teachers	Wichita	Please delay! I'm an elementary teacher and can't wait to meet my new crop of students, but I can wait till it's possible to keep them safe. Right now that is a Herculean task that even teachers can't perform. Please rank health and safety above politics. PLEASE.
7/20/2020 16:44:34	Lori	Killen		Lawrence Kansas	Please approve the delay in the start of the school year. I want to keep our teachers and students safe. The delay will provide more time to assess the spread of Covid. It will also provide teachers more time to plan for on line learning and how to carry out safety protocols in our schools.
7/20/2020 16:44:38	Amy	McGarrah -Sauce	MOMS	WICHITA	It is still unsafe to hold in school class. Everything should be moved online until the state has better control of the virus. Things now are worse than when they decided to cancel school for the remainder of the year in March. In what way would it make sense to start school again? Any way that this goes my kids will not be attending school in person until I feel it is safe to do so. I felt like it wasn't safe in March and that they made the right call. There is no way it's even close to safe now. Beyond caring for the safety and health of kids and their families you should also show that same concern for the teachers/staff and their families too. I'd rather go through one or two hard years of navigating the new normal of homeschooling than to risk the lives of the students, teachers, staff and all their families. Who will teach the kids when the teachers die and who will there be left to teach? It's not worth the risk.
7/20/2020 16:44:52	Melissa	Hurley	USD 359	Argonia	I think that delaying the start does give schools a little extra time to plan and implement procedures to keep students safe, but I feel it should be recommended and each district make their decision based off recommendations and their communities.
7/20/2020 16:45:43	Cara	Snyder	Myself	Topeka	As a parent of a school age child and a teacher
7/20/2020 16:47:20	Jennifer	Decker	USD 491	Lawrence	I support Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of the school year until after Labor Day.

7/20/2020 16:48:10	Jacqueline	Brown		Alma	Please vote in favor of delaying the school start. I believe that many districts need the additional time to receive additional laptops or ipads for students and for teachers to continue training on using LMS such as Canvas. Many teachers are not yet comfortable with remote education. I know that technology staffs are working hard to get equipment ready and available. The additional weeks will also allow our state to get better control of infection rates especially in college towns where students will be arriving and mixing with the community. Thank you for your work.
7/20/2020 16:48:37	Janel	Sanford	Social worker	Bentley-Halstead	Please let the children do partial days and small groups and virtual school. Too many people do not believe this is real. The children do not get to decide their own safety. As a social worker, i also understand that there are children at risk and need to be in school. This is a hard decision to make. God bless you.
7/20/2020 16:48:47	Christie	Klein	Usd 259	Wichita	We need to get this virus under control before we even think about risking lives. I don't even understand how peoples lives are an option. Everyone's health should be the most important thing.
7/20/2020 16:50:35	Terri	Ruland	Parent	Wichita	I think we should delay in school education until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 16:51:42	Terry	Collins		Paola	Open schools on time. It is totally ridiculous to have any restrictions because of COVID-19. Turns out it is really bad for older people with comorbidities and really minor for everyone else. When the media changed from advertising deaths possibly due to COVID-19 to CASES of COVID-19, that was a darn good sign the 'pandemic' was over.
7/20/2020 16:51:54	Brian	Killen	Self	Lawrence	Not safe enough at present
7/20/2020 16:53:31	Ashley	Lunkenheimer	Na	Derby KS	The CDC director says schools need to be open. In April, Kansas saw the lowest DCF reporting in 10 YEARS! The damage we will do to kids will be incomprehensible if we decide to close schools for a virus that does not affect them. There are ways to mitigate risk- but kids need school. Please stand on the right side of history. Please do not let poor, impoverished kids to be a political pawn. There is absolutely nothing more privileged right now than closing schools.
7/20/2020 16:53:46	Julianne	Ramsey		Halstead	Keep schools closed until after Labor Day
7/20/2020 16:54:32	Eric	Killen		Lawrence	Approve the delay!
7/20/2020 16:55:59	Aaron	Schoenhofer	USD 259	Wichita	Please do the right thing and delay school openings as the governor has outlined.
7/20/2020 16:56:08	Lorna	Larson	Self	Lawrence	Please approve the delay in opening schools.
7/20/2020 16:56:46	Cara	Snyder	Myself	Topeka	As a parent of an elementary age student and a high school teacher with USD 501, I urge the Kansas Board of Education to approve Governor Kelly's mandate to delay the start of school until after Labor Day, 2020. The health and safety of our children, staff, administrators, should be priority number one. With cases rising across the country and in our own backyards, this delay and starting school virtually should not be a debated issue. It is the safest route for all involved. Delaying the start to school will give schools the valuable time to prepare for phased-in returns to small group in-person learning. It is imperative that such a mandate be heeded. Thank you for your service.
7/20/2020 16:57:17	Edye	Freund		Carbondale	I encourage the KS school board to reject the governor's latest executive orders regarding the delay of school and mandating how districts should reopen. The board has already done the hard work and voted to give the districts the flexibility to do what is best for their area. One size does NOT fit all. Vote no Our kids need to be back in school.
7/20/2020 16:57:53	Sandra	Macias	USD259	Wichita	I am in support of starting school in August. I believe the school districts have worked very hard to put safety measures in place to mitigate the spread of Covid. It is time to go back.
7/20/2020 16:58:34	Lori	Locke	Olathe District	Overland Park	Please approve the Governor's recommendation. We need to wait to send our kids to large group settings until our state isn't a hotspot. We need to see if the masks help bring numbers down. Even if our kids would be ok the teachers and staff may not. I want nothing more for my kids to return to school, we did not like virtual learning, but now is not the time.
7/20/2020 16:59:10	Amanda	Wen	Maize USD 266 and Ha	Wichita	I fully support a delayed start to the school year, as I believe it is in the best interests of everyone involved to have more time to prepare, adjust to guidelines, obtain supplies, train teachers, and watch our virus numbers improve. However, I would like some guarantee that school will start by September 9, even if it does have to be fully online to begin the year. Further delays will impact next year and beyond, and will hurt our children academically. To sum up: Yes to delaying until September 9, no to delays beyond that. Thank you for the opportunity!



7/20/2020 17:00:46	Joshua	Sant	Self	Sterling	Delay closure
7/20/2020 17:00:53	Samuel	Beaulieu	Usds	Lawrence	Please approve the delay
7/20/2020 17:01:43	Crystal	kochenower	spouse of usd 259 educa	wichita	<p>I am pleased Governor Kelly announced her plan to issue an executive order to postpone the start of school in the midst of COVID-19. My husband is a teacher and I believe that its important to keep our family safe and reduce the risk of exposing countless others to an unprepared school environment.</p> <p>You never imagine being in your thirties and having a discussion with your spouse about increasing his health, life and short term disability plans in anticipation of going back for the upcoming school year.</p> <p>Kansas schools need time to set up and our teachers need time to prepare for the events ahead of them. While its not ideal to put my family's lives at risk, it is apparently part of the job in today's world and I begrudgingly recognize that.</p> <p>Please accept Governor Kelly's executive order!</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>A concerned teacher's wife, -Crystal Kochenower</p>
7/20/2020 17:02:11	Kristin	Gayden	USD 259 and Parent of	Make	Please support delay
7/20/2020 17:02:14	Carol	Stephens		Mccune, Kansas	Let school start as usual. Students have been home long enough. Take temps. No masks.
7/20/2020 17:02:16	Kelly	Hylton	Parent	Abilene	Schools should open according to the the already-approved school calendar for 2020-2021. Masks should be allowed but not required. The setting should be as normal as possible for the mental health of our kids.
7/20/2020 17:02:43	Bonnie	Gates		OVERLAND PARK	Ok to waiting until Labor Day but it is imperative, our children must be back in school this fall!
7/20/2020 17:02:57	Dulcinea	Rakestraw		Wichita	I support delaying the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 17:03:47	Zephyr	York		Wichita	As a parent of an asthmatic child and a caretaker of an entire house oof immune compromised people I do not feel safe having my children physically in school. I firmly believe online schooling for a district as big as ours is the only safe way to continue.
7/20/2020 17:04:32	Sade	Collier	Parent if USD 259 stude	Wichita	I want to keep the delay until after labor. So irritating hearing one thing last week and now we have to wait on the school board. Impossible trying to make arrangements for students. Keep them home until after labor day
7/20/2020 17:05:17	Heather	Garrison		Carbondale	I don't think we need to wait until after Labor Day to start. This virus isn't going anywhere we need to start building immunity to it. Our kids need to be in schools for their safety both physically and mentally. Let parents decide if they want to send them.
7/20/2020 17:05:31	Courtney	Nottingham	KCKPS	Lawrence	Please delay school until after Labor Day. We need to allow time for the virus numbers to lessen, for administrators to make sense of the Navigating Change document, and for teachers to have time to plan for remote or in person learning.
7/20/2020 17:06:45	Karen	Diaz		Shawnee	I support the governor's executive order. It is not a closure, it is just a delay, hopefully it will help give a chance for community spread to close down and for schools to be more prepared to open safely.
7/20/2020 17:07:03	Julie	Martel	Self as a substitute teach	Larned	Yes we need the delay. Thank you!
7/20/2020 17:07:12	Heather	Humbolt	Sub teachers	Mulvane	I believe the school year should be delayed. Children's safety comes first. What emotional.damage too are we going to do to them if their teacher dies because of this and a student brings it in. Have you thought of their mental well being also?
7/20/2020 17:07:18	Carrie	Griffin		Shawnee	I fully support Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school.

7/20/2020 17:07:41	Jeff	Maxwell	USD260	Derby	I am concerned on how districts decide to open. A mandate needs to be made so that districts require an on-site option for schooling and an Online option for schooling. Giving parents and schools options such as these will provide healthy families with the option of normalcy in sending their children to school. It would also provide a sense of security for those who would may have compromised health to do Online schooling for the fall. Thank you for your time,  Kansas Teacher of 18 years.
7/20/2020 17:08:02	Debbie	Guan	Blue valley schools	Kansas City MO	Please delay in person school till there is no new cases for 14 days, to protect lives of Kansas students, all school staff and their families, INCLUDING your children and families!
7/20/2020 17:08:09	Carol	Stephens		Mccune, Kansas	Masks are a form of child abuse. No Masks ☹️
7/20/2020 17:08:12	Adelita	Aldava		2445 Mascot Ave. Wich	I am pleased to hear school has been delayed. This is a worldwide health pandemic. If there was ever a time to delay school, it is now. Inconveniences and preferences do not trump public safety.
7/20/2020 17:09:17	Sarah	Eubank		Pratt	I think this is a big mistake. Numerous studies have shown that children don't spread the virus to anyone. It makes sense to have adults wear masks, but not children. I work as a Family Nurse Practitioner and can tell you that having children wear masks is not a practical expectation nor is it recommended by the AAP for children under the age of 12 to wear masks. Period! Furthermore, the mental health crisis I am seeing and treating in the pediatric as well as adult population is going to be much more serious and far reaching than anything COVID related.
7/20/2020 17:09:29	Linda	Taylor	USD 457	Garden City	I agree with the delay start of school. I do not feel that it is safe for schools to reopen safely. I also believe that hours and minutes should be decreased if a late start is approved. Going to school till the end of June is not in the best interest of anyone. I also dont believe that school should be started with remote learning.
7/20/2020 17:09:59	Devin	Wilson	Parent of 2 high school #	LENEXA	Please vote to support Governor Kelly's order to keep school buildings closed until after Labor Day. Pandemic COVID-19 is completely out of control in our communities, and we need to demonstrate a continuous trend of decreasing percent positive COVID-19 cases for at least two weeks, and at a level of below 2.0% positives before we consider steps to begin a phased, methodical approach to opening school buildings. It's unfortunate that during a global pandemic, that we are divided as a nation instead of coming together to stamp out the coronavirus swiftly and decisively. Some have even referred to this as a hoax and made it somehow partisan. COVID-19 has killed 140,607 Americans as of my writing. Thank you for serving our great state!
7/20/2020 17:10:30	Mandy	Adams		Derby	Comment removed due to profanity
7/20/2020 17:11:21	Tiffany	Haynes Reed		Wichita	I am a school counselor and agree with a delay to the start of the school year. Kansas continues to see increases in cases. People are refusing to social distance and wear masks. I fear for my safety as an educator and for the safety of my students and their families. This isn't about politics this is about the health and safety of our community members. Thank you!
7/20/2020 17:11:34	Renae	Johnson	USD 497	Lawrence	Please accept Gov. Kelly's recommendation to keep school closed until after Labor Day. I have 3 school-aged kids and I work for the District myself. We need the time to allow the District to plan and supply us w cleaning equipment. My husband is immuno-compromised, and I fear his and our health is threatened by returning to school before (1) districts are ready (2) COVID+ cases haven't decreased (3) poorer and rural communities across the State aren't adequately prepared.
7/20/2020 17:11:34	Debbie	Durham	Community mumber	Kansas City	Please support and back Gov Kelly's executive order. Not enough is known about this virus to place our children, teachers, bus drivers and support in harm's way. Involving politics into this issue is very irresponsible. You have far too many children that come from groups that have had high mortality rates from virus. To place children in classrooms would be asking for disaster...because they are just that, children. Not supporting the health of our children is a reckless move
7/20/2020 17:12:11	Michelle	Mason		Olathe	Please delay schools to allow time to put into effect the guidelines put forth by the BOE. As a parent and a teacher I feel this time will help our schools put together the best environment for the students' return.

7/20/2020 17:12:41	Christi	Kidd	Parent	Wichita	We are doing more harm to our children than the virus. Children need normal and stable. The fear and paranoia will have serious consequences on the current generation of children. School needs to resume as normal. Sure teach the children about hygiene to help prevent infections but masks, distancing, temp checks, etc is only instilling fear. Give the decision making to each school district so that they can make decisions that fit the needs of their community. There is no need for the one size fits all top down decisions that the governor keeps trying to impose on the state. Thank you.
7/20/2020 17:13:09	Holly	Rook	Parent and Full-time W	Overland Park - District	<p>I would like to “weigh in” on the discussion for extending/delaying the start back to school. Here is a little bit of background on our family. Eric and I are a double income household (both working full-time) and without family support nearby. Both of us have no teaching background.</p> <p>We have tried to do online learning and it does not work for our family right now. Both of the boys are very extroverted. I believe that extending/delaying the school year would be a governmental misstep. I believe that as parents and taxpayers, we have the ability to make decisions for the good of our family. We will probably start looking for an alternative possibility to educate our children. We have complied with the Governor’s orders, mask mandates, social distancing, meeting virtually for church (it has been hard for smaller local churches to pivot), but we are asking you to please consider “overruling” her decision to delay opening the schools on Wednesday.</p> <p>This has been difficult for everyone and I know that you have to weigh information and facts, but the data that I have studied is that out of about 20,000 cases in KS, there have been 300 deaths (information posted 7/20/2020). If I did the math, that is 1.5% mortality rate on cases. I think that the greater cost is kids are learning to be more distanced in an already isolated generation. I worry about the mental/emotional toll that this is taking on the parents and kids. Thank you for considering our viewpoints.</p>
7/20/2020 17:13:25	Christan	Rose		Towanda	Thank you for your dedication to keep kids safe.
7/20/2020 17:13:29	Claudia	Tovar		Wichita	Please delay, as a para educator and parent we need more time to get ready.
7/20/2020 17:13:38	Lucas	Jacobsen	Myself	Goddard	This is a joke. Governor Kelly needs to be impeached. The legislature needs to step in and strip her of anything that resembles authority. She is clearly trying to break the law and the constitution. Where is the basis for such mandates? Where are the studies that show that this virus is harmful to students?
7/20/2020 17:14:40	Leslie	Gish		Topeka	Each district and private school needs to be allowed and empowered to decide when and how to begin the 2020-2021 year. As a parent of a student attending a private catholic high school, I do not believe that we should have to adhere to the same calendar as other public (or private) districts.
7/20/2020 17:14:35	Laura	Harrison		Topeka	Staff should return prior to Labor Day, students should return after labor day. From there each district can decide how to start the learning environment based on their Covid-19 case count.
7/20/2020 17:14:41	Susan	Focke	Susan Focke Daycare	COLBY	Schools need to open these kids need them We daycare providers have been open from the beginning and we are doing all the precautionary things to keep kids safe so will schools Let each school board decide when to return to school We have very few cases in western kansas LET US GET BACK TO LIFE

7/20/2020 17:15:16	Christopher	Hines		Paola	<p>Dear Board and whomever it may concern,</p> <p>As a substitute teacher (while working toward my full license), this time has been extra stressful for my family and I. I, thankfully, was able to find work during this crisis but it has not been enough to continue to support my family. I know substitute teachers will be needed this school year more than ever but if we wait to open, I am afraid I will have to find another job and not be able to be available this school year to my local districts. This is extremely saddening to me as I would miss the students I have worked with and would make my journey to becoming a licensed teacher even harder. I am for a choice by school district to adjust their school calendars as the local boards of education see fit without punishment for not making the required hours. I would be willing to drive to an "open" district to be of assistance during this time until my local schools opened. I want to help and be in the classroom this year but I also must think of my family.</p> <p>Thank you for your hard work and consideration of my comments, Mr. Hines Paola, KS</p>
7/20/2020 17:15:41	Laurie	Denk		Lindsborg	<p>This delay is necessary. Honesty, folks. If e don't have a hard core plan in place, I am not coming. It would make me ill to end my 36 years in education this way, but my life matters too. I spent all of my energy disinfecting, hand washing, and distancing during a recent staph infection. It didn't work. How will we prevent my students and me from COVID.</p>
7/20/2020 17:16:00	Bev	Keys	Private school	Topeka Kansas	<p>First and most importantly, the governor is ignoring the Kansas Statutes that put control of schools in the hands of local school boards. She says we are burdening them with these tough decisions, that is hogwash! That is what tough, down to earth, problem solving Kansans were born for!</p> <p>Second, very little of the evidence she gave was about the population of people who attend school except citing the South Korea study. What about our own Children's Mercy recommendations or the American Pediatric Association? Are we really kore trusting of South Korea than our own medical doctors.</p> <p>Third, the mandates are overreaching and controlling! They spread fear and create an even larger gap in our children's education!</p> <p>I beg you! Let the local school boards decide and if they need help, then let them ask. We have lost a quarter of school doing it her way. Now it's time to give Kansas people their turn at solving this problem!</p>
7/20/2020 17:16:01	Kathy	Rich	None, but I teach at Cen	Hutchinson	<p>Prayers for all of you making these difficult decisions. 1) please let us start remotely in August 2) please allow local BOEs to decide based on local health 3) please don't require teachers mask with all the talking we do 4) please keep listening to all medical opinions, not just those who are strictly CDC/WHO Thank you!</p>
7/20/2020 17:16:21	Danielle	Edwards	My family	Scott city	<p>I think the 3 week push back is a great opportunity for our schools to get things ready for when kids come back. I think the BOE should approve the governors mandate</p>
7/20/2020 17:16:38	Michaela	Hastings		Wichita	<p>School should be held online as long as necessary until safety can be promised.</p>
7/20/2020 17:16:55	Cory	Zellers	Parent	Dodge City, KS	<p>Please support the Governor's plan to delaythe start of school. Schools are not ready. Kansas is not ready. Please don't make the kids and teachers in our communities suffer because we are unprepared.</p> <p>The KSDE took all summer to put together the guidance. Now the COVID situation has drastically changed for the worse in the last few weeks. Schools need more time to figure out how to ensure everyone is safe. Starting schools on time is not worth a single student or teacher getting sick.</p> <p>Thank you for giving the public the opportunity to provide input.</p>
7/20/2020 17:17:01	Megan	Smith		Haysville	<p>As a teacher, I am grateful for the decisions you are making. I know this is a no-win situation, but you are putting the kids' and teachers' health first with this executive order. Thank you!</p>
7/20/2020 17:17:22	Sharon	Skidmore	Community member, ret	Usd 373	<p>Do not delay schools, no masks</p>

7/20/2020 17:17:45	Kayleigh	Glover		Shawnee	Yes absolutely keep it closed until after Labor Day. Our children are not sacrifices to get people back to work sooner. Employers must offer flexibility for working parents who sometimes are faced with no other choice than to take their kids to work even though they are terrified they will get sick or bring covid home to vulnerable family members.
7/20/2020 17:17:59	Brandon	Claypool	Parent and educator	Stilwell, KS	I am writing you to ask you to listen to science and Governor Kelly about delaying the start of the school. I am a parent of two kids (3rd and 9th grade) and teacher/coach of 22 years, so I am looking at this from two different perspectives but both tell me that we need to delay the start. I desperately want to get back in the classroom with my students because we need each other and we will get back together soon but right now is not the time. I love my job and give them everything I can each and every day but I lay awake at night now worried that I might have to give them my life because I am forced to go back to school before we need to be there. If not me, it will be one of my colleagues or god forbidding, one of my students. I work in a 6A high school and I know for a fact, the things we need to do to stay safe are going to be a monumental task and one doomed to put people at risk. We just don't have the space and resources to make it happen. I have already had one teacher in my department resign because of the stress of the situation. I cannot do that. I have to pay my bills and feed my family. I have a passion for education and have invested 22 years in it, so I want to teach and help my students grow. It is time put all politics aside and use common sense. I watch media and leaders (including my school board) meet virtually and eliminate face to face meetings but people want me to return to a building with approximately 2000 people in it. Just think about that and whether or not you would want to enter that building or send someone in your family into it not knowing what awaits you. As for my kids and from the parental perspective, I want my kids to go to school but I know they can wait and will still be successful. My 3rd grader is already quite nervous about returning with everything going on around us and worried about what could happen to her, her friends and her teachers/staff. My Freshman is a great student and can thrive in any system, and is a sports fanatic and ready to go to high school and play football. And I want him to have that opportunity but we have discussed and know it is important to delay the start of school and his season to be safe for EVERYONE. By the way, I am a football coach as well and know the importance of having sports for our kids but more harm will come from starting too early and stopping before we even try to play games. Delay the start and actually give us a chance to play a shortened season and play games. Once again, I beg you to use common sense and use your position to make a stand for what is right and smart. DO NOT let politics guide us into a dire situation. Be strong leaders that advocate for what is right. Demonstrate to the young people of our great state what it means to stand up and do the right thing. Show them that they matter and you value them. It will be a lesson they will remember forever. Thank you for your time and god bless.
7/20/2020 17:18:02	Rachael	Meza		Wichita	I work at and have children that attend schools in USD 259 and I highly support starting school late or an all online order.
7/20/2020 17:18:43	Larry	Trussell		NEWTON	I believe starting the school year late is a very reasonable approach to the current situation. My wife is a retired teacher and we have two daughters that are teachers and one who is a social worker in the Newton school district. I am a retired official with BNSF Railway and a lifelong Republican. I have been telling anyone that will listen that the start of the school year should be delayed before I heard anything about it from the Governor's office.
7/20/2020 17:18:52	Sally	Scott		Lindsborg	Quit delaying . Our children need interaction.
7/20/2020 17:19:21	Emaleigh	Brown		Derby	Please follow governor Kelly's order and delay schools. Give teachers adequate time to plan for online instruction. Give our state time to get numbers down before we throw staff and students in buildings.
7/20/2020 17:19:40	Sandra	Whittemore		Wichita	Our teachers need to do what's right for kids. They can wear masks, they can social distance as much as possible. Kids need true education, they need to be in class and need to learn from real educators. I understand teachers are nervous- but so were nurses, doctors, grocery store workers, police officers. They will lose total support of the community by demanding to not work.
7/20/2020 17:20:39	Lori	Sevedge		Chanute	Please delay the opening of school to give teachers and staff more time to prepare and be ready for all the changes.

7/20/2020 17:21:08	Bob	Sno		Topeka	Please keep in mind not only the health of students and the adults who work at schools. Allow school districts the extra 3 weeks to prepare and make a safer environment for everyone. Social distancing in a school will be very difficult. Remember many staff and teachers are over age 50 . Please allow this bill to pass and look to our future with safety in mind. Kansas has peaked this last weekend with 500 cases of Covid per day. Yes , we need school, but first it needs to be a safe environment for all. Together we can forge ahead and have a great school year. It just needs to be delayed. Thank you.
7/20/2020 17:21:10	Ashley	Giebler	Blue River Elementary i	Overland Park	Please vote yes on the EO. It will allow BV and other districts time to plan effectively. It will also give time to help flatten the curve again and make it safe for all staff and students.
7/20/2020 17:21:37	Sherri	Rawlins	Citizen, retired educator	Newton	I request you support the Governor's EO delaying the opening of school until after Labor Day and requiring masks in schools.
7/20/2020 17:21:43	Michaela	Cavlovic	Teacher	Olathe	If you don't approve the order to delay school you need to make it 100% online so we are not risking our lives, our students lives and the possibility of them taking it home to their family's
7/20/2020 17:21:52	Brittany	Rogers		Wichita	Do not mandate masks for students k-5th. Even the state board of education does not recommend that they wear them. This will cause only more problems that it needs. Not only are kids in this age group rarely seen with any effects of this virus but this age group does not understand how to properly wear a mask. The state health department website even says to exempt those kids who would risk even more of a risk of transmission to kids who touch their face more when a mask is worn. THIS IS ALL KIDS, even a lot of adults! I have never seen so many people at Walmart touching their face before. I sat and just watched and counted an adult touching their mask to readjust at least 3 or 4 times at the registers....adults!!! In a short time frame!!! What do you think young kids would do!? Masks are not normal for kids, they would be fighting teachers all day long to keep them on. This will take away all learning time and cause the worst kind of distraction. Also please allow the kids immune system do what it needs to do so we don't have many more health issues. The kids need germs to build an immune system at this age, otherwise you create an immunocompromized society. Let kids go back to school like normal!!!!!!!!!!!!
7/20/2020 17:21:53	Jenni	O'Crowley		Douglass	This should be a local decision. Not the Governor. Vote to allow our local BOEs to make decisions based on the data in our district
7/20/2020 17:22:11	Eric	Johnson		Holcomb	Can the the mask mandate for students not be as strictly enforced (or be voluntary) , for example if the % of active cases, for that local population is less than 1%  Also is there a local authority to ease up on, or strictly enforce the mandate? Like that of the statewide mandate to require mask, being up to each county on whether to enforce it.
7/20/2020 17:22:52	TINA	GEHLEN	UD 312	HUTCHINSON	In the end, what if students refuse to wear mask? Support Gov. Kelly's executive order of moving the start date of school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 17:24:26	Christie	Woods		Horton	The governor is killing education. Not for my 7 year old that will now be home schooled, but for children that do not have that option. Children that do not have the home support that they need. Children that don't have food stability. I could go on of the 'have-nots' that the governor continues to ignore and under-serve.  Treating my small rural district of about 600 total the same as the urban districts is completely irresponsible. The governor was supposed to be 'pro-education' but has turned out to be just 'pro-teacher union'. It's sad.
7/20/2020 17:24:47	Kristine	Mahaney		Olathe	School needs to begin on time without restrictions
7/20/2020 17:24:59	Debra	Kellogg	None	Wichita	Please vote to uphold... I would like my granddaughter... whom I am guardian of to have a safe school to attend. I am over 50 with asthma and if I dies... because she brings it home...who will take care of her??? The state???
7/20/2020 17:26:27	Jenessa	Gonzales	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe, KS	To protect staff and students, please enforce Governor Kelly's order to allow schools to have more time to come up with a plan to keep our kids and staff safe. Giving the extra time not only allows more time to plan and get PPE, but also allows time for the spread to slow. Johnson County, Wyandotte and Douglas have out of control spread right now. Please allow us the gift of time to try to protect our kids, families and staff.
7/20/2020 17:26:50	Teri	Moss		Hoxie	Masks should not be worn by healthy children. They are detrimental to their immune systems

7/20/2020 17:27:04	JILL	FOSTER-KOCH		Topeka	The governor has said just a few more weeks, just a few more weeks, how many times now? Everything keeps getting pushed back. What's to say she won't do that again? When is enough, enough? You have the decision to change that. You do not have to adhere to the governor's RECOMMENDATIONS---not a requirement. Our total deaths of children aged 0-17 years, in Kansas, from COVID-19, is still zero. Influenza is more deadly than this virus and yet we've never shut schools down during flu season. The governor said the reason for not opening schools was to be to flatten the curve, not eliminate it. If this were truly about keeping people safe, nothing would be open. If we can visit places with large capacities, like Walmart or the pools, why can't we have schools open? Kids are working retail jobs, around the public, they're socializing with their friends, but we can't have schools open. This makes no sense. The governor has said children 10 and under are not required to wear a mask, so why would we make masks mandatory at school? Are those over the age of 10 the only ones getting it? No. If a person must wear a mask to keep the other person safe from them, then why would only staff and older kids be required to wear a mask? Again, this makes no sense. It defeats the purpose of what we've been told about the masks. I firmly believe if you do not open up schools in August, you will have many families that will pull their children out of the district, and send their children to another district that is opening up, a private school, or will homeschool. There is potential to have major funding issues, schools are already underfunded, we don't need to add to it. I've seen multiple Kansas educators commenting online with things like "we shouldn't be forced to risk our lives" "keep schools closed" etc. If teachers and districts won't stand up and advocate for their professions and our kids, then parents have no choice but to make a stand the only way we are able. Maybe if there is a funding crisis children and education will be put first again. We need to get our kids back in school and sports. The transmission from child to child and child to adult is EXTREMELY low. The detriments to not returning to school, currently with this latest research and data, far outweigh the risk of the virus. GET OUR CHILDREN BACK IN SCHOOL IN AUGUST.
7/20/2020 17:27:16	Lindsey	Sleeper		Lawrence	Please support the order to keep schools closed!
7/20/2020 17:28:00	Elizabeth	Robinson	Parent	Chanute	I fully support delaying the reopening until after Labor Day. Our district isn't even announcing their return to school plan until August. I am the parent of an immunocompromised elementary aged child. I am deeply concerned with potential exposure risks. The schools struggled last year with strep, respiratory issues and the flu. They have struggled to find enough subs and transportation workers - that was pre-COVID. I also live in a county that voted to opt out of the mask order. Both my husband and I work in education, safety must be the first priority.
7/20/2020 17:28:00	Rachel	Pierce		Kansas City	Please vote to delay the start of school in Kansas

					<p>I am the mother of two beautiful daughters, ages 10 and 12. We have spent many days discussing COVID19 and how it's impacted their lives.</p> <p>As a parent it's my responsibility to decide what is best for my children. I can't imagine anyone taking that decision from me. If I am comfortable with my child attending school then my child should be allowed to attend school. Those parents who are not comfortable should have the ability to opt out of in person classes and instead learn at home. It should be at the parents discretion.</p> <p>At this point the issue has become so political we have lost sight of what is important the children. Each child is different and similar to learning, no two children learn the same, no two children's circumstance with regard to COVID19 are the same either.</p> <p>Deciding whether the risk of COVID19 outweighs my child's need to be in social situations is my decision. Deciding whether the risk of COVID19 outweighs my child's need for in person education as she prepares for SAT and ACTs is my decision. Deciding whether the risk of COVID19 outweighs my child's need to participate in classroom learning is my decision.</p> <p>These are not decision the Governor or anyone else can make for me on behalf of my child. She knows nothing of the Mental Health issues that plague these kids, which has only compounded life with social distancing for many. She knows nothing of the self isolation that occurs for many of these kids who have no other outlet for socializing besides school and how serious it is to withhold that.</p> <p>I ask that you turn this recommendation from the Governor, over to the parents and let the parents, parent. Ask the Governor to provide in-kind support to the Education system so that each district is able to offer in-person AND at-home schooling, that is the role of the state. Leave the parenting to the parents.</p>
7/20/2020 17:28:11	Kristi	Drewel	My family	Great Bend, Kansas	Thank you.
7/20/2020 17:28:22	Megan	Byrnes	Parents	Topeka	Please vote yes and uphold this executive order.
7/20/2020 17:28:30	Robert	Sanford		Bentley	I do not think school opening should be delayed. Should open at normal time.
7/20/2020 17:28:53	Erin	Wells		Rose Hill	<p>What happened to K-5 not having to wear masks? I have an 8 yo and he struggles to stay focused to learn as it is. Now add having to wear a mask, and he won't get anything done, but will likely become a discipline problem.</p> <p>My son and 5 yo grandson have attended day since the beginning of all this and they've been fine. Maybe the education side should figure out how day cares are doing it and follow suit.</p>
7/20/2020 17:29:32	Deedee	Landes		Hesston	I think it is in the best interest of our communities and our economy to delay the start of school. While this isn't something that I personally want, I think it is the safest thing to do. There are growing numbers of children carrying and spreading this virus and we need a better handle on it before we force kids together. I think if we social distance and wear masks we have a chance if slowing it and making education safe.
7/20/2020 17:29:35	Nick	Cheney		Girard ks	I feel like schools and sports need to start in August like planned . I teach and coach and I'm ready to go back . So are the kids .
7/20/2020 17:30:46	Mary	Denham	Household Retired educ	Frontenac	Thank-you for your decisions to keep Kansas children and safe. Thank-you for following CDC guidelines
7/20/2020 17:30:45	Jodi	Hetherington	Teacher	Wichita	As a school employee, I am asking that you vote to accept the EO. Simply put, I do not think it is safe to return to school at this time. Also I think it gives school districts adequate time to ensure the proper PPE needed to safely return. The Governor and several medical professionals made it clear that our community COVID 19 numbers are on the rise, and may very well continue to do so. I am asking to please vote to accept the EO, in order to protect our children, students, and staff.



7/20/2020 17:31:28	Rachael	Shipley	I'm a teacher in Mulvane	Derby	I 100% agree with delaying the start of the school year. The large counties are not the only ones with rapidly increasing infection numbers, and as cases rise, so does the likelihood that infection will pass among students, staff, and families. When you start to unravel where a case starts and how far it spreads, the effects are far-reaching, making the reality of keeping students, staff, and families safe and healthy difficult at best and impossible at worst. This also makes quarantine situations exponentially more likely, affecting staffing and seat time. It just makes more sense to wait and give the numbers a chance to go down before we jump in. Please vote to accept the order.
7/20/2020 17:31:29	Bailee	Fosse	Goddard Schools	Wichita	Please keep the start date of the school year after Labor Day. The cases in Kansas have reached a high and it would be irresponsible to go against the Governors orders and rush children and faculty back into the schools. The lives of Kansas teachers, staff and children are at risk, and those lives matter. Please do the right thing.
7/20/2020 17:31:49	AJ	Terry	Pittsburg High	Pittsburg	We HAVE to get our kids back to school and activities for their mental health well being and the continuation of social maturing.
7/20/2020 17:32:01	Janet	Carr		Riverton	School has been out long enough and our kids need to get back to normalcy. They need their friends, their structure, their routine and they need their extra curricular sports etc. Baseball was taken away from most elementary aged kids and they needed it too. The numbers show only 1% of death rate and that is IF the numbers have been reported correctly, which i doubt. Enough is enough. I don't want people sick but i certainly don't think the numbers support all this stuff.
7/20/2020 17:32:35	Kimberly	Byers	Usd259	Wichita	This is the LEAST we can do at this time. Thank you, Governor. If we don't start late, then online learning only should be the rule the first 9 weeks and then move toward in building as time proves prudent.
7/20/2020 17:32:40	Isaiah	Gayden	Student	Maize	Please delay schools, I feel that it is best for everyone.
7/20/2020 17:33:03	Carrie	Wedel	N/a	Tonganoxie	I urge you to uphold Governor Kelly's executive order. I am a staff member at Tonganoxie Elementary and parent of two elementary age students. We need more time to plan and prepare. Our numbers continue to rise. We want to be back, but not until it is safe. Please don't let this rest on the shoulders of local boards. They have to live in the community and face the backlash. Make this decision for them. Thank you.
7/20/2020 17:33:13	Heather	Newton	kansas city kansas publi	Olathe	I strongly am for reopening schools after labor day, I want to go back but want it to be safe for everyone!!
7/20/2020 17:33:14	Kaelyn	McCall		Lawrence	Please approve the Executive Order to delay the start of school to give districts time to implement the measures in the reopening plan.
7/20/2020 17:33:44	Chalina	Seems		Phillipsburg	Yes, I think we should delay school until after Labor Day. And then we should have online school until the number of cases decreases.
7/20/2020 17:34:12	Regina	Winemiller		Pittsburg	Please support the governor's Eo and listen to the experts and don't cave to pressure to reopen during the spikes we have seen lately. Thank you!
7/20/2020 17:34:39	Alison	Fees	Parent	Iola	I'm fine with delayed opening of schools in order to keeps my kids safe
7/20/2020 17:34:42	Nikki	Buck-Stewart	Parent	Olathe	I strongly support EO 20-58.
7/20/2020 17:35:35	Maggie	Mead		Overbrook	I work in a small Osage county school. I would appreciate you delaying the start of school until after Labor Day to give schools the additional time to prepare. After Labor Day I would think we can resume to our building with all the extra precautions in place to give it a try.
7/20/2020 17:35:41	Leslie	Dumcum	Parent of multiple studer	Pleasanton	Please allow the local school boards the ability to pick the start date. At a minimum please do not delay all activities that could be taking place up until school starts. The kids have been conditioning for weeks and no issues. They need this outlet. I myself have several children with mental heath issues and the end of last school year being locked down and losing sports did a number on them. They need to be in a building and they need to have their activities. When you weigh the risk, the negative emotional and mental aspect is a much larger risk than the virus is.
7/20/2020 17:35:47	Ashley	Thompson		Columbus	The kids are losing so many things by withholding school. As a parent I want my kid in school but don't want them to be forced to wear a mask, not be able to enjoy recess or even lunch time with their friends.
7/20/2020 17:35:47	Marlene	Howe		abilene	open schools as regularly scheduled
7/20/2020 17:35:48	Tiffany	Pratt	SMSD	Overland Park	As a SMSD teacher, I would like to go back to work as planned on August 6th so that we can plan online instruction. Delaying the start of the teachers does no good. If we are delaying, make it the students and lower the number of contact hours for the school year so teachers have time to build good online instruction. Why this was not done over the summer, I do not know. School districts should have been planning this the entire time.

7/20/2020 17:36:04	Jenny	Jordan		Overland Park	Please vote to approve the EO by Governor Kelly. Schools need time to plan to ensure safety for students and staff.
7/20/2020 17:36:27	Bobbi	Caggianelli		Overland Park	I support the executive order to delay the start of school at least until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 17:36:27	Nicole	Bieker		Great Bend	Please allow individual districts to make the decision as to when school will start. This should not be a one size fits all decision. Communities such as Wallace County should not have to wait on Wichita to start school. Please allow districts to make the decision based on what is best for their students, teachers, and community.
7/20/2020 17:36:31	Jessica	Slaughter	USD 259	Augusta	Please don't open schools. Go online only until there is a vaccine that's been tested. Everyone keeps saying parents will have a choice that's safe for their kids. What about our health. The kids will not keep masks on and we are going to spend all day following or trying to follow the new guidelines. Please we don't want to die from this nor have to pick between our health or jobs.
7/20/2020 17:36:38	Mandi	Pritchard	Middle and high school	Overland Park	My family is in support of delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. Hopefully we will see a decline in Covid cases by then and in addition will give schools more time to prepare.
7/20/2020 17:36:40	Samantha	Odell		Wamego	We need to start school in August even if it just online. These kids need routine. Something to look forward to and if it isn't safe to meet face to face, they need to utilize the means we used from March to May and give these kids something to look forward too.
7/20/2020 17:37:01	Linda	Nightingale		Topeka	We need to have a staggered approach. Based off of data. Time on-line. Time where we are on a block schedule. At school day 1 .. home day 2. Give smaller class size.  Some kids will need to be at school more often. SPED kids without health issues. Kids who are low-income, no internet access, home is not safe.
7/20/2020 17:37:06	Amanda	Budden	The Budden Family	Topeka	Open School, please. There needs to be an inperson option. I am a substitute teacher and plan to be available to sub, so I'm putting skin in the game !
7/20/2020 17:37:13	Jera	Hoffmann		Goddard	As a teacher at USD 268, I urge the KSDE to support Gov. Kelly's executive order delaying the start of school. We need time to prepare with the Navigating Changes document in our schools and this provides us just that.
7/20/2020 17:37:18	Michelle	Ernst		Buhler	We need to delay the start of school. Cases are rising and too many lives are at risk.
7/20/2020 17:37:23	Mona	Hull	Parent of K-12 children	Iola	Please do not delay school after Labor Day. Childcare providers and centers have been open throughout Covid- on 10 clusters and 40 cases since Covid-started. It can be done safely!
7/20/2020 17:37:23	Kendelle	Runer	Elementary Teacher	Hiawatha	Please vote to keep Governor Kelly's executive order in place! Schools are going to turn into COVID parties, if we aren't careful. Teachers need this additional time to get all of our ducks in a row.  Furthermore, if Governor Kelly should mandate schools be closed, I would appreciate a vote to AGREE with her. Cases are high, cases are rising, and this is alarming. It's easy to say kids haven't been overly impacted, but that's more than likely because kids haven't been out and about as much as normal, since March.  Please, above all, do NOT make a decision that can put Kansas teachers, school staff and students and their families at risk. Our families do NOT need to bury their teachers, they do NOT need to bury their children, and we do NOT need to spread this virus any further than it's already being spread.
7/20/2020 17:37:39	Crisanne	Thompson	Parent and Teacher	Leon	Please consider supporting our Governor and give school more time to prepare for kids. Teachers do not yet know how or what is required by our districts but will be required to educate and keep kids safe we need time to know what to do. This year is going to be really hard for everyone hopefully it will end on a more regular note.  Thank you for your consideration Crisanne
7/20/2020 17:37:40	Mary	Vanhooser	Parent and teacher	Olathe	I really think delaying school for three weeks will give both parents and teachers time to plan and prepare for our new normal. The time will be spent working to get things ready for whatever this crazy school year throws our way. It will help keep children safer as we look toward fall.
7/20/2020 17:37:43	Jason	Ostmeyer	Colby Public Schools	Colby	I support the governor's decision to delay the start of the K-12 school year until September 9. I am a teacher and feel schools need that extra couple of weeks to plan procedures and find all of the necessary equipment and sanitizers needed to start the year safely.

7/20/2020 17:37:52	Stephanie	Tobin	Chanute high school	Chanute	I hope they do not cancel sports. Many of the fall athletes have been working hard all summer. Especially in the smaller 4A schools they are not seeing cases within conditioning / practice as they are following guidelines
7/20/2020 17:37:52	Shannon	Hall	I'm a parent and school	Goddard - work in Wich	I support delaying in-person school until the cases decline. It is not safe to return right now. I also support delaying school until after a Labor Day, but suggest we only return when it is safe.
7/20/2020 17:37:54	Rosalina	Foust	wichita public schools	wichita	Postpone the start of school please. Don't put all these children at risk when numbers are still rising
7/20/2020 17:37:57	Alex	Underwood	Hays High School	Hays, KS	I strongly feel the KSBoE should uphold the governor's planned executive order to give communities a chance to slow the spread of the virus and for districts to digest the massive amount of material we were handed mere days ago. For districts who are already in the re-design process or who have been planning ahead, they might not need as much extra time, but in districts like Hays USD 489 who had been patiently waiting on guidance from KSDE, we need the time to ensure our students have a strong year ahead of them. Please give us the time we need for a safe reopening. Respectfully submitted.
7/20/2020 17:38:26	Jason	dunbar	parent	Valley Center	open school as normal. The students need to get back to school.
7/20/2020 17:39:15	Alyce	Gawlas	Myself, but I am an educ	Chanute	Please approve the executive order postponing the beginning of student instruction until after Labor Day. The delay would allow ample time for school staff members to meet together to develop instructional and operational policies and procedures based on the guidance document released in mid July. Many teachers' contracts do not require them to return to work until the middle of August, the schools have no ability to force them to return to work sooner, so the extra time to meet, plan, practice ect. Is really vital to developing a complete plan. The need to make up that educational time can be met with extending the length of the school day and/or extending the school calendar in the summer of 2021. Thank you for taking the time to ask for input from the public on this decision. No choice made will make everyone happy, as those of us involved in planning next year already know. If school starts back in-person full time, it will not be the school that parents and children remember. If schools start on a hybrid or virtual delivery method, people will also be upset.
7/20/2020 17:39:30	Jesse	Slicer	Parents	Olathe	Please accept Governor Kelly's executive order to postpone the start of school in the midst of COVID-19. Hearing that there will be required safety measures is great news, however we do need to respect our medical and scientific recommendations to ensure a safe future for our students. Thank you.
7/20/2020 17:39:32	Amy	Freeman	USD210	Hugoton	I know you all will make the decision you feel is best for our students, staff, and families. I appreciate all the work you are doing and wish you the best in making a very difficult decision.
7/20/2020 17:39:35	Cathleen	McDonnell	None	Leawood	Please allow children to return to school. Please do not require masks on younger children - 6th grade and under. Thank you.
7/20/2020 17:39:53	Alexis	Kuharich	USD 368	Olathe	Governor Kelly is doing what is best for teachers and students! She is giving us a voice to protect us. Please follow her guidance and help keep us safe. This is not about politics or the ego of who has power. This is keeping children and faculty alive. Schools are not adequately supplied or prepared for school to resume. Listen to your teachers- we need protection! Follow Governor Kelly's mandate.
7/20/2020 17:40:19	Anne	Wille	Parent/Teacher	Shawnee	Please Please open for our kids sakes!! It goes way beyond just education these kids- some need a school for their safe space- some need to be fed- others need the social for their well being- others can NOT be successful with online learning- we are not reaching every child this way- give the option but let one option be in the classroom!
7/20/2020 17:40:29	Bryanna	Riddle	Parent	Andover	Please vote to confirm Gov. Kelly's executive order. The numbers are too high to return. A decision needs to be made. I'm tired of waiting to plan. Give me the plan so I can get everything prepared. Thank you.
7/20/2020 17:40:55	Stephanie	Petermann		Holyrood	Our children need schools to reopen. Their mental health and educational needs are suffering. The harm we are doing our children outweighs the possibility of getting sick
7/20/2020 17:40:56	Racheal	Courtois		Osage City	Reject the governors mandate for schools and leave it up to the schools and counties to decide what is best in their own districts.

7/20/2020 17:41:39	Jill	Stern	Cedar Hills Elementary	Overland Park	I have been an educator for 23 years. I am a wife to a middle school principal and a mother to 2 high school freshmen. As a 2nd grade teacher, I have thought about what my school day will look like upon return to school. There would be days my classroom wasn't cleaned, I'd run out of supplies - both for cleaning and teaching because let's face it, teachers aren't always put first. But now I'm to teach and ensure the welfare of my students and family is safe during a global pandemic? This is not okay. Sure I'm in a bigger city than others in the state of Kansas. All politics aside - please. Teachers are not safe to return to building. We have to get this under control. I tell my second graders that it's hard to take ownership and it's hard to be a leader. You have the chance to do the right thing, no matter how hard you think it is. I stand with Governor Kelly's executive order. For the health and safety of Kansans, I would expect you would, too.
7/20/2020 17:41:43	Stephanie	Messerly	I have children in school	1442 N Parkdale	I support Governor Kelly and making sure that children and staff are safe
7/20/2020 17:41:49	Mary	Hall	Teacher, USD 443	Dodge City	It is my hope that you follow Governor Kelly's plan. There is so much to get ready in such a short time. We need to go into this with every advantage we can. Why start behind? Why start with missteps when we have time available. Some districts are small and may be able to prepare more quickly but by doing that they lose the opportunity to benefit from collaboration with other districts. This is new to all of us. There are so many questions we do even know to ask. Please error on the side of safety.
7/20/2020 17:41:54	Sheila	Hite	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	Delay the schools. We need to insure that the students and the staff are safe. The extra three weeks will help the districts have time to develop a plan to ensure safe in person learning in the schools.
7/20/2020 17:41:57	Kody	Epp	Open Spaces Sports	Hoxie	Please do not choose to follow this order. Let our kids get back to school as planned. They have been out of education long enough. Don't allow Governor Kelly to be a dictator.
7/20/2020 17:42:13	Eric	West	Teacher/Coach	Burlingame	Please follow the governors recommendation and close schools until September 8th. Many teachers will be out at risk by starting a school year and we would like the extra time to prepare with our colleagues and administrators to make sure we are as safe as possible! Thank you
7/20/2020 17:42:21	Denise	Martin		Salina	Schools need to be back open as originally scheduled in August!
7/20/2020 17:42:41	Matthew	Rome	Hays High School	Hays	In short, we are seeing an unprecedented spike in cases, and schools desperately need more time to prepare and implement safety precautions. An August opening seems less and less reasonable as days pass and decisions are not made. Open schools when it is safe for kids, not convenient for adults.
7/20/2020 17:44:22	Marci	Henderson-Hodge	teacher	chanute	please delay school opening.
7/20/2020 17:44:27	Alison	Moeller		Liberal KS	I very much support the EO keeping schools closed until the 9th. There is so much we don't know about COVID. We are seeing more children with it. We don't know if there are long term issues. Schools need time to prepare to protect us
7/20/2020 17:44:30	Charlotte	Thomas	Tax payer	Troy	School needs to start on time! No masks! Let each district make their own rules!
7/20/2020 17:44:42	MEREDITH	JOHNSON		Pleasanton	These kids NEED to be back in sports! The transmission rate from healthy teens is very low. The benefits of sports and activities far outweigh the extremely low chance of getting the virus.
7/20/2020 17:44:49	Ryan	West	Teacher	Topeka	I think the after Labor Day start is necessary to ensure more safety and time to get schools ready. Then the numbers should dictate if we open in person or online
7/20/2020 17:44:59	Jennifer	Olt		Hays	Please support the Governor's EO to delay school starting. Teachers need the time to adequately plan based on their districts' plans. Let them have the time to do what's best for our kids.
7/20/2020 17:44:59	Stacy	Katzenmeier	USD 497	Eudora	Support the delay of school opening!!

					<p>I respectfully ask the Kansas BOE to give schools the time to open as safely as possible. Three weeks to get it right is not too much to ask. As a teacher, I know that the logistics of reopening our school safely is daunting: Even if our numbers of positive cases were currently lower than they are now, we'd have our work cut out for us. Bottom line, I think we can agree that the acceptable number of student and school staff deaths is ZERO. The following is a short list of what we'd need to prepare for a safe(r) opening.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Logistics. We've had an 1100 page document from the state outlining what is expected dropped on us this past week. Logistically, expecting districts to prepare buildings, parents, teachers, and students adequately by August 13 to 19th is a huge challenge. Every element of school (lunchroom, PE, busing, hallway traffic during passing period, libraries, etc.) will be addressed. We'll also have to have several plans in place to pivot as quickly as possible in the event that we have to close down, to online, or reopen in person. We have to get all of these scenarios as close to perfect as we can.</li> <li>2. Supplies. Many districts have been trying to acquire the supplies needed to return to school safely. This includes masks, face shields, sanitizing spray and wipes, thermometers, barriers for therapy, etc. Many of these supplies are in short supply.</li> <li>4. Technology. Many school districts (including mine) aren't 1:1. They're scrambling to acquire more laptops and mobile hotspots for if/when we have to go online. Online computer programs are being purchased for students who choose online only.</li> <li>5. Staff. Districts are shuffling staff to try to move teachers into online-only positions for students who sign up for exclusively online learning. Teachers and other staff will have to be trained in procedures to deal with students with symptoms, sanitizing their rooms, etc. Teachers will also be trained in new online programs.</li> <li>6. Parents. Districts have a lot of information to get out to parents regarding elective online programs, procedures and policies about busing, lunch, phases of reopening, Covid exposures or symptoms, travel policies, etc.</li> </ol> <p>As educators, our goal is first to teach children in the safest, most nurturing environment. We want to teach our students IN school, IN PERSON. However, teachers are real people with health concerns, and have family members who we don't want to bring it home to. We're allowed to want a safe working environment for ourselves, too. With all that is expected, it would be a disservice to everyone to reopen in mid-August.</p>
7/20/2020 17:45:05	Olivia	Wallace	Piper School District	Overland Park	
7/20/2020 17:45:09	Megan	Clark	SLP-USD 320	St. George	I strongly recommend local school districts deciding on when school should start. Each county is different. Please reject the Governor's order.
7/20/2020 17:45:38	Sarah	Henderson-Hodges	parent	chanute	please delay school opening
7/20/2020 17:45:49	Jessica	Ramsay	Teacher	Valley Center	In person school is too risky.
7/20/2020 17:45:50	Lane	Gerber		Lakin	Will mask mandate be enforced and by whom. What if students fail to comply?
					<p>I highly encourage the delay of schools. For multiple reasons.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The cases in Kansas are rising.</li> <li>2. Finding cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer is still difficult. We need this to be safe. We need this to keep a clean environment. In doing the math on average each teacher will need about 405 containers (80count) of Lysol wipes to have 25 student areas wiped down every hour for the whole year. So far I've found 3 since March.</li> <li>3. The guidelines approved by you take time to implement successfully. If you don't stand by the time needed then I can only assume you don't care about the guidelines (Now mandates) for safety or learning.</li> <li>4. Not approving shows lack of leadership on your part to keep Kansans safe. Sometimes being a leader means taking a stand for the greater good. (To those saying it should only be local choices makes me wonder why you need to exist at all. If you can't make decision then why should we need you?)</li> <li>5. As an educator I need more time to study the standards bands and plan how I can best teach those with the changes we will have in the year. I need time to prepare a successful online classroom. Otherwise it won't be much different than in March due to lacking extra time to plan.</li> <li>6. Are you okay with going back too early and having it result in deaths? This virus is not a hoax. It's real. If you don't believe it you have no business being a leader.</li> </ol>
7/20/2020 17:45:51	Shelby	Byrd	Shawnee Mission School	Overland Park	
7/20/2020 17:45:51	Jeanine	Lytton	Usd 305	Salina	I support the order to delay opening schools.

7/20/2020 17:45:52	Megan	Miglianti	Blue Valley Schools	Overland Park, KS	As a teacher, I support the EO to delay the start of school so our buildings may have the time needed to acquire the necessary safety equipment and supplies. I don't actually feel safe going back to work (in person) full time, but I don't think we really get a say in that matter. I need my benefits and income in order for my family to survive so that means I must work. It is my hope that delaying the start of school will also give our community time to slow the spread of COVID-19 before we send our children and school staff members back to school.
7/20/2020 17:45:53	Jill	Chard	Parent	Fredonia	I support Governor Kelly's order and her recommendations. I also think it makes sense to switch fall and spring sports
7/20/2020 17:46:31	Michelle	McHugh	Mother of two teens in C	Overland Park	I think we are better off safe than sorry and we should start school after Labor Day. The spike has me concerned for my family and our community.
7/20/2020 17:46:41	Crystal	Miller		Louisburg	Vote in favor of the delay to allow schools to put in protocols and time to purchase any items needed for those protocols.
7/20/2020 17:46:44	Jennifer	Elliott	I am a parent and a teach	Overland Park	I feel very strongly that we must delay in-person schooling while the number of COVID-19 cases is on the rise. Not only is it dangerous for school children, but it is dangerous for all of the adult employees in a school organization: bus drivers, administrators, paras, Lynch workers, nurses, aides, teachers, secretaries, custodians, and many others. We can start school online and attend in-person when the number of cases goes down considerably. Many of us are in the high risk category, and many people that we come home to are also at risk of getting the coronavirus. There are alternatives to in-person schooling that we can utilize. Please listen to the voices of medical professionals and those affected. Thank you!
7/20/2020 17:46:45	Bryant	Wilks	USD 266-Custodial Dire	Maize	I fully support Gov. Kelly's E.O. Delaying school opening date. As someone who is working to source and purchase the needed PPE supplies to open safely, we can use the extra time to receive all of these supplies. If this requires reducing or eliminating scheduled school breaks throughout the year then that should be considered. We all want schools to resume all of their operations, we just want to make sure we do it in a safe manner and not rushed. Thank you for your consideration to this matter.
7/20/2020 17:46:47	Leann	Voor Vart	Blue Valley SD parent a	Overland Park	We need time and preparation to be ready to fulfill the plan you have outlined. It is not safe yet and we are NOT ready. Remember- we are not "on the clock" yet! After 23 years of teaching, don't make me ( and many others) hang my hat up early out of fear of safety and being ill prepared. I am ready to, but would prefer to work and see my "kids" again- at a safe distance, fully masked, with a smaller class full of sanitizer! You are meeting online and in public you are encouraged to be 6 feet apart. In person, that 6 feet goes away and we will be face to face. Not safe YET.
7/20/2020 17:47:05	Michelle	Kleinschrodt		Wichita	I would like to see the start of school delayed but also maybe a split learning environment for all ages.
7/20/2020 17:47:07	Laura	Vincent		Lawrence	Schools need to be opened. Think about those parents who are barely struggling to keep up. Think of the unprivileged community; who is feeding them? Educating them? Loving them? What about the special needs community that depends on school for structure and stability?
7/20/2020 17:47:34	Kim	Bragg		Olathe, Kansas	I urge you to vote in favor of Governor Kelly's school delay. As infection rates climb in Johnson County, as well as other counties in our state, our schools and teachers need time to plan for student safety. We all know how important school is for kids and families. We all want students in school back with their friends and teachers. If school starts in 3 to 4 weeks our kids will most definitely go back remote. If we give schools more time by adopting Governor Kelly's plan, we are drastically increasing the chance of going back to school in person. Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 17:47:20	Karla	Black		Derby	The kids, especially in Secondary Schools, need to get back to learning. Being out of school for the better part of 6 months makes it very difficult for them to learn to learn and to retain prior knowledge. On top of this, kids in the upper school levels are missing out on many activities and learning events. In that place, they are playing video games and not focusing their energies in a productive way.  Please open the schools and let the local BOE work within the guidelines your organization released earlier.  Thank you!

7/20/2020 17:47:36	Robert	Woods		Wichita	I fully support this order, and find it unfortunate that our education system is the one with ultimate power over our public health decisions. Within the last week, I have seen how dangerous this could be for the entire population, not just those with children in school. A close friend just had a 10 year old child pass this virus on to her grandparents , who are both over 80 years old. I feel this scenario is likely to repeat many more times if children rush into the classroom during the worst concentration of the virus, we have seen in our area since the start. We may also see that worsen as the case count climbs from the gatherings that took place over the 4th of July weekend. As for my own children, I would possibly consider returning them to school on the September start date, IF, cases are declining and their schools, have a common sense plan in place to mitigate spread. If their schools force the regular start date, my children will be attending an online program of our choosing. I will not force my children into danger, or have them unnecessarily further spread this virus to others, in the name of furthering the republican political agenda. . Many parents I have spoken with, have similar plans for their children, regardless of their political views.
7/20/2020 17:47:45	Christin	Elson		Wichita	I am a teacher and have a child going in to Kindergarten. I would like to see a downward trend prior to beginning this school year.
7/20/2020 17:47:50	Sarah	Koehn		Bel Aire	KEEP IN-PERAON SCHOOLS CLOSED until cases are declining for 14 straight days. You will literally kill students and teachers.
7/20/2020 17:48:02	Jennalee	Ekeland	Mother of 4 children in	Halstead KS	School can, at the very minimum, begin in August online. It is not necessary to delay education and then cut out a large chunk of summer. Children need the accountability of education. It doesnt need to be delayed. Everyone knew this was going to be an issue. We've had 4 months to prepare for this.
7/20/2020 17:48:17	Christi	Weldon		Olathe	I urge you to please uphold the Governor's order to delay in person learning until after Labor Day. If our State BOE doesn't feel it is safe to meet in person to make this decision, how is it safe for students and staff? Districts need additional time to plan for all learning options that may be encountered this school year. Thank-you!
7/20/2020 17:48:14	Kimberley	Vogle	Me	Wichita	I wanted to Thank Governor Kelly for making some decisions that are hard choices. Thank you for your leadership your dedication to the safety and well being of the people and economics of our great state.
7/20/2020 17:48:27	Darby	Trusdale	Blue Valley - 3rd grade	Overland Park	As a teacher, I want nothing more than to begin school, meet my new students and start teaching. With that being said, I think the education those sweet kids receive will be better after Labor Day rather than rushing to start school in August. It gives schools time to prep and plan, as well as give parents more time to plan and understand schools process for starting in the safest, most organized way possible. Thank you for your time!
7/20/2020 17:48:30	Nicole	Kerschen		Kingman	Open schools in August. Or at least each county decide. Have only had 5-8 cases in our county and shouldn't have to follow the same guidelines as Wichita or Kansas City.
7/20/2020 17:48:42	AnaLisa	Black		Dickinson	I think if it seems a safer option to wait until after Labor Day to open, that's what the schools should do. People would rather have in class vs online most of the time. I decided to homeschool my 2nd grader (because we believe in implementing bible into school and also would prefer her not to wear a mask all day ) and are sending our high schooler to public school because she doesn't mind wearing a mask and has accepted that's what it will likely be. I think Kansas should do whatever seems like the safest option.
7/20/2020 17:48:45	Daniel	Falk		Wichita	Schools need the time to get ready. Delay the start so kids and staff can return safely.
7/20/2020 17:48:54	Nicolle	Schellet		Olathe	I strongly support Governor Kelly's order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. With cases spiking around us in Johnson County, it would be irresponsible to send everyone back in mid-August. Giving everyone a little more time to get ahead of this and prepared are the only practical and safe things to do. Let's put our kids and educators ahead of political agendas!
7/20/2020 17:49:00	Cynthia	Leniton	Parent/Tax Payer	Grenola	I feel the decision for start dates should be controlled by local school boards.
7/20/2020 17:49:09	Kerri	Cushing	Meadows Elementary U	Topeka	I strongly agree with the recommendations from our Governor.
7/20/2020 17:49:13	Jen	Dixon-Perkins	Teacher usd 497	Lawrence	No school until after Sept 9, then no brick and mortar till Covid nubers go down.
7/20/2020 17:49:38	Jen	Sample		Olathe	Keep em closed till Labor Day. This gives us time to prepare etc with all the new cleaning, distancing etc protocols
7/20/2020 17:50:02	Chad	Christensen		Wichits	The decision to open up should be kept to local school boards. It is my belief you can not lump USD 259 into the same category as a 1 A school in Western Ks.
7/20/2020 17:50:09	Rachel	Binder	USD 229	Overland Park	Please delay the 20-21 school year. As a high school teacher, I am terrified to return. As a mother of a first grader, I am again terrified to send my son.

7/20/2020 17:50:32	Mackinzie	Brungardt		Garden City	Maybe we should just opt into the zoom learning like we finished the school year off. Consistency needs to be the focus, once you start being inconsistent with the learning ways the harder it is on children. Let alone my son does not need or is enforced to wear a mask at daycare, he's active and a mouth breather. The mask for him is not an option, but online learning would be and the comfort of not having him in a mask that I know he will have issues with is my concern. Besides there are plenty more parents who worry about actually sending their children to school mask or no mask. So why not just get us through this first semester during cold/flu season by really playing it safe and mandate at home learning for the semester. To me that seems more logical with the concerns I've witnessed amongst parents.
7/20/2020 17:50:34	Kaley	Falk		Wichita	Having schools open now will cause more of a spike and will result in having to close again if safety measures are not in place. By delaying the start of the school year you won't evidently give more time for safety precautions to be put in place. School should be delayed.
7/20/2020 17:50:36	Dustin	Bell	Hoxie schools	Hoxie Kansas	We need to get our kids back in school at normal starting time. The option to compete in sports needs to be available as well. Those who don't want to don't have to, but there needs to be the option of choice. We can't rob the kids of these opportunities any more.
7/20/2020 17:50:47	Jasmine	Hernandez-Ochoa		Haysville	Yes delay
7/20/2020 17:51:25	Anna	Davila	Kansas Public School T	Leavenworth	We need the extra planning time to implement safety protocols to keep everyone (staff and students) safe. Please strongly consider delaying the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 17:51:28	Jennifer	Weide		Pretty Praire	Please give the control to the local school boards. They know what is best for their community.
7/20/2020 17:52:06	Carolyn	Day	2nd grade teacher, paren	Mulvane	Please please keep school closed until labor day. The risk of staff and students is not worth it. As a teacher I would much rather safely return to school 3-4 weeks late as to risk having bury a student or a coworker.
7/20/2020 17:52:08	Deana	Miller		Peru	I am a teacher of 24 years, I ask that you support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay schools opening until after Labor Day. Since districts just recently received the guidelines it is almost impossible to have these in place and teachers trained to make our buildings safe. I have been in the school setting many years and have witnessed districts saying they are doing things that in fact they are not, just to keep parents and the public happy. This is life or death situations for teachers and students, it must be done correctly. As a teacher I don't want the liability of one of my students becoming infected or worse dying in my classroom. I am at an age where I possibly would not be able to survive the virus. Opening schools is like using teachers and students as guinea pigs to see how this bad experiment will work. We do not know enough about this virus to have face to face learning. This goes against everything doctors and scientists are telling us to do to slow down the infection rate. What kind of example is the state board of education not instilling in children by going against the governor's executive order and all the health experts advice. Very poor role model for students! We are teachers we can educate students when it is safe. Death or long term effects from the virus are not reversible. Stop playing politics with our health!
7/20/2020 17:52:34	Tiffany	Rufe		Wichita	Delay the school year
7/20/2020 17:52:45	Linda	Martin	Paraeducators	Lawrence	Thank you Governor Kelly for standing strong and listening to science. Your strong actions show you care about the health and safety of the students and staff in public schools of Kansas.
7/20/2020 17:52:49	Jennifer	Yearout	USD 259	Derby	Safety needs to be first priority. Safety for students, staff, families of students, families of staff. Life is more important than politics. Keep the buildings closed and instruction online until the number of positive cases decline and we have a vaccine. I teach elementary special education. My husband teaches in a high school. My son is in middle school. My mother is a retired teacher and I help take care of her, she is disabled. I do not want to attend a student or a staff member or one of my friends or family funeral this school year.
7/20/2020 17:52:50	Rachelle	Thoman		Basehor	Please support the governor's order to delay school until after Labor Day. I'm a mom to 2 elementary students and am an elementary library media specialist. I want to see our kids safely back in school. I am dedicated to providing the best program I can to my students. I believe our schools will be better prepared for new guidelines if we have additional time to prepare routines and procedures, to communicate our plans to families, and to purchase PPE/sanitizing supplies. Thank you.
7/20/2020 17:52:58	Roger	Falk		Wichita	Opening schools too quickly would be a mistake. The governor is right to order a delay. Schools will need time to prepare for the challenges of the covid era. I delay make sure that we open in the smartest way and don't risk students health unnecessarily.
7/20/2020 17:52:58	Jason	Hoppe	My family.	Lenora	Don't destroy Children's lives. Reopen the schools!



7/20/2020 17:53:02	Alisha	Schwinn	Teacher	Topeka	I want schools open.
7/20/2020 17:53:03	Kaleena	Pendergraft	Myself and and my stud	Wichita	This is a good idea. I fully support it for all the reasons Governor Kelly already mentioned. It is not at all safe to go back into the classroom right now, teachers and students will get very sick and without subs to back them up, it will be a mess. Thank you for doing the right thing to protect teachers and students.
7/20/2020 17:53:06	Jessica	Kalender-Rich	My family	Overland Park	Thank you for looking out for Kansans. It is only through mask wearing, social distancing, and hand hygiene that we will be able to resume school in safety. This pause will allow for the numbers to hopefully plateau, if and only if, people do the right thing. If numbers are increasing, I would also support a further delay.
7/20/2020 17:53:14	Robin	Weinand		Olathe	We want our children to be able to be in school, but only if Covid numbers go down. Please don't start school until after Labor Day to allow for numbers to decrease and teachers to set up for the changes.
7/20/2020 17:53:17	Cori	Edington	Teacher	Cherryvale	You should follow what the Governor's executive order states. We should definitely have masks and social distancing to keep the students safe.
7/20/2020 17:53:28	Jamie	Martin		Columbus	I absolutely agree to hold off until the situation gets better. The virus is not under control yet. Waiting is our best option until more treatments and a vaccine is available.
7/20/2020 17:53:30	Kristen	McAsey		Abilene	Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion. I do not believe that keeping school facilities closed until after Labor Day is in the best interest of our children, their well being or education.
7/20/2020 17:53:33	Amber	Rea		Tonganoxie, KS	Schools need to be virtual until this virus is under control. There are too many students and staff lives at stake. Virtual learning can be done well if we have the time and training to get it started now.
7/20/2020 17:53:34	Eliza	Salinas	USD 259	Wichita	Delay school to prepare teachers and staff.
7/20/2020 17:53:37	Heather	Holt		Abilene	Please, for the safety of our children, follow the governor's order. I want my children to be back in school, but I just don't see how that is going to happen. If the districts are left to decide, our children will haveko protection. They will say they are just guidelines. Make it mandatory!
7/20/2020 17:53:39	Mandy	Swift		Topeka	I strongly believe that all schools should start ON TIME and not be delayed. Pediatricians all over are saying it's vital for kids to be back in school. Our cases will continue to rise because our testing continues to increase and because it's a virus! Our death count is lowering and that's where we should be focusing! And the fact that children are not transferring this from peer to peer or child to adult.
7/20/2020 17:53:40	Abby	Thompson	USD 443	Dodge City	The State Board has been dragging their feet in releasing mandates for school districts for months. They have now allotted us three weeks to plan for whatever conclusion they come to this week. This is NOT enough time to prepare our schools and classrooms for social distancing, prepare our schedules to reduce congestion in common areas, and allow ALSO teachers time to prepare content. Districts and teachers need time to prepare for this school year given each district's independent plan. Please pass Executive Order 20-58 so teachers can effectively teach this year no matter WHAT circumstances we are thrown into.
7/20/2020 17:53:41	TABITHA	MARRIOTT	Teacher in Olathe	SPRING HILL	I agree with the EO. We need to enforce the social distancing though. Don't pack our classrooms and say masks will be enough to keep everyone safe.

					<p>Dear Kansas BOE,</p> <p>I am in support of a delayed opening for our K-12 schools if it means I can minimize the risk of exposing my higher risk children to complications associated with COVID-19.</p> <p>There are several promising vaccine trails underway that may be finished within the next 6 months. Why rush to expose our children when protection may be available by the time Christmas break concludes? Why rush into starting when the state is experiencing a sharp increase in cases?</p> <p>Think of the logistics of trying to get subs for teachers or classrooms that experience an exposure event? Take me for example, if schools open face-to-face and one of my children comes home or wakes up with a cough and fever I will need to self quarantine until we get tested and get the test results back. If they are positive, I'll have to self quarantine for two weeks after they get better because there is NO guarantee that I would have become infected at exactly the same time. Maybe they give to me on day one, maybe they give it to me on day five, or day ten.</p> <p>This becomes a logistical nightmare, I'll have to move my classes and labs online until I can get back, which may be 4 weeks when everything is said and done in the best of scenarios of COVID-19 infection.</p> <p>If they stayed home, if schools focused on online learning until a vaccine is available, we stand to gain momentum in recovery and not be burned out and dealing with sickness and daily stress of when will it hit me? My family? My school?</p> <p>I think students are more adept to online education than we imagine and it serves as an important option between forced exposure and a discontinuous education. I'd rather have delayed starts and online education than face the possibility of student or faculty deaths in a forced reopening. Are you prepared to live with that on your conscious? I know I'm not, and that's why I'm doing what I can to voice my support of Governor Kelly's decisions.</p>
7/20/2020 17:53:49	Andrew	Ouellette	Parent of K-12 Students	Pittsburg, KS	
7/20/2020 17:54:28	Tori	Price		Wichita	Plexiglass between desks. Masks only in hallways/buses
7/20/2020 17:54:31	Theresa	Cregger		South Hutchinson	I think and feel children need to get back to school asap so they can learn however if children are wearing mask to me that hinders there learning. If my granddaughter has to wear a mask to school and can't breathe then we will have to home school. Let the children get back to normal. The masks aren't any better. Let's all get back to a normal without masks.
7/20/2020 17:54:33	Abigail	Dedeaux	USD 259, Brooks Middl	Wichita	I am a school social worker in USD 259. My oldest son is also starting kindergarten this year in Wichita Public Schools. Both as a committed employee and as a parent, I stand with Governor Kelly and agree that we should delay the start of school to ensure adequate safety measures are being met, for the good of students, staff and families in Wichita Public Schools.

7/20/2020 17:55:01	Laurie	Heisel	Teacher in USD 232 and Olathe	<p>After watching Governor Kelly's press conference last week and again today, as an educator and a parent I fully support her decision to close schools until Labor Day to allow districts the opportunity to plan how to start the 2020-2021 school year with all necessary Covid-19 mitigation mandates in place. I feel that she has shown great leadership during this time of uncertainty. I also feel that she makes these difficult decisions using science and facts, not out of fear or party politics.</p> <p>As an educator in the DeSoto school district, I have concerns about returning to school in person as our case count rises. As a parent of students in the Olathe school district, I am apprehensive about sending my children back to school this fall. I know that both districts will make the best decisions they can for their students, but since so much is unknown about this virus, it is hard to be confident that even the most strict guidelines will keep our children and their families safe. This is not how I envisioned my 17th year in the classroom starting, and I miss my students and colleagues, but we must do what we can to keep everyone safe and healthy.</p> <p>I hope that you support Governor Kelly's executive order to keep schools closed until Labor Day. I hope you support the teachers, school staff, students, and all the families of Kansas, and support this measure to give districts this much needed time to make these hard decisions and to implement the guidelines that have been adopted by the Board you serve on.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration and service,</p> <p>Laurie Heisel Olathe, KS</p>
7/20/2020 17:55:11	Rebecca	Hess	BVSD Parent and BVSI Overland Park	<p>My thoughts are this. We only have one chance to do this right once. If there is illness and long term complications, possibly death it is not worth the risk. To anyone. My kiddos are anxious and afraid of going back too early, as well as myself. Waiting carries no anxiety, only the hopes of better methods in place to keep us safe when we do go back.</p>
7/20/2020 17:55:14	Diana	Ambrosier	k-12 school teachers Norton, KS	<p>I think when considering school safety not only should students be considered but the teachers. We are probably more vulnerable and more likely to get the coronavirus and have lasting effects of it. Please consider the success we have had with online schooling. Also, it is going to be very difficult to make up the 2 weeks that may be mandated for a late start of schools. It would be most likely that the KSBOE would have to make an exception to their rules on hours required for schools since most schools since making up this time may become difficult with other issues possibly arising.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration</p>
7/20/2020 17:55:18	Chase	Nichols	USD 259 Wichita	<p>Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day. This will provide us teachers adequate time to make necessary adjustments to meet the needs of students while also being safe. Thank you.</p>
7/20/2020 17:55:18	Kim	Davis	Olathe public school kin Lenexa	<p>Please vote in support of EO 58. Moving the start of school to September 8th will not cause long term damage to anyone. Starting school August 13th may endanger me. Johnson county Covid numbers are out of control and we need more time to put the virus in check.</p>
7/20/2020 17:55:21	Don	R	Kansas City Kansas Sch Kansas City	<p>If school is closed due to the Wuhan China Virus, No teacher , nor board of Education member should be paid. And all taxes taken out of the payroll of taxpayers should be given back to that taxpayer.</p>
7/20/2020 17:55:28	Allison	Copple	Belleville	<p>I completely agree that face coverings and sanitizing should be enforced. Starting school three weeks late, while providing more time for teachers to prepare a plan, moves the start of school closer to flu/other illness time (winter). I would love to be in-person for as long as possible, and if there is an increase in cases as the year progresses, I don't want to lose valuable in person time with students.</p>
7/20/2020 17:55:41	Tiffany	Cohlmi	Private school teacher Wichita	<p>I am a teacher that has underlying health issues. I am terrified to go back to work. I think giving our district an additional 3 weeks is a wonderful idea. We will be able come up with a plan to safely get our students AND teachers back in the classroom</p>

					<p>I would like to voice my support for Gov. Kelly's executive order to delay school openings until after Labor Day. I'm just a concerned citizen who thinks the health and safety of Kansans should be paramount when making these decisions. We shouldn't rush kids (not to mention teachers, administrators and staff) back to school when we're in the middle of COVID-19 spike.</p> <p>I think the governor is practicing good common sense.</p> <p>Thanks for your time.</p>
7/20/2020 17:56:09	Gillian	Titus	N/A	Westwood	
7/20/2020 17:56:21	Kristie	Sojka		Wichita	While our case numbers of Covid continue to rise, I support the delay to begin the 20-21 school year.
7/20/2020 17:56:25	Colleen	Koerner	USD 259	Wichita	I'm willing to go back to in-person school, maybe a few days and online the others. I have an infant, as well as other kids, at home and am very concerned about them contracting it. I know I keep seeing doctors talk about how it's not effecting children, but it is. I just pray for you all that the decisions made are in favor of keeping everyone safe!
7/20/2020 17:56:34	Erin	Tork	Parent of students in US	Topeka	I am in favor of school starting as scheduled with common sense precautions taken
7/20/2020 17:56:34	Hannah	White		Overland Park	Please delay.
7/20/2020 17:56:48	sam	king	Parent	chanute	I don't think we should be opening at all, not until we've got a vaccination or viral spread is under control, which it very much isn't.
7/20/2020 17:57:13	Eric	Skoglund		Shawnee	I strongly urge you to affirm Governor Kelly's order. Viruses are not subject to politics and no matter how much we are tired of dealing with safety measures, we need to stay the course. Current case numbers MUST be given time to cool down to decrease the chance that my high school classroom is a super spreader event each hour of the day. Opening at all will be fraught with issues including availability and willingness of substitute teachers, how to maintain distancing in buildings which are not made for them, remediating ventilation issues, and so many more. Our districts need time to prepare for these eventualities. If you want in-person education to last beyond the first few days, affirm this order. If you would rather see schools have to quarantine and close chaotically en masse by the first of September, then I guess you should reject the order. But your decision seems clear.
7/20/2020 17:57:23	Mary	Charity		Topeka	The Governor made this ruling in order to allow time for numbers to (hopefully) go down due to mask usage. This is not political - it is about the safety of all stakeholders - students, teachers and people in their homes. By taking a measured, well-thought out safe approach to opening, we have the greatest chance of being successful as we get back to face to face learning. If we rush into this and it does not go well, we create trauma and lose trust that our schools are able to provide a safe learning environment for Kansas kids. I encourage you to set aside politics, and vote to uphold this order to delay (not deny) the start of school so that safety measures can be put in place, and hopefully people will do the right thing g and wear masks to curtail the uncontrolled spread of this virus.
7/20/2020 17:57:29	Krystal	Knobloch	Madison Elementary &	Madison	I really feel like the executive order is overstepping Gov. Kelly's authority. This isn't a one size fits all. It should be left up to the county or district to decide. We are in a small rural community that has had a total of 11 cases since this all began. Why should we have to go by the same rules as Wyandotte Co. or Johnson Co. or Sedgwick Co? She should put her trust in the leaders of the schools and counties to make those decisions. It's an over reach of power. We are against starting after Labor Day and have the same hours required to complete the school year. That puts us well into June! We are against mask wearing for the students. My family doctor does not support masks as well as my sister who is the infectious disease control officer at a local hospital. It will do more harm than good. They will be constantly touching their faces! I see it all the time in adults and I can imagine kids will be much worse. We do feel there are certain practices that can be put in place to help with the safety and health of staff and students and we trust our reopening committee and school board to make those decisions. Not the governor. Thank you for listening and considering our concerns.

7/20/2020 17:57:35	steve	Woody		Atwood	Dear Kansas School Board. I am a substitute teacher and a three sport coach and also a sponsor for various other school related activities {Extra-curricular and otherwise} While delaying the opening of the school year until after Labor Day is in its-self not a death sentence for our schools { Many districts over the years have opted to not start the school year until after labor Day} The shutting down or not allowing any other activities I.E extra curricular -sports etc.. would be a disaster for not only the students but for all those adults involved in facilitating these activities. We would like to believe that as adults, we can make safe, intelligent and comprehensive decisions for our School districts and students. I agree with others that a one size fits all mentality is not what our education system can withstand. We all know that extra-activities are not needed to graduate from an accredited Kansas High School. But we all also know that these activities are VERY instrumental in the social and mental well being of the students We, as teachers and extra-curricular sponsors all know that a lot of students will keep their grades up in order to be able to participate in these extra activities. And any teacher or parent will tell you countless stories of how their students would not have made the grades that they did, if not for the pressure of not getting to participate because their grades would not allow it.. It has been proven that the on-line classes for all students were not a rousing success. In fact, many students, parents and teachers deemed it a failure to educate our Kansas students to the levels that we have been aspiring to for years. Taking away sports, forensics, scholars bowl, odyssey of the mind etc..and remanding students to just classroom education will not produce the quality of people that will be ready to lead us old folks in our waning years. I would prefer that we start school at it's Aug date, but as mentioned before, a Sept 9th start would not be a deal breaker. I ask that you consider ALL the things that sculpt our students lives, not just the education side when you consider your vote on Wednesday Districts across the state have been following the KSHSAA Summer guidelines and doing it responsibly and effectively. I ask that you also vote to let the KSHSAA season of activities proceed with no delays or postponements. . There are many, many child pediatricians and child development experts that testify that our country needs to get our kids back into the classroom, not on-line, and to let them participate in ALL other things that have been a part of the public school system for decades. And lastly, the mandate for everyone to wear a mask will be a nightmare for those trying to enforce it. Teachers at the primary level have their hands full trying to maintain classroom decorum, keep students from running down the hallways, keeping them from touching each other and many many other everyday situations that will always arise when working with primary school aged kids. Can you imagine what this will be like at the K thru Jr High level grades. Like trying to keep cats in a box!! Or pushing a log chain around the yard. Sorry that this got
7/20/2020 17:57:36	Leslie	Schmidt		Olathe	1. The governor is blatantly ignoring the law. If you don't stand against that, when will she give back any of her power grab. 2. Children's Mercy suicide hotline is exploding. The ugly side of all these lockdowns is depression, anxiety, and hopelessness. These kids matter too. 3. As a tax payer, when do I start getting refunds and tax breaks? More than half of the state budget is k-12 schools. If they aren't operating, I shouldn't have to pay for it.
7/20/2020 17:57:44	Stephanie	Andrasek	Usd 428	Great Bend	Please delay start of school to after labor day or longer to keep our teachers and students safe

7/20/2020 17:57:46	Allison	Lawrence		Overland Park	<p>Dear Board Members,</p> <p>My name is Allie Lawrence, and I am a resident of Overland Park, and teach in the Olathe school district. I am writing you today to share my thoughts about delaying the reopening of schools.</p> <p>I am a conservative Republican, and support the idea of local control, but the health and safety of our students, staff, and families is not a partisan issue.</p> <p>Teachers are givers, we give our time, our money, and our hearts to EVERY single child that walks through our doors. That love we have pushes us to make personal sacrifices for our students, and we do so willingly. We completely reworked education in a matter of weeks to continue to support students in March and didn't bat an eye. We want to be back in our classrooms with our kids, but we don't want to be back when the risk is so high, especially in larger districts with higher community spread rates. I shouldn't have to have 'Living Will' on my list of back to school to-do's.</p> <p>Please, I urge you to put politics aside and think about the negative consequences of sending kids and adults back before community spread is minimized. I don't want to attend the funeral of a colleague or student, or god forbid my family, because politics got in the way of doing what is right for kids. Three additional weeks isn't going to cause lasting issues for our kids, however, losing a friend, family member, or teacher will.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns, and honestly reflecting on what is best for the students of Kansas.</p> <p>I wish you all good health, Allie Lawrence</p>
7/20/2020 17:57:56	Taylor	Higbee		Olathe/teacher and Prair	<p>Please support Gov Kelly's EO as she couldn't have come to this decision easily or without considerable evidence. Our district needs time to put appropriate measures in place to help teachers feel comfortable returning to in-person work. School must look different in the fall but our mental and physical health takes priority in order for teachers to be healthy enough to help students feel more comfortable with required changes. Help us put on our masks first.</p>
7/20/2020 17:58:02	Sandra	Reed		Andover	<p>Please postpone school opening and use public health professional recommendations when making decisions regarding the safety and health of our school children and employees.</p>
7/20/2020 17:58:06	Danese	Lindsay	None	Kingman County	<p>I agree with Governor Kelly's mandates. She is making the right decision. I am a Registered Nurse and have worn masks for 50 years. It protected me and the patients I cared for. It is the medically and scientifically approach to stop this disease</p>
7/20/2020 17:58:19	Daniel	Meisch	Usd413	Chanute	<p>Please allow access to the schools for summer workouts! It is very important to the athletes!</p>
7/20/2020 17:58:23	Lishe	Kaiser		Hoxie	<p>Do not delay the start!</p>
7/20/2020 17:58:23	Jake	Moss	USD 412	Hoxie	<p>We need a regular start time. A one size fits all approach does not work well for Kansas.</p>
7/20/2020 17:58:32	John	Robinson	Self and Family	Lawrence	<p>Schools need to open on time. Our children are already behind, and the loss of social interaction is a detriment to their overall growth and maturity. While covid-19 is real, we know that it is less dangerous to healthy young people than anyone. Requiring social distancing, and masks when it cannot be achieved, will temper any danger. Parents should also have the choice to keep children home, and work online, if they deem it necessary. There will be circumstances where other health issues change the dynamic for that child, and parents should have the choice. We have to get back to as close to normal as possible or we will lose an entire generation. Every day right now is imperative in the development of our kids. Please get them back to school.</p>
7/20/2020 17:58:36	Megan	Ford	USD 457	GARDEN CITY	<p>We want to go back to the classroom!</p>
7/20/2020 17:58:47	Megan	ardt	blue valley school distric	Kansas City	<p>Delaying the start of the school year allows schools and staff to put in place a concrete plan to keep students safe in the school or at home. As an educator working with special education students I do not see a possibility to my students returning to school, practicing distance, and wearing a mask. People will get sick, people will die, and teachers will go under appreciated again.</p>
7/20/2020 17:58:49	Leah	Towle		Lawrence	<p>I fully support the decision to delay the school year. It is the safest choice for our teachers, kids, and their families. It is okay to sacrifice a perfect school year to keep Kansans alive.</p>

7/20/2020 17:59:01	Amanda	Belknap	USD 257 IHS	Iola	Support the governor's executive order. She has made a careful decision based on data to do what's in the best interest for the health of staff, students, and their parents/grandparents. Kansas Covid numbers are increasing. We need the extra time to put things in place for the safety of all involved.
7/20/2020 17:59:03	Tiffany	Scheffler		Kansas City	Uphold the governor's order. I actually wish it would extended longer, since we have seen spikes after each holiday weekend. We cannot proceed as normal. We cannot open schools in the face of rising numbers. It is not the job of schools to make up for systemic societal failings i.e. access to childcare, food assistance, other services. Remember March? April? May? What has changed?
7/20/2020 17:59:12	Beth	Schmelzle	USD 378	Riley	NO MASKS! THEY WILL BE BREEDING GROUNDS FOR EVEN MORE BACTERIA AND VIRUSES.
7/20/2020 17:59:25	Krista	Yates	I work for USD#204 Bo	Bonner Springs, KS	I feel anything less than Virtual School at this time will be doing our community a huge disservice. I fear even waiting until after Labor Day, another holiday weekend, will not help us safely slow the spread or help work on flattening that curve again. With an outbreak, our close-knit community will quickly suffer. Being in Wyandotte County we are at such a high risk for exposure. There are so many unknowns still and we are quickly learning kids are not immune and indeed can become very sick from Covid-19. Even if they are not showing signs, we have to consider our students who's only caregiver may be their elderly grandparent. We have to think of the students and those who have family members who are high risk. Please seriously look; even if you have to break it down to certain counties or Districts, at the numbers, the risks, and how great of a % the chances are looking at our schools quickly having an outbreak and having to do quarantine after quarantine. The stress of back and forth will be more detrimental to our students and staff's health. The worry over someone we know and truly care about becoming sick and possibly having to lose their lives, is going to be much harder for young students to have to wrap their minds around than school from home which they were quickly thrown into back in March. Overall most Districts, teachers, staff members, families, quickly adapted to that as well as they could with no heads up. This time we can and will be more prepared. I would rather have to tell a student they will be doing school from home again to prevent someone in our building from getting sick, than having to try and explain to a student that because we went back without understanding we have lost a staff member or one of their friends is no longer with us. My kids sat back in February at my Granny's funeral, and again just this past Saturday at their Papaw (my Father's) funeral and I can assure you they do NOT want to lose anyone else. Thank you for your tireless efforts during this undoubtedly stressful time.
7/20/2020 17:59:26	Ruth	Amick	BLUE VALLEY SCHO	OVERLAND PARK	I support the Governor's order to delay start of school until Sept. 9th. I do not feel we know enough about COVID-19 to ensure safety of staff and students particularly during a spike in cases in our area.
7/20/2020 17:59:29	Christopher	Escalante		Topeka	Accept the delay. We are currently one of the top states per capita in new cases. 3 weeks won't have a significant negative impact on the academic year but could have numerous benefits. It will give teachers and administrators more time to prepare for a safe reopening with whatever mix (online, in-person) ends up being necessary. As a parent of students. As a son of a teacher. It's just not worth the gamble.
7/20/2020 17:59:35	Nicole	E		Marion	The governor's announcement is the most communication I have seen in regards to keeping my kids safe in the school setting. I am in favor of both executive orders. I know my comments are one of many, but please hear that I know parents are worried for children's/staff/families safety. Please let science guide your vote and not politics.
7/20/2020 17:59:52	Pam	Sims	My family	Abilene	Start school on time these kids are suffering enough! They need school and sports!!!!
7/20/2020 17:59:55	Jackie	Whitley	Taxpayers	Winfield	Schools need to open with no masks mandates. Over Half my Property taxes go to schools. I want a refund if Kelly thinks she is a Dictator. Masks don't protect from a virus. In 2018 way more Kansans died from flu. Kids die from flu not Covid19. Masks should be a choice. The recovery rate doesn't warrant schools delaying.
7/20/2020 17:59:55	Erica	Castillo	Olpe school usd 252	Emporia	My children would like to start school in August. Regardless there will be a spike in covid no matter what.
7/20/2020 18:00:05	Jeremy	Mohn	Blue Valley USD #229	Olathe	Recent evidence from large scale studies has confirmed that adolescents spread COVID-19 just as freely as adults. Please consider the health of the teachers and staff in middle schools and high schools who could be sent back to poorly ventilated classrooms with very little in the way of personal protection. For most of us, under these conditions, it is not be a matter of if we will be infected. It is instead a matter of when we get infected and how long we will be incapacitated by it. When this happens to high school teachers—particularly those of us who teach upper level courses—our students will not have anyone able to teach them complex course material.
7/20/2020 18:00:05	Morgan	Crabtree	Osawatomie USD 367	Parker	I support the delay to watch case numbers and allow schools time to try to comply with the safety requirements. However, I would prefer starting online to keep the calendar and teacher contracts closer to original terms.

7/20/2020 18:00:07	Krista	Hart		Gardner	Please vote to adopt this executive order. We need the delayed start so that we can plan and make accommodations. I haven't even been able to have access to my classroom since March, and I would typically have already spent countless hours over the summer doing just that. I'm already freaked out about having to be in the classroom every day with 25 students. Please give us all the chance to figure out how we are going to adjust to meet the needs of students in our classrooms with all of the changes that are necessary in a way that will allow all students to succeed.
7/20/2020 18:00:14	Ally	Schaffer		Bonner Springs	Please support Gov. Kelly's order to delay the start of school. Not only will this extra time allow for Covid-19 cases to hopefully drop, but it will also provide districts adequate time to make their plans using KSDE's recently released guidelines and to acquire important safety and mitigation supplies Please put teachers, students, and everyone we go home to above politics, and prioritize our health and safety!
7/20/2020 18:00:16	Christine	Drinkhouse	USD 497, Lawrence	Lecompton	Please delay the opening of public schools so we will have more information on COVID and teachers can train and plan. Thank you.
7/20/2020 18:00:56	Suzanne	Martell		Topeka	As the number of Covid-19 cases steadily increase, I believe it would be in the best benefit of students and school staff to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. I do not make this opinion lightly. I am a special education teacher in a specialized Autism classroom; my students thrive on consistency and stability. The classroom is just the place to provide what they need. However, we cannot provide what my students and many neurotypical average students need if we are short staffed because of illness, quarantine, or staff members that have underlying conditions. Please take this into consideration when you are making a decision on the Governor's EO to delay the start of school. Myself, and many other educators and our families know that it is never easy to make a decision that could be considered "political". We also understand the stance that government should not play a large role in mandating our actions. Unfortunately, Americans, not just Kansans, have shown that they are not willing to participate in common sense and common courtesy measures, such as mask wearing and social distancing, in order to keep the curve flattened. This decision is not going to be easy for you and I respect the State BOE members that have personally answered my emails when I have contacted them. Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/20/2020 18:01:01	Heather	Moss	public school teacher	Bonner Springs, Kansas	I strongly support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. First, schools need time to plan how they will implement the Covid-19 mitigation strategies. Second, teachers need time to plan for effective remote, hybrid, and in-person teaching formats. These first two points apply to all Kansas districts. Even in areas with very few or no cases, the situation could change rapidly, and school districts need to be prepared. Unfortunately, most Kansas districts have not been forthcoming with their plans for responding to COVID-19 this upcoming school year, which leads me to believe more time is needed. Lastly, the delay in starting school will give Kansans much-needed time to practice mitigation strategies so we can begin to see a decline in Covid-19 cases which will make in-person school safer for everyone. I do not believe it is responsible or safe to start any form of in-person K-12 school until there is a 14-day decline in cases in Kansas.
7/20/2020 18:01:14	Roberta	Holt		Galena	The schools need to open. Kids are going to be so far behind they can't catch up. They need school for physical & mental health. Let the districts decide if & when they need to close. With 59 cases on the county & 1 death there's no need to close the school or push back the opening. It's also hard for parents that work & don't have child care or the time to do long distance learning.
7/20/2020 18:01:15	Daniel	Meisch		Chanute	I think it will be safe to start school on August 12th. Kids do not appear to get the virus easy or spread it easily. It will be safer for them to have them in school where they can be monitored!
7/20/2020 18:01:23	Monika	Swanson		Leawood	Please open the schools as planned in August! The kids need this! And please consider looking into the psychological effects of kids wearing masks. Kansas only has a high number of "cases" because of high numbers of testing! Anyway kids are not in danger to get infected. Please look at European countries where the kids are back in school without problems!!
7/20/2020 18:01:40	CaSsandra	Davidson		Wichita	Please leave schools closed through the fall its not safe
7/20/2020 18:01:58	Maeve	Bolin	USD469	Lansing	Please follow the governor's orders. Districts do not want to be on their own in making these decisions. It creates distrust when teachers and staff do not agree with the district. I am a leader in my building, and I have talked with many teachers who do not want to go back until we know it is safe. We aren't trained health professionals. We need additional time preparing to get it right for our students and trying to drive numbers down.



7/20/2020 18:01:59	Stacy	Marvin		Overland Park	Please vote to delay school until after Labor Day to let our schools prepare and gather all of the appropriate safety items!
7/20/2020 18:02:00	Michelle	Ochs		Dodge City	As a teacher, I would much prefer to teach my students in person. HOWEVER, I'm not sure that large or high poverty districts can get enough hand sanitizer, masks, thermometers, etc. in order to safely start "on time." If you leave this decision up to local governments, or individual school boards, I fear there will be no consistency across the state. It would be totally unfair for a school to start on time while its football/volleyball/marching band/forensics team/etc. opponent in the neighboring county decides to start late.  I know there is no easy decision with this, and no matter what you decide you will upset many. However, I feel the best decision is to uphold Executive Order 20-58 if not for the sake of safety, then for the sake of consistency.
7/20/2020 18:02:00	Kimberly	Simmons		Topeka	As a teacher, a daughter and a single parent, I urgently encourage you to adopt the governor's executive order pushing for a delay of opening in person classrooms. The safety of teachers, students and their respective families should be a priority and large school buildings do not create an environment that is conducive to that. While schools are a vital part of reopening the economy, they are also not intended as child care facilities in a pandemic. Please consider that other front line workers are not placed into one small space with 20+ children for 7 hours a day. Their meetings with others are brief and thus, safer. Delay the start, allow safety measures to be put into place!
7/20/2020 18:02:08	Kelly	Smitj	USD453	Leavenworth	Yes, please delay Re-opening and go on-line only until bi-weekly case counts are zero!!!!
7/20/2020 18:02:33	Amanda	Vanausdall	USD 259	Wichita	Please approve the executive order to delay the start of schools. I am a teacher, I live with family that is high risk for contracting severe symptoms from Covid, please allow extra time for districts to prepare for the safest return to school. I love my students, I want to be with them in person, but it should be safe. I hope that we don't put ourselves in a position to be short of healthy teachers and subs, and risk shutting down in the middle of the semester, a later start will decrease that risk.
7/20/2020 18:02:34	Lydia	Dainty	USD 493	Columbus	I fully support the Governor's decision in the delay of school. Our county (Cherokee) has not been taking safety measures and has had an increase in cases. This week our county fair is taking place along with a full carnival with rides. We need time to see where our numbers are standing. I am also a public school teacher and know we need the extra time to prepare properly for the mandates that are taking place. We haven't even begun to discuss the lengthy amount of guidelines and procedures.
7/20/2020 18:02:38	Marcy	Hurlbut		Sylvan Grove	Please let the individual school districts decide what is best for those individual communities. The needs of the larger schools versus the smaller schools are much different and shouldn't be addressed in one lump decision.
7/20/2020 18:02:44	Dusty	Killian	Caney Valley	Caney	Swapping fall sports for spring sports is a good idea for all sports except football. This is because of the grass fields that the majority of Kansas schools play on will not be as safe to play on because the grass will be dormant in most areas until late April. Creating an unsafe surface for athletes.
7/20/2020 18:02:46	Jaime	Schalk	Mom of 5	Columbus	My kids need a normal school year. This is a joke. It literally makes me want to throw up. I am having so much anxiety from this, I can not even imagine what it is going to do to my kids when they find out!!! And the mask thing is a complete joke!!! Little kids wearing masks!!!!???. Yeah that is going to go well! I have to wear one now while in summer school with my kids, and there are times I can hardly breathe!!!! This is only going to cause more people to get sick, not help protect them!!!!!!
7/20/2020 18:02:51	Victoria	Gosselaar	Olathe Teacher	Olathe	As a teacher I do not feel it is safe to resume in person schooling. My father is immunocompromised, and while I don't live with him, I can't imagine not being able to see him because of the dangers of my job. I love my students and will do everything I can to ensure they succeed, but my family will always be more important. Online learning is a viable option, and more focus should be put on how to do distant learning successfully, rather than fighting to put kids back in brick and mortar school.
7/20/2020 18:03:07	Lindsay	Siek	USD 102	Cimarron	Open back up in August. NO masks!
7/20/2020 18:03:21	Reed	Szambecki	Southern Coffey County	Gridley Ls	Why would you delay when they have found it's harder to contract during warm weather than when it's cold. Makes no sense to delay in that case!
7/20/2020 18:03:22	Honey	Coash		Garden City	I don't believe we need to delay school in our community any further. We haven't seen another spike here and I feel the socio-cultural and emotional development of our children is at risk the longer they are kept from being in school

7/20/2020 18:03:22	Jennifer	Bettles		Herington, KS	I am an elementary teacher and a parent of school age children. I support the governor's executive order to postpone the start of school until after Labor Day. I feel this time is needed for teachers and schools to properly prepare and for numbers to stabilize. I feel it is what is in the best interest of our children. I also feel that, locally, decisions have been made across Kansas to opt out of the mask mandate and the Ad Astra plan, in the interest of politics rather than public health. I do not want to see the same thing happen in regards to safely reopening schools.
7/20/2020 18:03:27	Melissa	Phelps		Kansas City Kansas	I believe that postponing the start of school the is best option for the safety of everyone. It will hopefully give us time to get the virus under control as well as make a good plan for school to start safely.
					As a mother and a teacher, I am incredibly grateful for the Executive Order that Kansas Governor Laura Kelly will be issuing in a few short days that keeps Kansas schools shuttered until at least September 9th. Yes, there will be challenges... more time at home, delay in athletics/activities, trying to find childcare, etc., but these challenges can and will be overcome. I firmly believe more positives than negatives will come from this...  Positive 1) THE GIFT OF TIME- The Kansas Reopening Task Force created a 1,100 page document that outlines how schools can safely reopen. This is a very complex and well-written document that will take time to digest. The extra three weeks gifted to schools will allow us to take those recommendations, as well as the data from our local communities, to create a complete plan that supports and protects all stakeholders in our communities.  Positive 2) IMPROVED QUALITY OF INSTRUCTION- Included in the 1,100 page document, referenced above, were prioritized standards for grade level bands. These prioritized standards may require teachers to make adjustments to the content they teach, the depth of knowledge they teach those skills to, and how they assess students for mastery. They may also have to consider alternative methods of instructional delivery if we end up in a digital or hybrid learning situation. These adjustments take time. Giving teachers three extra weeks to evaluate these instructional changes should result in higher quality lessons for your children!  Positive 3) CHANGING THE COURSE OF COVID. Numerous doctors and scientists have said that if everyone in our country would wear masks in public for the next 4-8 weeks, we could slowdown or even reverse the current trend of increasing COVID cases. At the earliest, Kansas schools could open in about 6 weeks. Can you imagine how different our COVID data could look in 6 weeks?!? If we wear masks regularly we have a greater chance to give our students a "normal" school year. After the mess of last school year, who wouldn't want that?!? I'm wearing my mask. Hopefully you are too! #wearamask #theworldisbiggerthanyou  Positive 4) SCHOOLS ARE BEING IMMEDIATELY REDESIGNED FOR THE BETTER. Through the coursework required for my second master's degree, I was struck at how little our educational system and coursework has changed in the last 50 years. This global pandemic is allowing schools to make sweeping changes that will provide better
7/20/2020 18:03:33	Jennifer	Stoops		Kansas City, KS	We have no business reopening the schools at this point. Cases are rising, and if you choose to reopen schools, it is strictly for a political agenda. For ONCE, think about the health and well-being of Kansas citizens. Postponing the opening of schools for three more weeks will NOT be detrimental to our students. Do the right thing. Follow the governors EO.
7/20/2020 18:03:37	Joshua	Donaldson		Lawrence	Keep schools closed until after Labor Day—at the bare minimum. It is completely unsafe and unconscionable to send students, teachers and staff back in these current conditions
7/20/2020 18:03:39	Kate	Carter-Brown	Olathe School District	Roeland Park	As a parent of two kids in public schools and spouse of a teacher in Public schools, I support the delay of the school year until after Labor Day. If COVID trends continue as they are currently, I'd support a further delay. The safety of our kids and teachers should not be jeopardized.
7/20/2020 18:03:51	Chad	Weinand		Olathe	Keep this decision local!
7/20/2020 18:03:56	Sheryl	Setter		Douglass	Until there is a better handle on Wichitas Covid situation, I fear for the students who would be required to attend school. It's a foolish idea to think that students will be willing or able to follow social distancing regulations, they cant even wear a hat inside the building, face masks is a stretch.
7/20/2020 18:04:07	Phylisha	Harley		Wichita	

7/20/2020 18:04:30	Corrina	Carlos	Myself	Dodge City KS	Good evening. I am an ESL teacher at Dodge City High School and the mother of a DCHS Student. I am writing this to show my support for Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of Kansas Schools. Dodge City has been hard hit by Covid-19. Our school district needs this additional time to take the guidelines presented by KSDE and put them into place in a way that will meet the needs of our unique district. I am 52 years old and I am in the at-risk category for being negatively impacted by covid. I have been teaching for over 20 years. I worry for my students, their families, myself and my family. I am deeply saddened to see so many fellow Kansans care so little for all the people who have given years of their life to educate students. I pray that our State Board of Education will not only protect the children but the people who have supported the students year after year. Please do what is right to protect all of us. Thank you for your consideration.
7/20/2020 18:04:59	Kerry	Wright		Whiting	School needs to start on time with no restrictions.
7/20/2020 18:05:14	Greg	Will	My grandchildren	Newton	Absolutely no to both EO's
7/20/2020 18:06:11	Amy	Green	Salina school teacher	Salina	The cases statewide and in Saline County are much greater than we had in March when we shut down. Please have us start with distance learning or in September to help with the spread of the virus.
7/20/2020 18:06:17	Bob	Archer	None	Topeka	Parents, who can, are stretching to send kids to private schools now due to this delay. This will ultimately hurt public education and increase the unacceptable achievement gap. Please deny. Thanks.
7/20/2020 18:06:37	Johnny	Dunlap		Spearville, KS	Following this common sense order will give districts more time to put procedure, policy, equipment, and personnel in place for our best possible attempt to create a safe and successful learning environment. Playing politics right now is not only evil, it's also stupid. If you try to hide behind "local control" you are just abdicating leadership and exhibiting cowardice.
7/20/2020 18:06:42	Kathryn	Feightner	Olathe school district	Olathe	Please delay school opening until after Labor Day. Numbers are skyrocketing every day in Johnson County!!
7/20/2020 18:07:06	Jamie	May	USD 373 and USD 262	Park City	I believe it is a good idea and also to require online online if the covid trends keep up.
7/20/2020 18:07:08	Christina	Carr		Beloit	I feel that this decision should not be a one size fits all. Some rural counties have very few cases and should be allowed to open schools. The decision should be left up to each school district and the county health officials in their area.
7/20/2020 18:07:14	Jordan	Adame		Liberal	No to a delayed school year
7/20/2020 18:07:24	Leah	Yancey	Teacher/ parent	Great bend	Approve the EO !! Start school on September 10th
7/20/2020 18:07:27	Michelle	Jones		Topeka	I disagree with the governors order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. The hardship this will put on parents needing to find childcare and the need for children to get into a predictable routine amongst their peers, outweighs the benefits of holding off on school. Schools have been painstakingly preparing for the start of school all summer. Somehow daycare workers have managed to take care of children since the start of this pandemic, and I see no reason school districts can't do the same.
7/20/2020 18:07:27	Stephanie	Meyer	Blue Valley School Dist	stilwell	No delay. Please start school on time. Things will not get better in 3 weeks. The districts and state department of Ed has had all summer to get things ready.
7/20/2020 18:07:30	Levi	Lacy		Overland Park	I am asking you to please vote in favor of this executive order from our Governor. The extra time will give teachers and school districts the necessary time to plan and make sure they are ready for students to return safely. Let's not make this about politics and keep the safety of all Kansas as the top consideration. Thank for all you do
7/20/2020 18:07:30	Kayla	Josefiak		Burdett	School needs to open, for the mental health and well-being of students everywhere. Further more, MASKS do not need to be implemented; perhaps a clear shield of sorts, but I genuinely fear for the mental health of our society following all these mandates Gov Kelly has put in place.
7/20/2020 18:07:31	Sherry	Roth	None	Madison	As a teacher and parent I support the delay of the start of the school year. At minimum, I support starting schools completely online until the covid numbers decline to a safer number of cases.
7/20/2020 18:07:32	Teresa	Louderback	USD 480	Liberal	Please delay school, our numbers are high, they kids we teach are going home to the plant workers.
7/20/2020 18:07:32	Teresa	Louderback	USD 480	Liberal	Please Delay School!!!
7/20/2020 18:07:34	Leah	Towle		Lawrence	I fully support the decision to delay the school year. It is the safest choice for our teachers, kids, and their families. It is okay to sacrifice a perfect school year to keep Kansans alive.

7/20/2020 18:07:35	Emily	Hamm		Ottawa, KS	Please accept the governor's order and proceed with public health as a first priority. Education can be creatively reworked in the virtual space, but loss human of life cannot. Our numbers are rising. We need you to do what's best for the students and teachers.
7/20/2020 18:07:38	Sandra	Detar	Mother	Kincaid ks Anderson's c	I feel my kids need be school learning because when they grow they need know responsible I believe this virus is Democrats lies to control USA
7/20/2020 18:07:44	Cheryl	Griffin	Citizen and grandmither	Emporia	Children need to be in school not only for a good education that our tax dollars go to but for their good mental health as well and for gaining social skills. If teachers dont want to teach let them stay home and hire teachers that will . If they insist on teaching online then cut their paychecks by half.
7/20/2020 18:07:46	Pam	Qualls		Riverton	I am writing in support of delaying the start of the school year. Kansas has a concerning number of new cases of the Covid virus each day and I am extremely concerned for students and staff. This is a time to put politics aside and come together in unity for the benefit of our children. Thank you
7/20/2020 18:07:52	Kahil	Chisko		Augusta	Yes. School should always start after labor day
7/20/2020 18:07:54	Debra	Lopez	Teacher	St. Paul	I strongly believe we need to get back to school and have our kids in front of us. I also believe that pushing back everything until Sept 8 would give schools time to get their ducks in a row since we didn't receive guidance from you until last week. We all want to do what is best for kids. I believe that if the start of school is pushed back then all activities should be also. It just doesn't make sense to me that we are talking about if/when we can have kids I. The classroom but no one is concerned about kids playing football or volleyball. Football is a full contact sport. You can't wear a mask safely and there is no such thing as social distancing. Let's all mask up, use safety precautions, and get back to working with kids!!!!
7/20/2020 18:08:11	Leah	Towle		Lawrence	I fully support the decision to delay the school year. It is the safest choice for our teachers, kids, and their families. It is okay to sacrifice a perfect school year to keep Kansans alive.
7/20/2020 18:08:19	Natalie	Collins	Parent and Teacher	Cherokee	I support the Governor's decision. It is best for students if schools have time to adequately prepare.
7/20/2020 18:08:26	Nicole	Cauveren	USD 344	Pleasanton	There are currently 15 active cases in Linn County, with only one hospitalization and zero deaths since beginning in March. I think it is unfair to take children away from the social aspect that children get from school/organized sports. I do not understand taking this away from our children, as feel like more damage is being done that the virus itself. May children needs social interaction for their mental well being and I do not see where leaders are taking that into account. I have seen this personally with my own children. Taking away sports is also taking away a venue for them to learn healthy habits that they will use for the rest of their lives. My son has gained 10 lbs since the stay at home order was put into effect, and is now being bullied from other children who are calling him fat! He is 8 years old! We would not have this problem if he had been active in his usual sports, instead of not being able to participate. Please take these things into consideration when making your decision. Kids need recreational activities!
7/20/2020 18:08:53	Melissa	Stramel		Colby	This is definitely a decision best left to local school boards. Here we have two active cases. Delaying school makes no sense in light of this. I'm sorry you went through so much work to have to do more now, but I hope you stick with your original plan and vote against the governor's.
7/20/2020 18:08:54	Krista	George	Myself,	Galva/ McPherson coun	Please vote to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. Our children and citizens lives are at stake.
7/20/2020 18:08:59	Amy	Harvey		Wichita	What if there were some guidelines in place on opening on time vs after Labor Day, such as the number of positive cases per 100k has to be under a certain number to open on time. Also, the district has to submit their plan for sanitation and PPE (and make it public) to be approved before opening. This puts each district in a position to make decisions based on what's happening in their community.
7/20/2020 18:09:20	Amy	Condrey	KCKPS (Stony Point So	Spring Hill	Due to data collected in the last week, I feel that it is. It in the best interests of students, staff members, or families in the community to continue with in-person plans at this point. I support Governor Kelly's executive order, as I feel that even one life lost to the corona virus is too many. Given the current spread and rising numbers, giving schools time to prepare for in-person learning and even starting online would be the best course of action in my opinion. I don't with to bury my students or coworkers, nor do I wish to bring the virus home to my family. Thank you for your consideration.

					<p>As a mom of a severely disabled son, I'm begging you to start school without restrictions. He has had no therapy, no interaction with staff and friends, and is very agitated to be out of his typically wonderful routine. His ONLY social life IS school. Please think of him and classmates as you make your decision.</p> <p>As a mom of a six year old who's first year in school was completely turned upside down at the most fun time of the year, I'm begging you to let him return to school so he can enjoy being a kid again. He was in the prime of really mastering reading, ready to have his first field trip, and so excited to participate in his first track meet. He misses his friends and the much needed social interaction to help him develop mentally, physically, and emotionally. Because of a virus with very minute danger (less than the flu), we took away all the things little ones like my Kindergartener love about school.</p> <p>As a mom of a 13 year old who loves academics and athletics, I'm begging you to let these kids go back to school without restrictions. The emotional toll this has taken on my teenager has been heartbreaking. Both my husband and I are essential, so our 13 year old had to step in as teacher and babysitter to her brothers. Please let her get back to some normalcy.</p> <p>As an essential worker, I beg you to let our kids get back to school! We did not budget for an extra 3 months of care for our disabled son. Unless you as a board are prepared to reimburse families for the extra childcare we are incurring and lost vacation/sick time, I'd ask that you put our already paid tax dollars to work and get the kids back to school!</p> <p>And finally, as a citizen who knows the reality of the home lives of some of the kids in our district, I am BEGGING you to start back to school with no restrictions. Their lives, their health, and their safety absolutely depend on it. We have to look out for them. We've thrown them to the wolves for 5 months. We have to do better.</p>
7/20/2020 18:09:29	Lorie	Johnson		Columbus	Thank you.
7/20/2020 18:09:38	Kristina	Johnson	Piper USD 203	Johnson	This is an issue that resides on science, not party line.
7/20/2020 18:09:52	Meghan	Muntz		Olathe	Please consider the delay of school until after Labor Day for the safety of students and staff. Most businesses around the JOCO area are still operating at home and plan to do so until the fall/ 2021 calendar year. If adults are afraid to be in office buildings with each other then we should be afraid for students, teachers, and staff health too. Thank you for putting health and safety first.
7/20/2020 18:09:53	Lisa	Coble	Blue Valley	Olathe	Please keep teachers and students safe by delaying the start of the year!
7/20/2020 18:09:57	Amy	Hasenclever		Lebo	I urge the BOE to open as normal. We sheltered in place in March as a precaution to lower the curve as we learned more about the virus. Now that we have seen lower severe cases than expected, it is time to quarantine the sick and at-risk and let the well regain normal classroom learning. Delaying the opening of schools will not slow the spread. The youth will continue to intermix in their day-to-day as if they were in school anyway as they are doing now. Please open our schools as normal!!!
7/20/2020 18:10:27	Charles	Keller	Golden Plains USD 316	Selden	I am opposed to delaying school any further than we already have. We have a well thought out plan to reopen schools that includes an least desired, but workable online option to restarting education. Why should we have to wait? If we are going to lose three weeks how will we be able to make that up without some sort of relaxing of the mandated 1116 hours? We need to get kids back in school.
7/20/2020 18:10:29	Sarah	Mosher	Parent	Olathe	Please vote to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. It has been difficult to find cleaning supplies that are vital to the students and teachers and this would allow extra time for us as parents to gather said items. The numbers in the state of Kansas are rising at tremendous rates and this time would allow people to be smart and wear masks in accordance with the statewide mandate in order to get our numbers back down. We all want our kids to be able to go back to school but we must be safe about it. This is the safest way in order to make sure the schools have what they need.

7/20/2020 18:10:30	Julie	Vodehnal	Blue Valley teacher & p	Overland Park	Thank you for putting the health & safety of all KS students & educators first & for voting in support of the mandate to delay the start of school. This will provide time for staff to prepare to implement the ksde guidelines. One student or staff death is one too many.
7/20/2020 18:10:47	Amanda	Strickler	Extra curricular activitie	Colony	I understand what the governor is trying to do with delaying the start of school. However, I don't agree with delaying all student activities! Student activities are much smaller groups than the whole student body. Many students rely on these extra curricular activities to pass school, show up to school, and behave in school. Please consider letting sports teams start practice, organizations meet and serve their community! Students need these organizations and activities. These are much smaller and controlled groups. Our summer programs have been flourishing because kids want something to do and to try and have a sense of normalcy. Please don't delay these opportunities for our students. Thank you for listening.
7/20/2020 18:10:54	Julie	Fugett	parent - USD 497	Lawrence	Please vote YES on Governor Kelly's EO!
7/20/2020 18:11:07	Holly	Palacio	Parent of three students	Olathe	Please oppose the blanket one size fits all mandate. Our School Board and District staff know how to keep our students and staff safe and they will. The Governor needs to worry about the state economy and leave education to the educators. Thank you!
7/20/2020 18:11:17	Sara	Slack		Overland Park	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day. The safety of students, teachers and staff is in your hands. This would give teachers time to prepare online learning and help school make smart choices for being students back safely!
7/20/2020 18:11:23	Dana	Strickland	Self	Abilene	Please keep children safe and close school.
7/20/2020 18:11:34	Patsy	Triffet		Hutchinson	The quicker we get back in school, the sooner our children start to resume learning. Unfortunately we are allowing fear to govern our lives. Time for common sense resume and we learning begin for our children.
7/20/2020 18:11:39	Jeri	Jacobs	USD 412	Dresden is. 67635	Let them go to school and play ball. You are doing more damage to these children then good.
7/20/2020 18:11:41	Alexandria	Gilley	I am an elementary teach	Hutchinson, KS	I believe that schools need more time to get ready to open. We are nearing our original start date and many districts have not yet released details about specific reopening plans. Our teachers are incredibly stressed and anxious and pushing back the start date would help alleviate some of that pressure. My colleagues and I care deeply about our students and we want to make sure we get this right. My concern is that if the decision is left up to the districts, many will choose not to delay; including those in counties like mine with increasing case counts. Student and staff well-being is at stake, and having the opportunity to create solid plans is vital.
7/20/2020 18:11:42	Tracy	Balkenbusch	Retired Kindergarten Te	Olathe	Schools should be open in August! Our district is prepared to give parents a choice. Teachers and students will be in a safer environment moving forward than we ever had prior to covid.
7/20/2020 18:11:52	Kaci	Bryant	Teacher and Parent	Merriam	Please keep schools closed. I am nervous for my child to return and for myself as I am pregnant.
7/20/2020 18:12:05	Logan	Brown		Wichita	We need to really consider the long term effects of opening to early. Our national pride is getting in the way of solutions and we need to listen to the experts.
7/20/2020 18:12:16	Elizabeth	Darling	USD 250	Pittsburg	This order should be supported. Rushing back into in-person school before our local infection rate has substantially decreased will ultimately maim or kill students, teachers, family members, and create a petri dish for community spread.
7/20/2020 18:12:19	Allie	Lockwood		Topeka	Please vote to move start date and to keep the start date flexible. Please allow flexibility in required time and hours for students. These are unprecedented times and we need to make sure all our safe. I don't want to sacrifice my mom, my son, my daughter. I don't want my child to be the one to spread the virus to a teacher or classmate. We don't know enough about this pandemic to keep students safe. Please, vote to move start date to after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 18:12:23	Sarah	Roefeldt		Lawrence	Please vote yes to delay schools. It is vital everyone's health and safety.

7/20/2020 18:12:38	Traci	Johnson	I am a classroom teacher	Green - I teach in Riley.	I think the order to delay school is appropriate considering the numbers of cases in Kansas. I myself am at high risk due to being pregnant and worry about being back in the classroom with students. I want to be in the classroom as much as any other teacher but only under safe conditions where I am not putting my health, unborn child, and family at risk. This also allows for us to be able to plan and work with other colleagues to better plan for the school year opening. It also allows for us to prepare for whatever teaching may end up looking like. I am very concerned and worried about school. The anxiety and worries I have about my health and teaching continues the closer we get to school starting with no set plan as of yet.
7/20/2020 18:12:38	Mindi	Gray	USD 259	Wichita	Please think of the health, wellness and safety of the adults that have and will continue to devote this lives to educating students. I have worked with children for over 20 years and would like to continue to do so in a safe environment. I have been immunocompromised for the last 4 years, considered high risk in two categories and I'd rather not die for the job that I love. I speak for many when I ask for thoughtful consideration of keeping schools closed until after September 9, and offering a virtual platform for afterwords when numbers continue to rise.
7/20/2020 18:12:47	Stephanie	DeJulio		Olathe	Doctors and medical professionals say we should open the schools and get kids back in school. It causes more harm to them to postpone. (See the segment on MSNBC regarding the NBC news story.) I do not believe we are a country based on fear OR a people that supports punishing children in the HOPE that we prevent harm to others.
7/20/2020 18:12:58	Delana "Annie"	Kaylor "Caylore"	I am a public school teacher	Mulvane	I agree with delaying school, and I think schools will need to consider remote learning beginning Sept.9 unless the numbers are down. Then return to school masked when it is more safe to do so. I also believe bars and indoor dining need shut back down and events that draw large crowds. Thanks for keeping Kansans safe. I didn't vote for you, but I agree with what you're doing. Don't back down to pressure.
7/20/2020 18:12:59	Tyler	Bruce		Plains	Please vote to have schools start after Labor Day. There is SO MUCH confusion right now for school administration, local school boards, teachers, parents, and students. If you vote to start earlier, then schools will NOT be prepared to start. As a teacher, we should not be the ones to take all the blame and brunt of this issue for the lack of preparation for the state. Please do not do this! Start after Labor Day. If not, it will be a terrible result.
7/20/2020 18:13:12	Whitney	Gilbert		Abilene	No I think if the school district is ready to let them .
7/20/2020 18:13:28	Joe	Holman	Chanute High School Teacher	Chanute, KS	I urge the board to support this mandate. Without it, we will likely have to close down schools again, which will be very inconvenient. Please vote yes.
7/20/2020 18:13:36	Jessica	Borgerding		Clay Center	I believe it should be up to each district to decide when school will open. We currently have 3 active cases in the county, which isn't the same situation as other counties and districts.
7/20/2020 18:13:43	Judy	Tankersley	Teacher	Wichita county.	Masks- are traumatizing and have you ever been in a first grade classroom? Random sneezing happens- is she going to require 15 masks a day per child? Who is going to fund that? Athletics, musicals.... this is more than heartbreaking..... you could call me if you want to visit more! 620-375-4994
7/20/2020 18:13:45	Tricia	Nibarger		Overland Park	As a parent, I'm asking you to please avoid Governor Kelly's unnecessary delay in re-opening our state's schools.  School districts have been aware of the need for sanitizer and other supplies for months now, so the governor's rationale for the delay is easily refuted.  Allow individual districts to decide when they are ready to open. Perhaps some districts will decide on their own that they need extra time to obtain supplies, and that is fine--but there's no reason to force that decision on every school statewide.
7/20/2020 18:13:47	Heather	Johnson	USD 243	Waverly	Thank you for your attention and service to our students during this difficult time.  Reopen with no mask requirements. My answer is not due to child care. My daughter is 14. My answer is this because we do NOT believe this mandate is needed. My daughter will be homeschooled if this goes into effect. Thank you for allowing public comments.
7/20/2020 18:14:06	Michele	Love		Topeka	I ask the KSBOE not support the Governor's proposal to delay the start of school. This decision should be left up to individual school districts.

7/20/2020 18:14:27	Brandi	Hartman	Parent of 5 school age kids	Andover	I fully support the Governor's decision to postpone the school openings and the safety precautions she has recommended.
7/20/2020 18:14:36	Erin	Ebert		Topeka	As a para working in an elementary school, also a mother of 3 teenagers who are scared to go back to school, as well having a granddaughter that is 3, there is no reason to not have a late start. Most of the teachers and paras are scared to go back, even though we miss our kids, but we have to think about our families as well.
7/20/2020 18:15:04	Keah	Rob	USD 480	Liberal	Postpone school until sufficient amounts of breathing medicine can be available as well as cleaning supplies.
7/20/2020 18:15:37	Courtney	Canfield	USD 446	Pittsburg	We need to stick with the governor and delay the start of school. As a middle school teacher there is absolutely no way to guarantee that the students will follow all necessary guidelines and procedures. These students don't understand what is going on and unfortunately are extremely influenced by people at home. Some of which listen to and recite a lot of false information. Please keep our schools and everyone in them safe.
7/20/2020 18:15:41	Jessica	Oliver	Blue Valley Schools teacher	Overland Park	Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day to allow schools time to get the supplies necessary. Then, PLEASE let us have in person school, our students and my own children need the socialization in person school provides!
7/20/2020 18:15:44	Candy	Grabber		Topeka	I support the governor's decision to wait to start school. I feel that anything we can do to save the lives of children and educators, we should do.
7/20/2020 18:15:51	Aaron	Chiappetti	USD 259	Wichita	Please uphold Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school.
7/20/2020 18:15:54	Cheryl	Schwarz		Topeka	Thank you Governor Kelly for protecting the children and teaching staff in Topeka. My daughter is a teacher and is very concerned that she could bring the virus back home to her family as well as children spreading it to their families. She will not be able to see her new grandchild that will be here in October as her daughter is concerned that she might have been exposed if she goes back to teaching. Our children do need an education, but only if it can be done safely. I feel the delay will give our schools time to prepare for the year ahead. I completely agree with your decision of delaying the start time.
7/20/2020 18:15:59	Veronica	Samaniago		Leawood	Unsafe for children and faculty
7/20/2020 18:16:05	Amy	Shideler	None	Shawnee	The districts should decide whether or not they are ready to open. If this is indeed about getting hand sanitizer, etc, Governor Kelly would not have tweeted that "she can not in good conscience open schools with the rising number of cases." Let the districts determine their own needs. Many rural communities can safely open in August using the guidelines. Don't let our kids fall further behind. It's been too long as it is. The American Academy of Pediatrics position is for kids to be back in school. Please let the districts decide if they are able to start back up earlier. These kids need to be back in school if possible.
7/20/2020 18:16:07	Kay	Mitchell		Hill City	I would recommend to wait until September 8th to start school. We are not a babysitting a service and from doing summer school this summer with a group of children who will be attending Kindergarten in the fall they have not regressed in their skills since March. 2 1/2 - 3 weeks is worth the wait to have our community, families and staff ready physically and mentally.
7/20/2020 18:16:14	Karla	Christy	Olathe school district	Olathe	I'm ok with a delay in the start of the school year. I want to feel safe as a teacher and with my kids. The current rate of covid cases is too high right now
7/20/2020 18:16:24	Denise	Van Cleave		Galesburg	I fully support Governor Kelly's executive orders and urge the state school board to do so as well. As a middle school teacher and parent of triplets who will be high school seniors, I am concerned for the health of all four of us. As much as I want to have our students in school, I can't help but be worried about being in an old school with poor ventilation with 25+ students in my room at a time. The fact that I need to make sure my will and life insurance policies are in order before beginning school indicates to me that something here is just wrong. For those who think local school boards should be in control, I have to respectfully disagree that that should always be the case. Our local school board includes members of our local fair board who blatantly disregarded CDC recommendations to have our fair as usual. It begins this week, and I can't help but wonder how that will affect our county with regard to positive COVID-19 cases. It concerns me that the well-being of myself, my children, my students, and my colleagues could be in those hands. Please give our administrators time to adequately plan and meet with stakeholders, especially those of us who will be in classrooms. We desperately want our students back in our schools, but we cannot ignore the fact that our old normal is no longer safe.



7/20/2020 18:16:36	Melissa	Seiwert	Teacher for Usd 259	Cheney	Please do not take chances with our health or that of students. If you think it is safe to open schools then I expect to see all of you at a school to help out when it opens. We will need subs and paras. Please listen to data and not public opinion. We are not babysitters. Please do not treat us that way.
7/20/2020 18:16:48	Carey	Gerdes	Teachers	Wichita	We should keep out children safe. We should keep teachers safe. We need to stop the spread.
7/20/2020 18:16:49	Elva	Rose		Olathe	As a mother, I do not want my daughter to be at risk. School must be delayed.
7/20/2020 18:16:50	Tony	bates	Pleasanton schools	Pleasanton	I have never written a letter regarding education to anyone in my lifetime and I am 54. This is not about the kids health. This is about elderly health. Having kids wear masks is impossible. Not one kid has died in Kansas. If teachers have to teach with masks you are going to have some law suits. I cant talk more than 5 minutes in a mask how do you expect teachers to teach with one. Governor Kelly has caused me to protest publicly for the first time. I will not stop till she is out of office
7/20/2020 18:16:55	Sarah	Williams	Piper Unified School Di	Kansas City	Please support Governor Kelly's delayed school start for the health and safety of all teachers and students.
7/20/2020 18:17:00	Todd	Sigwing	USD 259	Cheney	As a teacher I am ready to go back to school. I miss my students and the daily interaction. As excited as I am for another new school year I hope you vote to delay the start of the year. If cases continue to go up it is not safe. I have spent the summer avoiding all activities that involve large groups of people so I can keep myself and my family safe. I would hate to go back and get sick. Three more weeks to better prepare will not have a negative impact on the students.
7/20/2020 18:17:02	Anne	Detmer	ihdetmer@smsd.org	Overland Park	Please delay the start of the school year until 9/8. Please forgive some hours to allow students to help with planting crops in June. Thank you.
7/20/2020 18:17:03	Joshua	Sant	Self	Sterling	Delay the opening of schools as proposed, please.
7/20/2020 18:17:05	Alexandra	Rome	Holy Family Elementary	Hays	I am hugely in favor of Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school. Students and staff alike are very worried about starting school in person as schedule, particularly with cases rising so quickly. So many of these people are or are in very close proximity to people at high risk for COVID-19. Schools do not yet have the resources for protection, and there are so many staff members who come in contact with every student in the school - or even multiple schools. My top priority is the safety of my students and the safety of my husband (who is also a teacher in the area). Please support the executive order to delay school.
7/20/2020 18:17:13	Winter	Elliott	USD 457	Garden City	<p>Leave the decisions to the districts.</p> <p>Currently, summer schools are happening, proms happened, graduations happened, two a days are happening, strength and conditioning is happening, sports are happening and schools have already been preparing for an August start either remotely, in person or a hybrid. Districts should be able to make their own decisions based on the circumstances and virus prevalence or lack thereof in their own counties.</p> <p>The state tracks county data for a reason. The state has counties for a reason. We cannot treat each county as if they are one.</p> <p>Mandating that schools open in September means that the school year will be pushed into June. Calendar committees will once again have to come up with her another plan, staff contracts will need to be revised yet again.</p> <p>79/102 Kansas counties have had less than 100 COVID-19 cases since the start of the pandemic! This a cumulative number and does not reflect the actual number of active cases in that county. Local health departments are better suited to report active cases and these Same health departments have been working with local districts to create and implement a safe reopening plan for their county!</p>
7/20/2020 18:17:16	Tracy	Smith		Overland Park	Please delay the start of school or encourage online first semester until the curve flattens.
7/20/2020 18:17:31	Taylor	Gillespie	N/A	Macksville, KS	I believe school should start on time. I coach at our local high school and kids are ready to go back. If this is about the kids we should listen to them. All of my athletes and others from the community are ready for them to go back. Our county has one case. It shouldn't be a statewide thing for others that have little to no cases. Thank you for doing this and thank you for your time to let everyone be heard.

7/20/2020 18:17:35	Megan	Chretien-Penderg	I am a parent and a nurs	Oakley	Please vote in favor of Governor Kelly's executive order. The extra time is needed to further mitigate this virus and to allow schools and teachers to prepare adequately for the upcoming year. It would be futile and more harmful to the kids to open schools and then have to close them down again.
7/20/2020 18:17:51	Heather	Quaas		Kansas City	I would encourage you to support the delaying the start of school. Please consider the data we have and the safety of all students, staff members, and their families.
7/20/2020 18:18:01	David	Hardy	Myself	Overland park	Voting in opposition to the governor's order is not insensitive to the concerns related to covid 19. It permits folks who are in a particular community to make the right decisions for the community—whether in agreement with the governor's order or not. The local leaders are in a better position to respond to local needs. One size fits all is rarely a good fit for anyone.
7/20/2020 18:18:13	Candice	Croomes	Usd 259	Wichita	Please look at the number of cases! We will be killing students and staff if we go back now.
7/20/2020 18:18:24	Emily	Bolinger	Jefferson county north	Winchester	Open schools, kids need to build their immunity. They need the learning & interaction with other kids.
7/20/2020 18:18:33	Kellie	Arnold	None	Overland Park	I do not feel safe having my daughter return to public full classes at this time. It isn't fair to the teachers, building staff or the children.
7/20/2020 18:18:42	Kaitlin	Morrow	Teacher in Olathe Public	Olathe	As an educator, I believe it is essential to have the additional 3 weeks to prepare for students. Going back early will be rushed and we will not be able to ensure student and staff safety. Please grant us the additional time to prepare adequately. Lives depend on it.
7/20/2020 18:18:47	Melody	Robinson		Halstead	I think yes we should follow the governor's timeline for schools and the wearing of masks for all above age 5
7/20/2020 18:18:50	Jamie	Rowan	Teacher/Parent	Great Bend	I support the delay in order to prepare classrooms/schools as suggested by the KSDE.
7/20/2020 18:18:56	Megan	Blackburn		Clay Center	Teachers need this time. Please give them what they need to help keep kids safe and do an awesome job educating them.
7/20/2020 18:19:19	Rhonda	Ray		Hugoton	Please delay school opening until after Labor Day. Thank you.
7/20/2020 18:19:27	Suzanne	Gay	Blue valley school empl	Overland Park	In-person schools puts us all at risk. It's unfair to ask teachers and other school staff to risk our lives and the lives of our loved ones because that is "easier".
7/20/2020 18:19:31	Karla	Ruder	Private citizen	Plainville	I trust professional educators to provide a safe as possible environment for our students. Teachers should do what every other essential worker has been doing for months. Put a mask on and go to work
7/20/2020 18:19:42	Pamela	Thompson		Pittsburg	I am concerned as a special ed teacher that I work with a severe population of students who will not be able to wear a mask. How will I insure the safety of my students, 1:1 staff that are essential to the support of my students and myself if we return to school who the numbers are high. I am seriously considering taking the year off.
7/20/2020 18:19:55	Donna	MacKay		Douglass	Open the school. Kids are getting further behind.
7/20/2020 18:19:59	Whitney	Sandoval	SPED618	Wichita	As an educator and parent of school-aged kids, I support delaying the start of the school year. Ideally, we would use this time to develop solid remote/virtual learning platforms and lesson plans. Not only for students who choose to stay home but for the inevitable frequent absences of staff and students. I think it makes the most sense to create a curriculum that can be self paced by each individual student
7/20/2020 18:20:00	Karen	Burrows	USD 507 Satanta	Satanta	Delaying the start of the school year will give us needed time to understand the Navigating Change document and prepare for the coming school year. Our local cases are increasing right now, so it will also give us time to get the spread under control,
7/20/2020 18:20:05	Christine	Frederking	USD 331 teacher	Wichita	I urge you to approve the governor's EO. I wholeheartedly believe that she is doing the best thing for all of Kansas. As a teacher, I can tell you that I have yet to hear of a plan for my district which is very concerning in and of itself. I do believe a plan is being made, but having 3 extra weeks for teachers to adapt to that plan is of utter importance as it will literally help save lives by slowing the spread of the virus. I truly hope and pray that whenever we do return to school we don't learn that the virus wasn't prevalent in children because we moved children out of school buildings. However, I believe that is exactly what we are going to find- a rapid rise in cases in children because this will be the first time that many have been in an enclosed space (with severely outdated ventilation systems) with other children since the beginning of all of this in March. I'm urging you out of fear for the safety of my student's, families, and my health, approve the EO. I don't want to be forced out of education because the wrong decision is made.

7/20/2020 18:20:31	Brent	Davis	None	Overland Park	Let the kids have their lives back. They are missing out on so much that is important to growing up. Not only their education but their extracurricular activities, like debate, drama, sports, music and the arts. Also the personal interaction with classmates, adults and their teachers. They missed out on much last year and another year of missing out will be permanently damaging I'm afraid.
7/20/2020 18:20:35	Pamela	Callaway	Parent/Guardian	Topeka	Do NOT delay the school start dates...send KS kids back to school in August! KS government needs to stop messing with Kansas kids learning and futures. Where is the concern for the at risk kiddos in abusive homes, hungry and mental health issues—I see no concern for these issues!! No masks for children. Make the teachers wear masks! How many kids need to develop headaches or pass out from CO2 issues before you put the mask issue to bed?
7/20/2020 18:20:42	Zoe	Newton	Parent	Sedan	Please vote no. The science is clear that children are at least risk and are not super spreaders. We can and should protect our older teachers and children who have comorbidities that put them at high risk. The children learned almost nothing online and they are already behind -- poor rural children will suffer very badly and we may never catch up. The American Association of Pediatricians recommends that schools be opened for in person learning. We are very small in Chautauqua County. We don't have the challenges of other areas who have been hit hard -- we've had five cases here. Please allow our local school board to decide, with our community, what is best for our children. One size does not fit all.
7/20/2020 18:20:46	Aubrey	Kelly	Parent of Student and Sc	Olathe	I had a thought the other night. It may be a bit unorthodox, although I genuinely think it may help alleviate anxieties. I don't know how realistic this would be, but I will share my thoughts. We are living in a time of extreme uncertainty. I think most parents and educators can agree the last quarter of school was difficult. Children have been out of in person classes for 4 months and it will be hard to assess what they may have retained throughout these unprecedented times. What if we retained all students for the 20/21 school year. Having them repeat their grade remotely. Raise the age of kindergarten to 6. If parents have the resources for tutors or other outside sources to help their kiddos go on to the next grade, then that can be their personal choice if they have the means to do so. I don't see how, in the given circumstances, children can return to school safely. Much less get a valuable year of education in the coming year. If children repeated their grade, most educators would already be able to identify the children in their classrooms that may need more support. They will already have a rapport with parents and students. Possibly have teachers and paras reach out personally or go to those homes to make sure the families have the resources they need. There are many programs for new moms or children on state insurance; where nurses, health educators, or advocates come for in home visits monthly. Curious if something like that could be implemented within the education system. I understand it would take a lot of work to implement a plan that resembles this. Although, it could help alleviate the stress of parents and students alike. Teachers are brilliant and resilient; I'm sure they could expand beautifully on this concept. The course work wouldn't be too difficult for students and parents that don't have the means to help support ongoing new curriculums. I'm assured they would feel better about facilitating learning for their children. Grandparents, neighbors, or general support people within parents and students lives would feel a lot more comfortable in helping "teach" these lessons if parents are unable to do to work. I could expand more on how this could be beneficial to society as a whole, but I prefer not to write a novella at the moment! I would also genuinely love to see universal pre-k as well. There is a myriad of ways this would be beneficial. I think it would be an extraordinary investment for our future. It would help identify students that may need extra supports and
7/20/2020 18:20:48	Opal	Ewbank		Parsons, ks	I think having a child ware a mask all day long is alot. Im a housekeeper at a hospital and its hard to ware one all day long. Kids that have breathing problems will have a hard time too. My son is autistic and he don't understand why he needs to ware a mask all day long. It be real hard for him.
7/20/2020 18:20:57	Misty	Lambeth	Olathe	Olathe	No in school until COVID cases are going down.
7/20/2020 18:21:15	Chelsea	Gates		Eureka	Delaying the start of school is taking measures to help keep our children and teachers safe.
7/20/2020 18:21:26	Jennifer	Owens	Teach	Olathe	Please vote to keep school closed until after Labor Day. Keep students and teachers safe.

7/20/2020 18:21:33	Shannon	Hale	My family	Columbus	With very few cases in Cherokee County, I truly hope that our schools reopen on time. It is extremely necessary and imperative that our children have in class instruction. The benefits, from social interaction alone are extremely important for their development. So much has been taken from these kids already, I hope and pray that you choose to allow our kids back in the classroom soon. Their teachers need them and they need their teachers. As for the masks being required. I completed understand the importance of wearing them to keep this virus from spreading. However, as the mother of an almost 6 year old boy, I can unfortunately assure you that in lower grades, the masks will do very little to stop any spread in the schools and classrooms. If/ when they keep them on, it will not be for long and they will be more of a distraction than anything. Thank you for your time. I know the decision you have ahead of you is not an easy one.
7/20/2020 18:21:47	Kelli	Baucom	School Counselor	Olathe	Please uphold the executive order and give us more time. More time to keep our students, staff and stakeholders safe. We are experiencing record numbers of cases in Kansas right now and we need to get control of this to the extent that we can. Covid-19 is a novel virus so information is changing on at least a daily basis. A new study out of Korea today indicated that our middle and high school students are able to spread this virus very efficiently. Let's please be able when this passes be able to look back and know that we made decisions to protect Kansas students, educators, support staff and families.
7/20/2020 18:22:04	Leah	Scott		Everest	Please open schools as soon as possible. No delay. Our kids are ready to be back in school and I feel as a parent it is safe enough.
7/20/2020 18:22:09	Crystal	Moore	Usd 348	Baldwin City	Please just give us a remote learning option and don't force us to risk our children's and teacher's lives as an experiment during this pandemic!
7/20/2020 18:22:12	Dana	Schmelzle	Parent	Seneca	Open the schools on time don't require mask most of these schools are checking temperatures and washing hands and that should be fine the governor making this political and retaliating and bawling around over people not wearing masks she should be ousted
7/20/2020 18:22:18	Shelli	Burrows	Parent	Rolla	I feel that schools with low COVID-19 cases in there town should get to open up as planned. If the district feels it is safe to open then they should be able to open sooner.
7/20/2020 18:22:25	Christine	Vohs	Olathe School District	Olathe	I support the governors order to postpone to Labor Day. We are absolutely unprepared to start with all of the restrictions that need to be considered. I teach Kindergarten, which is going be even more challenging, in light of the things we need to do to be adequately prepared. PLEASE consider the mental wellbeing of the people you are asking to be prepared to do the work. Stress DOES impact our ability to be effective instructors. It DOES impact our families. It DOES impact our mental health. This year will be hard enough without starting at an emotional deficit. Allowing us to be prepared is also in the best interest of our students, as it will hopefully, limit the number of times we have to start and stop in person instruction. Please do not make this a political battle but consider what is truly best in a highly unusual situation. Thank you!!
7/20/2020 18:22:49	Jenny	Burrus	Wichita 259	Wichita	If we delay the start of school I am asking you all to lessen the required hours needed for this school year. Many of us already have plans and things booked late May/early June. I do not want teachers and students to have to go weeks later because of required hours. Kansas is one of the highest hours required for schools anyway.
7/20/2020 18:22:58	Ladonna	Stewart	Satanta schools	Satanta	I dont think we should delay it. The kids are behind already and i believe they shouldnt have to wear mask cause i feel like it will expose them more cause they will be touching their faces and they are uncomfortable and sports should be able to go on as usual
7/20/2020 18:23:12	Kendra	Temaat	USD 491	Lenexa, KS	As a music teacher in an elementary school of almost 900 students, the extra time that Governor Kelly is giving us to prepare for the coming school year is imperative. The lives of my students are too important. Forcing us back into the school buildings before it is safe puts my students in danger. We need the time to create and implement ways to keep them safe. This global pandemic is uncharted territory. If we start school too early, we are destined to fail and have a full shut down again, which would have an extremely negative impact on our economy. Please help us keep our students and staff safe. Please support the mandate to give us extra time.

					<p>There are many more cases of COVID-19 now than when we shut down schools in March. The numbers of those infected continues to rise. It would be illogical to send children back for face-to-face instruction given the current data and could lead to more cases among teachers and staff members. Imagine how community spread might affect entire school districts, towns, or countries all through the interaction of children. It just doesn't make sense.</p> <p>To throw the decision on starting times back to individual districts is irresponsible. This is especially difficult for folks who live in one district and teach in another. Doing the "right thing" may mean that the safety of children will have take precedence over the desires of some of your constituents. Please consider the lasting effect this will have upon communities and how your actions will show educators where your true priorities lie.</p>
7/20/2020 18:23:13	David	Row		Mission	Please follow the governor's lead and delay the start of school until at least September 9th.
7/20/2020 18:23:23	Kelly	Peters	Beloit High School	Jewell	Please allow local school districts to start on time with the schedules they voted on in the spring. Thanks.
7/20/2020 18:23:25	Sonia	Matson	Blue Valley School Dist	Olathe	I have been a teacher in Blue Valley for 21 years. I love what I do. I have a 2 teenage kids and a 75 year old mother who lives with us. It is not safe to go back to face to face instruction. There is no way I can do what I love to do effectively with all of the guidelines that would need to be met. I taught online for 4th quarter and was able to put out very well structured lessons. Students learned and were eager to participate . The online option until we can flatten our curve is what students and staff deserve. We should be asked to chose between our health, the health of our family and students and our jobs. With all of the precautions that would have to be put in place, I think it would be impossible to keep students from wanting to be in close proximity because that is human nature. Teachers are not nurses and should be required to provide health services to students. There are too many what ifs at this point. Online is safest for everyone.
7/20/2020 18:23:43	Lauren	Kelly	My Children	Olathe	I feel a hybrid opening of schools on the normal schedule should be allowed. If some parents want to do online, great, if some wish to send them in person, also great. With the additional safety and health mandates Governor Kelly is implementing, please let our kids return to school as normally scheduled. At least K-4...as those are the ones who apparently do not spread the virus like adults...based on the South Korea study the Governor mentioned.
7/20/2020 18:23:48	Katie	Ellena	USD 501	Lawrence	Please vote yes to delay the school year. The more time we have to prepare the safer environment we will be able to provide for our students as they are always our top priority.
7/20/2020 18:23:56	Rachael	Cox		Manhattan, Kansas	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day. Our school districts need the time to prepare to keep students and teachers safe.
7/20/2020 18:23:58	Susan	Blubaugh	Buhler USD 313	Rural Harvey county on	Please support Governor Kelly. We need the time to prepare. I am retirement age with health problems
7/20/2020 18:24:02	Traci	Bruggeman	USD 316 Golden Plauns	Selden	Please do NOT delay the start of our schools, our kids need us now!!
7/20/2020 18:24:04	Amber	Pagan	Shawnee Mission Schoo	Gardner	As a parent and teacher I would like to wait to go back to school until September because hopefully we will be able to lower our COVID numbers. I would like to be back with my students in person and my kids want to be back with their friends. We have been working on keeping masks on all summer and my going to be 1st grader still struggles with keeping his mask over his mouth and nose. I do not like to live in fear, but it is a little scary. I have gone to community testing twice and tested negative both times. I believe that waiting until September 9th will give school districts the time they need to start successfully. My dad recently had a brain bleed and is in rehab, so he falls into the high risk group. I will have to start limiting my visits to weekends only. Thank you for taking the time to listen.
7/20/2020 18:24:10	Dina	Parent	Teacher	Weir	I am fully supportive of Gov. Kelly's delayed school starting date. I believe this is in best interests of safety for students and staff. Districts just received the Navigating Change document last week!! This time is needed to make buildings safe, and allow teachers to plan multiple models of instruction., so that we can start school in person and stay that way.
7/20/2020 18:24:34	Robin	Bergkamp	Self	Garden City	Please get our children back to school iin August with as much normalcy as possible.

7/20/2020 18:24:35	Casey	Graves		Rossville	<p>I'm asking that you please allow our children back in school. They need the structure, interaction and education. I would also ask that masks not be required. It's going to be unsanitary. Children will not leave them on, won't properly wear them, will sneeze in them, trade with friends, drop on the dirty floors, etc. I also believe we are killing children's immune systems by doing everything that's been proposed for sanitation. Washing hands and sneezing in elbow has worked just fine thus far. There are also many children that NEED the school. Their home lives are not ideal. There will be way more lasting effects on our youth if they're locked up in front of a computer screen to virtual learn, which in my opinion will never work. It's simply not the same. Let these schools have a choice. Let the parents have a choice in how their children are educated. That is our God given right here in the USA.</p> <p>Thank you, Casey</p>
7/20/2020 18:24:51	Gerald	Gullion	The kids	Chapman	This delay of opening our schools is politics, plain and simple, stop making our kids suffer because of your political agenda Governor Kelly.
7/20/2020 18:24:51	Karen	Wilson		Hays	Please consider approving the governor's order to delay the start of school. This will allow districts the time needed to delve into the Navigating Change document and create plans that are best for their district. This is a wonderful opportunity for schools to create well thought plans that address the needs of students and staff. Let Kansas schools once again pave the way and be examples of what education should look like when addressing the health and well-being of our children. Please vote to accept the governor's executive order to delay the opening of school.
7/20/2020 18:24:53	Jena	Brunswick	Self	Scott City	<p>Governor Kelly,</p> <p>Please reconsider this decision. A one size fits all does not work in our state. Some rural areas have very low case counts and very small class sizes. We can no longer delay the emotional and educational well being of Kansas youth. There are many options that could be used to get our students safely back to school and activities. I expected you to exhaust every, single option available to return to school. Zero options have been utilized to get our children back in the classroom and back to activities. We have had ample time to prepare and gather supplies. We have had ample time to implement a plan. I view this situation as a 100 percent failure. Our youth are suffering at the hands of politics. I expect everyone to work together to put differences aside and figure out a plan that makes our Kansas students and athletes mental health, physical health and education a priority by returning them to the class room and activities as scheduled with safe, responsible measures put in place. You can do better, we can do better and Kansas can do better.</p>
7/20/2020 18:24:55	Terry	Smith	Parent/ teacher/ coach	Emporia	As KSHSAA will follow your lead, I would like to see close contact, and direct contact well defined and not open to interpretation. I am very much in favor of reopening schools and sports, however with a level playing field for all Kansas schools. What worries me is some may interpret close contact or direct contact differently. Thanks for the opportunity to share my thoughts.

7/20/2020 18:25:12	Sarah	Haar		Cheney	Please let local districts make decisions for themselves. Do not decide a one size fits all model for any aspect of dealing with COVID. You don't expect students to learn and teachers to teach by that model, so don't apply it in this instance either. We have had minimal exposure in our district and don't deserve to be blanketed in with hot spots and other cities within our county that are showing high numbers. The mental health of my young children is suffering. My 10 year old openly talks about being depressed. My 6 year old asks if she can go to school every day because that's where she is happy. I understand kids need to stay safe and so do teachers. But, I also believe that we can effectively keep everyone safe while attending in person classes. Pushing back school isn't going to change anything. Except maybe allow more families to go on vacations. That's what I've been listening too- families excited that they have time to get in one more trip. Keeping kids on a normal school schedule also keeps families in town and back on a schedule where they are less likely to get out and do things. Kids here are still out playing together, doing normal summer activities. School actually slows them down and limits the time they have to go do other things. Please, do not make a one size fits all decision. Encourage schools to open safely on their terms.
7/20/2020 18:25:12	Charity	Bathurst	Abilene High School	Abilene	We need to start school. It will leave room in our schedule for un foreseen circumstances later. Kids are ready. Allow our local district the opportunity to facilitate a learning plan that best fits the needs and health of our community. I am a high school teacher. Although I wouldn't mind more time to plan, there will never be enough time. It is better to begin and get everyone back into their routines. I am willing to sacrifice planning time.
7/20/2020 18:25:40	Jamie	Mcintyre		Liberal, KS	I think we should wait until after Labor Day to start!
7/20/2020 18:25:40	Mary	Olin	Public school teacher an	El Dorado	I reside in El Dorado, but teach in Andover. My oldest 2 children (7 year old twins) attend school in Andover. I am very much in favor of EO 2058 and 2059. It would be of great detriment to our students and educators to open schools when COVID cases are rising exponentially in our area and state.
7/20/2020 18:26:02	Jennifer	Britt	USD 385 Andover Public	Wichita	I am a 1st grade teacher and I am very concerned and worried about starting the school year in-person due to COVID numbers spiking in our area. Please consider passing our Governor's executive order to delay the start of schools to give our districts more time to dig into KSDE's recommendations so we can safely start the school year. Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/20/2020 18:26:12	Brandon	BECKMAN	Hoxie grade school and	Hoxie	Do not delay the start of school, the kids have been hurt enough through this pandemic that is nothing more than a political scam to hurt our great president. TRUMP 2020
7/20/2020 18:26:15	Graham	Rees		Olathe	Please support the order. As a parent of school aged children more time is needed to ensure decisions for their safety.
7/20/2020 18:26:18	Staci	Hobson-Birnell	KCKPS 500	Kansas City, KS. Wyand	I fully support order 2058.
7/20/2020 18:26:23	Jason	Cooper	None	Topeka	K-12 students need to get back immediately. These students will need all the help they can get this year. They need every day given to them, to offset the lack of schooling last year. If they cannot start before Labor Day, then the days missed need to be added to the end of the school year in May/June. No matter what happens in May/June the days will be completed.
7/20/2020 18:26:25	Jennifer	Mowdy	Frontenac USD249	Pittsburg	As a teacher and a parent, I firmly believe that the delayed school start date is undeniably necessary to give our districts and educators the time needed to properly prepare for the enormous task of educating our children while keeping them and our teachers and staff safe and protected. This is a monumental undertaking, and if we are fighting against an August deadline (around 20 days for my district) then I'm deathly afraid that shortcuts will have to be taken, alternate solutions won't be discovered, and vital safety supplies will not arrive in time, all to the ultimate detriment of our innocent students, dedicated teachers, and hard-working staff. Please. Give us the time we all need to make necessary changes to an institution that has not been changed in a hundred years. We all work miracles every day, but we need a little help with this one. None of us want to die or bury our students because a few extra weeks were just too much to ask for. Thank you.
7/20/2020 18:26:40	Taryn	Tyler	Teacher	Shawnee	Please look at local health records and see that our COVID case numbers are way too high to open right now. If board meetings can't even be held in person as a large group, then schools SHOULD NOT open in August. As long as KS is considered a red zone then we need to delay or be strictly virtual.
7/20/2020 18:26:42	Christine	Campbell	Self	Overland Park	Thank you! I think this is a good decision. Now we need the community to do their part to help stop the spread.

7/20/2020 18:26:45	Mallory	Case		Manhattan	Please follow the executive order of delaying schools. I am a physical educator who sees over 400 kids in one week. I am scared for my safety and my family's safety. The delay will allow us to watch as other states begin school to see if it is safe. It will also give coronavirus in Kansas time to leave. Please show teachers that you care about them and follow the delay.
7/20/2020 18:27:20	Krista	Mealman		Spring Hill	please vote no to delaying school. And if we delay find a way to allow for all the sports, clubs, activities, open houses etc to take place during that time.
7/20/2020 18:27:34	Mary	Harrison	usd 259: Wichita West	Wichita	delay then open virtually- stay virtual until vaccine
7/20/2020 18:27:40	Misty	Wrwn	High school teacher	Hugoton	Please, please support the governor.
7/20/2020 18:27:43	Mindy	Curry	Colby Schools	Colby	Please start school on scheduled start date in August.
7/20/2020 18:27:44	Rochelle	Walsh	Self	Topeka	Please start school as quickly and normally as possible. It is good for the kids. It is good for our community!
7/20/2020 18:27:59	Hannah	Carlson	USD 450 Shawnee Heights	Topeka	Please delay the start of school so that teachers have time to adjust to new teaching styles, again. We also need time to get supplies for a safe return like hand sanitizer, thermometers, masks, etc. I am a pregnant teacher and the wife of a Covid nurse. I do not want to expose anyone and I do not want to be exposed especially since I am high risk. One death of a teacher or family member of a student is not worth it at all.
7/20/2020 18:28:02	Ress	Vocler		Frontenac	NO MASK MANDATES! It is unhealthy for kids to rebreath their own air all day!
7/20/2020 18:28:16	Ryan	Lacen	Usd 493 school board	Columbus	Please do not pass either of her orders. I think we can take them as recommendations and decide at the local level. Mask should be a choice. Do Not delay school let us get as many days in before the flu season hits !!!!!
7/20/2020 18:28:22	Jeff	Auslander		Overland Park	Please follow the guidance of the American Pediatric Association that kids need to be back in school. My 4 kids do!! Please send them back in August too!
7/20/2020 18:28:22	Kori	Lopez		Cimarron	Please do not approve the executive order. Instead, allow local districts and their communities to work together for what is in their best interest.
7/20/2020 18:28:35	Jessica	Schultz		Bonner Springs	Schools should be open. It will hurt students more to not be able to attend a secure place than covid will ever hurt them.
7/20/2020 18:28:59	Teresa	Pearson		Ottawa	Just make a decision that all of Kansas is on the same page....
7/20/2020 18:29:00	Sarah	Reeder		Overland Park	I do not believe it is necessary to keep students out of school through Labor Day. The CDC, the Academy of Pediatrics, and many, many doctors have already voiced opposition to keep schools closed any longer. It is time to let our kids regain their educational opportunities and take care of our most vulnerable students who are without necessary technology and parental support to thrive in a home learning environment.
7/20/2020 18:29:06	Kaitlin	Loud	Blue Valley	Olathe	I strongly believe that this executive order is in the best interest of staff and students. However, as a special education teacher to students with significant disabilities, I honestly believe that these students should start school before their general education peers in order for us teachers to prepare them for what this new school atmosphere will look like, and allow teachers to collect data to see where these students are currently functioning. This will also allow teachers to create plans that will better support student needs for the upcoming year.
7/20/2020 18:29:10	Sarah	Rogers		Wichita	Please support Governor Kelly's order. This will allow staff time to prepare and to do the BEST job possible of protecting students and themselves when students return to buildings. I am a teacher and I want very much to see my students and teach in person, but NOT at the expense of anyone's life.
7/20/2020 18:29:13	Christine	O'Loughlin	Teacher at HHS	Hugoton, KS	One size does not fit all. The ordering of masks, temp. checks daily for all entering the building (ages 5 and above) should be given to each Local BOE to decide....some counties have zero to 40 cases total since the beginning....we should entrust our locally elected boards -- guided by the county health depts. to determine what is best for our individual districts.
7/20/2020 18:29:26	Carly	Begley	USD 268	Pretty Prairie	I think starting after the Holiday would help districts save a significant amount of money. I would hope that if we wait that we can return F2F with less drastic measures.
7/20/2020 18:29:26	Steve	Combrink		Columbus	It's pretty clear the governor's decision to delay is more political than anything else. Schools are ready, kids are ready, open the schools. At least leave it up to the districts.
7/20/2020 18:29:31	Jamie	Esser	Parent	Olathe	Please uphold governor Kelly's order
7/20/2020 18:29:43	Teresa	Hogan	Blue Valley School District	Overland Park	Please keep in mind the safety, health, and life of each school member. If we suffer loss of life for ANY students, teachers, support staff, office staff, ANYONE, it's too great a loss. Please allow in person schooling to wait until the virus is better contained. Right now, I don't even want to leave my home.



7/20/2020 18:29:51	Sarah	Butler	Self (teacher)	Macksville	Teachers/administrators need a little time to come up with plans to follow new mandates and guidelines, but not 3 weeks. Students have been socializing and participating in activities all summer. They don't need more time away. 6 months is going to leave a major gap to cover.
7/20/2020 18:30:03	Todd	Lacen	Parent	Columbus	Please do not delay school let get more days in before winter. We should have a choice on masks Pediatricians do not recommend it. Our teacher will have to focus on masks not in teaching.
7/20/2020 18:30:13	Linda	Graham	Yes, delay	Pittsburg	Yes
7/20/2020 18:30:24	John	Brennaman	citizens of garden city	garden city	start school on time nothing going to change in one month
7/20/2020 18:30:24	Brenda	Thompson		Gardner,KS	Open the public schools with no limitations and include all sports and activities
7/20/2020 18:30:33	Shelley	Colby	Grandparent	Andover/wichita	Open the schools for our children.
7/20/2020 18:30:34	Amanda	Lanning	Parent	Colby	Please allow kids to return to school as previously set.
7/20/2020 18:30:46	Kyleigh	Hamlin	I work for USD #257	Humboldt/Iola	I do not agree with making children wear masks in school, other precautions can be taken but these kids need as much normalcy as they can get. This craziness shouldn't be brought to schools. Wash their hands, put plexiglass between them, etc. but forcing them to wear masks for 8 hours a day is unacceptable!
7/20/2020 18:30:47	Alicia	Meyers	Parent in Blue Valley Sc	Overland Park	I am in favor of in person learning. My children need to be back in school- for their social and mental health. Virtual Learning was an epic fail at our house this past spring. I think it's important for class families to be formed and kids to be comfortable before any type of necessary online learning occurs.
7/20/2020 18:31:09	Diane	Petrella		Leawood	Please open schools and let kids play sports! School last spring was a joke- all five of my kids have fallen behind- my husband and I work full time and cannot homeschool. With such a small percentage of people effected by this virus in this area, it does not make sense to lock our kids at home.
7/20/2020 18:31:13	Tara	Barnes		Overland Park	The schools are not safe to open at this time. Please follow the recommendations of Governor Kelly.
7/20/2020 18:31:29	Beth	Baldwin	Teacher with Shawnee H	Berryton	Please approve the executive order. Covid 19 needs to be trending down, not up, in order to safely open schools. If we are going to distance education, teachers need time to prepare and do it well. If we are in person, schools need time to purchase PPE and other ways to protect students and staff, including sufficient sanitizer, plexiglass etc. As more data on the effects of Covid 19 on children is released, we know that children can get and transmit the virus. It would be irresponsible to start school in person too soon. Please approve the executive order and delay school starting until September 8.
7/20/2020 18:31:39	Justin	Thompson		GARDNER	open the johnson County public schools! No masks! Have sports and activities!
7/20/2020 18:31:53	Patricia	Cooper	Teachers & Parents	Wichita	School is an ESSENTIAL service. Kids must be in school. Teachers : you've watched all your neighbors & friends go to work this whole time- at Dillons, Wal-Mart, Home Depot, & your favorite restaurants. Guess what? WE'RE FINE. Let families start up their lives again! REJECT the order to wait til September! Mandatory Masks for adults only.
7/20/2020 18:31:53	Susan	Hall	USD 408	Marion	I support Govenor Kelly's mandate to begin school following Labor Day. Since the document published last week, I've spent hours simply reading through my grade band and the safety protocols. We as educators need time to design how we are going to implement the plan as well as prepare for the unknowns that the virus continues to display daily. Right now procuring the necessary PPE in order to keep our staff and children safe is taking more time due to shortages. (Plexiglass etc) I want to teach. I missed being with my students in the spring however I want my students and my family as well as myself to feel that least we are prepared. Those three weeks are necessary to put all of the plans into place. We spent a great deal of the summer in limbo waiting for this document to be presented to us. Now that it here, time to digest and work with our colleagues is vital.
7/20/2020 18:31:54	Steven	Granzow	Self	Lincoln, Ks	Open up Kansas schools without restrictions or conditions!
7/20/2020 18:32:04	Jessica	Schneider		Osawatomic	Please vote to approve executive order 20-58. With the number of Covid-19 cases increasing in our state, each school needs time to organize safety and health procedures. This additional time will benefit school's in the long run. Also, this time can be used to make a seamless transition to both in person and remote learning for this school year. Consider not only the student's health, but also staff, faculty, administration and families of each child. With increased contact, the spread of this virus is inevitable. Thank you for your consideration.

					<p>I am troubled by Governor Kelly's impending executive order to delay the start of the school year for Kansas schools. Although the schools have many extra logistical challenges and considerations this year, they have had four months to contemplate these and prepare. Ultimately, as Kansas has such varied communities state-wide (in regards to population and also COVID-19 spread), decisions about when and how schools will convene should be made at a local level.</p> <p>I respectfully request that you consider my concerns and prevent this executive order from moving forward.</p>
7/20/2020 18:32:06	Michelle	Fees		Overland Park	Thank you for your time and for serving us Kansans during this very tumultuous time. I appreciate that it's a tough job!
7/20/2020 18:32:09	Robbie	Strahm		Baldwin City	<p>I am thankful for the leadership of Governor Kelly in the decision to delay the opening of K-12 schools in KS. The decision to put safety first for children, parents, families, staff, and the community at large is extremely important. This isn't a decision that should come down to political affiliation, but rather the science and research. This virus is too new to fully understand how to protect our children and school staff in a full time, indoor environment. We need more time to assess how the opening of school may affect the spread of the virus and to prepare and evaluate the best way to move forward safely. As a grandparent, retired nurse practitioner, and Kansas community member, I believe that unnecessarily putting children, families, and teachers at risk during a deadly pandemic is unconscionable. Teachers miss their students. Students miss their classmates and teachers. We all miss our lives before this pandemic, but we don't want to lose them forever. This delay is temporary. Death is permanent. Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the opening of K-12 schools until after Labor Day.</p>
7/20/2020 18:32:59	Andrew	Owens		Olathe	Not opening schools until covid cases are under control is a smart idea, it all schools will have the materials to open safely. All teachers, staff, and students are at risk of getting covid and passing it to others, there are too many questions to be asked if 1 student or adult tests positive for covid. Will the entire school need to be tested? Will it only be a class room getting tested? Who will be responsible to administering tests? There is not a solid plan for what will happen if something happens at this time. After a plan comes out for how to respond to positive covid tests then we can think about going back to school because if we do open, there will be students and teachers testing positive
7/20/2020 18:33:24	Nicole	Miller	Teacher	Olathe	I support the delaying of the school year.
7/20/2020 18:33:27	Brandon	Booi	Colby Public Schools	Colby	Please Open schools now!! Our children are ready and so are the teachers! One size does not fit all. Colby is a small rural community. It is time!!
7/20/2020 18:33:43	Jerrett	Strube		Eudora	The governor's order should stand. The health and safety of students, teachers, and their families are at risk. This is not a local problem, this is a global problem. In the absence of national leadership, it is up to you as our ejected officials to lead the state and affirm Governor Kelly's executive order.
7/20/2020 18:33:46	Joy	Eakins	Parent/Data Analyst	Wichita	<p>Board Members - I have extensively studied the data around COVID spikes in Kansas and you can view it at our website <a href="http://www.cornerstonedata.com/ourwork.aspx">www.cornerstonedata.com/ourwork.aspx</a>. In our review, very few counties are increasing at any kind of alarming rate - and this Exec Order will unfairly hinder those counties who are not growing or who have already had the largest growth and moved on (Ford, Finney). Kansas' numbers are not like Texas, Florida, California - nothing like those. Our LOCAL boards and commissioners have the ability to make the necessary decisions for us, and I urge you to allow our students to return to classes.</p> <p>As a parent of a rising Senior - he is competing with students around the country for spots in one of our Service Academies. He already lost 9 weeks of education last year, please do not force him to lose another month or more. The price our students will pay for the loss of education - particularly our most vulnerable - will be difficult to overcome. Please let local boards and commissioners make the decisions we elected them to make.</p> <p>Thank you - Joy Eakins</p>

7/20/2020 18:33:52	Matthew	Ricketts		Olathe	Approve Governor Kelly's executive order. We have more cases of COVID 19 now than we did in March, and extra time can potentially help flatten the curve and provide districts more time to put systems in place based on the Learning Plan approved for this school year.
7/20/2020 18:34:22	Michelle	Tribbey	Parents	Overland Park	Please please get these kids back to school IN PERSON. Sept 8th will be almost 6 months of no meaningful education. How can we tolerate this? My kids are supposed to sit for the ACT this year. Not to mention the toll the isolation has taken on their mental health. I know there are two sides. So give us two option. In person if you prefer, online if you don't. The virus won't be leaving soon, lets learn to perservere with it.
7/20/2020 18:34:24	Emily	Anders		Olathe	It is time to get our kids back in school. They've already suffered so much from being abruptly taken out last year, losing community, sports and education. Online school should be an option for those who don't feel comfortable coming back. We shouldn't punish those of us who are ready. In Johnson county alone it's a 99.8% survival rate. HOW does that warrant keeping our kids out even longer? Children's mercy, AAP and so many more doctors have recommend kids be back in school. When we cancelled school in the spring it was to flatten the curve - we did that. Now we have to stay in and not do life until it's gone? Kelly keeps pushing the target goal back and it's making our head spin. How do we know if we allow her to push school back, that she won't just close it all together? Please protect our children!!!
7/20/2020 18:34:28	Michelle	Leeker	Usd497	Wellsville	With the cases still on the rise, i support the delay of start of schools.
7/20/2020 18:34:40	Jada	Tubbs		Colby	Please do not delay anymore. Please do not require masks.
7/20/2020 18:34:46	Deidra	Haupt	Self	Scott City	Decisions to open and close schools should be decided by individual school districts. All health protocols should be determined locally.
7/20/2020 18:34:51	Matthew	Whitney	USD489	Hays	Our numbers in Hays are really beginning to grow with covid-19. Please, for the love of God, do not open school up until after we are ready to do so. Numbers need to be down and preferably nonexistent. Many of our teachers in our school district are over the age of 50 and have health issues. Please do the right thing and help protect students, teachers and parent's lives.
7/20/2020 18:34:54	Sheila	Krohe		Topeka	I am 100% in support of the delay in starting schools for this school year. Please vote to keep our kids safe and in support of the KSDE guidelines already given.
7/20/2020 18:34:55	Amanda	Rhodes		Kansas City USD 204	It is unsafe to open schools! Teachers will be exposed and possibly infected and then take it home to their families. Unacceptable. I support Gov. Kelly's order to delay the opening of schools
7/20/2020 18:34:56	Patricia	Cooper	Teachers & Parents	Wichita	School is an ESSENTIAL service. Kids must be in school. Teachers : you've watched all your neighbors & friends go to work this whole time- at Dillons, Wal-Mart, Home Depot, & your favorite restaurants. Guess what? WE'RE FINE. Let families start up their lives again! REJECT the order to wait til September! Mandatory Masks for adults only.
7/20/2020 18:35:29	Heather	Grimsley		Overland Park	Support Gov. Kelly's mandate delaying the start of school. Our children and staff should not be in mass gatherings while the number of Covid cases & test positives is increasing. Protect our students and teachers instead of making this political. Covid is real and dangerous, even if you don't know someone who has it. Listen to Dr. Norman and others (KCMO has gone virtual for the fall due to KC health department recommendation) in the medical field.
7/20/2020 18:35:30	Jami	Cole		Overland Park	I don't understand the downside of allowing school districts to have more time to prepare to educate our children and keep them safe. If you are on the BOE I would assume education is important to you. When you rush the school districts your actions are in direct opposition to that mission to educate our kids. Please give these districts more time and pass the governor's order. Thank you.
7/20/2020 18:35:46	Dana	Byers		Lindsborg	Let each district set when and how they will open schools. Please over turn the governor's executive order.
7/20/2020 18:35:52	Brenda	Bergman	USD380	Vermillion	Delaying school is only a temporary fix that will shorten and destroy the semester. Start as soon as possible and if needed then keep the kids and staff home in December. Do what's best for kids!
7/20/2020 18:36:00	Julia	Schomacker	USD 259	Cheney	Delaying the beginning of school makes sense. Numbers are higher now than they were in March. Numbers are continuing to rise and people still aren't taking precautions. It worries me that my kids and I will be at risk by pushing schools to open. Students are not behind. They are doing fine. We need to take our time, do this right and continue to lead the nation in education the same way we did in March. Help teachers and students in Kansas stay healthy and safe.

7/20/2020 18:36:17	Autumn	Stone	USD 251	Attica	Start school on time. Do not delay my child's education and opportunities any further for this. Masks being mandated is ridiculous, how will young kids develop social and speech skills if they can't see lips and mouths.
7/20/2020 18:36:26	Brigham	Tiafau	Parent of children in K-	Olathe	I want my children back in school now. Enough of this nonsense. We were told from the beginning that we will shut down to flatten the curve. We did that so why are we still shut down? I don't trust Governor Kelly anymore because I think it's political now. Have some Balls, will ya? Look at what the Board of Education of Orange County, California did today. They chose to override their governor executive order and voted to return to regular school schedule without masks. They did this after doing a study in which they were able to make up their minds with courage and faith like we always did. I encourage you to look at what they did. Also, look at what happened to the N1H1 pandemic. How many deaths were reported then and we were not lock down? Let the kids go back to their normal lives. They need it. We all need it. Have courage and not be held back because of fear mongering politicians. I'm sorry but I'm really pist.
7/20/2020 18:36:37	Jennifer	Schumaker		Gardner	Dear KS Board of Education members, Please uphold Governor Kelly's Executive Order issued Monday, July 20, that all Kansas schools delay their start until after Labor Day. Regardless of in person or remote learning, this delay will provide our schools and teachers much needed additional time to prepare for whatever scenario comes next. In addition, we hope a three week delay may support a downward trend in our state's positive cases of COVID-19. Families will also be able to utilize this time to prepare their homes for remote learning, gather a supply of much needed (and currently difficult to find) sanitizing products, procure multiple masks for their children that will be needed for in person learning, and continue to help children mentally and emotionally prepare for a new school reality. Once again, I urge you to support Governor Kelly's Executive Order regarding the delay of the school year until after Labor Day.  Thank you, Jennifer Schumaker
7/20/2020 18:36:43	Kristy	Woodworth		Wichita	NO Masks for students!! Especially elementary students. The disease spread will be much greater if you have students wearing masks. The students will continually be messing with their masks, increasing the spread of germs. Young children are often soft talkers---with a face covering, it will be even more difficult to understand them.
7/20/2020 18:37:00	Tracie	Holcomb		Topeka/Rossville	I am asking that you reject the governor's orders to delay school starting. This is not one size fits all and the decision needs to be Left up to the districts. These kids have been out of school for 6 months already. I teach in one district and my child attends in a different district. I have the resources and knowledge in place to safely bring my students back, I am not worried one bit about my daughters district. We are failing these kids and not just in academics. They are socially suffering. 3 weeks may not seem much longer, but tell that to the abused or neglected child at home. The Governor has repeatedly back tracked on her orders. What makes you think she will allow this in September? It's a district decision and needs to be that way. Again, I teach and I want to go back now. Thank you!
7/20/2020 18:37:04	Kim	Burgardt		Tecumseh	I fully support the delayed opening by Governor Kelly. Schools and teachers need time to prepare and gather the necessary supplies to open safely.
7/20/2020 18:37:17	Shawna	Cole	Usd 231	Olathe	Do the right thing, politics aside. Approve the order.
7/20/2020 18:37:33	Julie	Pasta	My family	Topeka	Please do not delay the opening of schools. Students need structure, friends, new things, movement, routine, non-parental mentors and many more things schools provide! Some even need food and a safe place to be where abuse is seen and documented. Covid spread is low among children and teens and guidelines can be put into place to keep things as safe as possible without hindering the nature development of a child. Death rates are very low in adults. Teachers do not need to be making out their wills in an effort to be dramatic. Essential workers have been working for months to provide our needs in the middle of the epidemic and education is essential! Thank you!
7/20/2020 18:37:36	Roger	Holthaus	Teacher	Centralia	Keep the schools open, I'm tired of Governor Kelly's politics

7/20/2020 18:37:37	Julie	Gadwood	Teacher, Olathe School	Olathe	This delay in starting the school year must be supported by the Board of Education. It gives districts time to be prepared with supplies for safety measures. It gives teachers more time for deep planning since the Navigating Change Educational Plan has been approved. Even more importantly, it protects lives! While children may or may not contract the virus the way adults do, they can still spread the virus to others in their schools, homes, and extracurricular activities. This delay allows for citizens to wear their masks to see if we can flatten the curve. This decision should not be made for political gain, but to protect all citizens. This virus is NOT a hoax. Please, support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the opening of schools until after a Labor Day.
7/20/2020 18:37:39	Robert	Smith	Usd 210	Hugoton	Please don't deprive my son an education!!! No delays!!! They are already behind from this as it is! The result could impact them for years socially and academically!!!
7/20/2020 18:37:42	Fredrick	Utlaut	Usd204	Bonner Springs Ks	I support order 20-58
7/20/2020 18:37:47	Colleen	Zehr		Gardner	Thank you for taking into account the health of our staff and students by accepting the executive order. While I normally would say local control is necessary, the health of both entities as well as their families takes precedence. Saving even just one life makes the delay worth it! Please vote to accept the order.
7/20/2020 18:37:50	Coleena	Woods	Parent	Manhattan	Thank you! I would prefer school to start on time in room classes
7/20/2020 18:37:59	Kim	Heyse		Olathe	Delay opening until pandemic is under control
7/20/2020 18:38:15	Sarah	Arkell	Parent	Overland Park	Let local boards decide what's best for their districts because this sets a dangerous precedent going forward.
7/20/2020 18:38:17	Terri	Anderson		Burlington	USD #244 and I suspect many other school districts have been working really REALLY hard to prepare for the school year. USD 244 is ready to start on schedule. Please listen to your school board leaders of the districts and do not make this a political decision. Our kids need the structure of the classroom. Many will not get that at home.
7/20/2020 18:38:20	Amanda	Harcus	USD259	Wichita	I support the executive order to delay the start of schools.
7/20/2020 18:38:21	Jesse	Yarochowicz		Salina	Pushing back school until Labor Day allows for us teachers to prepare ourselves and our classrooms for all that is to come. We need extensive time with our administrators to prep.
7/20/2020 18:38:25	Mike	Rothwell	Blue Valley SCHOOLS	Stilwell	Our children need community an engagement to help adequately accelerate their academic and social learning. This happens in school. No one under the age of 40 has died in our county. They may get sick but they will rebound quickly. I am more concerned about the flu and mental health issues than Covid. This virus is very contagious but not sending kids to the hospital. If we stick with the plans of the Governor we will most likely choose a home school option. This will burden our family more but the mental and academic health of our kids is a much larger risk than this virus.
7/20/2020 18:38:55	Chrissi	Hurd	My school district	Lenexa	Please let the executive order stand and push school opening back until after Labor Day. We are still wildly unprepared to return to in person instruction safely. As a special education teacher, I especially concerned due to severe health concerns among my students as well as worried about providing the instruction they need in a safe manner. Please consider the negative impact reopening now could have on not just the students, but also on the teachers and staff working with them. We want to be the best we can for students. And right now, the best we can do is keep them safe and healthy at home.
7/20/2020 18:39:06	Nicole	Morrison	Teacher and Parent	Topeka	The start date for schools should not be delayed, especially if the schools are doing online learning! If schools in Kansas are NOT prepared at this point we have failed! School should start on time!
7/20/2020 18:39:08	Virginia	Buettgenbach	USD 259	Andover	Please for the sake of students, staff, and family members, please agree with the governor and delay school opening!!! Our life's matter! My 2nd year old with a weak immune system matters!! Please consider everyone's health and safety!

7/20/2020 18:39:39	Carrie	Blasi	Teacher and parent	Olathe	Please use data and facts to drive your decision. Districts and teachers need time to prepare for learning this fall in regards to the KSDE guidelines. Even one life lost is too many! While I would love to teach in person, I am terrified of the risks. As a kindergarten teacher, I need time to process and figure out how I will teach whether it be virtually or in person with so many restrictions. It will also give time to see how the covid cases pan out in the next few weeks. Please do not make this a political issue! Please also consider that many meetings are help virtually because of the risk but you are considering sending teachers and students for 7 hours a day into an indoor area with 20-25kids and 660 total. Please think about what's best for the health of everyone!
7/20/2020 18:39:46	Mark	Swanson	NA	Leawood, Kansas	I am against interfering in any way with a normal school year. Kids need to be in physical school and without distancing or masks. This is safe for teachers and for all the other adults who the kids spend time with. Meanwhile the psychological damage to children of distancing and mask wearing has to be avoided. I say this as a father of an 18 year old and a 20 year old.
7/20/2020 18:39:50	Jamie	McKee	Usd 462	Arkansas City , Ks	I have been without a pay check since May , along with other Paras who have been off as well in many school districts. We are only contracted for 9 months out of the year so starting in Aug is a huge blessing for us to receive. Paychecks again , we have asked if the governor gets this approved to start later do we start getting paid starting in August when our particular school WAS suppose to start or so we have to wait till we start to get paid after Labor Day. Will be able to file unemployment because we didn't start in August . I know a lot of single parents that would like to get back and get paid , being a para it's hard to find jobs that will hire you when you tell them it's just a summer job till school starts . So for the sake of these single parents I hope that you guys do not approve to wait till after Labor Day or at least let the schools start online and then after Labor Day transition back to the buildings . Thank You
7/20/2020 18:40:02	Abigail	Easter	None	Cheney	Please postpone schools until after labor day
7/20/2020 18:40:04	Nancy	Spohr	Myself	Clearwater	I am an educator and my answer is a full no. One thing you need to consider is that teachers are stuck in contracts and are being pulled around on a string by their employers. If they delay the start and require masks (both of Governor Kelly's mandates), I will need to resign from my job to homeschool my son with asthma. Yet I have be informed by a school board member that spoke with the superintendent that I am under contract and there could be consequences. So I am forced as a teacher to choose between my child's success in school and my career in a pandemic? Unbelievable!
7/20/2020 18:40:10	Cole	Kevin	School	Parsons	Please consider delaying school through the Labor Day weekend. It's critical to slow the spread, allow administrators and boards of education the time necessary to open in a safe, secure environment.
7/20/2020 18:40:10	Ronda	Southall		Olathe	I am requesting that you vote to open the schools on time in August. I have two middle school students that both have IEPs. This last quarter of school they were unable to get the services they needed per their IEPs. There is no plan to make up for missed services. The longer the schools are closed the further they will fall behind their peers in academics and social skills. My soon to be 8th grader has dyslexia and reads at a 2nd grade level. There is no reading instruction to help him develop reading skills in an online environment. I do not support masks in the classrooms as it will impede learning as much of learning is non-verbal communication. I am concerned that if we allow schools opening to be postponed to after Labor Day that it will be easier to push it further to the right as this virus isn't going away and the numbers will always seem to support not opening the school buildings. So many kids will miss out on education, social skills and IEP services if the start date continues to be moved. Parents will continue to struggle to work and provide care for their kids if they aren't in school. I am asking that schools open on time, many schools are providing both in person and online options, let parents decide what is best for their family and lets start school in August.
7/20/2020 18:40:11	Adam	Dean	USD 259	Wichita	School buildings need to stay closed until at least Labor Day. It is too risky to send a students and staff in this environment. We must bring down the COVID numbers before we can resume in-person learning. It's just that simple. My district (and many others) is doing a great job in preparing for multiple learning scenarios in keeping students and staff safe from COVID. I urge you to vote for and accept Gov. Kelly's executive order, so we can get our buildings safe again.
7/20/2020 18:40:13	Amy	Clement	Olathe School District	Olathe (where I teach, li	In person school should be delayed until there are no new cases in a county for 14 days. Thank you.
7/20/2020 18:40:16	Pamela	Kim	Parent.. Heritage Christi	Stilwell	Please do NOT delay school. Open as scheduled. Vote NO on Gov. Kelly's plan. Thank you!

7/20/2020 18:40:20	Elizabeth	Eyhorn		Wichita	Schools should remain closed until there has been a significant amount of time with no new cases. Schools have plenty of time to prepare quality virtual learning if they know that is the goal.
7/20/2020 18:40:21	Jenna	Rehmert	Mom looking out for her	Olathe	Please vote no and get these kids back to school! Science shows kids are not spreading this and the good outweighs the bad on getting them back to school. These kiddos deserve to learn and have their lives back to normal. Teaching them to live in fear is not the answer. There is a way to do this safely for all. Give the families that want their kids in school the opportunity to do so.
7/20/2020 18:40:24	Robert	Chestnut		Kansas City	Delaying the school year is detrimental to the students. They've shady missed out on so much.
7/20/2020 18:40:37	Heather	McClellan	Self	Olathe	Please keep schools closed for the safety of all - children and their families as well as teachers/school staff and their families.
7/20/2020 18:40:49	Amy	Kopp	parent and school board	Hiawatha	I strongly feel that we need to get kids back into our buildings. Our kids need school!! A "one size fits all" for the start day of all schools in Kansas does not make sense to me. Each district along with their county health officials are capable of making the best decisions for their individual school districts.
7/20/2020 18:40:52	Stacy	Wolf	USD 315 as a Teacher;	Oakley, KS	As both a parent of children in the USD 274-Oakley school district and a teacher in the USD- Colby school district, I recommend delaying the start of school until after Labor Day to help districts read, train and implement with the Navigation 2020 document.
7/20/2020 18:41:06	laura	Broeckelman		Overland Park	Only til Labor Day but open right after!
7/20/2020 18:41:24	Rachel	Martin	Parent	Abilene	PLEASE, I beg you, open the schools up in August at regular time. I have a preschool child who needs and wants to be in school. He is on a speech IEP and has had no services since March. We have been diligently working with him at home, but there's so much more he gets out of going to school and having face-to-face interaction with the teachers and the other students. Thankfully I have found him private lessons over the summer but those have ended and so without school starting until after Labor Day he will go almost another two months with no speech services. It may only be Preschool, but this is a critical time for him and early intervention is very important feel like we are missing out being at home and not at school. Also, I know a lot of children who have not been lucky to get intervention at home or special services like we have paid for private speech services and I can't imagine how badly they need to be in school. Daycare's, swimming pools, church camps all of those have been open and I feel like school is much more essential than any of those. From our standpoint, everyone is tired of isolating so the kids are going to get together whether they are at school or not. Again, please open up school in August and go against the governor. Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 18:41:32	Trish	Courtney	Independent	Overbrook	Please don't open the schools. Our children's lives are not worth the risk
7/20/2020 18:41:37	Monica	Ediger		Olathe	Exempt private schools from this order.
7/20/2020 18:41:40	Halle	Connors		Independence	Please vote in favor of Governor Kelly's executive order. This is a delay, not a cancellation, which will give teachers adequate time to prepare lessons which are equitable for all students. We had to prepare for last Spring in a rush and, while we rose to the challenge, it was far from perfect. Please give us the time to perfect that system now. It would be a disservice to both teachers and students not to vote in favor of the executive order.
7/20/2020 18:41:42	Katie	Ryan		Overland Park	I think it is most respectful to teachers and students to start the school year after Labor Day. This gives the teachers more time to work on their curriculum for this unprecedented year. The students will benefit as well from having a better set of instructions ready. Lastly it will give us all an even more clear picture of COVID-19 cases.
7/20/2020 18:41:48	Haylee	Haynes	USD 320 Teacher	Wamego	I am a 3rd grade teacher. I desperately want kids to be in our classrooms 5 days a week as close to normal as possible (with the obvious precautions) starting on our ORIGINAL start date! (August 19th)
7/20/2020 18:41:52	Tanna	Smith	USD 241 school nurse,	Sharon Springs	We currently have zero cases in Wallace County. If we need to extend winter break like they are discussing, then we need to be in school right now. This decision needs to left up to local health officers and local school boards. We have met, we have a plan, we're ready to start school.
7/20/2020 18:41:57	Stefanie	Hurley		Overland Park	Please support Governor Kelly's Executive Order to delay the start of school until AFTER Labor Day!

7/20/2020 18:42:07	Eric	Eakins	My public school senior	Wichita	Schools have to be opened and fully functional on time. Activities too. I have a senior in public high school who needs to finish the year strong to achieve his life goals. Any person who tries to take that away from him will lose my vote and I will work for their opponents in the next election. Enough is enough. Quit hurting the kids to gain political power. I've paid my taxes and obeyed the law. I expect my representatives to represent me and my family. Protect the nursing homes. Let those afraid choose a plan B. Plan A is living our life and taking chances every day as always. If you really believe only one life would be saved you would lower the speed limit to 5 MPH but you don't really believe that. It's political, stop it.
7/20/2020 18:42:08	Erin	Colvin	Olathe USD 233	Olathe	I support the governors executive order during these unprecedented times.
7/20/2020 18:42:18	Sherry	Bosley-Bradford	Self. Grandma	Hutchinson	Good job Governor. Stay Strong
7/20/2020 18:42:24	Jennifer	Showman	Parent and teacher	Salina	Please delay the start of school. As a teacher we are not ready for students to enter the school. It is a matter of their safety as well as my safety and my family's safety. We don't have our cleaning products. We don't have our face shields. Schools are just not ready to start. Our county numbers are still increasing. It is not safe.
7/20/2020 18:42:27	Marie	Schuknecht		Overland Park OSD 233	I am for delaying the school year until after Labor Day and hope options for in person and online are available to meet the needs of various family needs.
7/20/2020 18:42:50	Laura	Mcglathlin	Kids in Cherokee co	Galena	Our kids have been going to summer school, summer weights, summer sports, with no masks. Putting school and sports off is ridiculous. Mandating masks and temperature checks will be a crazy task for our children and our teachers. It should be a choice. Parents who don't want to send their kids can keep them home. This is never going to work nor will it help.
7/20/2020 18:43:12	Lea	Finfera	Teacher	Lenexa	Please vote to delay opening of schools! As a teacher in Olathe, we are not prepared!!! I work in a Title 1 building and we won't have a single thing donated from parents. These parents sent their kids to school sick before Covid, so we need to be prepared.
7/20/2020 18:43:16	Shandi	Webster	USD 408	Hutchinson	Our students NEED to physically be in school Monday-Friday. They need consistency and structure to receive the quality education they deserve. Our families need students to be in class learning from our wonderful educators. Teachers can help custodial staff clean rooms daily to help with the spread of germs.
7/20/2020 18:43:20	Rebecca	Hayworth		Benton Whitewater	Please open schools with good hygiene practices and temperature checks, but no masks required (optional is fine). Do not close schools just because one person gets it. Minors in the data show very few hospitalizations and deaths. We do not close for the flu or for colds.
7/20/2020 18:44:23	Jenni	B	USD 428	Great Bend	Delaying the school start date changes absolutely nothing! This virus is not as deadly as they are making it out to be! It WILL NOT go away. You are delaying an immune response that needs to happen while it is still warm out and the sun is shining! This is when our immune systems are at their prime!! We all know deep down, this is a political response to a virus that has a higher survival rate than the annual influenza. Kids are THE LEAST effected by this. School needs to return on time and NORMAL!! There is NO reason for masks, social distancing, eating in classrooms, washing or sanitizing EVERY HOUR?? Anyone with half a brain knows that all they will get done is washing hands and yelling at kids about their masks which takes away from their learning!!! You can't tell me that kids won't "lose" their masks, mess with them all day, thus encouraging more germs to be spread. Just use common sense!! Take temps ONCE a day...that's it! These are OUR children!!! Please do not include them in this asinine political agenda!



7/20/2020 18:44:53	Athena	Hansen	N/A	Olathe KS	Failure to continue student education during the last quarter of the 19-20 school year was understandable as no one could have foreseen the situation we are currently facing as a global community. However, further delays in re-starting school in some fashion (online or otherwise) are putting our children at risk of educational delays and shortcomings beyond those already resulting from the early end of the previous school year. The only acceptable option is to provide some type of structured online learning opportunities for our children as an absolute minimum. Has this been considered? If anything, due to the delays from the spring early closure- school should be initiated earlier NOT later! There have been several months to prepare and plan for some type of online learning environment or other alternative so if this has not been the case I am extremely disappointed. I strongly urge you to think about the futures of our children who will now be further delayed in their education by additional delays. Keeping them out of school or failing to provide an online learning or other opportunity is irresponsible and unacceptable. Please consider this before you jeopardize our children's futures by delaying the start of school. Something must be done to educate these children and to make up for the deficiencies they are bound to face upon return to a formal educational program.
7/20/2020 18:44:58	Regina	Stevens	USD 500	KCMO	I teach in KCK and am concerned with returning to school with full classes. I have family members at risk, as well co-workers. Safety is priority. If we are having to quarantine every time someone is exposed we will get nothing accomplished. Online learning can work with certain expectations and protocols in place.
7/20/2020 18:45:02	Sam	Amburgey		WICHITA	Please follow the delay start to school as recommended by Laura Kelly. This will give schools adequate time to plan what school will look like this fall and put systems in place. I would appreciate it.---school counselor
7/20/2020 18:45:03	Samantha	Buchanan		Overland Park	As a teacher I feel we need to return to the classroom when we can do so safely. A decision this important cannot be left to the districts' discretion. Please approve the order to delay the start of school.
7/20/2020 18:45:10	Angelica	Morel		Wichita	The board of educators needs to push for schools to open on August 11 2020 as planned. Do Not Delay School Opening! If for some reason physical school opening is delay till September 2020, then online school opening needs to happen on August 11, till there is a physical school opening so students Do Not miss a day of school! Kids need to be in school, learning and socializing for the well being of our kids!
7/20/2020 18:45:11	Kara	Weigand		Olathe	Kansas schools should open as scheduled. All the mandates Gov. Kelly issues in EO 59 (masks, hands sanitized hourly, social distancing, arrival temperature checks) should be in place.
7/20/2020 18:45:16	Robin	Mussa	Parent	Pittsburg	Consideration should be given to a phased in plan that allows students and teachers to be safe. Virtual, BLENDED with smaller class sizes and A/B days and the a traditional schedule by Oct 1 if data dictates it's safe and proper safety measures can be implemented for all. Schools need to reopen and students need extra curricular activities.
7/20/2020 18:45:17	Kurt	Preisser	Usd 332	Cunningham	Strike this mandate down. Local school boards need to decide. This is not a one size fits all issue. Our small school would lose several students to home school if the mask mandate is upheld.
7/20/2020 18:45:28	Christina	Harmon	Vote to open schools	Olathe	Kids need the social aspect of learning and the one on one with the teachers. If kids are with their families traveling this summer, going to the stores, teens working, or gathering to play with their friends they will be fine attending school. I believe if a teen child is able and willing to hold a job they need to be in school. This virus is not affecting our children like the government is instilling fear in everyone. Being a nurse I have worked this entire time and have remained healthy. The kids and teachers are capable of doing the same thing. Our kids need person to person school.
7/20/2020 18:45:38	Terry	Cox	Private citizen	Wichita	Comment removed due to profanity
7/20/2020 18:45:40	Christa	Moore	Olathe District Schools	Olathe	Please support the governor's order to delay the start of school. Educators need time to put safety measures in place and we need to have a better idea of how well masks are working before sending students and staff back to schools. We are concerned for our students safety, our safety as employees, and also the safety of our families. Especially those of us that live with someone who is medically high risk. Please support the governor.
7/20/2020 18:45:42	Angie	Boone		Cheney	Please approve to give schools time to prepare.
7/20/2020 18:45:56	Kalli	Nicholson	Myself, I am a teacher	South Haven	I would like it if the state BOE passed the executive order to hold off the start of school until after Labor Day. I am on the planning team and with the extra time we can get ready for every scenario and get ready for remote learning. Thank you.

7/20/2020 18:46:02	Devon	Tschumakow	Kckps	Kansas City kansas	Please vote in favor of the Governor's EO. Although it takes power away from the local school board we have seen over the last few months that some people don't believe in this virus and the risk it involves. They are only worried about themselves and not other people and it seems that local boards have not responded in the way to protect all individuals in the county ex. Not requiring individuals to wear masks. It also allows for equity in all districts because one district will not have more learning time than another. It also allows for districts to prepare staff for mitigation techniques and teaching online with the work done by the learning for the future committee members.
7/20/2020 18:46:12	Rhonda	Abell	My child attends Oakley	Oakley	Please allow schools to start WITHOUT a delay. Please allow the entire fall sports season to take place. If folks can go to stores, travel, etc all with masks then the kids can go to school with masks. Please look at the real data, schools can open safely, WE NEED SCHOOLS TO OPEN IN AUGUST! Thank you!
7/20/2020 18:46:16	Megan	Kohlman		Hesston, KS	You have the opportunity today to give our communities, students, and teachers the gift of time. For our communities, the time to stop the spread, to free up hospital beds for when later waves come (because they will come, and every county in our state relies on hospitals in large cities for care). For our students, the time to allow our schools to plan for them, to prepare for possible disruptions due to outbreaks, to stop the spread so activities may commence safely. For teachers, time to plan, to use the Navigating Change document which you all approved last week to not just survive but to plan how our schools and students can thrive even in these circumstances. Please give us all this gift of time. Every one of us needs it, no matter the circumstances of our local district or county. Thank you.
7/20/2020 18:46:47	Melissa	Baldwin	Myself	Olathe	Keep them closed the entire first semester and then re-evaluate
7/20/2020 18:46:53	Jo	McCormick	Myself	Lenexa	Please support the governor's executive order.
7/20/2020 18:47:01	Lisa	Edgerton-Johnston		Topeka	Lets keep our kids safe.
7/20/2020 18:47:03	Anita	Scheve	USD 489 Hays; I am a p	Hays	I implore you to please UPHOLD the governor's executive order to delay the start of school for two reasons: 1. To allow the mask orders to slow the spread of Covid-19, so that spread is less likely to occur when in-person school begins. 2. To provide adequate time for schools to plan from the state's guidance document and procur the necessary resources (many cleaning items are backordered, as are technology devices).
7/20/2020 18:47:13	Haley	Washatka	Elementary Student Pare	Shawnee	Please follow the Governor's request to not open schools until after Labor Day. I feel as though this will give the schools, administrators and teachers more time to adequately prepare for the school year to keep staff and students safe.
7/20/2020 18:47:41	Kelli	Carr	Elementary Education T	Bonner Springs	Please support the Executive order to delay, not close, the 2020-2021 school year. This will give us time to have some very well needed plan time with the new regulations so that our students can return to school in a safe and healthy environment!!! Your vote for this executive order would be greatly appreciated!!!
7/20/2020 18:47:43	Kelly	Morgan, PhD, M	USD 450	Tecumseh	As a Scientist, teacher and parent of two high school students - please delay the start of school and allow us to bring the curve down so that we can start in person and develop relationships with our students. Starting completely online (which we'll have to do if starting on time) will not allow us to build relationships with the 140 students each high school teacher works with - and motivating them to do rigorous work without a relationship will be next to impossible.
7/20/2020 18:48:02	Laurel	McClellan	Myself	Olathe	What will happen when I get over Covid, but my friends, parents, and grandparents die because I brought it back from school? How will I live with myself knowing I gave it to them? What will happen to people who have an immunodeficiency or have asthma? Is in person education more important than living?
7/20/2020 18:48:12	Jacquelyn	Matthews	Myself	Shawnee	Vote in favor, our school board plan was vague and did not account for mandated safety measures, they need more time to make school safe
7/20/2020 18:48:14	Brandi	Wark	School board member/p	Colby	Let school and ALL activities resume on schedule for the best interest of our children.
7/20/2020 18:48:25	Chrissy	Bolze		Topeka	Reject this EO. One size fits all, even in Topeka, doesn't work for delaying schools. Our kids need their education! Allow for those who are uncomfortable to do online. But those who are not immune compromised or aren't afraid, let them get back with their peers and teachers and learns what they fell behind on!! They need this consistency and they need their education.

7/20/2020 18:48:30	HOLLY	STUEWE		Topeka	I have two high school students. I believe that the local school boards should be able to decide what's best for our kids. We should not have to follow the governor's "one-size-fits-all" order. I personally believe that the kids should start school on time, in August.
7/20/2020 18:48:32	Heather	Boos		Topeka	I support the postponement of schools due to COVID-19. Children and teachers should not go back till it is safe and risk of disease spread is minimal.
7/20/2020 18:48:39	Emily	Myers	Olathe Schools - teacher	Olathe	Delaying schools is the best way to make sure we are prepared to go back safely. We need more time to see what happens with the virus, and give teachers and school officials opportunity to plan. Right now we have no information about how school will be conducted. I teach an AP class that has a very tight schedule already, but I value my health and my students' health more than points on my syllabus this year.
7/20/2020 18:48:40	Jaimie	Clausing	My family	Topeka	Our kids need to be physically present in school starting in August full time Monday thru Friday.
7/20/2020 18:48:44	Windy	Fry		Goddard	No masks required for students. After Labor Day is fine.
7/20/2020 18:49:00	Marie	Preston		Lenexa	As a teacher, I want what is best for my students. Right now, science has shown that students can become infected and infect others at a high rate. Please don't see this as me wanting to be "lazy" or wanting to shirk work. I want to see my students, I want to be in my classroom building them up to become thinkers, questioners, and explorers. However, there is a difference between wanting to be in school and feeling safe enough to be in school. As of right now I'm scheduled to report on August 6th and students will report on August 12th. That gives me FOUR days to prepare my classroom, learn safety procedures, and make sure that the environment that my students are in is not only SAFE FOR ALL, but also still welcoming and warm. Four days is not enough time to be fully prepared for what this school year will offer. By pushing back the start date you allow teachers time to put together their classrooms in a safe way, properly learn and practice safety procedures, while also giving us time to plan on case we do have to return to online learning. This is an opportunity to listen to those in the trenches of education, teachers. Please, listen to what we have to say. We love our kids and want to see them, but we want to do it in an environment that is safe for ALL. Thank you.
7/20/2020 18:49:09	Jitka	Durman		Pittsburg	I'm against delaying school. Kids need to interact with peers. Depression and abuse is on the rise. For a lot of kids that grow in poverty and others school is a safe place where they get breakfast and lunch. Please reopen the schools without delay.
7/20/2020 18:49:12	Diedre	Altic	I am an elementary teacher	Ottawa	I have missed my students and want to teach, but delaying the start of school 3 weeks will help me plan and hopefully help flatten the curve here in Franklin County. It will not hurt us to go 3 more weeks in May. In fact when I went to school it was Labor Day to Memorial Day. I love teaching and my students and I can be an effective teacher in person or online, but not if I'm sick or quarantined. Something you could do to increase the amount of teaching time we have available is to ease the amount of testing that is required. Please approve the governor's executive order to delay the start of the school year to help us be better prepared.
7/20/2020 18:49:30	Jennifer	Hunt		Spring Hill	We need to be back to school at the original planned date in August. Our kids social, emotional, and academic well-being is at stake. We should be considered an "essential" part of society and can implement additional safety measures just like other local businesses have done for weeks. The governor is attempting to strip away the ability of parents to make the best choice for their families as well as the individual district's ability to make optional learning plans available that meet the needs of their community and students. Kansas educators and administration have worked an immeasurable number of hours on plans for every kind of scenario, only to be slapped in the face within hours of the plan being accepted by the State School Board. We need to be treated like the professionals that we are and trusted to do our jobs.
7/20/2020 18:49:32	Tessa	Mckenny	Precious employee	Prairie Village	Highly support this. Our kids are not guinea pigs, and teachers are not LITERAL super hero's.
7/20/2020 18:49:35	Brendon	Pishny		Olathe	It's time to get these kids back in school. For their sake please don't delay the start.

					The KSBOE should support the delay in starting school in order to get schools and staff ready for the coming year. There's still so many unanswered questions about this virus that it is unwise to start school as usual. Educators should follow science and when science can guarantee the safety of staff and students, then schools should open as normal. I don't think it is inaccurate to state that school classrooms are living petrie dishes. Every year sees cold, flu, lice and pink eye being passed from student to student, student to teacher. Every year teachers have hand sanitizer and lysol spray on hand to keep germs at bay. Does it stop the illness from going through the school? Absolutely not. Why would we think this is any different? I hope you will put the health and safety of Kansas citizens foremost in your decision and support the Governor's mandate. Thank you.
7/20/2020 18:49:39	Barbara	Haynes		Wichita	
7/20/2020 18:49:45	Katelyn	Kennedy		Kansas City	The Covid case numbers are too high to send children and staff back to school. We need to get case numbers down before we force teachers and students into cramped and poorly ventilated classrooms.
7/20/2020 18:49:50	Christy	Friedrich	SMSD Parent	Merriam, KS.	School needs to start and there needs to be in person classes. For the emotional & mental health of our children, for stability, food & a sense of safety. I have to advocate for all of the kids who rely on school for more than just education. Please open schools! In person.
7/20/2020 18:49:53	Melissa	Brown		Wichita	I agree that masks for kids should be worn. I do not agree that school should be post poned. Daycare system was never given a time to regroup. And they are doing just fine. Temp. Checks are necessary before entering class and wear a mask. No more group gatherings like assembly. Special class should be via zoom or skype so classes are not passing thru the same room. That will cut down on exposure. Please consider. Thank you.
7/20/2020 18:49:58	Tina	Caldwell	Olathe School District	Olathe	Please keep the schools closed until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 18:50:07	Chelsey	Donelan		Colby	I vote to not delay the start of the the 20-21 school year
7/20/2020 18:50:25	Melissa	Burdiek		Wichita	Postpone school reopening until after Labor Day so COVID-19 cases can drop and not continue to spike!
7/20/2020 18:50:41	Andra	Baldwin		Emporia	I support the Governor's proposed executive order to delay the start of the school year. This delay is necessary to ensure the safety of thousands of students, teachers, school staff members and their families throughout the state. Please cast your vote keeping this in mind. You are trusted to protect the safety of so many around Kansas!!
7/20/2020 18:50:43	Sharon	Mathiesen	The children of our state	Kansas City	Kids need to be in school we weathered the flu and the swine flu without closing the schools. This virus will be here like the flu we need to build our immunity and let herd immunity fight this. The great thing is kids don't carry this virus or have a severe reaction unlike the flu!
7/20/2020 18:50:46	Crystal	Winters	USD259	Wichita	Please approve the extended time or move all schools to virtual only due to increase in cases lately.
7/20/2020 18:50:54	Mary	Sharp	Teacher of KS	Parsons, KS	Delay schools until after Labor Day. Look at research and consider 6-12 be online for the first 6 weeks.
7/20/2020 18:50:57	Brandon	Clausing	My children	Topeka	Kids need to be physically present in school starting in August with NO masks!
7/20/2020 18:50:57	Rebecca	Frecks		Gardner	As a parent and educator I ask that you support the Governor's executive order. Our children and staff are too important to risk. Districts need time to develop a plan that will ensure everyone's safety.
7/20/2020 18:51:00	Tina	LaTurner	Special Education	Galens	Please vote no to postponing school until after Labor Day. My special education students have lost at least a semester of learning in the time schools have been closed. Please allow districts to make their own decision. I would respectfully ask that you vote no to also stop the governor's continued over reach of her office. Please vote no. I am praying 🙏 for all of you!
7/20/2020 18:51:04	Eric	Kremer	My kids	Shawnee	Extremely disappointed in the governor's decision today, the kids need to be back in school. All of the school districts have put together solid plans to get kids back into the building, 3 weeks isn't going to change anything. If they have to have 3 more weeks to prepare at least let the school activities start on time. Most of the activities starting in the fall are outdoors anyway

7/20/2020 18:51:20	Chasity	Gaines		Frontenac	Governor Kelly is once again over stepping her role with these masks mandates where she makes sure she covers herself by the law by stating "If you cannot practice 6 feet social distancing" she does this because by LAW she cannot force masks. She did the same on our children now and this needs to END. Our children weren't wearing masks and were doing fine, since this state mandate she placed both children have fear of this virus, both now have anxiety over the numbers, both are now focusing on a virus instead of enjoying their summer. This has damaged the mental health of our children and I am already fed up with the State on other issues regarding Unemployment, so this is my officially ENOUGH MOMENT. I let that go and now I am daily having to ease both our children they are fine, and will be safe. And having to show them the science that even if they got it, it would be good for their immunity to heal from, having the antibodies is a PLUS not a NEGATIVE. Our children sitting at school with masks on is going to distract them, it is going to keep them in fear, AND I AM SO OVER THE PUSH TO BE AFRAID OF THIS!!!!!!!!!!!! Our oldest missed her soccer season because people were afraid, being afraid making decisions for children has lead our daughter to upping her Zolof. Our youngest developed depression and turned to eating her feelings. We are also a Law Enforcement family so our girls have been hit on all sides from everyone, people on the streets to their own Governor. It is time to stop this, it is time to get back to normal. Hand washing centers would be excellent, hand sanitizers being required is good. BUT MASKS is going to mental bound our children and we are above this, we are better then this. We don't need to fall for fear and panic and we don't need to mentally effect our children any longer. Allow kids who want to wear masks to do so is good, but we need to allow children who do not want to wear the masks the freedom of not wearing them. I want to see what data she is using to support her masks mandates. Here is my data from The Association of American's Physicians and Surgeons <a href="https://aapsonline.org/mask-facts/">https://aapsonline.org/mask-facts/</a> .
7/20/2020 18:51:37	Jayne	Muncy		Hugoton	I do not agree with this executive order. I believe it should be left up to the individual counties as not all counties are the same. Each is being impacted differently so it doesn't make sense to treat them all the same.
7/20/2020 18:51:42	Cassie	Medley		Paxico	When considering delaying the start of school, please take into account the fact that a 1,000 page document was just given to districts last week, now needs to be developed for their individual district and then approved by their local school board, and then finally given to teachers. This presents an extremely short deadline and provides almost no planning time for teachers. Many parents felt that distance learning was not successful in the spring, and that is primarily because teachers had minimal time to plan for it. Now that we have a very thorough and well thought out document to guide the potential for distance learning this fall, we need adequate time to use the document to plan. We may not be starting the year with distance learning, but the inevitability is there, and restructuring our curriculum now will make for a smooth transition to distance learning. This will only be possible if teachers are given time to plan and prep, which will only be possible if the start of the school year is delayed. This is not simply an issue of if the number of positive cases dictate delaying the opening of school, this is about ensuring a successful school year regardless of the number of positive cases. Please support the governor's executive order, thank you.
7/20/2020 18:51:50	Jane	Bush	Olathe North High Scho	Overland Park	This is crucial for counties with a large covid count, to give districts time to get the PPE, thermometers and procedures for opening school. Personally I hope that Olathe opens remotely, but if we have to open face to face, PLEASE give us the time to get things prepared.
7/20/2020 18:51:56	Jennifer	Zimmerli	Olathe Northwest High	Overland Park	I think we need consistent plans in Johnson County with Kansas City due to the number of families that live and work throughout the city. For example, I live in OP, my husband is a paramedic for KCFD, and I teach in Olathe. If we all travel for work, then what my husband is exposed to in KC is what I will expose my students to in Olathe, and vice versa. Given this risk of exposure, I think it's unethical to cross pollinate exposure in this way, and it is irresponsible to increase exposure of a first responder when the city has a shortage of personnel. I can solve this issue by teaching online. I have nearly a decade of experience as a virtual school teacher so I am prepared and confident I can accomplish this. As cases of Covid rise in Johnson County we must follow the directives of scientists and health care professionals to control the spread. My spouse works 60-hour shifts due to system demand and a lack of workers. Closing our schools helps protect our vital first responders and the communities they serve, as well as our medical infrastructure. I have tried to get tested for Covid the past two weeks and it is clear the health department is not keeping up with demand. It takes a week to get a test and another week to return results. We must do better with testing and access to healthcare before we reopen schools.

7/20/2020 18:52:12	Susan	Leininger		Bonner Springs, KS Wy	To delay now would give the virus time to die out, hopefully, or at least give schools a chance to reorganize funding and programs for the coming months. I feel it is a great disservice to our communities to throw everyone back together and "see what happens." It feels irresponsible and unnecessary. Our state can implement some programs on the local level, perhaps, to take into consideration alternative ways to care for and support students and their families. There cannot be business as usual under such unusual conditions.
7/20/2020 18:52:14	Melissa	Wheeler	parent, special educator	Louisburg	I greatly appreciate having some more time to prep myself and my staff to doing what's best for our kiddos.
7/20/2020 18:52:34	Marissa	Legleiter	Teacher	Arkansas City	We, as educators, analyze and interpret data on a daily and sometimes hourly basis. I believe we should look at the data. What does that tell us? I believe it means we should not be in school until cases start going down. A lot of school systems, I'm thinking Israel, have doubled their case loads since school has started up again. I implore you to analyze the data because that clearly shows we should not be in a school building right now. I believe that is what Governor Kelly is doing. I ask that you uphold it for everyone's safety. Thank you.
7/20/2020 18:52:44	Kelsy	Higgins	Usd 331 school counselor	Kingman	Yes, I believe you should support the Governor's executive order to protect school staff and students.
7/20/2020 18:52:58	Pamela	Herrick	KCKPS	Raytown, MO	I urge you to support the Gov.'s executive order to delay the start of school for the 20-21 school year. This would give the districts more time to prepare for the changes necessary with COVID 19. I am a Kindergarten teacher and have concerns about what the best practices will be for the safety of my students and myself in order to have a safe environment for us to learn.
7/20/2020 18:53:03	Sarah	Meyer	Usd 233 Olathe	Lenexa KS	Keep schools closed. It is NOT safe to reopen at this time in person.
7/20/2020 18:53:05	Rebecca	Drews		Topeka	I am in favor of Governor Kelly's order.
7/20/2020 18:53:09	Christi	Schreffler		Olathe	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school. This will allow us, as school employees, crucial time to secure supplies and make plans to put the KSDE recommendations in place. If these are not in place, we risk having to change learning platforms for students quickly which negates the stability and consistency we are trying so desperately to provide.
7/20/2020 18:53:16	Erin	Jeffrey	My house	Olathe	Please do not approve a delay. Our school was suppose to be prepared in not starting in school. Do online for the first week. Set expectations for the kids there before school starts in person if it must be delayed. It doesn't take 3 weeks to get hand sanitizer and thermometers.
7/20/2020 18:53:29	Brooke	Jennings	USD #305	Salina	I am a parent and a teacher. I truly feel that we are not ready for schools to open in August. We just got the recommendations back from the state and it would be beneficial to have time with other teachers to come up with lessons with each other. If not, it's going to be rushed and not well prepared. Also, I know many, many teachers who are truly worried about their health and that is going to raise a lot of stress levels. I would rather go to school into June and start After Labor Day. It just makes sense. Please think about the teachers and the amount of stress they are already under. Don't just throw us back into the classroom because it's best for the economy. Give us the time we need to truly have a plan to teach under these strenuous circumstances.
7/20/2020 18:53:35	Sara	Pittman	Shawnee heights school	Topeka, ks	I fully support the Governor's executive order to delay the start of school. I am a parent and employee of the district. Whatever happens just needs to happen so that everyone knows when we will start. The BOE needs to do their vote so that we know when the start will be.
7/20/2020 18:53:53	Deneen	Schoenfeldt	USD 501	Topeka	School should be 100% remote until the state (or at the least, county) has gone 14 days with no new cases. It is impossible to social distance in a classroom. And hybrid is a logistical nightmare for teachers and parents.
7/20/2020 18:54:21	Shannon	Skoglund	NA	Shawnee	I strongly support the XO and encourage the board to uphold it. A delay will give districts a chance to plan around new circumstances. Mandatory masking will help keep schools open.
7/20/2020 18:54:31	Julie	Becker		Great Bend	Open schools now, mask to be optional not mandatory.
7/20/2020 18:54:36	School	Teacher	Teacher at USD #435	Abilene	Please vote yes on Governor Kelly's order. We want to go back to school, but we need this time to make plans and arrangements to keep everyone in the school environment safe. We need your guidance, as local control is clearly not working to keep us safe and slow the spread. As a teacher who is considered to be at risk, I'm very concerned about just charging right into in-person school in a couple weeks without time to implement needed safety precautions, and time to plan lessons that will be easily adaptable for rigorous distance learning if needed. Thank you.

7/20/2020 18:54:47	Jeremy	Sekavec		Hoxie	We do not need to delay school. I have been on the front lines the whole time working as an essential worker. We had people from all over the country stop in the store. Never did I get sick nor did I wear a mask. I have seen the negative effects on my children not being able to be around their kids and not having the activities that school provides. Please let our children go back to some what normalcy
7/20/2020 18:54:48	Dana	Nolan	ROSE HILL KS	Rose hill KS	Expert after expert have said that the kids need to be back in school. The kids have been out for 5 months and desperately need to go back. Pediatricians say they need to go back.. School is over a month away and cases should be declining because the mask work, right? The CDC NEVER EVER SAID that schools should be closed in the first place. I am a RN and have gone to work to take care of patients at the hospital since this pandemic started. I'm ok and my kids are ok. It's a virus with a recovery rate of over 99%. The shrine bowl just happened and it went well. Please do not delay school.. the protective measures can be put in place within the next month.. and if Parents don't want to send their children then they can stay at home but so many parents do not have that luxury. I work with children in behavioral health and the suicidal attempts and depression due to isolation has been astronomical in our area.. kids need school and they need it yesterday..
7/20/2020 18:54:54	Jessica	Vaughn	Parent	Colby, KS	I do not support delaying the start of the school year
7/20/2020 18:54:58	Becky	Meili		Gardner	I do not think that schools need to stay closed until after Labor Day. I'm not really sure what a couple of weeks is going to do and if schools aren't prepared already with cleaning supplies and the such, I'm not sure what to think. There has been plenty of time to gather all that is needed and to come up with a plan if Covid is not in a place they would like it to be. If they start in September, that will be almost 6 months kids will have been out of school. These kids needs some normalcy in their lives, not to mention those that have been stuck in an abusive home this whole time with no escape. If you choose to keep schools closed until September, I ask that you rethink making sports wait that long. Club and rec teams have been playing all summer long with barely an issue, not sure why school can't do that same. I know there is no easy answer, but I do hope you reject the governor's plan.
7/20/2020 18:55:17	Ryan	West	Teacher	Topeka	I think the after Labor Day start is necessary to ensure more safety and time to get schools ready. Then the numbers should dictate if we open in person or online
7/20/2020 18:55:32	Christina	Nelson		Olathe	I agree with Governor Kelly, I would like schools to postpone the school year until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 18:55:34	Regan	wayman		Wichita	If we are following science and Data, why are we not following the guidance of the AAP, along with the pediatricians who helped develop the coalition to safe school reopening? They showed data of low transmission spread for under 10 and also stated that grades under 5th (10 years) should be in person as soon as possible and do what is needed per county for middle and high school. They also recommend no masks for under 10 not under 5. I don't mind the masks and starting later but one size doesn't fit all. And if following science and data, why is this being over looked? Lastly, much data is showing that athletics/activity should be promoted. I hope this doesn't stop what as been going. Sports are a huge reason why many inner city kids show up and care about school. It also is a healthy and positive in all kids lives. We would be crazy to think that kids are going to just sit at home. They will be doing things together and likely not safe choices if athletics are taken away.
7/20/2020 18:55:39	Justin	Isch		Madison	Delaying school is a joke!!! Common sense is not being used by leadership!!
7/20/2020 18:55:54	Natasha	Mai-Bowmaker	K-5 parent	Wichita	I would really like for school to be delayed until the number of new cases has been on steady decline for 14-21 days. I would LOVE for school to be online/remote only until we have had zero new cases for 14 days. I feel as a parent sending our children and educators into large group settings like a class room we will have way too many kids sick, and unresponsible parents will send their sick kid to school regardless of any rule you set in place. Please do the right thing in regards of our children and educators.
7/20/2020 18:55:56	Erin	Finley	School district	Topeka	Please support the Governor's executive order. It will allow everyone extra planning time to make school safe. Making school safe will hopefully decrease the amount of closures needed during the year.
7/20/2020 18:55:57	Rebecca	Retz	USD 259	Wichita	Please give the school districts in Kansas more time for the mask mandate to help bring down the number of new cases and spread, receive the orders for protection supplies and train staff properly so students and staff can return to school safely and with the mental state NEEDED in order to function and learn. This HAS to be done right. No politics, just common sense. UPHOLD the Governor' order. No Politics!
7/20/2020 18:56:12	Erin	Engle		Olathe	Delay school

7/20/2020 18:56:15	Nicole	Perez		Kiowa	It's time for kids to be in school! Not all communities are the same we have had one case in our community. Depression is setting in I see it in our community and it's sad, a lot of our kids school is their safe place 5 months has been way to long for these kids! Please please get our kids back to school and sports as regularly scheduled in August! My senior son has worked to hard for his final year of football and educational scholarships to not get that chance!
7/20/2020 18:56:28	David	Dean	Myself	Clay Center	I believe that schools should open as they usually do. I see no reason to delay them.
7/20/2020 18:56:54	Matthew	Baer		Topeka	Pleased approve the order. School districts need time to put health orders in place and prepare for safe and effective instruction.
7/20/2020 18:57:01	Kemberly	Selman	Olathe Schools	Overland Park	I support the governor's order to postpone to Labor Day. We are absolutely unprepared to start with all of the restrictions that need to be considered. I teach 1st grade, which is going be even more challenging, in light of the things we need to do to be adequately prepared. PLEASE consider the mental wellbeing of the people you are asking to be prepared to do the work. Stress DOES impact our ability to be effective instructors. It DOES impact our families. It DOES impact our mental health. This year will be hard enough without starting at an emotional deficit. Allowing us to be prepared is also in the best interest of our students, as it will hopefully, limit the number of times we have to start and stop in person instruction. Please do not make this a political battle but consider what is truly best in a highly unusual situation. Thank you!!
7/20/2020 18:57:06	Jim	Baucom	Parent	Lenexa	Please support the decision to delay the start of school for 2020-2021.
7/20/2020 18:57:12	Jennifer	Feldkamp	My family	Lincoln	This is outrageous! My county has 1 active case. 1. Experts everywhere are saying kids should go back to school and that they have a far smaller chance of having complications or dying from this virus. So why all the heavy handed mandates about schools? Why rip away control from the local communities who are all dealing with COVID in different ways? Why not give us the freedom to do what we feel is right. In case it's not clear, no one is asking Governor Kelly to save us from this virus. She can't! It will spread, regardless of whatever action she takes. So what, then? We sacrifice our kids' social emotional health? We sacrifice our liberty? We sacrifice our kids' education? School WILL NOT go well if kids are forced to act against their nature while they're there. Honestly, if you're going to make school like a prison for these kids, just do us all a favor and cancel the 20-21 school year all together, go remote, and pick up next year when hopefully this madness is over. Please don't sentence our kids to a miserable school year just to make a political statement, flex your power, or whatever the reason is for these orders. Please stop denying the experts who are recommending kids go back. Please rethink this terrible idea. Our kids' year, and perhaps their entire development and future depend on it.
7/20/2020 18:57:13	Kylie	Baxter	Usd420	Osage City	I am in favor of keeping schools closed until after Labor Day. This will allow educators to prepare for and read through the Navigating Change document. It will also allow us to prep lessons for A mixture of remote and on site Learning. Thank you!
7/20/2020 18:57:14	Brooke	Applegate		Cimarron	The need for our children to be back in school is very high. I teach Kindergarten and my students basic needs are not being met at home and it's my job to help them feel safe and secure. Delaying school is keeping them in survival mode longer. Their mental and emotional health is truly suffering by not being in the classroom. Summers are hard enough on kids as it is and with the closure of schools since March they hav even struggling much longer. I do not fear going back to school. I took on this career knowing I put myself and my own children at risk of bringing home a sickness and that hasn't changed even with Covid-19. Extra precautions will be taken but being back in the building with my students is what I need and what they need in order to learn successfully and to be safe.
7/20/2020 18:57:32	Allison	Dollins	USD 506/SEK Interloca	Independence	Please uphold the mandate to delay the start of schools!
7/20/2020 18:57:32	Regan	Holthaus		Wamego	Vote No in delaying school. Each school district has it's own set of needs that should be addressed when setting their calendar. The school start date and all heath guidelines lines should be done at the local level.
7/20/2020 18:57:51	Kathy	Myers		Colby kansas	Here in western Kansas we are not dealing with quickly rising cases of covid. . I would like us to have the ability to decide when we start. It seems to me that out here it is better to start as scheduled and save those 'delay weeks' for the future. What if the need is really there in the winter? We may need those weeks this winter. I'd like our local board to be able to look at the decision.



7/20/2020 18:57:55	Daniel	Schaffer		Bonner Springs	<p>You should support Gov. Kelly's proposal to delay school opening until Labor Day. If schools open in August, we put the entire public health system at risk. Students shouldn't receive newsletters and notifications that their teachers, custodial staff, administration, or counselors have died.</p> <p>This pandemic is unprecedented in our lifetime and it falls to us to take unprecedented measures in response.</p> <p>You can save lives today, I hope to God or whatever you believe in that you take the proper steps to protect your family, my family, and all families that you don't know.</p>
7/20/2020 18:58:18	Allison	Sears		Olathe, KS	I think schools should be delayed in opening and work online until we have found the proper measures to open them in person. How will we do electives? PE? Passing period?
7/20/2020 18:58:19	Elisabeth	Bennudriti	Olathe	Lenexa	Our governor of Kansas is looking out for the best interests and health of all of stakeholders: students, teachers, staff and families. Covid is nothing to play around with - we don't even know the lasting effects it could have on people's overall health. Personally, I love my job. I love teaching. The students I meet become "my kids" for years to follow. We are not trying to skip out on anything, or being lazy. We just need TIME to get ready, to make school as comfortable and SAFE as possible for everyone there. WE are there. WE are the ones who will take care of sick children, worry when they are not in school. WE are the ones who will go home not feeling well, worried that we will not return, and who will love our students the way WE do? WE NEED TIME! Please, let us have time and uphold the governor's EO to start schools after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 18:58:27	Don	Forster	Educational community	Wichita	The conventional wisdom from the medical professionals tells us to wait and see where cases and numbers go through the month of August. Also, we already know this virus can be passed within a school from other countries reporting exactly that fact. Please remember that your decision involves the innocent lives of over one-half million Kansans. Why not mandate all schools begin online continuous learning by August 17th?
7/20/2020 18:58:29	Rebekka	Voss	Parents	Hillsboro	I have 3 school aged children, 8th, 11th and 12th, and absolutely agree with delaying. As a matter of fact, schools should consider online options to start out the year and delaying sports if Covid cases continue to rise. Should cases decline, this should be re-evaluated biweekly as we progress through the pandemic.
7/20/2020 18:58:29	Rebecca	Killen		Lawrence	Please approve this Executive Order to keep Kansas students and teachers and all their families safe. We are counting on you.
7/20/2020 18:58:29	Bonnie	Zimmerman		Lenexa	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's order to postpone school until after Labor Day. Keep our kids, teachers and staff safe.
7/20/2020 18:58:34	Nolan	Lewis	Teachers	Lenexa	It is not currently safe to open schools. Teachers and students WILL get sick if the board doesn't act.
7/20/2020 18:58:39	Brian	Harris	None - Myself	Leawood	Delay the start of school to provide time for all school districts to be ready to respond to what will be a challenging fall. Students, teachers, and parents across school districts and counties will be interacting on a daily basis and the chances for transmission is high unless preventative measures are taken now. This is a national public health emergency that requires extraordinary measures to make sure our schools are safe. What is a few weeks if we have done all we can to insure our students will be safe in our schools? We do not want to be like our neighbor, Missouri, who has an obviously ignorant Governor. Our Governor Kelly has proposed common sense steps to protect our students. Support her!
7/20/2020 18:58:41	Dawn	Ayers		Topeka	Please!!! Keep them closed and give staff enough time to get supplies and plan! We are going to need it.
7/20/2020 18:58:50	Linda	Blain		Wichita	I believe the prescribed measures are necessary to give everyone involved the best opportunity to learn and be as safe as possible.
7/20/2020 18:58:55	Sonya	Smith	Parent of students in Wi	Wichita	<p>Thank you, Governor Kelly, for continuing to make efforts to keep Kansas residents safe and healthy.</p> <p>I fully support waiting until September 9th (or later) to start the new school year. If we must expose teachers, staff, students and their families to a potentially deadly virus when a vaccine isn't available, we should wait until the school administrators and staff can set up a, somewhat (but not really), "safer" school environment.</p> <p>The schools were closed when the country, in particular - our state of Kansas - had way fewer Covid-19 cases than we are currently facing. The numbers are only going to increase. I can't wrap my head around how and why it's a good idea to open schools now.</p>

7/20/2020 18:59:00	Kevin	Koelzer	Tax paying citizen	White city	Open schools for kids sanity and social skills
7/20/2020 18:59:03	Lacy	Pfannenstiel	Norton	Norton	Please do not delay school. Our children have already suffered from school being closed and forced to participate in online learning. Children need to be in school learning with their peers. So much more than book work is taught at school, in the school building that our children have not had since March! Please remove any and all mandates such as face coverings and temperature checks and let's open schools as planned and not let the governor take any more freedoms away from our children to learn! Stop and think! Parents know when to send their children to school and when not to! Let the parents be parents and the teachers be teachers. If parents choose not to send children to school then they have made the choice to go back into online learning. I'm concerned with the lack of progress my own children in high school are making because education is not what it used to be. Not all students can learn sitting in front of a screen. Many need hands on learning and interactions with others to learn. Our children need us to advocate for them now more than ever. They want to be IN school and go back to normal!
7/20/2020 18:59:10	Nichole	Worley	Teachers	Olathe	I worry about my health and bringing it home to my family. My elderly parents live with me and I feel worse than the doctors because they are head to toe sterile and have control over the patient who is 1:1. I will be in a building that will be overcrowded and I have kids puking in my room every year because parents send them to school sick. I love my job and I love my students but I am worried about my own family safety! I certainly do not get paid doctors wages but I am expected to parent, teach, counselor and protect them all.
7/20/2020 18:59:18	Shawna	Bloom		Topeka	We would like schools to open on time, and in person. No masks.
7/20/2020 18:59:30	Kristi	Miller	USD290	Baldwin City	Support the EO
7/20/2020 18:59:46	Terah	Thompson		Olathe	I feel our children need to return to school as soon as possible. They have already been out 4 months and the continuously learning was very lacking for the last quarter. It wasn't even required or graded. Essentially it was all review. I do believe everyone should wear masks and as much as possible social distance. It is time for some normalcy, structure and an education. They also need school for emotional health. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:00:06	Kenzie	Singleton	My children	Ottawa	Please keep the schools closed, until numbers of COVID cases are decreasing. Follow the CDC guidelines and keep our children safe. They can get caught up.
7/20/2020 19:00:21	Jeff	Slater	USD 454	Topeka, KS	We need to be OPEN minded to allowing online learning to go on while still providing KSHSAA sanctioned sports. If a student chooses online learning, they shouldn't be "banned" from attending or participating in extracurricular activities. The bottom line is if kids are handling the school work, home or online, they should still have that option to do extra curricular's. Attending school a full day and then going to an athletic practice is much higher risk then doing online learning and attending a 2 hour practice. I have no issue with masks being recommended if that's what provides the safest environment for kids. I also have no issue with a delayed start. However, I do have an issue with shutting things down, assuming this will "stop the spread" when in reality, kids are still congregating and interacting. Let's find a way to RESPONSIBLY provide school and extracurricular's to our kids. Let's start acknowledging the benefits behind a healthy and active lifestyle. Thank you for all the hard work and listening.
7/20/2020 19:00:21	Jennifer	Flick	I'm a parent of two K-12	Great Bend	I don't see how this makes a difference in the Covid situation. However, if it allows schools more time to get prepared then I'm for it. Actually, I'd like to see a legislative change that permanently changes the school year from after Labor Day to right before Memorial Day. This August- May schedule doesn't make sense. Let parents and students finish out the summer instead of half weeks until after Labor Day. More so, pools and rec classes don't open until June, so why end so early in May with nothing for kids to do. I'd like to see the change made permanently.
7/20/2020 19:00:21	Cindi	Thomas	USD 500	Leavenworth	Please vote for the delay. School communities need time to review, plan and implement the details from the state plan. Kansas students and school staff deserve safe environment.
7/20/2020 19:00:21	Michelle	Connolly		Overland Park	I'm ok with delaying but only until the week following labor day. I think the flu is more of a risk to our children than covid. I don't want to have kids get sick (which they will with strep and flu like normal) and have a panic and school closings. We do NOT want to do school online like we did 4th quarter last year.
7/20/2020 19:00:30	Dawn	Justice		Hutchinson	I am a school teacher in Hutchinson and I feel students have been out of school too long. Please tell the schools to open up on the original scheduled first day of school. We need to get back in the classroom.
7/20/2020 19:00:37	Beth	Conaway		Medicine Lodge	Please delay the start, but adjust the number of days required.

7/20/2020 19:00:39	Kristina	Hills		Colby	I think we need to start schools ASAP and then follow the colleges and take an extended break during flu season. We also cannot say all counties are the same. Some have not even had any confirmed cases! We are not the same as eastern Kansas. And if my young children are required to wear masks I will homeschool them myself, not through the school so they won't see any money from my children.
7/20/2020 19:01:07	Austine	Pugh		Norton	Please consider voting to uphold Governor Kelly's mandate. We have some very vulnerable students and staff in our district. There is no reason to not err on the side of caution with public health. As a special education teacher, I'm worried about our students that are at a higher risk. I'm worried about our teachers and support staff who are older or have health concerns. Please consider holding up this mandate to see what the state of Kansas looks like after Labor Day. Thank you for your time and energy spent on this hard decision and all the extra unexpected meetings you've had to hold in the last few months. Whatever you decide, you are appreciated.
7/20/2020 19:01:08	Michelle	Tharman	N/A	Long Island, KS	Our kids and teachers need to be able to see each other face to face. There really is no "normal" right now... but, requiring masks, for all in the educational environment, will keep everyone safer. I recognize fully that the science changes regularly, but wearing masks is the best option we have right now. Delaying the school start date until September will give school districts time to plan appropriately.  I ask you to please support the Governor and work with her, rather than as opponents, to show a united front for our kids, our schools and our state. We are losing the battle when we play politics. We need to work together lest we all suffer and fail.  Thank you for your consideration.  Michelle Tharman 174 West 800 Road Long Island, KS 67647
7/20/2020 19:01:09	Matt	Thoman	My kids	Basehor	Our district only offered full in person or online only. It would be nice to see a hybrid option and keep kids out of school some during the pandemic.
7/20/2020 19:01:10	Lori	Trisler	USD 259	Wichita	I agree with the governor's executive order regarding schools in Sedgwick County the numbers do not support going back in person earlier.
7/20/2020 19:01:14	CHERRIE	LINDSEY	Teachers	OTTAWA	Please give the districts the three weeks to prepare. This will give time for everyone to get prepared and get used to the idea. I teach in a small school and people are scrambling.
7/20/2020 19:01:18	Daniel	Dick	Maize USD 266	Maize	As a teacher in the Maize school district, I think it is important that we are given more time to plan for the opening of schools in September. There are many variables we are facing with this next school year. We are experiencing a massive change to our jobs as teachers for this next year and I don't think any of us feel prepared. COVID is a complex and sadly has been made into a political issue. Please take a stand for schools and allow the Governors EO to happen and delay the beginning of the school year.
7/20/2020 19:01:19	Alana	Kennedy	USD 443	Dodge City	I believe the delay will help teachers and administrators prepare to teach in a variety of platforms and ensure safety.
7/20/2020 19:01:26	Meghan	Armstrong	Parent	Olathe ks	I think it is a good idea to push school back...a hybrid plan would be nice if school does go on as planned after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 19:01:29	Laurie	Wendland	USD 233	Olathe	Please delay the start of school and accept the Executive order of our Governor.
7/20/2020 19:01:39	Becki	Evans	Usd 394	Wichita	Please leave the control of each district up to each local BOE. The people in the community will do what is best for their school. Differentiation is important.
7/20/2020 19:01:41	Cecily	Blackman	My family	Olathe	I feel schools need to open on time with expectations of precautions in place (masks etc). Many of us including direct care staff in my field of individuals with special needs have been working this entire time safely. Our children have lost so much already and in my opinion if adults can engage in activities like going to bars and casinos then children can safely engage in and deserve their education.
7/20/2020 19:01:42	Kathryn	Harter	USD 233 and USD 458	Olathe	Please do not go back in person until cases go down for at least 14 days.
7/20/2020 19:02:07	Christopher	Hernandez	Santa Fe Trail Communi	Dodge City	I think school should start in August. Time to get these kids back to normal is well needed!

7/20/2020 19:02:14	Jennifer	Klindworth	Parents	Olathe	I support delaying the start of schools and alternating schedules until there is a vaccine or low community spread.
7/20/2020 19:02:17	Lea	Harding		Norton	Great plan! Thanks for doing what you can to keep our kids safe!
7/20/2020 19:02:34	Traci	Ridder	School based occupation	Marienthal, KS	I think school should begin in August as regularly scheduled in accordance with each individual County with appropriate safety measures in place.
7/20/2020 19:02:38	I agree with her	Garvey	Guest teacher	Wichita Ks	I'm leery of going into a classroom where I do not know the kids and school or the procedures for protection.
7/20/2020 19:02:47	Stacy	Dillinger	Family	Hugoton	I ask that you do not uphold the mandate. We are a rural area and are not having the rise in Covid cases like the urban areas. I also ask that masks not be required in schools. Those with health issues and young students will have adverse affects. Thank you for your consideration.
7/20/2020 19:02:48	Erik	Leon		Topeka	Schools in Europe have reopened safely and their students are now U.S. students are falling even more behind their peers in other countries. There is no justification to set back American kids' education even further. These decisions should be made locally, and private schools especially should be permitted to make their own decisions as to how they wish to operate this year. One size fits all is NOT the answer! I ask you to vote NO on these overreaching executive orders just issued by Governor Kelly.
7/20/2020 19:02:53	Carrie	Paschke	I don't represent an organ	Overland Park	The data we have now doesn't support keeping kids home any longer. Studies are showing us again and again that children are not vulnerable to Covid like other groups, and that they aren't generally spreaders of it either. Over 30 countries have reopened schools since May and the anticipated 'spikes in cases' just aren't happening. Even considering those adults in our schools, the survivability rate just released this week from Johnson County is 99.984%. Please let students who are comfortable return to school for their own well-being. We need to look out for the mental health of our next generation and we can not let unnecessary fear, politics, or 'projected models' (none of which have been accurate to-date) keep us from giving our kids the best chance to succeed. They are worth it.
7/20/2020 19:03:02	Jim	Means	Spring Hill School Distr	Spring Hill, Ks	I feel our schools need to reopen as originally planned. Kids have been out of school since mid March. The majority of Pediatric doctors and counselors agree that kids need to be in school for learning and social development. The damage done far out weighs the risk of contracting Covid in children.
7/20/2020 19:03:17	Michelle	Ehrsam	Parent	Olathe	There is no reason why we can't start at least on line. Our kids are already behind due to the last quarter following with optional learning plan. I understand not starting in person but our kids education should not keep being postponed.
7/20/2020 19:03:33	Colleen	Gillum	Kaw Valley USD #321	Rossville	I would really like school to start for all children. I am a grade school secretary for 20+ years. I do think it could more risky for larger schools in Wyandotte & Johnson County, where the covid cases have been higher. Maybe their districts would decide to delay their start. But the smaller schools in rural counties should be given the opportunity to start. The other options that I think should be considered is allowing the high school students to return in August. Our school students are capable & willing to social distance and wear masks if necessary. They have proven that during summer activities. Please, give these students a chance to learn.
7/20/2020 19:03:40	Laura	Harrington	Central Kansas Christian	Great Bend	I have no issues with delaying start of in-person classes until after Labor Day but I do not understand why schools cannot offer remote learning before that if they are prepared for it (which many have been preparing for all summer). I am concerned with the impact delaying all instruction would have on when school the school year ends in Spring 2021.
7/20/2020 19:03:40	Aimee	Strickland	USD 447 Cherryvale-Th	Cherryvale	As our Districts School Nurse and Head Volleyball Coach, I hope you approve our Governors EO to delay school start. While I really appreciate all the hard work put into the 20-21 guidelines, it comes with so much information, that a delayed school start will allow us the proper time to plan, order supplies, and make sure we are prepared for a very different school year. If we have a longer time to plan, the less chance for errors and throwing things together. The medical supplies that I order, are already given a delayed shipping date. I can only imagine that once all the other schools begin to order, it will only delay the orders even more. Delaying start, is the safest, wisest choice.
7/20/2020 19:03:44	Haley	Remsburg		El Dorado	Please consider delaying the start of school until after Labor Day per the EO from Governor Kelly. I am a mother of 3 children, wife of a district employee and a USD 490 school board member. The extra time for teachers to prepare is vital to start school in the best way possible during this pandemic. Thank you for your consideration.

7/20/2020 19:03:51	Caitlin	DeFilippo	Kansas resident	Lawrence	I believe that Governor Kelly's executive order should be confirmed. The rates of infection in our state are not yet stable, and outbreaks are happening in various places, both rural and urban. This is a good step toward keeping our communities safe.
7/20/2020 19:04:04	Jayne	Malsom		Auburn	I am an educator and am very concerned with not only the health and safety of myself and my students, but also that of my family at home. Please approve the executive order to allow the cases to perhaps come down a bit, but to also allow ALL school districts, teachers, administrators, and local school boards to prepare. We need time to work with our local county health offices so that we can provide the BEST and SAFEST education possible for the children of Kansas, while at the same time maintaining the health and safety of Kansas educators
7/20/2020 19:04:09	Sara	Brockman		Clay Center	I would like Gov. Kelly's mandate upheld to reopen schools after Labor Day so we can get the case numbers down.
7/20/2020 19:04:24	Bre	McClintock		Salina	I'm a firm believer our children need to be in school for their overall mental, emotional, physical and social health. My 7 year old was so upset when he overheard me talking about the possibility of school being online again this year. He misses his friends, teachers, and academic structure. I'm not sure what delaying school for 3 more weeks will accomplish. I am in full support of whatever USD 305 decides. Superintendent Linn Exline has went above and beyond keeping our community informed. I hope the final decision is made with our students best interest in mind. This is such a confusing time for children in our world and returning to school in a timely fashion can give them back some sense of normalcy.
7/20/2020 19:04:26	Jennifer	Potochnik	Teacher, USD 259	Wichita	Teachers needs time to prepare to receive our students in the safest way humanly possible. Add the days to the end of the year.
7/20/2020 19:04:28	Lacy	Schneweis		Wichiya	Put these kids back on school full time. This is ridiculous that they are suffering because the people "in charge" can't get their heads out of their butts and realize they are damaging these innocent kids!!!!
7/20/2020 19:04:31	Marcia	Lance		Olathe	If it's truly due to not being prepared , why? They've known about this for months. If it's just to delay to appease those who are scared then what will 3 more weeks do ? Those people will never be ready. I saw you open and if high risk or too scared then stay home
7/20/2020 19:04:40	Kira	Otte		Downs	I see no need to rush the opening of school. We need to make sure we can do this safely.
7/20/2020 19:04:57	Nicole	Serrien	Minneapolis Lionbacker	Minneapolis	Stay Closed thru September
7/20/2020 19:04:57	Erinn	Bradstreet	Teacher/parent usd437	Topeka	Delaying the start of school is okay but please consider sleeting sports workouts to continue.
7/20/2020 19:05:04	Amanda	Preno	Educators	Gardner	How are we goong to keep students and staff safe? Please, pleas, I beg of you, think about the safety of our students, their families, my life and my family. Please to not make this about Dems VS Republicans. We deserve more than that. We deserve to have you the Board respect out life and keep us safe. Please vote yes on this Order.
7/20/2020 19:05:04	Sarah	Mattie		Lenexa	Refer to my email for full commentary--you should be able to search your inbox for my name. I am a former teacher who quit because of the constant threats to life and limb of my students, from school employees, other students, and the buildings themselves. Three weeks isn't enough, but it's a start and the least you can do.
7/20/2020 19:05:30	Jennifer	Wiltse	USD 232 DeSoto school	Shawnee	As both parent and 3rd grade teacher I implore you to support the governors order to delay the opening of schools. On Johnson County the cases of COVID 19 are rising faster than ever. This is not the time to use politics to play with the lives of our state's children and teachers!! The guidelines from the state school board were just released last week. Districts need time to evaluate the new regulations and decide on the safest plan possible for teaching our children. I want nothing more than to have student back in my classroom and to send my own children to the schools they love but it is currently not worth the risk of other lives at this time. Please give schools the time they need to make the most effective plan possible and support the governor's order!
7/20/2020 19:05:33	Karen	Haughawout		Park City	Please continue to work for the safety of the students and staff. Virtual school would be the best choice as long as the Covid Cases continue to rise.
7/20/2020 19:05:36	Dawn	Nolde		Larned	I find it absolutely idiotic that you think the deaf need to go without masks when what they need is to be able to see OUR mouths. Masks will cause kids to touch their faces more which will spread more germs than no mask. This virus is spread through water droplets. Therefore unless someone sneezes or coughs directly in your face, your biggest issue is still surfaces and hands. Unless a face shield is used, no mask will do any good in the face of a sneeze/cough. Maybe you should get a lesson in how to handle this from the governor of South Dakota and let free people live free.
7/20/2020 19:05:37	Eriel	Milhon	Republicans	Hugoton	Open the Schools...NO MASKS

7/20/2020 19:05:43	Kyadda	Callahan	Parent- Delaware ridge	Bonner springs	Thank you for pushing back the opening of schools. I think it is Absolutely the right decision. Our district is in Wyandotte County. We are trying hard to make the best decision for our boys. I think the extra time give our districts time to solidify/modify plans so that our children but also all the staff can feel safe! Thank you for doing the right thing. I know so many of our teachers and staff are scared because they have family at home to worry about.
					I'm a high school physical education teacher in Kansas City, Kansas. I love my job. I love my students. I would love to go back to school as usual in August, but that's not a safe or viable option right now. Even if we did go back, things wouldn't be "normal" in my class under social distancing guidelines. Go ahead and take the fun element of team-oriented or interactive fitness activities out of Physical Education. Individual fitness and individual sport drills it is. Who wants to pay for my school to get enough equipment so students don't have to share or go through an insane amount of disinfectant? What about the other three PE classes happening at the same time? Has it also become my job to sanitize every piece of equipment after every use? If so, who is providing the cleaning supplies? Let's talk about 30-40 students in each class breathing heavily during exercise. Gyms and fitness centers have already been labeled as high-risk places to go in public by many health officials. What makes a school gym any different? How am I supposed to enforce social distancing and wearing masks among 30-40 teenagers? "Just have class outside. Problem solved." There are days in August and September that sports practices are limited due to dangerous heat. Also, who will provide tents for shaded workout areas, sunscreen, water bottles, hats, appropriate clothing for my already disadvantaged students? There is so much more to the equation than just reopening the schools. Putting the safety of students and teachers at risk to go back to a physical school is not worth it. How many deaths would this account for? I'd rather not take the chance.
					I'll be the first to admit that online learning in the spring wasn't great, however, we only had two weeks to prepare. This summer, I've been participating in professional development trainings to prepare for either more (and better) online learning or returning to in-person instruction. These professional development trainings are not free. I'm paying for them out of my own pocket. This isn't the first time I've spent my own money during my free time to better the educational experience of my students. Now that we have time to adequately prepare, why aren't our districts or states paying teachers and paying for teachers to learn how to effectively teach online? This is a relatively new concept that most of us have little to no experience with. Give us a chance to learn to do better.
7/20/2020 19:05:43	Josie	Owens	Kansas City Kansas Pub	Overland Park	Yes, school is important for so many reasons beyond a general education. I would love nothing more than to start fresh and return to school normally, but it is not my job to put my life at risk to babysit your high school students. It is my job to educate your high school students in a safe environment. Though it is not ideal, everything we would do in
7/20/2020 19:05:51	Josh	Bowers	USD 380	Corning	Please allow students to return as originally scheduled. We live in a rural area and should not be lumped in with larger districts. 13 counties account for 87.1% of the cases. Let all districts and counties decide for themselves. Thank you
7/20/2020 19:06:02	Leslye	Wilhm		Olathe	I am asking to please delay the opening of schools. There is not enough information that supports reopening safely. Many companies around the country are asking employees to return to the office in 2021. Why do teachers and students need to be the ones to test out the waters first? What is being asked is that a teacher with 150 Students a day and be in a room with poor circulation and no windows and possibly without proper PPE for eight hours a day. We are scared because we do not know what is going to happen. We are scared at what could happen. Why put all of us in harms way just so that kids have a place to go? How will it be handled if students and teachers get sick or worse? I encourage anyone to do what is being requested of us teachers. Come to the classroom, stay in our rooms for 8 hours trying to make sure all students are following protocol. Please listen to our voices. I think we all know it is not safe to open now, next month or the rest of the year. Please help us.
7/20/2020 19:06:06	Sam	Scherer	A teacher	Lenexa	Schools need more time to prepare. Teachers need more time to prepare. Please accept the mandate!
7/20/2020 19:06:08	Mael	Brown	Parents of Kansas Kids	Hesston KS	Stop denying our kids their right to a FAPE, start school as normal! Parents who wish to not send their kids 5 days a week can find their own solutions in home school, online, etc. make it THEIR problem at not being ok with 5 full days, not yours.
7/20/2020 19:06:11	Erin	Engle	Teacher and parent	Olathe	Delay schools. Virtual schools

7/20/2020 19:06:32	Cathy	Jones		Stockton	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day. Cases are rising in our neighboring counties and I am worried that we will see bigger spikes soon. As a parent and an educator I am worried about becoming infected or having my young children infected. I have elderly family members who I depend on for child care. They live in senior apartments. One of them being infected would be bad for all of them. I also have coworkers who have elderly family members, babies, and health issues. I would hate to see them become infected. I would prefer school to be held online this year. What is the plan if we have a case in our small school? Please help keep us safe!!
7/20/2020 19:06:48	Christine	Hogan		Olathe	Please uphold Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the opening of Kansas schools. The number of Covid cases is continuing to rise. I reside in Johnson County where our numbers are now the highest in the state. I am very concerned about the health of students, faculty, and the students' families if we restart school during this spike. I have been an elementary educator for 34 years. I am also a 56 year old mom to a 13 year old who is also stressed about starting school in person. He is worried that he will contract it and he worries about Covid's short and long term affects. He is petrified that either my husband, also an educator, or I will get it and possibly die! Living day to day in this pandemic is hard enough emotionally and mentally! We mostly stay home, wear our masks if we do have to go out, and social distance. But, if we have to go to school in person everyday during this spike our efforts have been for nothing! I implore you to do the right thing and support the start of schools at least after Labor Day! Hopefully, by then the number of cases will be down. Schools will also have an opportunity to have a safe and solid educational plan in place for in person and remote learning. Thank you for your consideration! Christy Hogan USD231 teacher USD230 parent
7/20/2020 19:07:00	Natalie	Lindsey		Eudora	Please consider the lives going back unprepared will impact. Schools were prepared to go back when KS was flattening the curve. We are no longer there and will not be for the foreseeable future, as people are rushing to get back to doing things normally. If we keep rushing things, there will be nobody left to get back to normal. Please vote to delay schools. It truly is the next smartest option as nobody is willing to shut schools down again. Which is the only fully safe option.
7/20/2020 19:07:09	Katie	Perry		Derby	I believe there shouldn't be a delay. Children are not a big source of transmission of the virus.
7/20/2020 19:07:10	Heather	Thompson		Hanston	Start school like normal, no restrictions, no masks, just go on with life as normal. You can't treat every school the same, some place have no current cases. Kids are especially resilient anyways so let them get on with their lives and stop ruining their childhood over a virus that has been and will continue to be around for a long time. It's no different than the flu which can cause people with already weakened immune systems to get really sick or die. We don't go crazy for the flu and shouldn't for what is especially the common cold bug. Start school like normal!
7/20/2020 19:07:20	Kendall	Toren		Shawnee	Please delay school openings. The CDC has designated Kansas as a red zone and we've seen an overwhelming spike in cases in the last couple weeks. This isn't about politics. This is about keeping teachers, staff, and families SAFE physically, mentally, and emotionally. The amount of stress you would be putting teachers and school staff under is significant. We are all concerned for the well-being of students, but we must also consider the wellbeing of those who will be in the schools with students. Please set partisanship and pride aside and think about what's best for our communities. Delay school openings.
7/20/2020 19:07:27	Douglas	Wolff	Teacher - KCKPS	Overland Park	I feel delaying the start of school will greatly benefit all districts' ability to safely open buildings. As a teacher, I need this additional time to properly prepare for hosting students in the classroom, as well as prepare for a possibility of simultaneously teaching students both in person and remotely.
7/20/2020 19:07:37	Sharon	Ludwig	Retired teacher, mother	Leawood	Please delay in-person instruction until infection numbers go down. Opening schools should only be done when it is safe for students AND teachers.

7/20/2020 19:07:44	Linda	Willoughby	Educator/grandparent	Minneapolis	I support starting after Labor Day to ensure time for districts to properly prepare for the safety of our student I'm s and their families, teachers and staff and their families. Rushed options are never thoroughly planned and executed and I can't imagine the guilt a student or teacher might carry if they thought they were responsible for making others sick let alone if one of their friends or a teacher dies. We can't say it won't happen here. We have to be as prepared as we can be to do this right and safely for all.
7/20/2020 19:07:52	Wendi	Matthews	Parent and teacher in Ol	Overland park	As long as you can keep us safe... let's go back.
7/20/2020 19:08:03	Paula	Athey	USD 231	Gardner	In favor of postponing until after Labor Day for safety of students & staff.
7/20/2020 19:08:10	Carrie	Englert	Cure of ars	Prairie Village	Please do not delay opening of schools.
7/20/2020 19:08:13	Sara	Friesen Guhr	USD 373	Newton	I am a School Social Worker in the Newton, KS public schools. I am also the parent of USD 373 students. I urge you to support Governor Kelly's upcoming Executive Order delaying the start of school. We are in unprecedented times and we MUST do everything we can to provide for the health and safety of our students, school staff, families and communities. The social emotional impact of severe illness and death will be much greater than starting the school year later with health precautions in place. Travel happens between Kansas counties, therefore making it necessary and appropriate for this to be a statewide order. Consistency matters. School staff also needs adequate time to digest and put plans into place now that the KSDE recommendations have been released and approved by you. School Districts will need to look at calendars and how a late start to school impacts them, but this is something local BOEs are used to and capable of doing.  Please, continue to show that Kansas is in the forefront in the Nation of being proactive, positive and UNITED in our response to COVID 19. We led the way in March. Let's continue to do so with the start of the 2020/2021 school year.  Thank you
7/20/2020 19:08:16	Jessica	Arthur	USD 260	Derby	As an educator, this will give us the time necessary to learn and meet all restrictions and be trained for More efficient online learning as well, just in case.
7/20/2020 19:08:20	Megan	Grimes		Minneapolis	if masks are mandated we will not be sending our kids to school. My daughter has a lung disease and its not healthy for any of my kids or anyone else's kids to wear masks all day
7/20/2020 19:08:43	Hannah	Lincol	Teacher	Eudora	I am asking that you please pass this executive order. As a teacher, I fear for the lives of my students families, should they bring COVID-19 home from school. We need time to prepare for the extreme (but necessary) protocols that will be put in place in our buildings. I want to keep my students and their families, and myself and my family safe. In order to do this, we need the time and training to teach during a pandemic. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:08:47	Laura	Castillo	Turner USD 202	Kansas City, KS	I agree with the order to delay the opening of schools. I work for the school district in the admin building, but also have a child that will be starting 2nd grade. With the rise in cases recently and them continuing to increase, I fear for my daughter's safety and the safety of other students and staff and ultimately their families. There is too much unknown about this virus to risk our students and staff. It can spread like crazy in a classroom and school. If we closed down in March for way less, I don't see how we can even be considering reopening schools in our current situation. Thank you for your consideration.
7/20/2020 19:08:47	Jennifer	Duenes		Topeka	I appreciate what the governor is doing. I am in support of kids wearing masks to school, and do not think delaying school is an issue.
7/20/2020 19:09:13	Lori	Kutilek	USD 268	Cheney	This should NOT be a one size fits all approach. This should be a local decision based on local data and local restrictions.
7/20/2020 19:09:25	Stacy	Martindale		Rose Hill	The mandate to have all children wear a mask is completely insane!! Why is the government allow to make a decision for my children. Open the schools 2 weeks late and let my child and my family make a choice that is right for us rather than the government making that choice for us.
7/20/2020 19:09:29	Jill	Wahl	Parent, IEP student	Montezuma	Schools being delayed is delaying much needed IEP services for my child that already break in the summer. We live in a part of the state without the opportunity to find private services. By delaying to after Labor Day, services will take an even longer break than a typical summer putting my child at risk for more delays.
7/20/2020 19:09:30	Martha	Lisk	Self	Garden City, Kansas	Please make the health and safety of children, administration, teachers, and staff a priority. Also, please consider that many staff people are hourly workers and have very limited sick leave.



7/20/2020 19:09:36	Kara	Wolf		Quinter	Please leave the authority up to the individual counties and school boards, as to when, and how, to open schools. In my county there has been 2 cases this whole time. Our kids are together at the pool, playing summer sports, and fair week, and cases aren't rising. This is ridiculous. And please, do not mandate masks for children!
7/20/2020 19:09:39	Wendy	Hill	SMSD	Prairie Village	I am completely fine with school starting after Labor Day. This assumes the administration spends time on protocols and what online school looks like IF there is hybrid or virtual learning only. how there is no plan already is infuriating. I would, at a minimum, want my children in a school part time.
7/20/2020 19:09:40	Beth	Simon	Teacher	Hays	Please return control of school start and future school decisions to local level!!! Some counties do not have the cases other more populated areas do. A one-size-fits-all approach is not a smart precedent to take. I am a teacher, and I want nothing more than to get back to face-to-face classroom approach. Our children are suffering by not being in school. That does not mean that we cannot take precautions and have other plans in place, however, these decisions need to be based on local community outbreak. Thank you for taking the time to ask for public opinion.
7/20/2020 19:10:12	Morgan	Holy	Parent and substitute tea	Olathe	Delaying children's learning for a virus that is less dangerous than the flu or possibly equal is a terrible mistake. Just because one Person out of 100 COULD become ill or die does not make it okay for the world to stop. It's terrible but no one is making anyone send their children. If prople don't feel safe keep them home but the rest of us and our children should be able to come fine I with life and learning. Also for children wearing masks.. that's a joke. Adults can't walk around without touching them and to tell kids to wear them because it's safer is BS. All kinds of germs (possibly Covid) will be all over their masks that they touch all day and then have pressed against their face all day. That's far more dangerous to them. And again, if a kid or parent wants to wear a mask let them.. but forcing people is not okay. I'll get a medical note for my kid before I make them wear one
7/20/2020 19:10:15	Charlotte	Anderson	SPS Library	Lawrence	I am 64 and want to teach but have underlying health issues which makes Covid very high risk for me and my husband
7/20/2020 19:10:23	Elizabeth	Akins		Derby	I do not think we should be postponing school.
7/20/2020 19:10:24	Shelley	Lierz	Olathe Public Schools	Overland Park	Please DO NOT DELAY the start of school. Kids need to be in school and in sports and activities!!!
7/20/2020 19:10:29	Chelsi	Holinde	Jefferson Elementary Sc	Great Bend Kansas	Please consider letting our kids go back to school on time. These kids have had so much taken from them in such a short amount of time. My kids in particular lost their state wrestling tournament, 1/2 their baseball season, their last nine weeks of school. They lost out on education, friendships, sports etc. They need to get back in school and back to as much normal as they can! So many of these kids need school to escape from the craziness at home, to battle depression, to seal a safe place! Please reconsider making our kids wait another 3 weeks!! Thank you!
7/20/2020 19:10:29	Indy	Sali	DNA Enterprises	Overland Park	Please support GovKelly's Order. We do not yet know the long term consequences of catching the Covid-19 virus. You could be relegating children, teachers and staff that may get the virus to life long harm and consequences.
7/20/2020 19:10:33	Scott	Rose	Na	Fredonia	I think the decision to reopen inperson school and the restrictions required should be made at the local school board level.
7/20/2020 19:10:44	Krista	Hardesty		Minneapolis	If children, K-12 are required to wear a mask at all times and social distance, than we should without a doubt start school ON TIME. Schools should be prepared to open on time. They have had months to plan for this, knowing that it wouldn't go back to "normal".
7/20/2020 19:10:53	Kelli	Svatos	Olathe School District U	Olathe	Please uphold the delay to schools. Numbers are spiking and it is not safe for students or adults.
7/20/2020 19:10:55	Reed	Howard	USD 233	Olathe	Open schools on time. We cannot continue to live in fear of a worst case scenario that is less and less supported by data. We are crippling our community by not allowing ourselves to be resilient and resourceful as we figure out how to live.
7/20/2020 19:11:09	Denna	Rice	Parent	El Dorado	If masks are required for the kids, I'm praying they aren't going 5 days a week ALL DAY. At least hoping for shorter days/weeks. PLEASE
7/20/2020 19:11:22	Stephanie	Ganoung	USD 480	Hays	I work for the local school district and would like for the opening of schools to be delayed past Labor Day so schools can open safely.
7/20/2020 19:11:38	Jennifer	Matney	I am a teacher for USD 2	Wichita	Please consider the health risks for everyone. Please delay the start of school. Consider the hybrid modelwhen students return unless there is a drastic decrease in cases of Covid. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:12:03	Brooke	Batman	USD 102 and USD 443	Cimarron	Schools need to open ASAP immediately after Labor Day
7/20/2020 19:12:05	Haley	Walker		Ashland	The local board is capable of keeping their district safe, a state-wide order &/or mandates takes the freedom and voice of our people away. Let each district make their decision.

7/20/2020 19:12:07	Karen	Schechter		Hugoton	Do not approve. We live in a small town where there are fewer cases of covid19. Our students are playing many different sports together both inside & outside so they are already together frequently. The students need their time together. Please do not require masks. Kids do not wear them properly & how they are cleaned cannot be controlled.
7/20/2020 19:12:14	Dana	Bridwell	I am a teacher	Goddard	I hope the State Board of Education listens to the facts. People are getting sick, hospitals are full, this virus can be deadly. I am a teacher and want to be with my kiddos, but putting us back in school before this dies down a little is like putting a Mento into a Coca Cola! It will erupt! Kids don't understand germs and how they spread. They pick their noses and touch us teachers...they sneeze or cough and touch us...they go to the bathroom, and touch us. I encourage you to go visit a daycare right now and see how the germs are spreading. I've been teaching for 24 years and know how kids work. Please trust the people that do this day in and day out.
7/20/2020 19:12:29	Kari	Burchett		Osawatomic	I do not support delaying school another 3 weeks. That will bring "summer break" to 6 months with our children getting further behind. I know my young child has not retained anywhere close to where he was in March. Schools have worked to be ready. Delaying does not change COVID and further limits time for education. If the school year is extended into June, interest will be lost as always in the spring. We may need COVID days out of school. We can't continue to ignore the needs of the future generations.
7/20/2020 19:12:36	Dr. Haley	Olson	Seaman School District	Topeka	Please vote to approve Executive Order 2058. As an educator of 13 years who has trained pre-service teachers, I know how much an engaging and hands-on classroom is vital for education. However that is not possible right now with COVID-19. Our students also need a loving and safe environment to learn in. The safest environment right now is to delay school until September 9th, or after, to allow schools and districts to put CDC mandates in place, and plan how best to proceed with the school year. Thank you for voting for the safety and well-being of our students and staff. Dr. Haley Olson
7/20/2020 19:12:40	Catherine	Witte	None	Topeka	I agree with the Governor's executive order. I also commend her for all of her efforts in trying to keep Kansan's safe during this pandemic. Including lockdown orders, mandatory face masks, and holding news conferences to keep citizens advised and updated at this critical time. She has done a better job than many other governors and we should be proud to call her our Governor.
7/20/2020 19:12:46	Jessica	Green	Olathe Public Schools &	Olathe	As a teacher and parent, it will be incredibly disruptive to my students and children to return to school in person. If my daughter is quarantined due to a close contact exposure, I will be the caregiver to stay home with her for two weeks. This will increase the demand for a sub in my classroom and disrupt my students' learning. I have also only seen 80 hours of covid leave - which does not account for multiple quarantines. I would much rather give students a consistent experience by beginning online and returning to school when frequent quarantines are less likely. The argument about student and staff deaths due to covid seems to downplay my real concerns - missed instructional time and serious short and long term health concerns. A staff member who contracts covid May recover from the virus within a few weeks, but may not be able to return to work for much longer.
7/20/2020 19:12:57	Nikki	Meier	USD 437	Topeka	I am currently a kindergarten teacher in USD 437. I have been in education since 1998 and I LOVE what I do! I would like to advocate for teachers and students to go back to school. I see "science" being presented on both sides of the arguments. However, I see a 98-99.9% recovery rate pretty solid in the data from COVID-19. I see children almost exempt from getting sick from it and the data showing more and more the rareness that asymptomatic children pass it onto their families. I deleted all social media off of my phone and have been trying to listen to reputable sources and not all the fear and emotional rants. Fear is illogical. Fear is destroying our nation. I want to go back to work, I believe we are safe and the safest and healthiest place for our kids is in school. We say we do what's best for kids, and I realize some say keeping them out is best, but I respectfully disagree. Please consider overturning the governor's executive order. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of the process!

7/20/2020 19:13:00	Tina	Cowden	USD233	Olathe	I am a 60 year old, 2nd grade teacher who is concerned for my own health but also that of my students and their families. It is unrealistic to expect 2nd graders to wear a mask all day, and not expose germs to each other. I believe until the case numbers are reduced and continue on a downward trend, we should be doing online lessons with out students and not risking the lives of Teachers, students and all the families involved. Please consider these things when you rule.
7/20/2020 19:13:00	Dena	Short	Parent	Pittsburg	I ask you to please keep schools closed until after Labor Day. Covid cases are only increasing in Crawford County, and for the safety of our children I ask that they delaying schools reopening. This virus is proving that it can effect children. I personally know of 4 children in my town who tested positive, as well as a teacher aid in my classroom tested positive. For the safety of our students and staff PLEASE don't reopen school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 19:13:07	Sara	Cunningham	USD 290	OTTAWA	I 100% support delaying the start of the school year. My students will be ready to go when buildings open. But, I want the buildings ready for them. Our faculty and staff deserve the safest work environments. Our students deserve healthy environments. They deserve adequately prepared staff for this ever changing world.
7/20/2020 19:13:16	Gwen	Rodriguez		Hugoton	These student have already lost 3 months of good education! A one size fits all rule isn't fair to these students! Let the local school board control their schools! That is what we elected them for!
7/20/2020 19:13:17	Rendi	Aitken		Cheney	Don't delay school! Keep as normal!
7/20/2020 19:13:25	Kayla	Woody		Fort Scott	Comment removed due to profanity
7/20/2020 19:13:57	Robin	Wilson		Shawnee	Please support the delay of school. Once school is back in session, distancing and PPE should be required.
7/20/2020 19:14:00	Miles	Spencer	Kansas resident	Olathe	We are data driven and the data shows that kids, teachers, and EVERYONE is at risk by sending kids back to school. Social distancing is impossible in schools. Support the executive order!
7/20/2020 19:14:25	Samantha	Montgomery		Olathe	Please vote in favor of Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school. Districts need the time to develop a strong plan based on current numbers. As a para in an Olathe high school, I would like to see more plans in place to keep the staff safe. Paras (myself included) work with non-verbal students with autism who won't be able to wear masks.
7/20/2020 19:14:26	Shawna	Palmer	Parents	Topeka	We should be able to start on time if we are online. The whole state shouldn't have to delay starting school if there are only seven counties that are hot spots.
7/20/2020 19:14:53	Heather	Springer		Olathe	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day. The extra time will allow teachers and staff time to implement the new regulations and prepare for students to return safely. This will also allow time for cases, particularly in Johnson county, to trend downward.
7/20/2020 19:15:04	Eryka	Benteman	Self	Topeka	Today is a very sad day for local government.
7/20/2020 19:15:05	Ericka	Pursley		Independence	If the students have to wear a mask for there safety then it's not safe enough to open the schools doors. Its ridiculous to put this on our youths shoulders. Open the school back up at the normal time with NO masks
7/20/2020 19:15:08	Barry	Evansq	Topeka West High Scho	Topeka	Please follow the guidance of our Governor. Its really the only safe way to go. Its only a three week wait and hopefully by the start of September, we will be in a better place with the number of COVID cases and understanding that masks are important to the stopping the spread.
7/20/2020 19:15:11	Nichole	Saket		Crawford co kansas	Open in September! Scale back on mask requirements.
7/20/2020 19:15:21	Jessica	Gaddis		Waverly	Please support our Governor's order. All schools need to be the same.
7/20/2020 19:15:34	Graciela	Guthrie	My daughter will attend	St. Mary	Please do not delay the start of school and do not require the kids to wear masks.
7/20/2020 19:15:45	Stephanie	Dryer	Wichita USD 259	2224 w 24th st north, wi	please allow for the delay in starting the school year.
7/20/2020 19:15:55	Chad	Carmichael		Overland Park	I support delaying the start of schools until medical and scientific data supports in-person learning.
7/20/2020 19:15:56	Casey	Rittel	Independent, Employed	Salina	As a pregnant, mother of two school aged children, that works within an elementary school- please DELAY the opening of KS schools until after Labor Day. I'm concerned for my healthy, my children's health and the health and safety of my students and co-workers. I miss my students, my schedule and our it alchemy- and I am more than ready to return to the classroom, but not at the expense of everyone's safety. I want to return when it is safe and appropriate to do so. Returning when numbers in KS are at an all time high has my family gravely concerned about the inevitable community spread and repercussions of mass gatherings.
7/20/2020 19:15:57	Shonda	Serpan	Spring Hill School Distr	Spring Hill	Please let these kids begin school and athletics and not delay it anymore. Transmission child to child and child to adult is extremely low, and the mental health of my child will be challenged if she has to delay school and sports any longer. If some want to do virtual, that is fine, but we should have the option.

7/20/2020 19:15:58	Mary	Vanausdall	Teachers	Shawnee	I think that we need to start school after Labor Day, to make sure Covid numbers go down. We don't really know how it will affect children in the long run.
7/20/2020 19:16:01	Holly	Clark		Olathe	I love that you are waiting until at least after Labor Day. Hopefully the masks will help and the numbers will go down and we can go back eventually. I would rather online school and think bullying in the school is so bad my kiddo would be better at home. I would Like online only option so all students get the same and make it work. For those with AP classes, labs or projects students can go in just for those classes.
7/20/2020 19:16:09	Cassandra	Maughan	Parent	El Dorado	I am fully in support of all kids age 5 and up wearing masks in school as well as the social distancing measures and hand sanitizer. Without these steps I would not feel ok sending my kids back to school this year.
7/20/2020 19:16:31	Jeanette	Harris		Phillipsburg	As an emergency substitute teacher, I think delaying the start of school is one of many things that should be done. Mandatory masks is, in my opinion, the most important thing. The logistics of opening schools while putting all the precautions in place to help prevent infections or spread of infection, like providing for social distancing, staggering class times or days, providing remote learning for some, dealing with crowded lunchrooms, transportation, recess, sports, etc, is going to require extra time and preparation which can be aided by delaying the start of school. Normalcy is not on the menu.
					I am including a copy of the email you each should have received from me last week. I would like to add, I do not envy the position you have been placed in to make this decision. Please know that my feelings have not changed since last week when I penned the following letter and this opinion please not come to easily, but after countless hours, days, nights and weeks researching and studying Covid-19. I have been in close contact throughout this entire process with my mentor and colleague, a physician with over 40 years experience and the Public Health Officer in the county in which I work. Please, allow local districts and counties to have a say in this matter. I realize that many others may feel differently and uncomfortable about reopening, but that is why the option for distance learning is available. Thank you for your consideration. My letter to the board follows.  Members of the Board,  I am emailing you the same item I emailed to my area representative, Jean Clifford, earlier today. I find myself overwhelmed by the compulsion to voice my opinion related to Governor Kelly's announcement yesterday. I realize only one of you represent me in particular, but please don't take this matter lightly, as I am sure there are constituents in each of your areas with the same concerns.  My email to Ms Clifford follows:  I am speaking as not only the Vice President of USD #217 Rolla, KS, but also a Registered Nurse for Labor and Delivery at SWMC in Liberal and a mother of 5 wonderful Kansans. I am very concerned about the "one size fits all" mandate the governor announced yesterday. I am asking for your support in allowing this decision to be left up to local districts and county health departments, per the guidance provided by the taskforce that worked so very hard to create this very robust document.  Positive numbers are increasing of course because testing tripled between April and June, tests were more readily available and the testing restrictions were highly relaxed. What is not readily available to the citizens are the morbidity
7/20/2020 19:16:40	Courtney	Reza	USD #217	Rolla, KS	
7/20/2020 19:16:43	Keri	Niegsch		Frontenac	My children need to be in the classroom not at home alone trying to learn
7/20/2020 19:16:44	Tammie	Wolt	Mom of a junior in high	Gardner, Kansas	Please do not support the Governors mandate. We do not want to start school after Labor Day. Also, my child does not want to wear a mask all day to school. I do not support either mandate. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:16:45	Rebecca	Lipasek		Baxter Springs	Low cases, start school as originally planned.
7/20/2020 19:17:11	Brandy	Woltkamp		Lenexa	As a resident of Kansas I would like to offer my support of Governor Kelly's Executive Order for schools to remain closed until after Labor Day. With the out of control rise in cases in Kansas, specifically Johnson County, this would give the school districts time to fully prepare to return for the school year. I would encourage my representative to vote in favor of the E.O.

7/20/2020 19:17:16	Michelle	Fuentes	Public school teacher	Wichita	I request that you delay school until after Labor Day. However I am concerned that even doing this will still not allow us in larger districts to return to school safely. I wish for schools to be closed until it is safe for all to attend.
7/20/2020 19:17:18	BRANDEE	Cressler	Parent of usd 265 high s	Wichita	Our house fully supports Gov Kelly delayed opening. People as well as the BOE need to take this more serious than they do. DELAY OPENING
7/20/2020 19:17:25	Jennifer	Beech		Olathe	Please open schools on time in person this August
7/20/2020 19:17:33	Donna	Peters	None	Olathe	Get the kids back to school please
7/20/2020 19:17:42	Amanda	DeWitt	Myself	Lawrence	Schools are not currently prepared for students to be in the buildings. We need to delay school to save the lives of the students, staff, and staff's families.
7/20/2020 19:17:47	Penny	Tallman	Mulvane high school	Mulvane	No. Start school
7/20/2020 19:17:48	Amanda	Hawkinson	Parent	Bel Aire	I believe that it is necessary to delay the start of school for the safety of all those involved. The safety of our children should be our top priority and giving schools the time to implement necessary steps is imperative.
7/20/2020 19:17:56	Rebecca	Boehm	Parent/former teacher	Kansas City	Please uphold the governor's executive order and give our kids, teachers, support staff and administrators a safer school. With Covid numbers as high as they are my children will not be attending in person classes. I am very worried about my children's friends and teachers especially with no masks being required in elementary school.
7/20/2020 19:17:57	Brandy	Johnson		SALINA	I don't understand what delaying 3 weeks is going to do. If you didnt have funding for masks and thermometers and hand sanitizer that we know you are going to require the parents to supply anyways (other than the thermometers) then how are you going to magically get the money on 3 weeks? And you will also be lucky to find anything since everyone is going to be shopping for the same items.
7/20/2020 19:17:58	Brian	Pfannenstiel	None	Norton, Kansas	Open schools before Labor Day.
7/20/2020 19:18:02	Aimee	Thompson		Chanute	My son has been dedicated to long distance running since the 4th grade when a PE teacher noticed he had a gift. If he gets to do cross country in the fall he more than likely will be on the varsity team. This has been his goal since THE 4th GRADE! Taking his freshman year of sports away from him erases a goal he has been training for since he was 9 years old! Please don't take sports and activities from our kids!
7/20/2020 19:18:04	Heather	Lowe		Olathe	One size does not fit all. Not ALL Kansas schools should have to wait to open. The AAP is advising to open schools for the health, social, emotional, and learning needs of our students. You have already put forth guidelines to mitigate risks. If parents aren't comfortable sending their kids to school, then they can choose the online option. As for teachers, no other profession has gotten to complain and not have to go back to work...nurses, store clerks, restaurant workers, etc all have had to continue to do their jobs. It's time for teacher's to step up and do ours (yes, I am a teacher!).
7/20/2020 19:18:25	Shelby	Volkmer	USD 233	Olathe	OPEN THE SCHOOLS ASAP!!!
7/20/2020 19:18:31	Mitchell and Cheryl	Hawkins	Kansans and other Amer	SCRANTON	We support the Governor's executive order to hold school reopening off until after Labor Day. It is very obvious that the rate of the corona virus is increasing. As people are not taking it seriously, I fear that sending children back to school will continue to endanger fellow Kansans. Research indicates that although children may not be as susceptible to the virus as adults, they are still carriers. As children come down with the disease they will bring it home to their families, who will in turn become sick and possibly die. Reopening school endangers teachers, paras, and other staff members who will also bring it home to their families. Given all of this and knowing that there are breakthroughs occuring toward a vaccine as early as in the fall or at least by January 2021, is it really worth opening schools and putting Kansans in further danger? Please consider this subject carefully before making a decision. Thank you for your time. Mitch and Cheryl Hawkins
7/20/2020 19:18:35	Erin	Rydquist		Jetmore	I think each school district should be able to work with their county health nurse to make decisions for their schools. One size fits all just doesn't work for western Kansas.
7/20/2020 19:18:57	Nicole	Simeon	Northern Valley School	Almena	I don't think starting later is gonna make a difference in numbers. I think they should start on time. Kids need to be back in school! They have been out too long already and some are suffering from it.
7/20/2020 19:18:58	Kelsey	Lindberg	Pike Valley High school	Courtland	SCHOOL should open on normal schedule, not be delayed into September!
7/20/2020 19:19:12	Doreen	Carriger	Elementary	Ottawa	Please follow the science and the executive order from our Governor. As numbers continue to rise, maybe the extra time will allow Kansans to follow mask and safety protocols to flatten our curve. Politics have no place in the response to a pandemic. The safety of students, children, and staff should be considered. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:19:16	Benjamin	Bogue	Parents	Olathe	I don't see what difference three week delay does. I think schools should start on time.

7/20/2020 19:19:21	Karen	Fresh		Maize	Please don't make this political. Please don't vote against the governor's mandate because you want local BOE to have control of decisions. Ask yourself if it is safe to go back to school. RIGHT NOW. If not, vote to accept.
7/20/2020 19:19:21	Sara	McAtee		Olathe	Please support the governor! Safety first! No place for politics!!!
7/20/2020 19:19:31	Debbie	Gudenkauf	USD233	Leawood	Please vote to delay school - yes, kids need to be there but we are at record settings Covid numbers. Sending them to school could push us toward another complete shut down.
7/20/2020 19:19:35	Ashley	Gillaspie	Teacher and parent	Ottawa ks	I support delaying. I also support hybrid or virtual until new cases are at a 0 for 14 days
7/20/2020 19:19:51	Belinda	Andrews-Brumfi	Retired	Pittsburg	Support the Governor's efforts to begin the start of Kansas Public Schools no sooner than Labor Day. Support those educators in your districts who are making every effort to plan for the safety and well being of the students you serve as State Board of Ed. Members. God bless you in making decisions to keep Kansas youth as healthy as possible.
7/20/2020 19:19:52	Jon	Bishop	Parent/Taxpayer/Citizen	Pittsburg	I am writing to you in support of our Governor's decision to delay, not shut down schools. Time is time and the fact is we don't know the long term affect of COVID-19. Please allow the schools to get their affairs in order knowing that they will have to prepare for 3 different delivery methods for educational purposes.  There have been rabid parents around the state griping about how their sons/daughters might not be able to play. I'd rather have my kids around to live their lives, not to sacrifice because they didn't play their game in August. Even local football organizations...The MIAA...are delaying their activities until the end of August and can't compete until the end of September. JUCO's have moved football to the Spring. There's obviously a reason why.  Please take the recommendation of scientists, not Politician's who have their own agenda.
7/20/2020 19:19:57	Sherri	Alverson	Teacher	Centralia	I'm in the high risk category due to age and I had a heart attack last summer, but I feel that most kids need us to be present to learn, build relationships, and to be social. I need to be with people also. The parents can't do this alone with a I-pad while trying to hold a job. We need to get started on time and not wait til Sept. and use the back-up plan if the need arises.
7/20/2020 19:19:57	David	Struve		Kansas City	Keep it closed until Labor Day. Our schools are not prepared and there are not the resources available. I have no confidence in our district able to keep students and staff safe.
7/20/2020 19:20:05	Christy	Hale		Lenexa	I am a Johnson county teacher and I support a Governor Kelly's order to delay schools. Districts need time to prepare now that we have the document from the state. Thank you!
7/20/2020 19:20:06	Elaina	Zumalt	KCK School District soc	Liberty	The amount of anxiety, stress, and risk there is to return to in person instruction is a huge burden to bare at this moment. Please choose to delay the start of school to better prepare for hopefully online learning as Covid isn't just going to disappear anytime soon.
7/20/2020 19:20:20	Samantha	Moran		Salina	Our district has a solid plan already in place to deal with the different possibilities. Let districts start fully online until each district is able to put into place the guidelines provided for operating face to face instruction within buildings. As a Special Education teacher, my students need to get back to their education to continue to make progress towards their goals. Additionally, we are federally required to complete IEPs annually and many will be due before Labor Day. This is a serious legal issue that needs to be addressed if districts are unable to do any version of schooling until after Labor Day. During the shutdown in March-May, the federal level did not make any exceptions to those rules and we will still be required to uphold those legal documents.
7/20/2020 19:20:26	Kelly	Smith		Olathe	As a healthcare worker with 4 kids in the Olathe Schools, I believe we should listen to the governor and delay the opening of our Olathe schools. With Kansas having the most CoViD cases per capita in our nation (and Johnson County having the most cases in Kansas), there is no question that we need more time to flatten the curve and prepare our classrooms to be as safe as possible. Sadly, I think it will take people not being able to send their kids to school to finally take this pandemic seriously.
7/20/2020 19:20:29	Myra	Craig	Olathe school parent	Olathe	The students need to be in class. The statistics show there is minimal risk for students to go to school. In Johnson county of over 600,000 people there have been a total of 16 people that have died that were not a nursing home resident! We make choices and risks driving, eating a poor diet, which has way more consequences than COVID. This virus will have to go through our community either way. Please let the children with the lowest risk go to school and focus on the high risk nursing home and elderly in our community.

7/20/2020 19:20:52	David	Brucker	Kansas Parent	Olathe	Schools and activities should resume. The mental health of these children missing out on all activities they've worked hard for is terrible. Our numbers so the elderly is most at risk and not those commonly found within the educational system.
7/20/2020 19:20:55	Haley	Grabast		Salina, KS	I feel like starting after Labor Day will give school districts ample time to find a way to keep children and staff safe and healthy.
7/20/2020 19:20:57	Mariah	Ramos	Spring Hill High School	Spring Hill	Hello,  I am a science teacher who is urging you to uphold Governor Kelly's order to delay schools. While there are valid concerns regarding the effects on students being outside of school, not a single one of them outweighs the likely death or critical illness of a student, staff member, or family member. If for some reason you don't approve the delay then please mandate if county cases are rising schools must go remote. Kansas is currently one of 18 states that is recommended to scale back reopening. That must include schools to keep people safe. Please make the right (and safe) choice. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:21:15	Laura	Klaassen	Teacher	Lawrence, KS	Please support the Governor's Executive order to begin school after Labor Day. I want to be the absolute best teacher to my students and I work my tail off during summer preparation so my students receive that from me. With little guidance/lack of answers from my school district, I feel ill prepared for teaching this fall let alone abiding by the new safety protocols. I believe rushing into the school year beginning with so many changes will be detrimental to all involved. Please support Governor Kelly.
7/20/2020 19:21:19	Erika	Showalter		Overland Park	I think it is a well-researched and educated idea to delay school starting until after Labor Day. This allows districts to prepare their staff for protocol changes, get buildings ready with supplies, and hire people/change positions based on district needs. I am an educator and it takes awhile for appropriate supplies to be distributed especially in larger districts. All district personnel as well as students need to be kept safe during this time and if delaying school increases the ability to do that and better plan, then this option seems the best rather than closing and reopening schools. If virtual options are made available to families, it gives schools more time to prepare the logistics of that as well.  I also think that if cases are increasing in certain areas, then they should have to be learning remotely until the number of cases remains the same or decreases. If cases are on a decline, then in person classes resume.  The bottom line is how do we keep staff and students safe. The Board of Education has a duty to maintain the safety of their stakeholders. If delaying school by a month can increase the safety of everyone, this should automatically be the answer. Politics aside, safety should be the first and foremost thought on every board member's mind.
7/20/2020 19:21:21	Megan	Day		Emporia	As both a solo parent of 2 school-aged children and an elementary school social worker, I ask you to vote in favor of Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of schools in Kansas until after Labor Day. This is not a radical plan and this does not mean that schools will not be opening- it simply provides much needed time for districts to read the 1,088 page guidelines thoroughly and create a plan with their community stakeholders for their individual community. Districts will also have a few extra weeks to obtain the supplies needed to keep students and staff as safe as possible. As state board members, it is time to put politics aside and lead from the top in the best interests of all Kansas children, families, and educators. The science shows that the pandemic is worsening- again, this is not political... it is science. Leaving this decision to individual districts will likely result in many rushing to re-open their buildings without adequate preparation. We can all see how various communities across Kansas have opted out of the mask mandate, which aligns with the rising cases of covid-19 across the state. A September start time for schools provides districts with the extra time needed to best prepare for this unusual school year. I ask you to set aside politics and vote in the best interests of children, families, educators, and other school staff. You have been elected to lead and I hope that you are able to critically examine the data, effectively weigh the pros and cons of this decision, and put the safety of children and educators above partisanship.

7/20/2020 19:21:34	Mark	Schmidt		North Newton	You must follow the Governor's order. It is an order backed by science, removing the political debate surrounding the mask issue. Our teachers, staffs and children deserve the right to protect their families. While I don't feel an online program will take the place of in class learning, it is the best alternative we have right now in uncertain times. One staff or child death is too much. If we have the chance to prevent a death toll we have to take it.
7/20/2020 19:21:40	Michelke	Laubenstein	Usd234	Fort scott	Uphold Gov Kellys order to delay school until Sept 9th. Our teachers need time to prepare for various teaching environments using the Navigating Change guidance. You will be supporting teachers & ensuring education reform efforts are implemented with fidelity regardless of how the pandemic changes various districts' educational delivery methods.
7/20/2020 19:21:45	Katie	Todd	Teacher USD 490	El Dorado	Please vote to approve the governor's order. We need the time to make appropriate plans to make school safe for our staff and students.
7/20/2020 19:21:59	Stephanie	Matteson		Leavenworth	I feel it is ignorant for a group of tenure educators to want to open school districts with any in person classes. Leavenworth being in the top 3-4 counties with the highest amount of cases. We need to put our teachers, elderly caregivers and our children's lives first. When we cave to pressures from political parties instead of listening to science I begin to doubt our educators representing us with ignorance and greed.
7/20/2020 19:22:10	Sydney	Liposchak	Kansas resident	Mission, KS	As a middle school teacher, I can honestly say that I'm extremely nervous to start back with in-person school so soon. I don't want to put myself, my family, my colleagues, and my students in harm's way. Covid-19 cases are climbing and are so much worse than when we initially switched to virtual learning in mid-March.  Giving us the extra three weeks, and starting after Labor Day, would give teachers and administrators the gift of time. We need to figure out how to SAFELY return to school, protecting our staff and students from Covid-19 and possible outbreaks. How will we social distance in classes that normally have 30 + kids in them? How will we make sure students don't share materials? How will we do temperature checks in schools with large numbers of students? Will there be proper PPE provided for us as well as cleaning supplies (we can't even get clorox wipes in stores anymore)? Please gift us this time to figure out how to return to schooling as SAFELY as possible.
7/20/2020 19:22:11	Kelli	Littrell		Cimarron	Starting schools at a later date or making these children wear masks is not going to change any outcome. To say the least this is a bad idea, and we should move towards a more regular start to the school year. Nothing should have to change or make working harder on all the teachers who are putting in the time and effort to accommodate any and all students.
7/20/2020 19:22:22	Liz	Dickinson		Lenexa	Yes, we should delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year.
7/20/2020 19:22:30	Leanna	Chaffee	Usd437	Topeka	Please open schools safely, on time. Kids need to be in school and are at far greater risk staying at home than contracting the virus. Districts can provide options for those not ready or at high risk to return. Activities have been in session since June. Plans have been made. Open the schools on time. Thank you!
7/20/2020 19:22:32	Spring	Hill	Parent	Edna	My kids attend Labette county. My husband and his dad graduated from there also. My kids need the outlet that sports gives kids. They love the team work and joy that comes from participating in sports. Please let our kids play. It is necessary for healthy, well rounded kids that become adults. They learn you don't always win and you can work harder when you lose.
7/20/2020 19:22:43	Alicia	Looney	Parent	Derby	This is not an easy decision to make. I think allowing the school year to start three weeks late will give the school administrators valuable time to gather PPE and essential cleaning supplies to keep the students and staff safe. There is also the need to rearrange classrooms to allow students to distance. Three weeks is not insurmountable in terms of hours. Please allow the Governor's recommended plan to start school after Labor Day with accommodations and safety measures.
7/20/2020 19:22:49	Shanna	Natalini	None	Pittsburg	Open schools in Aug when they typically open! DO NOT DELAY!
7/20/2020 19:22:57	Heidi	Cox	Brewster 314	Brewster	One size does not fit all. Open schools on time or leave it up to local boards.



7/20/2020 19:23:08	Sydney	Liposchak	Kansas resident	Mission, KS	<p>As a middle school teacher, I can honestly say that I'm extremely nervous to start back with in-person school so soon. I don't want to put myself, my family, my colleagues, and my students in harm's way. Covid-19 cases are climbing and are so much worse than when we initially switched to virtual learning in mid-March.</p> <p>Giving us the extra three weeks, and starting after Labor Day, would give teachers and administrators the gift of time. We need to figure out how to SAFELY return to school, protecting our staff and students from Covid-19 and possible outbreaks. How will we social distance in classes that normally have 30 + kids in them? How will we make sure students don't share materials? How will we do temperature checks in schools with large numbers of students? Will there be proper PPE provided for us as well as cleaning supplies (we can't even get clorox wipes in stores anymore)? Please gift us this time to figure out how to return to schooling as SAFELY as possible.</p>
7/20/2020 19:23:12	Rhonda	Meyer		Olathe	<p>Please support the Governor's EO to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. No matter if a community is currently experiencing high rates of infection or not, schools - especially staff members- need additional time for training, planning and preparing for any teaching scenario, not only after Labor Day, but at any point in the school year. Teachers have never been trained to teach in a hybrid or remote situation and to not give them additional time to be prepared would be like sending me into a burning building and handing me a firefighter suit and a hose without training on how to use the equipment.</p> <p>I understand some of you support local school board decisions about this, however, please consider the ramifications later to students when a district who needs to close and staff were not provided training to teach remotely. We will be right back to the problems and difficulties that were seen in last quarter.</p> <p>I know this is an extreme difficult decision and there is no clear right or wrong answer, however I believe that the benefits of waiting will clearly help prevent negative outcomes in the future.</p> <p>Thank you for your service to the education of our youth.</p>
7/20/2020 19:23:20	Annie	Varsolona	Teacher	Frontenac	<p>Please support the Governor's Executive order for the safety of students, teachers, staff and their families. It love my students and want to be back in school, but I want to do it safely. I love my students but I love my family more. I should not have to put their health or mine in jeopardy to do my job. Please support order 20-58.</p>
7/20/2020 19:23:45	Laura	Harris	Olathe School District	Olathe	<p>Please delay the start of school opening. This gives teachers and staff time to prepare and learn how to keep children and adults safe. Every school procedure and interaction until this point in schools has required physical closeness. From the way that building layout is designed, food distribution, simple classroom procedures, moving about the school etc. As an elementary teacher, we have spent decades or more learning evidence based pedagogy that promotes student engagement. These strategies include manipulation of shared tangible tools and resources and student collaboration. For this reason, teachers are literally going back to the drawing board without data backing new education practices that promote physical distance. The tools, procedures, and methods now being used or prepared for classrooms are new to both teacher and student. Teachers need time to learn how to use and implement digital tools and develop new procedures for the school areas to keep children safe. Families will need time once these procedures are developed to teach and practice with small children to prepare them for bus riding, school arrival and dismissal, and other building procedures. Please uphold the delay of school opening.</p>
7/20/2020 19:23:46	Jenny	Edwards	Parent of USD 233 student	Olathe	<p>I fully support the Executive Order from Governor Kelly. Schools are not prepared to provide and solve for the pandemic, especially given that our society is seemingly incapable of implementing and following policy that would slow the spread. We cannot in good conscience put teachers, staff and students in harms way just to try to prove we can "return to normal". Virtual learning plans must be considered normal at this point, particularly when our local school board holds its meetings virtually at this time. Thank you.</p>
7/20/2020 19:23:57	Caleb	Lee	Olathe Teachers	Olathe	<p>Uphold the order. Save lives.</p>
7/20/2020 19:24:09	Lisa	Mason	Oak Street	Goddard	<p>Delay til after at least Labor Day</p>
7/20/2020 19:24:15	Brooke	Howell	Usd232	Shawnee	<p>REMOTE LEARNING THIS ENTIRE YEAR PLEASE!!!!</p>
7/20/2020 19:24:17	Kathleen	Peters	Teacher at USD 206	Whitewater	<p>I think we should go to back to school on our scheduled start back date. Most of our kids NEED teachers who care for them and teach them. They don't need to be sitting at home (many of them) alone. I am a public school teacher and a mother of four school-aged children.</p>

					Delaying the start date for school adds financial and emotional stress in an already stressful time. This requires me to find extended childcare for the time that school has been delayed, which will be a financial burden. I respect that some parents don't want to send their children to school and have the luxury of staying home with them, but I do not. I appreciate the options set forth by the school district to provide at-home, in-person and hybrid options. My son receives more than just education when attending school in-person. During the 2019-2020 school year I saw an improvement in his social and emotional health resulting in a huge increase of self-confidence. I have watched his creativity, imagination and self-confidence diminish since schools were shutdown in March. He needs Language Arts, Science, Math and Social Studies. He needs Art, Library, Music and PE. He needs time on the playground with his friends. He needs structure. He needs to accelerate his education not delay it!
7/20/2020 19:24:26	Mindy	Hickel		Olathe	
7/20/2020 19:24:36	Tom	Schechter		Hugoton	Do not wait until after Labor Day. Kids have been together for six weeks. Rural areas are different then urban areas because kids are in the open more. No face masks.
7/20/2020 19:24:38	Lindsie	Nygaard		Valley Center	I think school should start in August like normal. I believe our children have missed out on so much over the past few months. I am afraid as to how this will affect them long term.
7/20/2020 19:24:38	Melissa	Scott	KCKPS	Olathe	Please vote to delay in-person learning until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 19:24:57	Michael	Frint	Myself	Manhattan	Please follow the medical facts and science and NOT what our other leaders are doing on this matter and following political allegiances. This is a health and public safety issue and nothing more. The COVID numbers are increasing and schools have somewhat of a plan and the state just provided a plan. More time is needed to prepare. While I am in education as my profession I know no plan is perfect but the medical facts say we aren't ready for mass gatherings yet, ie schools. Please keep our kids and educational staff safe by following the governor's order to wait until after Labor Day to start school.
7/20/2020 19:25:01	Cindy	Richardson	Kansas teachers	Derby	THANK YOU. Kansas teachers feel valued when you put staff and student health first. If businesses and even school boards are meeting REMOTELY to decide our fate, we should not pull together large groups of children and school staff. If Kansas closed school when Kansas Covid numbers were relatively low, it doesn't make sense to open when Covid numbers are currently increasing by the thousands!
7/20/2020 19:25:03	Kathleen	Newdham		Merriam	Keep the schools closed till labor day. Please don't cancel fall sports!!
7/20/2020 19:25:03	Hillary	Garcia	Parent USD 453	Leavenworth	Hi! I am fine with students starting in August, normal schedule. I have twins going into 9th grade. They have been working out for football and volleyball since early June. 0 issues to my knowledge with COVID spread or illness among the athletes. We had online learning only this past semester, for 8th grade. It was awful. Our school only required 13 year olds to check in (and email was acceptable) vs. being online 2 times a week. My students were completely disengaged, often asking to just miss a day altogether. Rarely were more than one or two students online when they popped on. They fell so far behind and we struggled. I'd favor an option of homeschooling or in person but allow those of us who want to return on time to do so.
7/20/2020 19:25:06	Lisa	Carbon		Topeka	Please allow kids to practice sports and open up facilities. My sons mental health is declining due to no sports and school being delayed. Hes going to be a Senior this year and feels things are slowly being taken away
7/20/2020 19:25:17	Jeff	Rydquist		Jetmore	I feel the kids have been out of school for far too long and need to get back into a somewhat normal routine. I also feel that each school board should work with their local county health officials and school staff to help determine what is best for their district instead of being mandated to follow a cookie cutter solution that won't work for everyone.
7/20/2020 19:25:18	Rusty	Slusser	Home	Cheney	Open schools no later tuesday after Labor Day.....maybe it's at home online first 9 weeks....or a hybrid. Make sure schools do what they can to wear masks when kids are grouped together.....have parents sign waivers..
7/20/2020 19:25:23	Tom	Franek	Parents	Beloit	How on earth are you going to keep Young children K-3 wearing masks? And what are you going to do if and when the children Refuse to wear them.? Are you going to make parents keep those children home, and if so are you going to supplement them for childcare.
7/20/2020 19:25:25	Nicole	Jenkins	OLATHE schools.	Overland Park.	Please accept Governor Kelly's mandate to delay school start. We need to keep teachers and students safe. Once community spread is decreasing schools could safely start in person.
7/20/2020 19:25:26	Rebecca	Rookstool		Wamego	Let's model for our kids how sacrificing looks for the greater good. Thanks to Governor Kelly's leadership. Pools, daycare, sports teams, camps, are all open. School should be open too.

7/20/2020 19:25:28	Shawn	Mason	Oak Street	Goddard	Delay til after Labor Day at least
7/20/2020 19:25:29	Christina	Smith		Pittsburg	Please let them play. They need the socialization with their friends. They need something constructive to do. As a society we tell our children to get outside and play but yet we are not letting them go outside and play. Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 19:25:35	Matt	Sallman		Olathe	Please start school per normal schedule. Thank You.
7/20/2020 19:25:46	Courtney	Shepherd	USD233 5th grade teach	Olathe	I think schools should be closed until Labor Day and we should do online schooling if our numbers are rising!!!!
7/20/2020 19:25:48	Jamie	Lonnberg	Hodgeman County/USD	Jetmore	Please no. Please don't apply a one-size-fits-all plan to all districts. My district is small. We are not dealing with the same problems as largely populated areas. Masks are not recommended by pediatricians. We need to get as much face-to-face learning done as possible in case of an outbreak. We don't need three weeks. We need to start ASAP.
7/20/2020 19:25:57	Rebecca	Mandala		Mulvane, KS	Please approve this order which will give schools and communities more time to prepare for safe schooling this fall!
7/20/2020 19:26:01	Jessica	Doering	Minneapolis Grade Scho	Delphos	I agree that school should be postponed until after Labor Day! The safety of our kids, teachers, and support staff has to come before everything else.
7/20/2020 19:26:18	Jamie	Engstrand		Wichita	Delay school reopening!
7/20/2020 19:26:29	Jacci	Lei	Parent	14350 W. 81st Terrace	I think we should delay the start of school. I think teachers need more training to do online work. It is reckless to send children where we KNOW they can get sick.
7/20/2020 19:26:44	Jerome	Engstrand		Wichita	Delay school reopening!
7/20/2020 19:26:49	Katy	Kinney	WestRidge JR High	Lenexa	Please delay school until Labor Day or start online/virtual school on time.
7/20/2020 19:26:55	Rorie	Yontz		Derby	It's pointless. Open the schools. If everyone else can go to work and kids can participate in extracurricular activities, go swimming, etc. with precautions in place, then they can go to school.
7/20/2020 19:26:56	Andree	Pledge		Overland Park	Starting after Labor Day seems smart and will give districts the time to prepare for the year. Hopefully it will also allow for some form of in-person class. If rushed, I worry we will be all online by October. This is not a political issue with the Governor and KSDE - it's about doing what is right for the kids and community. Please uphold the EO and help us start to contain this virus before it's too late.
7/20/2020 19:26:56	Andrea	Calderwood	Goddard	Goddard	Online only
7/20/2020 19:27:01	Stephanie	Smith	In	Wichita	In the interest of public health, in particular the teachers, schools need to remain closed per the governor's order.
7/20/2020 19:27:04	Andrea	Kelley	Schools	Sedan	I want school just like everyone else, but I also don't want to get sick. I can't afford it. I know this will seem selfish but my son has had two surgeries recently. I owe \$6,000 to 2 hospitals. I don't want to lost anyone I love. Also, I am the school nurse and I worry about the students and not just when I'm there. I want them to be healthy and I want there families to be healthy. I don't want to lost a student or a teacher to this virus. Or, a student Or staff members have long term health affects from this. Please for just one year can we please take precautions? Just one year. Thank you for listening.
7/20/2020 19:27:13	Tracy	Homan	Educator	Fort Scott	We need to do everything possible to stop the spread. We need time for the number of cases to decline. We also need time for schools to plan and prepare. We just received the guidance from the state, so now we need the time to implement it. In order to start in the safest way possible, we need to delay the start until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 19:27:22	Carrie	Skorupan	Teacher	Overland Park	Kids need school! parents need to return to work and if we make good choices with smaller class sizes and think outside of the box. We can make school work. Online school does not work in Kindergarten for students/parents/teachers
7/20/2020 19:27:30	Heather	Froese		Cimarron	If you keep schools closed then during that extra few weeks elementary students should be brought in individually to each classroom teacher from previous year 2019-2020 with masks and other PPE to do some sort of testing to figure out where they are to prepare for the 2020-2021 school year. Or do online zoom class for those few weeks with pervious teacher for like a jump start before they move on to the next grade.  High school and jr. High should start class online as a test run for online in case the schools would need to shut down. To prepare and plan ahead for what might come.
7/20/2020 19:27:34	Lauren	Tehel	Magdalen catholic scho	Wichita	Please start k-12 in all schools!! Kids need education now! The virus isn't going anywhere!
7/20/2020 19:27:46	Mandy	Lofgren	USD 475	Junction City	Please delay so we can be prepared with the PPE necessary and all the protocol in place for everyone's safety.

7/20/2020 19:27:51	Cheyenne	Schnider	Colby Grade School	Colby	I would really encourage a delayed start. As an educator I do this job to protect my students and take care of their well being. The people in rural Kansas do not think this virus is a real threat. They have went against every health official saying to mandate mask, social distance and I fear they will continue to do so. PLEASE do the right thing we can not take care of our students if we are all getting sick every other day. We need time to prepare as educators we deserve that much after what happened the past few months! Please don't make us choose between the health of our families and risk our own children. We need time to get this done right and not rushed. We can do this!
7/20/2020 19:27:53	Bethany	Mosburg		Garden city	I would like if the board votes in favor of Gov. Kelly's order to delay school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 19:28:02	Nancy	Riecker		Emporia	Please approve this extension! Give us time to prepare and slow the spread.
7/20/2020 19:28:05	Kristina	Mullen		Bennington, KS	Please allow schools to open as soon as possible. Each district should be allowed to decide if they are ready or not. Our school district already has a plan and supplies ready to go. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to keep long students well physically and emotionally.
7/20/2020 19:28:07	Chad	Carmichael		Overland Park	I support delaying the start of schools until medical and scientific data supports in-person learning.
7/20/2020 19:28:08	Molly	Romer	Parent	Olathe	Kids need to be in schools. I am a firm believer this is best for the mental health. Covid numbers are at the bottom compared to flu car crashes breast cancer etc. I feel like they can get back to a somewhat normal which is better then nothing.
7/20/2020 19:28:12	Corey	Meyer		Olathe	We need to delay the start of the school year until we have better safety measures in place for students and teachers.
7/20/2020 19:28:20	Jennifer	Greenlee	Baldwin Elementary Pri	Baldwin City	<p>Good Evening,</p> <p>I am a preschool classroom para educator. I work at the primary center in Baldwin city.</p> <p>I have many concerns with our schools reopening, but at the very least I support them not opening until September 9.</p> <p>I understand that kids need to be in school. As educators, we want to be there too! But it's just not safe for anyone involved right now.</p> <p>I am 37 years old and have a condition called chronic hereditary pancreatitis. I was born with this and in turn, I am also diabetic because my pancreas does not work. I'm sure you are aware that being diabetic makes you high risk.</p> <p>My daughter, Makayla is 7 years old and headed into second grade. Since my disease is hereditary, that means it's been passed on to her. She's not diabetic as a result, however she is also high risk.</p> <p>My Mother, (I'm sure you can see where this is going), is diabetic as a result of chronic hereditary pancreatitis.</p> <p>My family is not the only family in harms way as a result of working in and attending school. My daughter and myself not only have potential to contract Covid, we could pass it on to my Mother or any other high risk person outside of school. Am I supposed to keep my daughter away from her grandparents and family in order to attend school for months on end?</p> <p>Among many obstacles funding is not there to properly keep schools clean and sanitary. Our jobs will turn to daycare and cleaning instead of teaching kids. We cannot return until it is SAFE.</p> <p>Thank you for listening. I appreciate the impossible task that you have been faced with.</p>
7/20/2020 19:28:23	Diane	Mason	Public Education	Hays	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's decree to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. This is not an unreasonable decision. If not her plan, then what is your idea for the health safety of staff, students, teachers? Just today, I received notice that a positive case of COVID was identified at Fort Hays State University; the virus is alive and well. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:28:35	Lacey	Grogan		Saint Francis Kansas	Open our schools. Provide opportunities for hand hygiene and lets move on!

7/20/2020 19:28:36	Kristina	Scott		Goddard	Please delay the opening of schools until after Labor Day or until our cases are on a decline. I am a teacher and can't wait to get back to my colleagues and kids, but not at the risk of losing one of them to COVID. I am also a parent with 2 kids (1 a freshman and 1 5th grader) who want to see their friends and participate in band, football, and cheer. We all have been following the recommendations and wearing masks. We hope that our community will see the importance of this and use these next few weeks to follow suit and get our state back on track for a reopening that will look and feel more like a normal school year. I don't envy your position and pray for you daily that God will guide your decisions. Bless you and bless the great state of Kansas!
7/20/2020 19:28:39	Rachel	Ommerman	parent	Shawnee	Please vote in favor of Governor Kelly's executive order to give the schools more time to make the best choices to make everyone safe and educate our kids.
7/20/2020 19:28:53	Ashley	Richardson		Cheney	School start in August as normal
7/20/2020 19:28:48	Sydney	Liposchak	Kansas resident	Mission, KS	As a middle school teacher, I can honestly say that I'm extremely nervous to start back with in-person school so soon. I don't want to put myself, my family, my colleagues, and my students in harm's way. Covid-19 cases are climbing and are so much worse than when we initially switched to virtual learning in mid-March.  Giving us the extra three weeks, and starting after Labor Day, would give teachers and administrators the gift of time. We need to figure out how to SAFELY return to school, protecting our staff and students from Covid-19 and possible outbreaks. How will we social distance in classes that normally have 30 + kids in them? How will we make sure students don't share materials? How will we do temperature checks in schools with large numbers of students? Will there be proper PPE provided for us as well as cleaning supplies (we can't even get clorox wipes in stores anymore)? Please gift us this time to figure out how to return to schooling as SAFELY as possible.
7/20/2020 19:28:58	Susan	Goodwin	Shawnee Mission School	Leawood	Please be smart and think out of the box when thinking about school starting
7/20/2020 19:29:12	Stacey	Sales	Olathe USD 233	Olathe	I am an Olathe teacher and parent. I am pleading with you to uphold Governor Kelly's EO stating the school start should be delayed until after Labor Day. Not only will this give us time to reduce viral cases in Kansas, it will allow districts adequate time to obtain supplies needed for safe re-entry, to train teachers and staff about safety, and to prepare the best learning environments possible for students both in the classroom and those learning remotely. It will allow immunocompromised teachers like myself the possibility of returning to in person teaching, which is what we want more than anything. Do not leave this up to individual districts to make the decision for themselves. Doing so will continue to encourage the spread as some will opt to begin in just two to three weeks. The results of that could be devastating and will likely lead to further re-closures of many districts.
7/20/2020 19:29:15	Sandrah	Pierce		Pittsburg	I'm not afraid to return to work myself. I can wear a mask. However, with numbers growing in Crawford Co. daily I fell this is something we should consider. If teachers would get sick.. who's going to sub for them. I think this is something to take into consideration. Also as for fall sports, I think travelling and bring sickness to the respective areas should be considered.
7/20/2020 19:29:15	Aimee	Probasco		Gardner	I believe schools should start back at their original start dates. Parents that do not want their children back in the school buildings yet can choose the virtual learning option. Not all parents have the luxury of staying home with their children an extra three weeks or have extra funds for longer summer care. I am sure schools were already putting plans in place before this executive order and they can continue on with those plans.
7/20/2020 19:29:20	Alicia	Beeson		Norton	I don't feel mandating masks to counties with a low covid rate should be wearing masks. Masks cause breathing issues, anxiety, and could cause long term harm. The governor should not be allowed to make decisions in counties she never even visited.
7/20/2020 19:29:31	Jacki	Adams	Maize Elementary	Maize	We need your help to let our kids go back to school! They NEED this so much!! Please consider letting them go back in August and the kids under 5th grade please consider NO masks!! Please please our kids love school and it will be so much harder on them in the long run! Please listen to the pediatricians!!
7/20/2020 19:29:40	Elizabeth	Tally	Blue Valley Schools	Overland Park	As a teacher, I believe it is best to keep our students and staff safe. Schools should be delayed until after labor day, assuming the numbers go down. Safety should always come first when I consider the students and staff that I love dearly.

					Schools need to reopen on time (for my district is Aug 11), without restrictions for the kids. On site, no masks and little social distancing. Hand washing, elbowing for coughs/sneezes, and not allowing sharing food or drinks is always a practical health policy which will go a long way if emphasized with this virus. According to studies and information from many doctors of various practices, the risks to children for serious illness from this virus are “statistically zero” and the spread between children, or children to adults, is “exceedingly rare”, based on those facts I feel pushing the start of school back (which will cost teens their fall sports seasons) is not only unnecessary but irresponsible. Many children would be better off getting the virus than stuck in bad home situations with no escape any longer than they already have been. Many student athletes need these seasons for college scholarship opportunities. The detrimental psychological/emotional impact of not being able to socialize with friends as they learn from their teachers is immeasurable. Kids need schools open. Parents need schools open - remote DOES NOT work for extended periods and, would cost me my job as I would need to be home with my 8 year old, we have no sitter available or means to pay them if the school program is shut down again, I imagine there are many families in the same boat. If there are teachers or staff with concerns for their own health or a loved one at home they can wear masks and face shields and gloves plus social distance and practice good hygiene to keep themselves safe - if those things work as we’re told they do, they should be amply protected. The kids don’t need to continue to have their lives upended for a virus that isn’t going anywhere (so, how many more times will the governor push the start date back?), has less than 0% chance statistically of making them even ill at all, adults or compromised children can protect themselves from if they follow precautions themselves, and has a 99.9% survival rate for those who get it. There just is no sensical justification to delaying the start of school, costing families more weeks of daycare expenses or lost work hours, and costing older kids their sports seasons. None. The cases of this illness increased for many reasons (huge increases in testing, elective surgeries scheduled so more ppl in hospitals with possibly positive tests, false positives, marches, parades, protests, possibly outright flubbing the numbers...etc.etc;) but hospitalization and death rates have decreased or maintained - so, why the renewed vigorous restrictions? It makes no sense. Children are the least vulnerable population so, with precautions the vulnerable adults and students can take to protect themselves and the fact there are proven treatment regimens now available, why would we take such restrictive measures as to keep kids away from their education, sports, and social health? Please make your decision by listening to the studies, statistics and top pediatricians recommendations, rather than a politician. Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 19:29:42	Katie	Mikesell		Aurora, KS	
7/20/2020 19:29:42	Susan	Arp	KCKPS - USD 500	Overland Park, KS	I teach one of the most at-risk students in our state: 3-5 year children that qualify for Head Start AND have autism so severe that they require a more restive environment to learn and be successful in school. I beg you to give districts time to develop a safety plan and train teachers on how to implement! Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:29:46	Kirk	Zimmerman		Andover	Please open schools as soon as possible. Online or homeschooling can be offered to those who feel uncomfortable. Let each district decide. And for the love. We need sports!!! My own children have become withdrawn. Football. Cheer (normal. With stunting. Etc). Basketball. All of it. With precautions. Wash hands. Screening. But these kids are hanging out together out of school anyway. They will be fine!
7/20/2020 19:30:07	Michelle	Willey		Derby	Yes, delay until after Labor Day
7/20/2020 19:30:12	Morgan	Lee		Olathe	I do not want to see my students, my co-workers, or myself in danger. Please do not reopen schools until the medical and health professionals deem it safe and necessary. That time is not now.
7/20/2020 19:30:20	Carla	Heideman		Andover	Please delay the start of the school year for the safety of our students, faculty and staff. School was cancelled in March due to the virus and now cases are increasing significantly every day. How can we open schools? It is unreasonable to demand so much out of our teachers and unrealistic that students will keep masks on all day.
7/20/2020 19:30:20	Alison	Persaud		Overland Park	I 100% support delaying the start date. It’s pretty inconsequential in the scheme of things and while I doubt our numbers will go down by then it at least gives them a chance.
7/20/2020 19:30:36	Melissa	Buteyn		Wichita	We need to have a plan that has phases like the state shut down does, based on the percentage of positive tests. If a district is in an area with a high positive rate, they must be virtual until it is lower. Schools should be safe for adults and students. Returning to school now in the Wichita and KC areas would be disastrous. Please use science and not politics to be stewards of our safety.

7/20/2020 19:30:38	Jenny	Covey	Parent/Teacher	Uniontown	I support starting school after Labor Day. The governor is trying to help Kansas schools. Please support her executive order. I love my job and look forward to every year with my students. This is my 23rd year of teaching. I am terrified for my daughter and all our students. My sister and mother also work in the public school system. Kansas needs to get the virus under control before we go back to school. Please do everything you can to protect our staff, students, and the families they go home to. I am also very worried about students—including my own—participating in sports. Traveling to other schools and having close contact with lots of other students seems like a recipe for the virus to spread even more.
7/20/2020 19:30:49	Susan	Topping	My family	Derby	Please uphold Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day,
7/20/2020 19:31:04	Lori	Bettis	Teacher	Overland Park	Please vote to delay to give us teachers time to adequately prepare and to get Covid numbers down so we can ALL be safe! We teachers want to be in school but we want to be prepared and safe as well! Thank you!
7/20/2020 19:31:06	Shayna	Leahy		Hiawatha	I work at a small rural Kansas college In a county with very few Covid cases. We held 8 days of in-person classes before flipping to remote instruction due to quarantining symptomatic students and their roommates due to exposure. Last week we had 1 positive Covid case. Today we have 10. Our classrooms had 6-ft social distancing spacing for desks, masks were requested in public spaces. Our students are "adults" who can understand and follow rules.  Please uphold the governor's order. Our schools are not ready for this. Even with best practices in place this virus spread through our students quickly. Please give our schools time to better prepare. You will help save lives.  Now, more than ever, we need a unified state response to this crisis. All Kansans need to work together to stop the spread. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:31:09	Robin	Kingeter	Johnson County Resider	Overland Park	Please delay the start of school for the health and well-being of our students, their families, and the people who work in schools. It is not worth risking lives.
7/20/2020 19:31:09	Cheryl	Ritter	Educator in USD 305	Salina	Local school boards should make decisions on local schools.
7/20/2020 19:31:21	Ty	Cass	USD 388	Ellis	Our children need purpose and our children need the best education they can get. That is in a physical classroom and taught by the great teachers in our state, counties, and cities. I believe they can attend school safely with the protocols that were already drawn up and were to be put in place before the Governor issued her mandate. Also, these students need extracurricular activities that give them purpose and drive to be the best they can be. I've seen these students deflated time and again when they think school and activities will not happen. They need purpose and some normalcy to be the best they can be. Please vote to go forward with school on schedule and against the Governors latest mandate. Thanks for your service.
7/20/2020 19:31:21	Rita	Ortolani	Tax paying citizen of Ka	Independence KS	1. Education has had since mid March to plan. Delaying should not be necessary. Parents and students should not pay the consequences of the lack of planning. Our high school made no changes in curriculum from the day school dismissed until the end of school. The lack of communication from the teachers was unacceptable to keep a student on track. 2. I don't trust the governor that school won't be delayed again and again if she is granted this initial overreach. 3. All children are entitled to attend school and an equitable education. 4. Again 2 weeks won't make a difference - I believe it would only be the first of many delays.
7/20/2020 19:31:50	Helen	Meiss	Parent	Shawnee	Please uphold Governor Kelly's order to delay school start.
7/20/2020 19:32:15	Rachael	Roth	Parent of a High School	Topeka	I implore you to accept Governor Kelly's EO delaying the start of school. It is imperative that we do all we can to keep our students, staff and their families safe.
7/20/2020 19:32:20	Karla	Defore	Wellington High School	Wellington	I believe that as Covid-19 is not under control in many areas of the state, school districts need extra time to prepare for the safe return of students and staff to school. Procedures need to be developed, vetted, and practiced. Please vote for delaying the start of school.
7/20/2020 19:32:22	Gentry	Slocum	Hugoton public schools	Hugoton	This should be a district decision. Our community has had summer weights and basketball, football and volleyball since they were permitted to with zero cases of COVID. Kids need these activities.

7/20/2020 19:32:23	Cami	Cook	Parent and Teacher at U	Bucklin	Please let us go back to school! Our kids need this. Let them play sports! We are in western Kansas and can't risk going to school in June. That would effect wheat harvest and so many of our kids help with harvest. Please let us go back to normal!
7/20/2020 19:32:40	Eryn	Koons		Salina	Delay start til Sept
7/20/2020 19:32:45	Jodi	Pille	Blue Valley	Eudora	Our Elementay kiddos cannot learn online. They need to be back in school. To not open the doors, this will only hurt our lower level and children that need one on one learning and supports.
7/20/2020 19:32:49	Jessica	Harris		Merriam	Please keep school buildings closed. Give the districts more time to come up with a safe plan that is realistic. I am a kindergarten teacher. Right, now there is not enough time to ensure the safety of students and the adults who serve them. Please keep us safe.
7/20/2020 19:32:51	Jessica	Traffas	Parent	Wichita/Goddard	Please open our schools ASAP!
7/20/2020 19:32:55	Sara	Wenke		Lawrence	Delay school please- so hopefully we have the funding and time for the districts to get ppe and rooms set up properly. Also hopefully we'll see a down trend in covid. Thanks!
7/20/2020 19:33:08	Sean	Roth		Topeka	Please accept Governor Kelly's Executive Order delaying the start of school. It is important that we do all we can to keep our students, staff and their families safe.
7/20/2020 19:33:11	Sara	McKinney	Parent	Olathe	I support Kelly's order to delay school opening. Schools just got the 1100 page guidelines. Some guidelines are now mandatory. School Districts must have all this in place to ensure student, teacher and staff safety. Even one child or teacher or staff member dying from contracting Covid-19 is unacceptable. Community spread is still going in Kansas. We need to see a decline. Waiting until Sept will give the mask order (at least in those counties that enforce it) time to work. Our students, teachers and staff deserve and need the extra time.
7/20/2020 19:33:37	Sandy	Phillips		Chanute	Let local school boards decide what is best for their schools!
7/20/2020 19:33:40	Deanna	Cox	Parent at Westridge Mid	Lenexa	I fully support the Governor's decision to delay opening schools opening for the 20-21 school year and implore you to do the same. Cases of Covid 19 are rapidly rising and the safety of students, teachers and support staff must be your first priority.
7/20/2020 19:33:46	Pamela	Ernatt	N/A	Wichita	Have grandchildren in city schools. Would prefer in classroom schooling is delayed till COVID 19 is, at the very least, trending downward.
7/20/2020 19:33:47	Jason	Vinsonhaler		Topeka, KS	<p>I want to share my comments regarding Governor Kelly's orders that schools in Kansas may not open until after Labor Day and the recommendations of the KSBOE be mandates. I have several concerns with both decrees. September will mark six months since our children have been in school. The distance learning experiment was fine for some and a disaster for others. Among my three kids one thrived, one did okay, and one struggled mightily. None want to repeat the experience this year. I appreciate the work the you and our school board have done in planning to return kids to school in a manner that enriches the kids while protecting vulnerable staff and students. I also appreciate the work that went into the state board of education's guidelines. It appears that hard work at all levels means very little to our governor. Our governor also seems to believe that Wyandotte and Wallace Counties are the same. They are not the same in many ways but under these orders, they are treated exactly the same.</p> <p>I am profoundly disappointed in the governor's orders and the way they were presented. School districts have been working diligently since March on how to safely reopen schools so our children can receive the full benefit of their education, which includes socialization and extra curricular activities. We must get our kids back in school so we do not fall behind other states (and nations) who are taking a more rational approach in balancing the needs of our children while combatting covid-19. Local control is critical for the health and wellbeing of our children.</p>
7/20/2020 19:33:48	Courtney	Doll	My family	Andover	I think that delaying the start of school is good idea. I honestly think that going virtual for at least the first 9 weeks or until we can get the virus spread under control is a good idea as well. It's not safe right now to expect teachers, other staff and students to be in school buildings. The people in our communities that want in-person school to start need to start doing what's right and wear a mask and practice social distancing. When adults can do that and our numbers start going down, then you can consider putting students and teachers back in buildings. Even one death is one too many. It doesn't have to happen. We can be safe and be smart about this.



7/20/2020 19:33:50	Becky	Breeding		Great Bend	Please open schools on time. This may only seem like a few weeks now, but these weeks matter especially if in the first few weeks of school are going to be used for grief counseling, etc as noted in your recommendations. Delaying school only delays learning opportunities for Kansas kids.
7/20/2020 19:34:03	Jamie	Begaye	Kansas City Kansas pub	Kansas City	Vote yes to delay start of school to allow schools to acquire sufficient supplies for safe reopening
7/20/2020 19:34:13	Amy	Housman	Para at SKACD 613	Cimarron	Dear Board,  I am a Para with SKACD 613, Southwest Kansas. I fully believe we need to hold off on school starting in person for now. I would be fine for starting with homeschooling, if needed, but with the upturn in Covid and the lack of people abiding by the social distancing in our area and not wearing masks to protect others, I feel myself and my kids would be in danger of contracting it and then therefore passing it on to others if we're in such close contact. Even if there is a mandate for taking temps, many kids I work with are filled with Tylenol and sent to school, thus no visible temps, and then later sent home when the Tylenol wears off, so I don't think all parents can be trusted to adhere to this on their own.  I also know we have many older, 50+, support staff and teachers in our school system and I don't want them to fear contracting Covid or chance losing them if they are too fearful to continue working there. And what if someone does contract Covid and infects multiple people and then many support staff and teachers are out sick or have to be quarantined for 2 weeks? We don't have that many subs to take on the load.  Please consider these thoughts. I appreciate your time!  Sincerely, Amy Housman
7/20/2020 19:34:15	Amy	Kremer	Parent KS High School	Shawnee KS	Please reject the executive order to delay schools
7/20/2020 19:34:14	Shaw	Schwindt		Rolla	I believe we should start school as usual normal time and no masks, our children have been around each other all summer, everything else opened up so why not schools, we are a small rural town not a large city with lots of covid cases
7/20/2020 19:34:43	Kim	Fread		Olathe	I really hope that you consider delaying the start of school to allow districts the opportunity to prepare for the future of our schools. Our schools need to be prepared for what in person learning is going to look like and for the cleanliness of our buildings. I also believe it will be very helpful for teachers as we are treading into the unknown. Please consider this time has preparation and also an opportunity for our numbers in our county to go down.
7/20/2020 19:34:50	Darcie	Randall	USD 471	Dexter, Ks	Delaying school will not make Covid-19 go away. Students have already missed their last quarter of school last school year. They are ready for school, to see people, to socialize, and have some sort of normalcy in their lives. We should start school before Labor Day.
7/20/2020 19:34:57	Jessica	Fortner	Parent of 3 school age ki	Eudora	Keep us all safe. Please delay the start of the school year so schools can prepare to make learning environments safe. There hasn't been time since the report was released last week to make proper plans. Also, while cases are on the rise, counties like mine need to start as remote learning. It's simply not safe for anyone. Kids, teachers/staff, and the community at large.
7/20/2020 19:34:57	Jeffrey	Berkenmeier		Burlington	Enough with the politics. Doctors say it's fine for kids to get back in school; so get them back in school. Enough is enough.  Don't punish our children and ultimately the economy my keeping kids at home.
7/20/2020 19:35:04	Ron	Alexander	Chief of Police/Pastor L	Colby	I believe the decision to start should be left to school districts, decisions based on local case counts. I also believe the schools should start as normal without delay.
7/20/2020 19:35:11	CEOLAH	COLSTON	TPS 501	SILVER LAKE	I agree

7/20/2020 19:35:12	Christina	Rosser		Garden City	Keeping school closed till after Labor Day isn't going to make a difference to me. Either way, my children will be doing school from home. I do not believe in wearing a mask, neither does any of my family therefore, I will not send my children to a place where they would be required to wear one. So as long as masks are required, my children will not be in a classroom.
7/20/2020 19:35:29	Jeremie	Tharp	Olathe Teacher	Olathe	As a teacher, I'm terrified that so many people are ready to throw us to the wolves "for the kids". I know how students learn best, and if we decide to proceed as planned, I'll be trying to teach a classroom of eight year olds from their separated desks, in a best case scenario. Every teacher knows that's not how children learn. A few extra weeks will allow us time to adapt, plan for these scenarios, and meet the needs of our kids. Also- I have elderly parents who need me. If I am forced to go back to school to early, I will not put them at risk and they will be forced to go it alone. I hate this entire situation. There is no way to win. But please, please hear our voices. Three extra weeks of direct instruction (especially adapted to COVID precautions) is not worth the cost. We are not asking for years. We are asking for weeks.
7/20/2020 19:35:30	Stephanie	Shanelec-Keeler	USD 259	Wichita	Please fully support our governor's executive order to delay the start to our 2020-2021 school year.
7/20/2020 19:35:39	Ashley	Wright		Colby	One size doesn't fit all for the governor's orders. Something that works in Eastern Kansas probably won't work in Western Kansas. Please leave the decision to our local district officials.
7/20/2020 19:35:42	Amber	Witt		Garden City	I'm ok with delaying school as long as we get to go back no matter what after Labor Day! My kid is struggling with behavior problems and I feel like it's because of not having her structure of everyday school in her life! They have been out since March with having no play dates and barley getting to have aMy summer activities to do! Please let's get back in school ASAP!! But also keep the kids as safe as possible!!
7/20/2020 19:35:50	Sheika	Chalfant	Teacher	Effingham	Vote no! Decision to open should be left to local school boards. Rural small schools should not be treated like large urban districts.
7/20/2020 19:35:56	Megan	Robertson	Teacher for Kansas City	Overland Park, KS	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's order to delay the start of the school year.  We all want our kids back to safe learning, especially in my program where I serve a population of families who are living in poverty, often food-insecure & rely on school for many other resources. But we have to move forward safely — we, as teachers (and administrators) need time to prepare our environments (which we haven't had access to since Spring Break), we need time to collaborate about the new expectations and learning standards, and we need time to digest and plan for a new kind of implementation. (Not to mention, many of my families also don't have good access to medical care, hygiene, or have the necessary care to keep themselves and others healthy. We need time to figure out the best way to help everyone be safe in learning conditions and stop the spread.)  Please stand behind the governor and give us more time, both as educators and as individuals trying to navigate this different way of life.
7/20/2020 19:35:57	Traci	Spear	Kansas kids and parents	Cherokee	Delaying the start of school is not in the best interests of anyone, especially the kids. My county is one of the highest poverty and domestic violence rated counties in Kansas. They need the structure and interaction with other kids and especially caring adult teachers.  Delaying sports takes even more away from these kids as many are roaming the streets in groups of friends with nothing to do while their essential parents are at work and the welfare parents are pushing them out of the house. Most of them are together in one way or another already. Summer Rec leagues and camps without a significant rise in cases.  Kids, parents and teachers need to be back in the classroom and on the playing field.
7/20/2020 19:36:13	Alana	Dotson	Maize Ks — vermillion	Wichita	Please postpone until 9/3 to allow schools time to prepare and then let them open how they see fit. What works in a rural area with less cases will not work in Sedgwick county where we have a lot of cases. Please protect our teachers and staff.

7/20/2020 19:36:24	Kim	Vail		Overland park	Please delay the start of school until cases are declining significantly. Our children do not need to be exposed with so many cases on the rise. They will get sick, some will die. Many will carry or home to their families. Teachers and staff do not need to be exposed, get sick, some will die, and they too will take it home to their families. It is irresponsible to put thousands of children and staff in harms way when online classes would be a good temporary SAFE solution.
7/20/2020 19:36:26	Jeanine	Mindrup		Olathe	I don't think you should approve the school delay. It should be a local decision. I agree that Olathe should delay in person school but there are lots of rural districts across Kansas with no active cases that should be allowed to start. I also think not approving the delay would allow districts to at least begin online in August and maybe transition to in person later. Starting online in August would help the AP and College Now students not get behind.
7/20/2020 19:36:34	Sandy	Duling		Wichita	We are not afraid. Our kids need normalcy
7/20/2020 19:36:34	Alex	Breeding		Great Bend	Open schools on time.
7/20/2020 19:36:57	Adriane	Sims		Colby	Please do not delay the start. Kids need the structure, routine, safety, and emotional support that school can offer them. They need to be back in school. Their skills and retention of their educational is diminishing the longer we procrastinate this. They are emotionally becoming further detached from how to handle dealing with others.
7/20/2020 19:37:14	Jacee	Dobbs		Colby	Do not delay. Covid will still be here in September. Our children need to be back in school and a stable routine.
7/20/2020 19:37:16	Dee	Wright	SMSD PTA	Leawood	Please Delay the 2020-2021 school year at least until January or until the CDC and experts of Covid feel it is safe
7/20/2020 19:37:21	Roy	Webb		Smith County	Needs to be left up to each district. Kids are at a very very low risk. Lots of information coming out of Europe show near zero transmission from kids to adults. No Masks open up and let our children return to normal!
7/20/2020 19:37:22	Jamie	Tomlinson	Teacher	Overland Park	Please delay opening schools until after Labor Day or until we see a decline in the number of COVID cases.
7/20/2020 19:37:31	Kendra	McBride	Parent	Hays	Please postpone the start of school to September to give schools and communities time to mitigate the spread of COVID to better protect our children, teachers, and families! Our family of 5 includes 4 high risk members, including children who attend public schools. If schools reopen without major changes in place, we will be forced to homeschool. Our kids want to attend Hays High, but their safety much be assured. Please approve the Governors mandate to postpone schools and enforce protection measures. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:37:33	Addie	Johnson		OLATHE	Please let schools open as scheduled, in August. The students are suffering in multiple ways. The American Pediatrics state that kids need to be in school. There always have been, and always will be, risks to living life. We must not stop. Teachers should be considered essential, front line workers. (I am a teacher...I don't mind...it makes me proud). People need to stop acting like we haven't have months to plan for reopening. The governor failed by not giving adequate time for districts to know her expectations. If she wanted districts to have enough time, she should have released her plans in June. We've had the time. The kids need school...NOW! Don't punish the kids for lack of leadership.
7/20/2020 19:37:40	Billie	Royal		Olathe ks	I have a son on treatments every 2 weeks that would be very dangerous for me to go back to school
7/20/2020 19:37:44	Jamie	Jellison	My home	El Dorado	I support Gov Kelley's decision to delay school starting. I have three children. They attend 8th, 9th, and 12th grade. All three are on IEPs on different spectrums. In my own community, we have had Covid-19. We had several children (teens) who tested positive in our community after one gathering. Most were okay but one was sick for a while. Now, we have a couple of individuals in our high school administration team who have tested positive. My husband is a firefighter /EMT-A for our community. We realize statistically that our children will most likely be able to survive Covid-19. What happens if he brings something home and my children carry it to a teacher (not aware that they have it)? What if the teacher is unable to win the battle against Covid-19 or has long-lasting effects? What if several teachers become ill at once? I know some teachers are very prepared to open the rooms to children and I know some have fears. I know I can't trust many parents to keep their kids home if they are not feeling well. They don't do it now and those same people refuse to wear masks etc.  I come from a very long line of public educators and truly value our schools and teachers. I have buried a child already years ago and I can't imagine the guilt I would feel if something happened to another child or even a teacher. The numbers in Kansas are skyrocketing and we need to get this under control. I am asking you to be brave in deciding/recommending what to do. Many times any more being brave is not the politically popular thing to do. Do not use our children and teachers as political pawns in this battle.

7/20/2020 19:37:46	Shanda	Lane	USD 290	Ottawa	No masks for younger kids! I'm ok with starting late.
7/20/2020 19:37:50	Amber	Moody		Eudora	I would prefer an online only option for my kids grades 6-12 for the Fall Semester
7/20/2020 19:37:52	Wylie	Ernatt	N/A	Wichita	I support Gov. Kelly's mandate that schools begin after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 19:38:05	Andrea	West	Private Citizen	Shawnee	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order. Schools need time to prepare and develop a remote learning plan that will be needed. Throwing something together doesn't benefit anyone and the usual preservice days will not be sufficient.  Thanks!
7/20/2020 19:38:10	Megan	Sullivan	Self/family	Hugoton	I am in favor of a schools reopening as normal and in favor of sports and activities resuming as normal. I am a healthcare professional. I do have a child who has special needs and two who are typical learners, all 3 attend USD210. Their mental health is important and with that returning to their routines and their people at school is important. I understand the potential risks of contracting COVID-19. I am still for kids returning to school with precautions in place like a waiting area outside the nurses office for sick kids to wait for their rides home, temperature checks, and frequent hand washing. These are difficult decisions to make and no one answer is going to be perfect for everyone, however we cannot live in fear and remain in our homes endlessly.
7/20/2020 19:38:18	Debra	Felix	Olathe USD	Shawnee	With the covid numbers still rising, we need to hold up. Spend the next few weeks to figure out a solution that is best for all. We need more staff, student class size reduced, time to clean between classes. I know for a fact that class specials haven't even been planned. Wait, solve the problem, then open up!
7/20/2020 19:38:25	Nancy	Hackler		Wetmore	We are a rural school in a town of about 400. We don't have the same class sizes or instances of COVID-19 as the larger towns and cities. Why are we being tested the same? I am raising a 16 year old grandson, who is very athletic. The idea of forcing him to wear a mask, ALL DAY is not something I am in favor of. I do not believe it is healthy to keep our kids in masks for 7 or 8 hours a day. Why can our individual school districts decide not only mask mandates, but also when school should start. We allowed our counties to make decisions regarding wearing masks into businesses and public, surely our school district leaders are capable of making the same kind of decisions for our kids.
7/20/2020 19:38:35	Judy	Scheuerman	USD#428	Great Bend	Start these kids back to school as regularly scheduled ...they have been out of the school setting now for close to 5months ... 2-3 week delay is not going to accomplish much , that can't be done right now & in next few weeks !
7/20/2020 19:38:48	Leslie	Stewart	USD 500	Mission	Please open safely. We cannot control what our families do outside of school. Please provide us with protective gear, Lysol wipes, germ juice ... I want to teach them but at what costs.
7/20/2020 19:38:57	Liz	Jackson	Olathe	Olathe	I agree with delaying school
7/20/2020 19:39:13	Andrea	DeHart		Olathe	I'm a school district employee, and given the current COVID-19 numbers, I don't think it's safe to have in-person classes.
7/20/2020 19:39:19	Tracy	Cooksey		Wichita	Kids need school. They need proper education, socialization, safety and food. Children are not prone to covid themselves nor prone to passing it. I have grandchildren in Wichita, Maize and Andover that all have both parents working. Inconvenient to delay and in nobody's best interest.
7/20/2020 19:39:22	Katelyn	Mattson-Levy		Alden	Vote to uphold the Governor's EO
7/20/2020 19:39:32	Jackie	Cook		Great Bend, KS	Please open schools on time in August. Our youngsters have sacrificed enough. They need their routine day and social learning back. My granddaughters miss school more than ever. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:39:42	Beth	Traxler	Parent & Teacher	Olathe	I do not think it is safe to open the schools at this time. The task force has included us, as well as 17 other states that should pull back on opening at this time. Case numbers keep rising and until we have no new cases for 14 days it is not safe for students, teachers or other school personnel to be working within the walls of a school building. As a teacher, I am in favor of teaching virtually, even though that is beyond my realm of knowledge. However, that is the thing about teachers- we are flexible and can easily adapt and learn quickly in order to do what is best for our students. I employ you to vote with the safety of all Kansas citizens in mind. Thank you
7/20/2020 19:39:42	Kristen	Selland	USD 415	Horton	I would prefer starting on time with precautions in place.

7/20/2020 19:39:49	Dorothy	DeNeve	Olathe District Schools	Olathe	I cannot imagine that we can keep kids, teachers and staff SAFE by reopening brick and mortar schools! As a second grade teacher, I know the quality of engagement and instruction would be significantly diminished with all the mitigations that are required to keep this virus from spreading in our schools. The only sure thing to do is to call it remote learning for the fall semester then to reassess. If we can't do that, we can at least delay according to Gov. Kelly's executive order for giving us more time! Time to plan, time to curb the spread, time to prepare to provide the instruction our kids deserve!
7/20/2020 19:39:53	Stephanie	Thomas	My family	Colby	I would like the delayed start to stand. We received the 1100 page document a month before school was to start. Administrator and teachers are having to change the physical layout of classrooms, the schedule, and even the way they enter and exit. We need time to come up with solutions and two weeks will not irreparably harm my students if it means that we can be prepared in ways that may not happen without that time. Do I want masks in school? No, I don't, but I also know kids that lick teachers desks, so honestly I think it is probably a necessity. I also think if so many parents would just get out of their own dang ways and get over the idea of being told what to do, we might be able to drastically decrease the number of cases Kansas has.
7/20/2020 19:40:20	Carol	Poell		St.Marys	As a retired elementary teacher, and a mother of a k-12 school principal, I feel very strongly that you need to support our governor's decision to delay school opening until Sept. 9th. This time is needed to ensure that our buildings and classrooms will be ready to hopefully provide a safe environment for our children and grandchildren. My son, the principal had a kidney transplant 3 years ago, so he has a compromised immune system. I know he will do his best to ensure the safety of the students in his care. Their lives and future health are more important than any football game that kids and parents are missing. Just because the numbers are low in NW Ks. except for Logan Ks., Many still feel that they are safe and that they will not give up their freedom. Wonder how they might feel if it was their life they had to give up. I also have a son who is a hospitalist at Asension Via Christi who slao had a kidney transplant 4 years ago, and is caring for more covid patients every day in Manhattan. Please don't let politics get in your way when you are making this decision.I am so proud that Gov. Kelly is a strong leader for Kansas.
7/20/2020 19:40:30	Megan	Scott	Parent	Olathe	Please vote to support Governor Kelly. As a state, when we closed school in the Spring, we protected our children. We have an obligation to do that again. Although you released guidelines, they were released in an almost 1100 page document. Take the burden off the schools to allow them to execute your plans well. They should not rush through it. 3 weeks is completely manageable. Schools can adjust teachers professional days to before the year begins to allow this to happen.
7/20/2020 19:40:34	Valerie	Flavin	USD 443 - Dodge City	Dodge City	In order for staff to fully prepare for the year with the new regulations and Navigating Change recommendations, please uphold the order to delay schools until September 9. This should NOT be a political decision, rather it is in the best interest of students and staff to ensure that we are fully prepared for the upcoming year.
7/20/2020 19:40:52	Alisha	Begler	My home	Hays	Please I beg you to delay the school year. We have too much at risk.
7/20/2020 19:41:06	Mary	Hardesty	Wichita Diocese School	Wichita	If it was too dangerous in March and April it is certainly too dangerous now.
7/20/2020 19:41:07	Brooke	Adams	USD 259	Wichita	I fully support the order to postpone the start of the school year. We absolutely should not return to school until the safety of students and teachers, such as myself, can be guaranteed. No student, or teachers' life should be put at risk, regardless of "how small the chance is." Any lives lost due to a premature return to school is too many. I am in favor of postponing the school year, or continuing distance learning until it is safe to return to schools.
7/20/2020 19:41:12	Katie	Strickert	Teacher	Wichita	I think we need guidelines- if county numbers are lower than — we can return to in person schooling. If numbers are higher than— you must do remote/distance school or cancel.

7/20/2020 19:41:15	Stephanie	Green	My family	Effingham	<p>Vote No.</p> <p>Covid-19 is an issue. No doubt about it.</p> <p>We have to take it seriously, again, no doubt about it.</p> <p>Counties that have steady daily increases should absolutely consider delaying the start of school!</p> <p>That said, the other 100ish counties SHOULD NOT have to delay unless their local county leaders, district leaders, and Health dept leaders deem it necessary.</p> <p>Leave #LocalControl where it belongs, at the local level. Let the districts decide what is best for their communities.</p> <p>Atchison county has 50 cases, 6 active. Thats with almost no enforcement of masks even though they didn't opt out. Stores are now demanding masks, schools will apparently require masks, it will get better. Give us the chance to show that Rural Kansas IS NOT the same as its urban counterparts.</p> <p>Thank you for the time and effort you all have put into the guidelines you recommended! I have read MOST of it and I genuinely appreciate the attention to detail. As a SpEd para and a parent of 5, I look forward to working through this pandemic and coming out better on the other side!</p>
7/20/2020 19:41:24	Stephanie	Bodkins		Winfield	<p>I am a parent of children in elementary school, as well as an employee at an elementary school. The governor's decision to delay the start of school is the right decision. My children need to be in school and I want to be at work; however, we deserve to be as safe as possible in the school environment. All of our kids and staff deserve time to make necessary decisions to keep us all safe. Please honor the governor's decision to delay the start of the 20-21 school year. Thank you for your consideration.</p>
7/20/2020 19:41:27	Krista	Alexander	Parent & Teacher @ US	Colby	<p>It is my opinion that schools start at the original scheduled date. I feel it is not only important for my personal children and students academically but also is vital for their social and emotional well being. I feel like these decisions can be made at a local level dependent on the number of cases in each community.</p>
7/20/2020 19:41:39	Alex	Kremer	Kansas high school stud	Shawnee KS	<p>Please reject Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school</p>
7/20/2020 19:41:40	Maryteresa	Kissell		Lenexa	<p>If children are 6 feet apart, then masks should not be worn. Children need to see faces in and be seen as part of social development.</p>
7/20/2020 19:41:59	Tina	Andrews	Self	Medicine Lodge, KS	<p>Our kids need school to be open and masks should be optional!! Do your research!</p>
7/20/2020 19:42:00	Stacia	Mitchell	Bluejacket Flint	Shawnee	<p>Please delay start to be better prepared</p>
7/20/2020 19:42:17	Tessa	Spreier		Rush	<p>SCHOOL NEEDS TO START</p>
7/20/2020 19:42:17	Rosie	Garrett		Olathe	<p>Please consider the staff necessary for our schools to be successful. Children are not the only ones whose health could be effected by Covid19. Many subs will probably chose not to replace a teacher who has become ill. The protocol from previous years is to split classes between other classes if a sub is unavailable.....this is certainly not a safe option. Checking with districts to see how often this has occurred might be additional information you need to make a proper decision on school returning face to face. Please note the many businesses that are choosing limited hours, etc... Shouldn't we consider children's needs in the same way?</p>
7/20/2020 19:42:17	Kim	Murphy		Olathe	<p>I recognize this is a very challenging decision for each of you. I am praying for you to have wisdom to make this difficult decision. It is my preference that school starts on time in the classroom but at the very least online.</p>

7/20/2020 19:42:27	R	V		Leavenworth	I would like you to vote in favor of the governor's order to delay the start of school to allow our community additional time to recover. I also think a push to open in stages beginning with a virtual or packet learning format would be a good move. This allows districts to begin operations safely and thus protecting staff and students. Teachers should not be subjected to an unsafe environment with students and community staff members congregating in large numbers. Many staff members are from outside communities and crossing state lines to come in to work. This increases the possibility of infection for all, especially those that are high risk or with special needs. Opening schools in person could be unsafe for staff and their families. If staff is exposed to Covid-19 or a family member contracts it the loss of pay could be detrimental to teachers and staff that live paycheck to paycheck. Losing 1/3 pay and risking the lives of teachers is not what we were called to do. Vote to keep staff and students safe!
7/20/2020 19:42:32	Jenni	Behymer	Myself	Overland Park	I ask that you please re-consider opening up school on time for Blue Valley. My son who is going to be a sophomore at Bluevalley needs it! School is so much more than academics, these teens need the socialization, sports and activities. My son plays football and he is so excited to play varsity this year. It gives him something to look forward to and keeps him busy and focused. My daughter who is going to be a senior at KU is student teaching in Olathe starting the first week of August. She had her study abroad program canceled and is looking so forward to being with the kids in August. She needs the structure in her life as well. Please re-consider, the kids will follow safety protocols to keep each other safe. Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 19:42:35	Mandy	Williams	Stockton High School U	Stockton, Kansas	I support starting school after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 19:42:42	Peggy	Kaiser	Substitute Olathe Schoo	Shawnee, KS	I am very concerned school starting in the next few weeks, the data clearly shows that cases are increasing, even in the smaller counties. I think upholding the governor's order to delay school only three weeks will help the school districts have time to prepare. It also helps them from having to make those decisions, decisions that could be based on politics not data. School districts starting or delaying classes is going to upset people. It would be better to let the Governor and the State Board of Ed take the "blame."
7/20/2020 19:42:48	Michael	Bultena	Small school districts	Hoxie	The decision to begin school before/after Labor Day is a local board decision that should be made in conjunction with local health departments.
7/20/2020 19:42:54	Angela	Lewis	Parent	Independence	If there are people still working from home, why would we even consider sending our children out?? I have two children in public school and one has asthma. I am also a single parent. Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day to give more time to see if the numbers go back down. We owe that to our children and the teachers.
7/20/2020 19:43:04	Chelsea	Steffen		Larned	Please do not close schools until after Labor Day. We have low positive cases, and don't feel the need to stay gone any longer. Our administration is on top of things, and I trust them to keep our kids safe.
7/20/2020 19:43:07	Drew	Thomas		Prairie Village, KS	Please uphold Governor Kelly's Executive Order to delay the start of schools. My first grade daughter, her classmates, teachers, and school community need this extra time to get the re-opening right.
7/20/2020 19:43:13	Ed	McClellan	Olathe 233 parent	Olathe	Please delay school start to after Labor Day due to Covid pandemic.
7/20/2020 19:43:21	Brad	Wildeman	Colby 315 Teacher	Colby	I don't need my children to bring this home.
7/20/2020 19:43:20	Jamie	Bazil		Topeka	Please leave the decision of school opening up to the Local School Boards
7/20/2020 19:43:20	Jamie	Bazil		Topeka	As a parent and teacher I feel it is extremely important to get back into the classroom as soon as possible. If we wait until after Labor Day it will be 6 months since a child has been in a classroom. That's too long!! So many kids have not done any academic work since they were in the classroom the beginning of March. It is in the best interest of the kids in Kansas to be in the classroom and the sooner the better!!
7/20/2020 19:43:23	Laura	Rayome	My family	Lawrence	I didn't create this pandemic, my actions did not exasperate this pandemic, however I am stuck with the repercussions. It is my firm belief that we have got to get covid-19 control in Kansas before we send kids back to the classroom. I support the delayed start and thoughtful, science based return to school plans. That includes making sure that we have cases on the downward trend. Currently cases are on the uptrend and I do not feel comfortable sending my kids to school at all let alone start in August. I know that a lot of this fuss has to do with local control, but at some point somebody has to take responsibility and do the right thing. That's the way I was raised, and that's the way that Kansans used to be. I support 20-58!
7/20/2020 19:43:26	Meagan	Englert	KNEA member, parent	Hays	I approve the school delay for 2 reasons. 1) Teachers need time to train and implement new plans and procedures 2) My doctor has recommended I do not return to the classroom until numbers have stabilized rather than growing exponentially. She does not feel it is safe for anyone (teachers or students) at this time.

7/20/2020 19:43:29	Emily	Forte		Wichita	I would prefer school be delayed. Cases are skyrocketing. I'm at high risk working in healthcare and I don't want to pass it to my kids who pass it to all their classmates. We also have grandparents who help with kids, which is the case in many households. Really, until a vaccine is available, it should be illegal for schools to be open.
7/20/2020 19:43:31	Brittany	Wahlers		Cheney	Please open up schools. These kids need structure, social interaction, and learning.
7/20/2020 19:43:33	Jill	Widdice	usd453	Leavenworth	I think it is a very good idea to wait until after Labor day!!
7/20/2020 19:43:36	Michelle	Mettlen	Colby USD 315	Colby	Please for the safety of all, delay the start of school until after Labor Day. As a teacher, we also need the additional time for planning, getting our classrooms prepared, and making sure we have adequate cleaning supplies.
7/20/2020 19:43:45	Adrianna	Seward	School nurse	Wichita	I am the nurse at the biggest school in the state of Kansas. I don't feel like it is safe for us to start school at this point in person. How can we have the appropriate PPE or purchase enough thermometers to test everyone in a school of 2400???? Where's the money to create a negative pressure room to properly isolate a student showing symptoms let alone 10 at once? What about the parents who lie and knowingly send their sick kids to school? Are you going to pay for my hospital bills if I become critically ill because you didn't protect me?
7/20/2020 19:43:50	Christina	Griffin	Soule elementary Dodge	Cimarron	Online remote learning only! Too many risks
7/20/2020 19:43:54	Heather	Brown	SMSD teachers	Lenexa	Please reopen schools with choice and safety precautions in place.
7/20/2020 19:44:09	Amy	Albrecht	USD 489	Hays	I am in favor of a post-Labor Day start to the school year to give school boards time to formulate a safety plan for students regarding Covid-19, as well as giving parents the time to make necessary arrangements for our children.
7/20/2020 19:44:24	Diane	Bale		Derby	I am really concerned for the lack of structure and social interaction doing online learning and therefore am asking that you open KS Schools. If other parents disagree they can choose to use the K-12 program.
7/20/2020 19:44:32	Mitch	Beims	Self	Wichita	Delaying of schools is dangerous and unnecessary for our children who have nearly a zero percent chance of dying from the virus. I have a MS in educational administration and I am concerned the Governor is getting pressure from the Teacher's Union to make her orders. Local schools should be able to determine the safety of their own children. Teachers who are concerned about their health should stay home this year. Children who are NO risk should not be penalized for those teacher's concerns. Your decision is a big one, because school vouchers will get passed if you allow her mandates to go unchecked.
7/20/2020 19:44:41	Jana	Powell	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park, Ks	I am a Para Educator in the Blue Valley School District. I strongly agree with the delayed start for Kansas schools. I will be 61 this month and am very concerned about the in person classroom! I think it is in the best interest for the staff and students to delay the start of school. There are still too many unknowns about this virus. With COVID cases on the rise it makes no sense to throw us back in too soon! I feel right now it is better to be safe then sorry! Thank you
7/20/2020 19:44:42	Mary	Glick		Quinter	Leave it up to each District how they see fit on when and how to open our schools. This is not a one size fits all issue. My child needs in person one on one learning. Our teachers were not meant to teach virtually.
7/20/2020 19:44:43	Kris	Meyer	USD 232	De Soto	Teachers are the essential workers of our future. Our future is in the hands of our beloved children who need so desperately to learn, socialize, & most importantly, to feel safe while accomplishing it all. As educators, we must lay our eyes on and listen to our students to ensure their physical safety and emotional well-being.  We CAN accomplish this epic task, but we need time. When Kansas Governor, Laura Kelly mandated a delayed start of schools, she had the best interests of educators & students at heart. In order to do this right, we need time.
7/20/2020 19:44:46	Jamie	Blackburn		Dodge City	Please support the governor's efforts and vote to delay the re-opening of schools. Kids deserve it! As a parent, educator, and community member—I stand behind Governor Kelly. Our schools need time to plan and prepare in order to keep everyone as safe as possible.
7/20/2020 19:44:47	Katrina	Long	USD 272	Lebanon	We are a rural school and we have no active cases. I understand taking precautions and trying to better our sanitizing practices, but let's let these kids get back to life. If they don't, I'm afraid we are going to have more problems on our hands with mental health issues.



7/20/2020 19:44:53	Shelly	Graff		Overland Park	I am "just" a teacher and I will do whatever needs to be done in the best interest of my students. However, please keep in mind that I did not sign up to be a front line worker, which is exactly what you are asking us to do when discussing in person school. We shouldn't be hearing things like "death waiver", personal protective equipment, or normal. Nothing about this school year is going to be normal, but it can be safe. We should be making the decisions about In person school based on scientific facts, not political or economical beliefs and wishes. Science doesn't yet know the extent to which kids can contract, carry, or transmit the virus. Science doesn't yet know the long term effects of contracting this virus. Science doesn't yet know who will or will not be effected and to what extremity that person could develop symptoms. There are a lot of people that we are putting at risk when we discuss in person school. Instead, let's uphold Governor Kelly's order to postpone school and give educators the chance to plan effective distance learning that ensures the safety of everyone involved.
7/20/2020 19:44:53	Amy	Oades	Blue Valley	Overland Park	Please do not open schools until it is safe for teachers and students to go. Please follow the governors orders.
7/20/2020 19:45:05	Nina	McTaggart	Parent	Cimarron	Hello, Please keep the schools closed until a 50% virtual/50% in person schedule can be put in place. There is no (mathematical) way to socially distance the amount of children in the classrooms. Children may not get very ill from COVID, but their family members could. Please keep Kansas safe!
7/20/2020 19:45:21	Scott	Samyn		Olathe	I don't believe there needs to be a delay. Regular precautions should be ready by then, children are not at high risk, faculty should be main concern for wearing masks. And masks should not be worn all day, especially if children are at their desks, socially distanced. Can be worn if traveling in hallways or to another room.
7/20/2020 19:45:30	Melissa	Carrell	Special education	Augusta KS	I am concerned that if we wait until after Labor Day we are setting our system up to fail. We all know after every holiday cases go up. Let's get the kids in now teach them the platforms they are going to be learning from and educate the parents on it so when we go to online after the holiday we are set up for success. 7 months is to long for our kids to not be face to face with a teacher. I say that as a teacher and a mother of 3 children who are dying to get back to school. We can not learn the way we did in the spring it was not learning and we can not continue to push off school. Our students need us and teachers need them. Politics need to stop playing games with the school system. Let us go back to school!!!!!!
7/20/2020 19:45:39	Michelle	Hubicki		Cheney	Please be thoughtful of controlling the spread. Businesses will not be able to function in the winter if they can't be indoors. We don't know what the long term effects of this virus will be. This could decimate families and communities. Please use education and science to make decisions about education not politics.
7/20/2020 19:45:46	William	Brame		Kansas City	Please delay reopening until it is safe. Allow the EO to go in effect please.
7/20/2020 19:45:49	Anna	Tinoco		Topeka	Please follow the executive order. As a teacher and a parent I am terrified to go back into schools right now. The current plan has me going every day all day with no day to clean. I don't see that lasting very long and I need time to prep my room, my routines, and figure out how to keep 15 three year olds safe in my room while also keeping myself safe. The way it is right now, I don't even want my child going into the school in person. Please honor the EO and at least give us teachers a fighting chance.
7/20/2020 19:45:59	Brad	Zuzenak	Parent	Olathe	I disagree with delaying the start of school in order to get supplies. If that is the true reason, what have the school districts been doing since March when the students were sent home? Contact J Riegers and get hand sanitizer or go to Costco because I'm there weekly and they have palates of it. Colleges are starting early and yet the governor thinks starting 3 weeks late is the answer.
7/20/2020 19:46:03	Allison	Briley		Lenexa	I support delaying the school year.

7/20/2020 19:46:06	Gina	Brillhart	Myself- High School Te	Wichita	As a high school teacher, I agree with the governor's order to delay the start of schools. She has health and science informing her decisions, not politics. At my school, Southeast High School, there are almost 2,000 students alone, besides staff. Some of my colleagues currently have cancer, past surgeries, and health issues that put them at risk. Our building is overcrowded. In one day I have well over one hundred students in and out of my room. There is no way to social distance in my room, I'm packed to the brim. I teach art, so there are a lot of supplies being shared. Going full steam ahead and back to school without any schedule modifications, even with masks, is reckless. We need a solid plan based on science and data, so we have benchmarks to meet as we gradually return to school and have time to make revisions and plans to best educate our students safely. I would rather we wait to open fully than open normally and then have to close again a month later, again uprooting student and parent schedules and possibly resulting in the death of students or staff from being exposed. Please look at the science and data and make a decision based on the health of staff and students and support Governor Kelly's orders.
7/20/2020 19:46:07	Jen	Smith		Erie	They delay doesn't seem very encouraging. I'd rather get it started and ease up around flu season if necessary. A late start and cutting down summer break seems even more daunting. Can we do 4 days a week?
7/20/2020 19:46:09	Sara	Asoian		Wichita	I hope that you will stand with Governor Kelly and keep teachers, staff, and students safe by delaying the start of the school year. If you are not able to delay the start, ALL schools should do online only.
7/20/2020 19:46:10	Jennifer	Sikkel	USD 232	Lenexa	As a teacher and a mother, I strongly support the executive order to delay the start of the school year until after Labor Day. Not only could a delay help stop the spread of Covid 19, it will provide districts and their teachers with enough time to adequately prepare for the challenges that lie ahead. Please prioritize the health and safety of the students and staff members. Thank you!
7/20/2020 19:46:15	Anne	Bakker	Renwick school district	Garden Plain	AS a single mother who works as a paraprofessional and attending college classes for a teaching degree I feel that parents should be able to choose to send their kids back. Those that do not can do virtual school. I can't go without work much longer and if I am doing my college courses I won't have time to help my two children on my own. Even doing half the kids two days a week and the next the next two days would be more beneficial. Plus my youngest i could not do school work at home. She simply wouldn't do it. I'm afraid she is so far behind. It's very stressful and the kids are lazy with the virtual work. What kid at home wants to do school work? None. At least some middle ground. If daycares can stay open then whats wrong with schools?
7/20/2020 19:46:26	Elizabeth	Rigdon	high school parent	Olathe	In person school, sports, and extracurricular activities are important aspects of our children's health and development. Please allow them to begin on time, with precautions in place. Many health experts are saying this can be done safely and the statistics with Covid do not merit the extreme measure of delaying our school year. I appreciate your hard work and attention to what is best for our students and families.
7/20/2020 19:46:38	Sheryl	Glidden	My child!!	Haysville	Open the schools. Not 1/2 way either. Students need the social side of school to develop. On line learning IS NOT the same. Might as well just home school if that's your solution...at least the public schools will miss indoctrinating my son this year!
7/20/2020 19:46:40	Kayla	Myers	Parent	Ness City	I do not agree with the mask mandate for K-12. To ask 5 year olds to keep a mask on for 7-8 hours a day is absurd and quite frankly dangerous. They won't leave it alone, it'll be huge distraction, not to mention the germs all over it. If masks are required for all schools, watch your numbers go down. How sad! Leaning towards home school more and more and not through the school district.
7/20/2020 19:46:42	Amanda	Juenemann	School	Colby	As a teacher and as a parent, I feel like the school delayment is not being adequately thought through. These kids need to be in school and who is to say that it won't keep getting pushed back more and more. I think we should start as scheduled before in case we need to let out earlier during the winter when there could be a spike in cases even though we have had worse flu seasons than this and yet we are shutting down things. I feel like we also need to consider that there are several differences all throughout the state. Johnson county has way more cases than out here in western Kansas. Why can't we leave it up to the individual schools as to what would be the best for them?  I hate seeing what the governor is doing to our schools. We all have kids who need to be in school for their education but also for their safety. For some, school is the only place they feel safe and we are keeping them from that.

7/20/2020 19:46:47	Nicole	Elam		Derby	Start online learning ONLY until covid is under control!!!! It's too risky for students and staff!!!!
7/20/2020 19:46:51	Heather	Froese		Cimarron	I believe masks and social distancing should be required
7/20/2020 19:46:59	Miranda	Toburen	Myself	Topeka	Don't delay or unnecessarily restrict in school classes.
					I am glad the final decision on this matter is in the hands of the KSBOE rather than the governor and I will respect its decision. I believe that each school district should decide for itself whether it feels the need to postpone the start of classes especially when remote learning is an option and in-person classes require masks. One issue being mentioned is a spike in cases after the Memorial Day weekend. Delaying the start of school until right after the Labor Day holiday weekend does not appear to be conducive to slowing the infection rate anyway. Given the large difference in number of students in school districts across the state, a blanket order covering all districts does not seem logical. Some daycare locations have more children in attendance than some school classrooms would have for in-person classes, but the daycare locations were not closed. I personally went to a haircut appointment last week at which there were 10 people in a small shop, with at least 5 of those people likely being age 65 or older. All were wearing masks and socially distancing to the extent possible, but this setting seems to be far more of a concern than a school setting. There is also a large discrepancy in the number of Covid-19 cases in counties across the state. This again leads one to believe the decision should lie with each school district in the state rather than a state-wide mandate.
7/20/2020 19:47:18	Bruce	Wilson		Manhattan	
7/20/2020 19:47:22	Aimee	Casady		Olathe	In support of delaying school start date.
					As a teacher for USD314, I believe we should be starting school in August rather than waiting until September. We need to get the kids back in the classroom and then deal with the number of virus cases as they come in...why wait another 3 weeks to see what numbers are going to do. People will travel over the holiday weekend, which could in turn increase the numbers; which will then put the schools at another 2 weeks before starting. At that point, we will be October before the kids are back in the classroom. Just start schools on time, especially in the areas where there are low number of cases. We cannot use a blanket approach to not starting/starting school based on some counties having higher number of cases.
7/20/2020 19:47:51	Tammy	Higerd	Brewster Public School	Colby	
7/20/2020 19:47:57	Kari	Nilsen		Andover	We really need to delay school until at least September 8th, or later. This will enable parents to make plans for their kids and schools to prepare. We CANNOT put our children, families, or school staff at risk when we have other options.
7/20/2020 19:48:00	Brandi	Murphy	Parent	scott City	kids need to be back in school and without these ridiculous restrictions that in the long run our going to hurt our kids more than protect them. Masks and hand washing/sanitizing every hour will kill their immune systems making them more susceptible to the virus. Get our kids back to school for their physical, mental and emotional wellbeing!!!
7/20/2020 19:48:03	Lacey	Lyne	Parent	Sterling	Not all areas are seeing a peek in COVID cases. In the areas where we are stable, I don't understand why our kids have to wait even longer to go back to school. As a single mother who already works 3 jobs to make ends meet, I now have to find more money to cover childcare for a longer period of time. Where will that extra money come from? Since my child has been out of school, for what will be 6 months by the time we start, how will this affect his future? Please allow local admin to make the choices that work for us and not just one choice for the masses. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:48:04	Patrick	Casady		Olathe	In support of delaying the start of school year.
7/20/2020 19:48:05	Eileen	Honors	parent, Olathe School D	Olathe	I support the governor's executive order to delay in-person classes until after Labor Day in order to give schools additional time to create plans for a safe school environment.
7/20/2020 19:48:14	Jessica	Kubic		Tecumseh	Please shorten the required amount of schools day then!

7/20/2020 19:48:20	Deena	Wilson	special education related	Lawrence	My district has been working on back to school plans since June. I have been involved in several different task force groups and the plans we were making at the beginning of June were for a community with much lower transmission rates. The concerns of our staff and families has changed in recent weeks and the plans we made back in early June are not great plans now. Districts need time to solidify and train staff for whatever new model they will roll out. The world has changed and school needs to change as well. It will be far from business as usual. The extra time can be used for high quality professional development, planning and outreach to families for needs assessment. Districts need time to plan for a safe return to school in buildings that are not equipped for social distancing. They need to plan for anxious teachers and anxious students who have been avoiding crowd for several months now while the world has gone crazy. We need to give everyone some grace. Please extend that grace to schools, staff, children and families by supporting the Governor's order to delay the start of school until after labor day.
7/20/2020 19:48:22	tony	Meyers	Parent of 9th grade student	Olathe	the school year should be delayed until after labor day or better yet until the percent positivity falls to under 5 percent and the infection rate falls to under 10 new cases per million population for 14 consecutive days. distance learning should commence without this restriction.
7/20/2020 19:48:24	Julie	Barrett Jackson		Olathe	Please keep the kids and staff safe and delay In person education for a year
7/20/2020 19:48:29	Crystal	Ratcliff	ISD 492	Butler County	LOCAL government. Local districts and school boards making decisions for their community!
7/20/2020 19:48:33	Jill	Canning	Shawnee Mission Public	Shawnee, Kansas	As a teacher and parent, I believe it is in the best interest of all parties to delay the start. This will give teachers/schools time to be plan adequately as well as allow the numbers to, hopefully decline. Please follow Gov. Kelly's order for the delaying of schools.
7/20/2020 19:48:37	Thomas	Retz	WSU	Wichita	Please do not open schools during this COVID surge, it is obviously unsafe and probably counter productive.
7/20/2020 19:48:41	Tiffany	Chandler		Olathe	I urge you to vote yes, on the executive order to delay schools opening until September 9th or later. School districts have just recently received the guidelines for reopening and have a new executive order outlining PPE/safety measures. It is crucial that districts have enough time to analyze the guidelines and outline a plan to include these and the new executive order. Additionally, cases are rising all across Kansas. It is important to spend some time watching the rise to see if it continues, flattens, or decreases so districts can act accordingly. It is imperative that we know how we are going to open schools safely, prior to opening. Please vote yes on the executive order and make the safety of teachers, staff members, students, and their loved ones a priority. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:48:43	Rachel	Doss	Independent	Topeka	Please let each district decide for themselves when to go back to school. This is not a one size fits all.
7/20/2020 19:48:44	Tiffany	Bohm	Parent	Olathe	Please accept the executive order to allow time for our case rates to decrease. This also allows our educators time to gain the professional development needed and put plans in place to implement the Navigating Change guidelines.
7/20/2020 19:48:45	Jennifer	Mumpower		Maple Hill	Please let the counties and local school boards decide when local schools should open. This is not a situation that warrants a one size fits all mandate.
7/20/2020 19:48:58	Lauren	Craig	USD 489	Hays	I agree that the start of the school year should be delayed
7/20/2020 19:49:07	Denise	Ash	A-W teacher	Topeka	Please delay to keep us all SAFE!
7/20/2020 19:49:09	Katie	Brooks	USD 500 KCKPS	Kansas City	Please delay the opening of school for the health of both the students and staff. If movie theatres are not being reopened, schools shouldn't. It just shows how we are under valued.
7/20/2020 19:49:10	Lori	Pierce	Usd 259	Wichita	Please delay the start of school and make sure our students and staff are safe!!! Our COVID numbers are out of control right now!
7/20/2020 19:49:16	Yvette	McDonald		Wichita	I feel like delaying school is putting children who already live in questionable circumstances in a position to suffer abuse at the hand of a parent who doesn't know how to deal with them in the first place. I love my children but honestly with absolutely nothing much to do we are sick and tired of each other. If it's hard in an "easy" home how much more difficult is it in a home where people have short tempers and little to no patience. What about special needs children who need a schedule? They are so thrown off. We need to get back to school. Yes, I'm a teacher, but honestly I worry more about catching lice than this virus.
7/20/2020 19:49:21	Melanie	Gilliland	Auburn Washburn 437	Topeka	Our kids need to go back to school

7/20/2020 19:49:26	Nolan	Crosson		Concordia	Requiring masks for young elementary school students is unreasonable & impractical. We'll homeschool our little kids before we put that kind of additional stress on them & their teachers.
7/20/2020 19:49:37	Cari	Brown	Olathe Public Schools k	olathe	Please, please, please consider delaying start of school. As a kindergarten teacher and parent of 5 children 10 and under, I'm so anxious and nervous about returning to in person school. I'm STRONGLY considering keeping my own kids home as my husband has a health concern and we can't afford for him to get sick. Our covid numbers continue to increase and putting all of these kids together is going to lead to even more cases. This is not forever. Students will be ok. This is just a set back and we need to be smart and delay and give it more time to show a decrease in cases. Teachers need to prep and districts need to come up with supplies, procedures, etc for everything that will come up from in person school. There is so much to think about and EVERYONE will need to be educated on this. This can't all be done in the 5 day in service time we normally have before school starts. Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/20/2020 19:49:38	Lynne	Bird	None	Wichita	I believe for the safety of students and staff the start of school should be delayed
7/20/2020 19:49:41	Paul	Buck	School board member	Sedan	I think we are going to do our children a disservice if we do not get them back in school the virtual learning just does not work with kids
7/20/2020 19:49:49	Tiffany	Birk	Usd 232	Lenexa	I think we should wait to hold full in person classes until the Covid rates go down. Districts/teachers need time to prepare for safe student learning.
7/20/2020 19:49:51	Brett	Hoedl		Olathe	Please vote to support Governor Kelly's EO delaying school start. It's the right thing to do to help stop the spread. Trust the health experts that are advising her.  Thank you!
7/20/2020 19:49:52	Keith	Temaat	Former educator	Hutchinson, KS	I taught instrumental music in Kansas for 37 years and I know the importance of the State Board of Education's role in our schools. I would ask you to support Governor Laura Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. This will give the schools more time to adequately prepare for the students and teachers safe return.
7/20/2020 19:49:55	Tisha	McNown	Usd 286	Sedan	Our children need to be in the classroom and playing sports FOR their mental health.
7/20/2020 19:49:57	Amy	Camp	Parent and teacher	Overland Park	Reopen our schools. We've been ready and can handle the mandates put into play. Our kids need school face to face. They need to be surrounded by their peers to learn how to socialize and interact with others. Let parents decide what is best for their own families. Open our schools!!
7/20/2020 19:50:03	Kimberly	Treff		Olathe	I support a delay in the start date in hopes of returning to school in person
7/20/2020 19:50:10	Christa	Feese		Overland Park	Schools should not be delayed and need to open on time!
7/20/2020 19:50:10	Julie	Smith		Pittsburg	Not in favor of masks for kids!
7/20/2020 19:50:16	Tanya	Mathieu	District 3 - USD 233	Olathe	Please uphold the governor's mandate to postpone school opening. As a teacher and a parent, I believe it will only benefit the schools, teachers, students and families to have a better plan in place and time to reduce the number of positive covid cases in the state.
7/20/2020 19:50:20	Mary	Krejci	Parent / teacher	Merriam	Please do the right (scientific fact based) thing and keep schools closed.
7/20/2020 19:50:21	Aaron	Law	USD 362	Pleasanton	Support the Governors order, give schools adequate time to prepare after the Department of Education had released their guidelines. 6 weeks to prepare is better than 3 weeks. As far as the argument that some rural schools and counties have no cases, you don't know that for certain because we don't have adequate testing every where. For our safety back the Governor.
7/20/2020 19:50:31	Benjamin	Forte	Myself a concerned citiz	Wichita	I'm highly appreciative that the school year has been delayed, because putting kids back into the classroom will increase the spread of COVID-19 & put the well being of every family & Teacher's loved ones at risk by being back in the classroom
7/20/2020 19:50:32	Becky	Brummett		Wichita	I agree with the order to delay the start of school. It seems very reasonable and prudent when our Covid cases are rising. I have a highschool aged son and I would rather we delay the start of school than start on time and have an outbreak in the schools and have to shut down. My oldest daughter is a doctor at Wesley and I know the doctors who work with her in the critical care units agree with the delay, also, as the hospital fills up. I believe there is no harm in being cautious with a delay but not delaying could unnecessarily cost the lives of students, teachers, staff and family members.

7/20/2020 19:50:41	Donna	Long	I work in KC..my opinio	I live in Mo but have tau	There is no good answer..everyone loses ..but please support the governor and err on the side of safety..I am at risk due to age..please..
7/20/2020 19:50:44	Janice	Lipoglav		Frontenac	We need to have our schools open on the regular dates, not the middle of September. Our children's education is priority one. Experts throughout the U.S. have expressed concern if these children are not in school. Our future in your hands. Open and keep these schools open for our kids sake.
7/20/2020 19:50:52	Megan	Carmichael		Colby	I do not think we should delay the start time. What good will two weeks do besides put our kids further behind.
7/20/2020 19:51:06	Jennifer	Shea	KCKPS USD500	Kansas City	Please sign the order to delay the opening on the school year in KS. Rates are rising and there are so many unknowns. We cannot put teachers, staff, and students at risk.
7/20/2020 19:51:15	Andrea	Merrick	Mom of 3 kids (one with	Frontenac	As a teacher I want to go back and teach my students in my classroom, and I want my school-ages children to attend school with their teachers and classmates ASAP. BUT, I am concerned for all families if schools start back in building before our COVID numbers drop significantly. My 2 year old has intractable epilepsy, among other diagnoses, and when she gets sick she has even more seizures and has ended up in the hospital for it. My reason to wait for schools to reopen is personal, and not everyone has someone so fragile at home to worry about, but I know that enough precautions cannot be made to prevent a spread in schools based on the rising cases recurrently happening.  Please consider waiting until numbers drop significantly before opening brick and mortar. It's not what I want, but it's what my family needs to keep all of us as safe as possible.
7/20/2020 19:51:18	Jan	Carroll		Olathe	Delay start of 2020-21 school year until after Labor Day, but no later. Start 9/9/20. I would consider doing the same for following years also, having school from Labor Day to Memorial Day be the norm.
7/20/2020 19:51:19	Julie	Dunkelberger	USD 259 - East High	Wichita	My school has 2400+ students and there is no way to provide adequate social distancing (two of my classes next year have 35+ students and the others are all nearing 30). Our building is 150 years old and we have an inconsistent HVAC system. Even with mandatory masking, my students and I will be at risk. Our administrators have indicated that enforcing mask-wearing will be no small challenge (and likely impossible). Cases are on the rise in Sedgwick Co to the point that the White House has implored us to take COVID-19 more seriously. If we even hope to make our school safe, there is no question that we need extra time to put recommended safety measures in place. In that case, I wholeheartedly support Governor Kelly's recommendation to postpone the start of the year and believe it is the only sane and healthy way to try and protect our students and ourselves if we go back to school in-person.  The reality is, however, that we will likely be forced to go fully virtual within a few weeks of starting school. Why not save the money from outfitting our old schools with expensive precautions and plan to start school on time - but virtually - for all? And let's save lives while we're at it! Then our beginning-of-the-year inservice meetings can be spent mastering technology to make our lessons meaningful and engaging for students rather than being used to discuss how to keep our kids safe in an inherently unsafe environment.
7/20/2020 19:51:20	Blake	Stuart		Lawrence	Our kids need to get back in school and it needs to happen before Memorial Day. Additionally, I don't understand how schools are going to enforce masks and social distancing at the elementary school level. I'm hopeful the main priority for our schools returns to educating our children, as it should be.
7/20/2020 19:51:22	Matthew	Bohm	Olathe educator and par	Olathe	Please think about the health and safety of students and educators. We are not at a place where schools can safely open with the rapidly growing COVID cases. Losing even one student or staff member from infection in our schools is one too many.
7/20/2020 19:51:23	Marilee	Gundlach		Colby	Please do not mandate schools to start after Labor Day and to wear masks. There is NOT a need for this, the death rate does not show this is not a pandemic. The added stress of not being in a social setting and getting their lives back to their normal is much more harmful than this illness.
7/20/2020 19:51:27	Holly	Hatton	Teacher	Lenexa	I am completely in favor with the Governor's EO with concern to the DELAY the start of school until AT LEAST after Labor Day. I am a teacher who is 52 years old. I am not willing to endanger my health by participating in the in person school model until our state is in DECLINE of Covid positive cases for 14 days

7/20/2020 19:51:45	Nathan	Feese		Overland Park	No delay, open schools on time.
7/20/2020 19:51:49	LeArta	watkins	Our family	Derby	We don't believe that in person classes can start until this pandemic is under control in our state as per CDC guidelines. Little kids especially can't distance themselves nor can they keep from touching things. Our teachers and staff need to be protected. If I were teaching which I did for more than 25 years, I would resign!!
7/20/2020 19:51:53	Emily	Spencer		Topeka	School decisions should be left to local school board districts. Please reject executive orders.
7/20/2020 19:51:58	Janeal	Lischke	Heritage Christian Scho	Topeka	Please allow each school board to do what is best for each school.
7/20/2020 19:51:56	Sarah	Spencer		Olathe	Please follow through with this executive order. We are nearing the end of July and because of this order we have no clear plans from the district about what the fall entails. Everything has been pushed back because while we wait to see if it passes or not. Expecting teachers to report to work and teach students 3 weeks from now with no clear plan communicated as of yet is irresponsible. Give districts and teachers the time to prepare the safest environment for students. Not to mention COVID cases are back on the rise and this is far more out of control than it ever has been. I'm so anxious for the health of my coworkers and students. We all deserve to return to a safe environment.
7/20/2020 19:52:02	SARAH	BORISKY		Stilwell	Please delay the start of the school year until COVID cases start to steadily decline! Our kids, families, and all school staff, bus staff, and more depend on schools not opening until COVID risk level is much much lower. Have online only classes for the fall and then hopefully the spring will be much better for reopening.  #11th highest = Kansas Infection Rate: 1.20 (High)Overall Risk Level: Red (Critical) "We've ranked every state in the U.S. by infection rate, from lowest to highest. We've also included Covid Act Now's overall risk level for every state, which takes into account the positive test rate, ICU availability, and number of contact tracers as well. The risk level is either green (low), yellow (medium), orange (high), or red (critical)."
7/20/2020 19:52:12	Pauline	Folsom	None	Morrill	Science shows that children very rarely pass this virus to others. Resume in school education.
7/20/2020 19:52:13	Rhonda	Unruh	USD 460 - Hesston Eler	Hesston, KS	I am a mother and teacher. I teach in the elementary school setting and know that the enforcement of face masks for students is NOT a good choice. It will be utter chaos trying to keep the masks on them correctly, will end up spreading more germs from them messing with them constantly, and I don't feel it is good for their health because it restricts airflow. There have been enough studies and pediatric organizations who have already endorsed NOT restricting students by making them wear masks to see this is not a good idea. I mentioned I am a parent as well. I have a senior son who dearly loves participating in sports, music, and other activities. By delaying the start of the school year to after Labor Day and restricting schools from doing any student instruction, including sports or any extracurricular activities between August 10 to September 8, our youth will suffer greatly. They need these activities and face-to-face instruction for their mental, physical and emotional health. I'm praying so hard the members of the state BOE will see the insanity of Gov. Kelly's executive orders, and will vote to leave the decision of when to start school up to individual districts, not require masks for young students, AND allow sports and activities to continue as they have successfully been doing throughout the summer break.
7/20/2020 19:53:00	Jennifer	Balsbaugh	Parent	Overland Park	Please leave it up to each district to chose. A one size fits all isn't fair in this situation.
7/20/2020 19:53:10	Jamie	Balthazor		Stockton	We do not need to make masks mandatory! Only optional!
7/20/2020 19:53:12	JoDee	Copple	USD 239	Minneapolis	I am ok with schools starting a little later than normal; only because it will allow my school district a little more time to prepare for the year. If by delaying means my kids will be able to go to school and not have to do online then that is what is needs to be done. Online schooling is NOT the way to go!!
7/20/2020 19:53:20	Sarah	Ayers	Educator for OPS	Olathe	Support the delay of school openings for student and staff safety!
7/20/2020 19:53:22	Regina	Tireman		Olathe	Please keep the Governor's order in place and wait to open school until after Labor Day. This will give our schools additional time to prepare and plan especially if virtual learning needs to be addressed.
7/20/2020 19:53:22	Sarah	Mercer		Wichita	I would like to see schools open AFTER Labor Day.
7/20/2020 19:53:23	Robin	Anderson	Andover Middle School	Wichita	Thank you for mandating masks. Please continue to make universal decisions so no one district has to come up with their rules. Please keep up the good work.

7/20/2020 19:53:29	Aubree	Vargas	Winfield High School	Winfield	<p>I feel that is a smart decision to delay school. As a teacher, I understand what extra preparation needs to be put in place for school to happen and for us as staff to make it a safer environment for kids to go to school and the staff. Half a million students and teachers are at risk, especially high risk teachers or students, we need to consider this when deciding overall. 1 life or 300 lives. Every life is precious and important. Even if it is "1% will die." That is 1% too many. 1 death too many, 1 sickness to many! We need to do all we can to protect our teachers and students.</p> <p>Thank you for all you do for our education system. We are in trying times and it is calming to look to you all as leaders. Thank you!</p>
7/20/2020 19:53:36	Carolyn	Walker	grandparents	Topeka	The kids need to be back in school as soon as possible. Let the individual districts decide what will work best for them. Keep the gov. out of the decision. It NE can do it so can KS. They are starting on time and starting fall sports.
7/20/2020 19:53:37	Jamie	Miller		Olathe	PLEASE open the schools back up on time.
7/20/2020 19:53:39	Kourtney	Yantis		Pittsburg	Please uphold the Governor's executive order not only as a safety measure, but also to give teachers and districts time to prepare a plan to keep us all safe. At this point we would have less than a month to prepare, and safety concerns aside, no teacher will feel comfortable jumping into a new school year with new BOE recommendations with less than a month to prepare. This pandemic is not a political issue, please do not make the mistake of treating it as one. Please consider the health and safety of teachers and students. There are times when local control shouldn't outweigh every other consideration, and a pandemic is one of them.
7/20/2020 19:53:42	Jennifer	Wenderott		Alma	Please allow schools to open in August without madatory mask. If you follow the Governor's orders you are going to bankrupt schools.
7/20/2020 19:53:44	Kirstin	Todd		Lenexa	Please let our kids go to school!!!
7/20/2020 19:53:56	Arleen	Clinesmith	USD323	St George	I would like to see school start on time with no delays.
7/20/2020 19:53:56	Tara	Brigham	Parent	Pittsburg	Stay closed until ATLEAST after Labor Day and re-evaluate at that point. We don't know enough about this to put our children at risk.
7/20/2020 19:54:02	Jennifer	Bruns	KCKPS	Overland Park	I'm still extremely anxious about even returning to the building after Labor Day. I live with my elderly mother who is also immune compromised. I'm terrified of bringing COVID-19 home to her, her getting sick and dying. I work with preschool special education who are not going to keep masks on, need assistance wiping their nose when they sneeze, have to have diapers changed, put toys in their mouths and don't understand social distancing. Plus we have small classrooms with 20 students and 3 teachers at all times, not to mention when related services or counselors come into the room. While it's starting to become evident that children can get Covid-19, it's definitely been proven that they are carriers. I am also immune compromised as well as several teachers in my building. I urge you to pass the executive order given by Governor Kelly and even possibly look at online learning all of fall semester until we have a significant amount of time with no new cases. The health and safety of everyone has to be the top priority!!!
7/20/2020 19:54:12	Shawna	Paulin		Wichita	I strongly urge the Kansas State Board of Education to uphold the governors executive order. It makes sense to give schools extra time to prepare for the implementation of safety protocols to keep all students, teachers and staff healthy at this unprecedented time in our history. Yes it is important to have children return to normalcy as soon as possible but there is not going to be anything normal about this school year. Waiting these few additional weeks will help school districts have the opportunity to be sure all teachers and staff fully understand the many new procedures that must be implemented. They cannot be expected to do this in a rushed and haphazard way. There is too much at stake here- the health and safety of our children and those that we entrust our children to for the school year must be the top priority in making this decision.
7/20/2020 19:54:15	Gayla	Mead	My child and grandchild	9018 W Meadow Knoll	Please keep the schools closed until the spike in cases has stopped and until there is a better plan to open safely. The plans I have read about do not seem plausible, let alone safe. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:54:25	Rebecca	Peterson	Self	Valley Center, KS	I agree that school opening should be delayed. I work for a school district and have an autoimmune disease that puts me at a higher risk if I were to get sick. I also have elderly parents that have health issues as well. We need to do what is right to protect our health. How is putting over 400 people in a building going to stop the spread. Please do what you have to do to keep people like me safe. Thank you. Rebecca



7/20/2020 19:54:26	Amy	Reist		Ingalls	Please consider what the governor has said. It's 3 weeks. It's not gonna kill us for an extra 2 weeks to prepare and make sure we are all safe!
7/20/2020 19:54:26	Shawna	Paulin		Wichita	I strongly urge the Kansas State Board of Education to uphold the governors executive order. It makes sense to give schools extra time to prepare for the implementation of safety protocols to keep all students, teachers and staff healthy at this unprecedented time in our history. Yes it is important to have children return to normalcy as soon as possible but there is not going to be anything normal about this school year. Waiting these few additional weeks will help school districts have the opportunity to be sure all teachers and staff fully understand the many new procedures that must be implemented. They cannot be expected to do this in a rushed and haphazard way. There is too much at stake here- the health and safety of our children and those that we entrust our children to for the school year must be the top priority in making this decision.
7/20/2020 19:54:32	Benjamin	Cardon		Olathe	As a teacher, this EO affects me directly. As a parent of school-aged children, this EO affects me directly. I fully support Gov. Kelly on this executive order, and strongly encourage BOE members to support her as well. My school is NOT prepared to have either in-person or virtual school at this point. Giving us more time to prepare will GREATLY enhance our ability to effectively teach our youth. In addition, as a teacher, I am scared for my LIFE (not my livelihood, not my freedoms, but my LIFE) if I return to teaching right now with the COVID numbers we have. As a parent, I am scared for MY LIFE, my CHILD'S LIFE, and the LIVES of the staff at my kids' schools. I do not want to send my children to school right now. Kansans have not done what is necessary to driving down the numbers (wearing masks, socially distancing, etc), and the consequence of that is we SHOULD NOT re-open schools yet. It is ludicrous to risk so many lives, to ask teachers to again try to come up with completely different lesson plans on the fly (teachers have not had instruction or time to develop completely different lesson plans as of yet to allow for an effective virtual option of teaching). Moreover, MANY teachers are also parents of school-aged children, as am I. With my wife working (since a teacher's income is not sufficient alone to provide for a family), if my children are taking virtual classes, and I am teaching virtual classes, there is a problem. To start school with virtual teaching, and at the same time expect teachers to completely revamp their teaching, combined with having teachers be parents at home, would put an overwhelming load to too many of our teachers. The quality of education would suffer to an unacceptable level in far too many cases. The only logical and appropriate response is to support Gov. Kelly in delaying the opening of school until at least Sept. 9th. Any vote otherwise is a direct assault on teachers, their livelihoods, and their very LIVES. I hope and pray and beg you, as a parent and a teacher, to support Gov. Kelly and vote in favor of EO 20.58.
7/20/2020 19:54:34	Michelle	Voth		Newton	I am writing to you as a concerned member of the USD 373 community. My daughter is a preschooler and my husband is a teacher in this district. I recognized the extreme difficulty in making decisions surrounding school reopenings. I urge you to rely most heavily on recommendations and evidence from the nations leading scientists and public health officials. Governor Kelly's executive order does just that by delaying the start of the school year. Please block out the rest of the "noise" and focus in on the safety and well-being of our teachers, our children, and our Kansas communities. Even one death as the result of opening schools too soon is too many. Please understand the seriousness and gravity of this pandemic and your decisions surrounding it.  Thank you, Michelle Voth

7/20/2020 19:54:38	Shannon	Sundberg	Stony point south	Overland park	I am a kindergarten teacher, and though students are said to not be as easily susceptible to COVID, I am concerned with the data that shows this. Schools have been closed since March, so large gatherings of students has not really taken place to the extent of a school building. My school is also an open concept building- meaning no doors or 4 walls. My immune system is quite high, however last year I was sick more than I have ever been in my teaching career. Influenza A ran rampant in my classroom. There were days when I was missing half my class. We sanitized daily, washed hands nonstop and kept distance between everyone, and still tested positive for influenza A. I know from 14 years of experience that my kindergarten students will have a very difficult time adhering to the guidelines- if not impossible. Knowing how rampant and quickly influenza ran last year, and all precautions that were taken, worries me about the health and safety of my students, their families, and the staff- all of whom do not know how their body, or their families' immune systems, will respond to this virus.
7/20/2020 19:54:41	Ellen	Backus		Topeka	I teach 5th grade and my husband teaches high school in Topeka Public Schools. We are also new parents to a 3 month old daughter. Please approve Governor Kelly's executive order. Sending students and staff into buildings in the middle of an airborne viral pandemic is dangerous. We need to take every possible measure to protect students, staff, and families. Governor Kelly's executive order mandates the minimum requirements necessary for anyone to return to school. Please keep my family and my students' families safe.
7/20/2020 19:54:48	Mike	Tireman		Olathe	I am asking you to keep Governor Kelly's order in place as cases right now are continuing to rise and the metrics do not support school reopening at this time.
7/20/2020 19:54:48	Kari	Liggett	None	Olathe	Please stay closed until after Labor Day at least!! I would like to see schools closed for months until the numbers decrease considerably.
7/20/2020 19:55:04	Cary	Semler	Parent	Lawrence	Delaying school for the safety of the students and faculty. Having online or a hybrid of online and in person classes. Just being safe. I have a child that has health issues, he really wants to go back to school but it's just not safe.
7/20/2020 19:55:08	Stacy	Kramer	Holy Trinity School and	Lenexa	Why is Governor Kelly ignoring the advice from medical professionals who advise that children aged K-6 do not need to wear masks? I thought she was following the advice of professionals. Seems like she is more concerned with politics now than with our children's safety and future. Very disappointed!
7/20/2020 19:55:15	Veronica	Blanco	Parent @USD443	Dodge City	Delay the the start of the 20-21 school year and make mask mandatory for all. Please keep the safety of our kids and staff a priority.
7/20/2020 19:55:15	Emily	Beye	Self	Overland Park	Teachers and schools need the 3-extra weeks to really prepare all the measures that are mandated. I would MUCH rather send my Kindergarten daughter 3 weeks "late" and keep her in school for a longer stretch, than send her on-time and be back out after only a few weeks. Please uphold the governors decision.
7/20/2020 19:55:18	Adam	Balthazor	Fathers	Stockton	No mask mandate
7/20/2020 19:55:25	Ann	Roe	Teacher	Arkansas city	Schools should open in August like normal
7/20/2020 19:55:41	Deana	Plume		Wichita	KEEP SCHOOLS CLOSED UNTIL AFTER LABOR DAY!!!!
7/20/2020 19:55:41	Allison	Day		Leavenworth	I believe starting after Labor Day is what is best for students and teachers. This will give staff extra time to solidify their plans to ensure student and staff safety.
7/20/2020 19:55:43	Paula	Sears	Cheney USD 268	Cheney	Please use the adopted plan in the Navigating Change document! It is a safe, good plan and LOCAL districts should decide how they'd like to proceed with school based on their spread. It should NOT be a statewide decision. Thank you for your time and consideration during this difficult time. Sending prayers!
7/20/2020 19:55:43	Jessica	Wilson	usd 447	Cherryvale	As a teacher, we need more time to prepare for what is being expected of us. My district hasn't given us much guidance (yet) as to what our classrooms should look like, how our schedules need to change, what programs/tools are available for online, etc. We need time to set up and train so that opening back up is done as safely and efficiently as possible.
7/20/2020 19:55:47	Desire	Fiscus		Mulvane	I would prefer to start in August as scheduled with social distancing standards in place.
7/20/2020 19:55:48	Victoria	Morris	KCKPS USD 500	Lenexa	I'm asking that you uphold Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. As a state, we are seeing the number of cases rise rapidly. States and countries that have reopened daycares and schools are seeing that they have a rise in cases involving children. As a teacher, I will be on the front lines of this epidemic. I live with 2 people who are at high risk to die from this disease. Please, delay the start of school until after Labor Day so that Local districts can get the supplies we need and train all staff to safely return and deliver education we can be proud of while keeping children, teachers, staff, and the multitude of families involved safe.

7/20/2020 19:55:52	Judith	Landis	Retired	Olathe	I support delaying the start of school under the current circumstances. Unnecessary risk should be minimized. Teachers and students will do their best to learn and the state will not regret its prudence.
7/20/2020 19:55:55	Elizabeth	Schurman	University of Kansas	Lawrence	Sending teachers for face to face classroom work is insane. Happily at KU I have been able to choose to teach online. Most of my career, though, I have taught high school. I would quit teaching if I had to be in a building with students. I always taught really troubled kids, and we struggled with them in many ways. There is no way I would struggle with them over masks. Teenagers will not wear them. Some parents will tell them they don't have to.... A friend of mine just proctored the ACT, and she couldn't even get THOSE students to stay masked. How will it be with our traumatized, stretched to the limit, struggling students? Teachers will die.
7/20/2020 19:55:58	Merrilyn	Shobe		Overland Park	Please uphold the delay to give staff adequate time to prepare & for the numbers to start decreasing. Thank you!
7/20/2020 19:55:58	Saul	Reza	Rolla school district	Rolla, Ks	Does the governor, state department of education, the state board of education have any plans to supply hand sanitizer and masks to schools? These could be purchased in bulk by the state and supplied at a much lower cost or at no cost to districts than if districts purchased themselves, even if they can find sanitizer for every classroom. Also if a classroom has a sink and soap dispenser, why must sanitizer be used? This is putting additional unneeded constraints on districts.
7/20/2020 19:56:03	Kimberly	Potter	Special Education teacher	Pratt	I support the Governor's EO to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. I'm concerned for the safety of our students and staff as our cases are continuing to rise.
7/20/2020 19:56:07	Joe	Hoffman	Desoto school district in	Desoto	Schools need to be open. The numbers don't add up, if 99% of people who get Covid are fine, it doesn't make any sense to shut down schools. Please look at facts and make decisions based on that. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:56:08	Kim	Borchers	Parent	Topeka	Overtun EO 20-58 and push back on the one size fits all mandates EO. You know that children 6th and under should not be burdened with a mask mandate.
7/20/2020 19:56:13	Becky	Frank	USD 329	Alma	I am not in favor of forcing students to wear masks at school.
7/20/2020 19:56:18	Linda	Squires	None	Arkansas City	Please open the schools back up! No masks. Our children and grandchildren need to get an education. This being off school so long is NOT healthy for them. Please do the right thing! Thank you
7/20/2020 19:56:19	Lesley	Beck		Olathe	Please approve the governor's order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. It is important that we give districts time to make sure that school starts in the safest & smoothest way possible.
7/20/2020 19:56:23	Erin	Balthazor	USD 271 Stockton School	1111 s 1st Stockton ks 6	Please allow our children to be educated and go back to school!! It's hard on them mentally and emotionally! We live in a small rural community where things don't come easy so the least we want for our kids to have them an education and be able to not fall behind and have the freedom we as Americans should have our rights!
7/20/2020 19:56:23	Julie	Fletcher	Kansas City Kansas Public	Overland Park	I am a teacher in USD 500 and have a special needs daughter at home and am very fearful of bringing the virus home to her. I applaud Governor Kelly in keeping schools closed until after Labor Day. Please help her out in caring for the people of this State with your vote on Wednesday.
7/20/2020 19:56:26	Saran	Mitchell	USD 305	Salina	I am a teacher in a k-5 school. I am terrified for the safety of myself and my students if we open, as numbers continue to spike.
7/20/2020 19:56:29	Megan	Laurent	OT	Lenexa	We had a plan and the district board should be the ones who delay the start of school, if needed. If we are going to start online (based on numbers and upward trends) let's just start when planned!
7/20/2020 19:56:32	Jacqueline	Moore	Citizen, spouse of school	Wichita	I am in favor of delaying the start of school until after Labor Day as a minimum response to the fact that cases are on the rise in Kansas, and in Wichita in particular. We need to get cases down before we send kids back to school. There's too much potential for kids and employees to be come ill and then spread the virus into the community.
7/20/2020 19:56:34	Shelby	Evans	USD 210	Hugoton	Please vote to open schools after Labor Day. Teachers need time to prepare for the new guidelines and prepare for what is decided by our district.
7/20/2020 19:56:37	Karlie	Cooper		Overland Park	Please do the right thing and follow Laura Kelly's order to delay school opening. In a surging pandemic, new information is coming so quickly and we need extra time to ensure it is safe for students and teachers. We also need time to consider the issues of lack of substitutes, lack of nurses willing to work (my school currently cannot fill its nurse vacancy), and lack of PPE for staff. I believe strongly that we should not dare open up public school buildings with cases rising as they are. We are much worse off than we were in March. This would be leaving a burning building only to enter again into larger flames.
7/20/2020 19:56:41	Arline	Mck	Dodge City High School	Dodge City	Please let school open on time. The kids we interact with are suffering from no activity, no school. Please let them go back

7/20/2020 19:56:41	Hannah	Yakel	USD 259 SPED teacher	Wichita	I urge you to please vote in favor of Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school until after Labor Day. As a teacher and parent, it would be beneficial to have to extra time to continue to teach my daughter proper mask wearing habits and to make proper positive literature to help in teaching my students correct protocol that aligns with correct social distancing and mask wearing.
7/20/2020 19:56:47	Helen	Stoll	Myself, but I'm staff at J	Overland Park	Delaying the start of schools as long as possible is the right thing to do and I support it 100%. We should have at minimum a two week downward trend in new positive cases before considering any attempt at face to face instruction.
7/20/2020 19:56:55	Abby	Gillan	USD 489	Hays	Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day. Schools, families, and communities need this time to plan. Schools need time to procure necessary supplies to keep kids safe. This shouldn't be a political issues. It's an issue of logistics and planning.
7/20/2020 19:56:58	Lawrence	Simmons	USD 506	Edna Kansas	Dianne Strange kids have been in summer school,kids have been in fall sports conditioning, kids have been in sports and camps, kids have been on buses, kids have been at the pool and still no major outbreak. Decisions should be up to districts, why hold off school where schools and staff are ready or have no or very few cases in the area. I 100% believe its a virus but i 100% believe its been blown way out of proportion.
7/20/2020 19:56:59	Tennele	Hankins		Park city	Please allow districts time to dive into the recommendations and have solid opening plans and training for staff instead of a half - done approach that doesn't keep all stakeholders safe. Our children, teachers, school staff, and families deserve to feel safe when walking through our schools' doors.
7/20/2020 19:57:03	Courtney	Fitzgerald		Shawnee (DeSoto-Mill)	I stand with the school boards decision to open schools as planned and as scheduled. The school board already made the decision based off of a team of teachers, staff and medical professionals that deemed it safe and absolutely necessary for kids to be back in school. Schools are doing what is necessary for virtual and in person options. The whole health of our children include BEING IN SCHOOL helping them create social connections, emotional connections, physical connections, educational connections & religious connections (our children attend Catholic school). My social work background also tells me that many children will fall through the cracks if they do not have a school to go to. Children will be left hungry, unsupervised, uncared for, abused and left to their own devices. These children will not be learning new skill sets, doing arts and crafts with their parents, or finding ways to cope with this unprecedented situation. We NEED our schools to open. Thank you for your time on this matter.
7/20/2020 19:57:09	Mary	Nichols		Winfield	I think using hand sanitizer every hour is a mistake. It's hard in skin and I believe it's generally not a good idea. Washing hands prooermy every with soap would be much better and use hand sanitizer in between as needed. Please check into the hazards if too much hand sanitizer.
7/20/2020 19:57:12	Christina	Scott		Eureka	I'm am all for going back to school. But I feel like if we start on time August 20th in my district, you aren't giving parents time to prepare with school supplies, school shoes, clothes, and then add enrollment fees on top of that. Our town is a poverty town and we usually have a big school supply drive but that isn't happening this year. A majority of our kids get their supplies there. I think we need to think of the parents when it comes to starting on time now.
7/20/2020 19:57:19	Jessica	Allen		Saint George	Please delay the opening of schools for the safety of students and teachers. Our cases are up in Kansas and we need all the time we can get to get things better under control.
7/20/2020 19:57:36	Jacob	Tireman		Olathe	Please keep the order in place for school to not reopen until after Labor day. This will give our schools additional time to prepare for the safety mandates put in place. Schools also need time to make sure they have proper PPE, sanitizer and cleaners before reopening. Numbers are rising and it is not safe to open schools at this time.
7/20/2020 19:57:37	Chloe	Shantz		Goddard	I believe schools should be opening at regular August start times without masks for children below 6th grade. Starting after Labor Day is only going to further halt my children's education.
7/20/2020 19:58:14	Anne	Lightcap	Parent USD 232	Shawnee	I am a school nurse as well as a parent. We need more time to educate staff and prepare for the upcoming school year with all the Covid mandates. Please support the Governor's decision to delay school. I say let only the required classes for graduation be taught and the rest are optional online. I have a son set to graduate May of 2021.....he should be allowed to take only credits he needs and go to Ju co for some college classes. Please waive the vision and hearing, CPR for all HS this year. Allow non contact sports and waive 504/IEP mandates for nurses. I have 1000 kids and 75 staff. I cannot physically take everyone's temp each day.

7/20/2020 19:58:18	Denise	Humphrey	Grandparent / sports coach	Lenexa	Children need to be in school the longer you wait the more people travel if you left the normal start date people would have start staying home and it would get back under control. Schools have plans in place giving families choices. We can't hide forever. Students have been out working during COVID get on social media they are together so put them in school. Children have been in day care and have not been sick. Put them in school wear mask, change no drinking fountains, but allow water in containers, less socializing in large area.
7/20/2020 19:58:23	Rita	Lesser		Rural Lecompton	I urge the State Board to approve Governor Kelly's mandate. While I feel it is extremely important to get kids back to school, the health and wellness of our community is more important. Delaying the start date will give schools time to better train staff in preparation for the new school year, and it will allow Covid cases to hopefully decline. I know of people (not just a person) who have lost their life to this virus, and I hope we can become part of the solution, not the problem.
7/20/2020 19:58:30	Ashley	Burdick	Teacher in USD 266	Wichita	I believe that we must delay in person classes until it is safe (or until there is a true plan for the safety of all staff and students) for staff and students to return to school. In person school risks my life, my family members' lives, the lives of my children, the lives of my co-workers unnecessarily.
7/20/2020 19:58:38	Januarie	Bridges		Quinter	Please allow each district make decisions best for it not a blanket rule for all
7/20/2020 19:58:42	Cindy	Hughes	Columbus school	Columbus	Start school earlier. No masks and allow sports.
7/20/2020 19:58:45	Elise	Tireman		Olathe	It is not safe to open schools at this time when numbers are rising.
7/20/2020 19:58:53	Mariah	Wallin	Wabaunsee county citizen	Alma	Schools should stay close!
7/20/2020 19:58:56	S	M	Parent	Derby	I absolutely will not send my child to Kansas schools if they are required to wear a mask for 8 hours a day. Absolutely absurd. You think a child is going to learn anything with a mask across their face?! My child has braces and is terrified her braces will get stuck to her mask. The unnecessary anxiety you are placing in our children is enough for me to keep them out of school and teach them myself!!
7/20/2020 19:59:05	Mindie	Foster	Self	Effingham	I have a student that is ready to be back into school. He doesn't learn from online schooling as he doesn't understand it. He has been out of school since the beginning of all this Covid. As a parent I feel that postponing school is not going to make much of a difference. The spread is still going to happen. I feel we should let there be some normality to students life. Including more structure as there was before our life with Covid. These students need something to look forward to and for some school is all they have.
7/20/2020 19:59:06	Jeanette	Nixon	Goddard Schools	Cheney	I want to open the schools! Let the parents decide if they will send their kids!
7/20/2020 19:59:11	Linda	Freund	concerned citizen of Kansas	Overland Park	I am urging you to PLEASE listen to our governor. I am a concerned parent of a teacher and have three school aged grandsons. The numbers of COVID are continuing to rise in our area. The schools are NOT prepared to open and need this extra time. Ask yourself if you would want to go be in the classrooms on a daily basis and risk taking it home to your families. Something tells me you wouldn't. Not only are you risking the health of our teachers and students it also extends to their families. At this time I feel it is URGENT to listen to our governor.
7/20/2020 19:59:12	Karen	Ettinger	KCKPS	WYandotte	Based on the current rate of positive COVID-19 infection in Kansas I feel that the safest thing for student, staff and families is to vote yes on Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 19:59:15	Loghan	Currier		Wichita	Delay the start of school so that schools are able to get the supplies they need to keep students and staff safe!
7/20/2020 19:59:21	Katlyn	Purkapile	Edgerton Elementary	Edgerton	I don't think there's anything wrong with delaying school until after Labor Day, but my kindergarten and preschool child who are both enrolled at Edgerton Elementary will not attend if they have to wear masks all day long. I will be pulling them both out of school to homeschool until further notice. This decision absolutely breaks my heart, but young children should not be required to wear masks all day long.
7/20/2020 19:59:26	Cindy	Connellan		Prairie Village	I support Gov. Kelly. This should be about health - not politics.

7/20/2020 19:59:30	Kristin	Robertson	Parent and employee in	Olathe	I fully support the delay of school not starting until after Labor Day. The numbers need to take a downward trend before we even consider sending kids/adults back into the schools for everyone's safety. I support the guidelines laid out by Laura Kelly and feel they are even on the conservative side. I love kids and work with the younger ones and I want school to be a safe and positive environment for them. I believe a virtual option for awhile might be the best case scenario for this. Masks are going to be necessary, social distance is necessary, hand washing is necessary and those things alone in a classroom of kindergarteners would be a full time supervisory role for teachers. Perhaps learning during these unprecedented times, especially for the youngest of our students, would be better virtually so their first experiences in school aren't fraught with the extra stress of being policed with these things and the fear that is there with increasing numbers right now.
7/20/2020 19:59:32	J	Lickteig	USD 447	Cherryvale	I feel like delaying can only help the spread and more importantly help give schools time to prepare.
7/20/2020 19:59:34	Shawn	Jett	Self/parent	Colwich	My son will be in first grade this year unfortunately our governor took our kids out of school too early last year I believe they could've finish the school year safely at some point for the well-being of all children not just my son schools need to open back up and teachers need to go back to work we need to put our trust that the schools can find a solution to open back up safely I am maintaining my job safely by washing my hands and wearing a mask I believe that schools could open up with safety plans in place please open our schools do not allow this governor to stop our children from their God-given right to an education the fear mongering needs to stop and teachers need to get back in the classroom I do understand some people are health compromised if things can't be put into provision to help them then maybe they should set this year out same as for any student that has severe health issues but for the kids that do not Have health issues that are healthy they should be allowed to go back to school schools are a safe haven for children who are not safe at home teachers are another set of eyes for children that are being abused it makes me sick to think how many children have been in this situation for months and it can go on and on and on if Governor Kelly is allowed to continue doing what she is doing please open our schools
7/20/2020 19:59:47	Kathy	Kusek	Olathe 233	Parkville	I have worked at Olathe for 22 years. Yes keep the schools closed until Labor Day. I work in the office and their is no ppe yet. If the cases are higher than when we closed before, Why wouldn't you keep it closed? Why risk it?? Wait until we have a significant drop in cases before you risk your students and staff. Thank you.
7/20/2020 19:59:48	Corinne	Hoard		Wichita	I want my kids back in the classroom. They need the structure and to be around their peers. Have remote learning as an option for those who are not comfortable with it but open the schools back up. I don't care if we have to wait until after Labor Day for that but open these schools up! And do not delay sports; these kids need it, the schools need it, the communities need it. Do not make these kids wait until Sept 8 to start practices they have been waiting long enough. Let them have a little bit of normal back.
7/20/2020 19:59:59	Kelly	Bielefeld		Clearwater	Delay the opening of schools. It is only three weeks and will help schools a great deal.
7/20/2020 19:59:59	Jennifer	Knight	Parents	Olathe	Please support Gov. Kelly's mandate.
7/20/2020 20:00:09	Tasha	Dean	My Family & children!	Pittsburg	Thank you Governor Kelly! We appreciate everything you are doing to keep Kansas safe!
7/20/2020 20:00:16	Laurie	Holden	Lansing School District	Lansing	PLEASE follow the Governor's executive order on the new start date for K-12 schools. Our cases are going rising every day here in LV county. Governor Kelly has shown strong, proactive, leadership based on the science of this pandemic.
7/20/2020 20:00:29	Audrey	Pool	Usd 397	Lawrence	Delay opening!
7/20/2020 20:00:30	Annmari	Lopez		Great Bend	School needs to open in August, and masks should be optional!!
7/20/2020 20:00:36	Jennifer	Constance		Kansas City, KS	People talk a lot about the impact of this order on students. But please consider the teachers and their families in this decision,too. We have spouses and children who are at risk with our exposure. We love our students, but our physical wellbeing and that of our families is just as important as our students'. Our mental health should also be considered. Just as opening and then closing school would have negative impacts on the mental health of students, teachers would feel the same negative effects. We will be entering flu season shortly after school resumes; COVID would be devastating to add to the mix.
7/20/2020 20:00:39	Haley	Unruh	Private	Cimarron	Please open schools.. The toll isolation takes on children is irreversible and can be devastating. In order for the economy to get back on track kids HAVE to be in school.

7/20/2020 20:00:46	Carrie	Phelps		Goddard	Schools need to be open. I'm a single mom working for a school district lost all my over time for the last 5 months which cost me \$700+ a month in income loss and you expect me to continue paying daycare for my 8 year old child. Let alone attempt to find one that has space for him. I have been going to work, my boyfriend has been working, my sons dad has been working and my sons step mom is working. We have all gone places like dillons, Lowe's, Walmart for months without mask on!!! Open schools help my empty pocketbook out and let kids be kids. Parents can make the decision on what to do with their own kids!
7/20/2020 20:00:46	Laura	Allison		Cherryvale	Please support the mandate for the health and safety of everyone's children. I think the order already does not do enough (but I will take what I can get); I see no reason why children as young as 5 years old cannot be required to wear a mask. I do not feel safe sending my children to school without a mask and without their peers wearing a mask.
7/20/2020 20:01:19	Braydi	Hishmeh	I'm a teacher	Topeka	I do NOT think we should delay the start of school. I am a teacher and I want to start in person teaching WITH my students in August. Please vote against Gov Kelly's order so that we can get our kids back in school! Teachers and school districts worked ALL summer on a document so that we will be ready for kids to return in August. We are ready, there is no need to delay.
7/20/2020 20:01:21	Tammy	VanHoozier		Valley Falls	Once again our governor is going against our rights. This is another huge overreach on her part. People should choose wether they want to wear a mask or not. She should not be able to decide that or if students, staff and visitors wear masks in school. She should also not be able to force schools to start later. She definitely needs to be recalled.
7/20/2020 20:01:19	Gillian	Luévano	KCKPS	KCMO	Please vote to uphold the executive order to delay the opening of schools for students until after labor day. As of now, teachers will have 4 days to prepare for school to start, an amount of time that is too short while not during a pandemic. To ensure a safe learning environment, whether online, in person, or a hybrid, teachers and schools need time to plan and gather supplies. Also, if you are meeting virtually to vote on this please do not expect in person school to happen. You need to lead by example.
7/20/2020 20:01:24	Magan	Brown	N/A	Basehor	As a hospital employee I understand the heavy decision. However, with mitigation it is safe to return. Kids are struggling with anxiety and depression and need structure and learning.
7/20/2020 20:01:33	Marilyn	Sanders	Sedgwick county special	Wichita, KS	I support using the 3 weeks delay for preparations including inservice days, IEP meetings, classroom Modifications etc which would normally be done throughout the year.
7/20/2020 20:01:34	Julie	Peterson		Great Bend	Please open schools as per our normal and customary tradition.
7/20/2020 20:01:49	Blake	Yakel		Wichita	I urge the Board to vote in favor of the executive order to delay school until after Labor Day. As a parent of a 1st Grader and spouse of a teacher, I want to ensure that everyone has ample time to have the necessary tools to keep schools safe throughout the entire school year.
7/20/2020 20:01:50	Ciara	Quinones		Kansas City	Either way, a plan needs to be put in place ASAP. If you're going to do online learning you MUST give teachers time to plan, support and plenty of professional development on how to effectively implement student learning. Teachers must be accountable for student engagement. Online learning MUST be engaging, not just assignments and fill in the blanks. You need to find a way for students to have PHYSICAL BOOKS AND MATERIALS.
7/20/2020 20:01:55	Kathrin	Wohlford	Parents everywhere	Wichita	Please do the right thing and DELAY the school opening as the Governor has outlined. Save Our future leaders and their families.
7/20/2020 20:02:07	Katie	Nease	My Family, My school	Clyde	Please don't delay school. My children are in a stable home and still are aching for school. Imagine those kids that have been at home since March and need their teacher's care, their classroom structure, stability and social, emotional and academic needs fulfilled. We got this! Allow for District Choice!
7/20/2020 20:02:18	Jada	K		Wichita	Mandatory temperature checks for everyone entering the building?! Have you seen the sizes of our schools in Sedgwick County? I can't think of anyone else more out of touch with reality than the KS governor and the KS Dept. of Education. Pulling my kids out this year!
7/20/2020 20:02:28	Mary	Allison	None	Sedan	Please delay the starting dates for schools in Kansas. It is not safe for teachers and students. Their needs to be strong safety measures in place as well before reopening schools. Masks and social distancing should be ordered at the very least. Thank you for the chance to comment on this issue.
7/20/2020 20:02:30	Jane	Jackson	USD 500 - Pre K	Kansas City	I feel very uncomfortable and unprepared about going back to school, I feel we need the extra time in order to be better prepared, whether in person or online.

7/20/2020 20:02:32	Tracy	Gervais	Usd232 parent	Shawnee	Please vote to return to school and allow athletics. Allow districts to decide if they need more time. Joco has plan and is ready to go. We have had 6 months to analyze how to return safely and should not delay at all but for sure not past 9/8/20 and I worry the gov will keep pushing back. Follow the stats and the science — Ku med and children’s mercy agree with return. Politicians should not over rule that.
7/20/2020 20:02:33	Lindsey	Baribeau		Manhattan	I agree with delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. This will give us teachers time to collaborate and work together to create a well managed plan for the year. I prefer not to just throw something together and everyone, teachers and students, feel like we are not giving our best. Thank you for the consideration.
7/20/2020 20:02:35	Koren	Dechant	Usd352	Goodland	Please do not agree to the governors “one size fits all” approach to education and the delaying of the states of the school year. Our children needs to be at school. Their education depends on it. Even trying the best they can teachers cannot deliver what the students need off site. The need the support of in person education. Not to mention the thousands of children state wide that are low income that need to be at school, it really is their safe place. As someone that works for the district it breaks my heart knowing that these students are not able to be at school.
7/20/2020 20:02:36	Ashley	Lesser		Dodge city	I feel that the Board of Education should uphold the governor’s order to delay schools until after Labor Day. This will give districts time to be ready to meet all the safety requirements necessary to reopen schools in a safe and organized way. I was extremely disappointed to see the response from district 6’s member stating that this time is not necessary and should be up to local decision. One reason she gave for this is that schools have had months to think about this and are already ready to go. As someone who is an educator and has multiple family members in multiple districts who are educators I can tell you this statement is a lie and a gross misrepresentation of what is happening in schools right now in every district. We are not ready. We need the time and training to be ready. Please put your political agendas aside and do what is best for our students, staff and teachers and uphold the governor’s mandate to delay the opening of schools.
7/20/2020 20:02:37	Ben	Burdick		Wichita	Comment removed for profanity
7/20/2020 20:02:40	Destiny	Love		Chanute	I feel like it is very important for our children to get back to school to socialize with other students and teachers face to face. I also feel fall sports is very important and will bring some normalcy back to their lives including camaraderie with their teammates.
7/20/2020 20:02:40	Jessica	Thompson	Kansas Educator	Kansas City	Please uphold Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the opening of school to September. As an educator at a high school in Wyandotte County, I am concerned with the increasing cases in Kansas and Missouri. Delaying the start of school allows for district administration and stakeholders to digest the guidelines set forth by KSDE, develop a plan to reopen schools, and prepare teachers and families.  Prematurely opening schools puts all Kansans at risk.
7/20/2020 20:02:48	Erica	Arnold		Overland Park	Until cases decline, I don’t feel it is safe to put our children or teachers in a position where they could contract this illness. Please delay in-person school at least until after Labor Day for areas experiencing increasing case counts.
7/20/2020 20:02:52	Jessica	Kowalewski	My classroom in Lansing	Lansing	I agree with the order. We should wait until after Labor Day to open schools!
7/20/2020 20:02:58	Linda	Tekuelve		Leavenworth/Lansing	Keep our students and staff safe!
7/20/2020 20:03:12	Rebekah	Downing		Lawrence	We need to follow the governor delay. Lawrence has not even been able to keep Boys and Girls Club open all summer. We can catch up on school but we shouldn't risk our kids, teachers and school staff just to get back to normal.
7/20/2020 20:03:12	Jenna	Ludvick	None	Shawnee, ks	Open the schools with in person classes when originally planned. No delays no online, for all, if people are afraid to let their kids leave home, give them the option of remote learning . Thank you
7/20/2020 20:03:15	Brandon	Hada	Nickerson High School	Hutchinson	My children will NOT wear a mask! I will file lawsuit after lawsuit if they are told to wear one!



7/20/2020 20:03:22	Amber	Cooper		Salina	I think schools should open when they were originally scheduled. Delaying school opening closer to cold/flu season doesn't make any sense. Also, kids should be in school, face-to-face with a teacher, like normal. Two working-parent families and single parent families are going to struggle to manage remote learning and/or a hybrid model. I don't want my kindergartener to sit in front of a screen all day long in order to learn. And who are a lot of these parents going to rely on when they have to work? Grandparents. The older, most vulnerable generation, who we are trying to protect will be at a greater risk because they will now be watching their grandchildren during the day. Please consider having children in school, on time.
7/20/2020 20:03:26	Krista	Miller		Topeka	I feel the extra 3 weeks will give school districts time to plan and prepare. Teachers need time to prepare as well. We need to look for what is best for students and families and staff and that's keeping everyone healthy and safe.
7/20/2020 20:03:34	Brooke	Winter	USD 268 Cheney School	109 N Washington Cher	I feel the delay of school for our healthy, small town is a poor decision. We are ready, willing and able to start school in August. This is the viewpoint of the majority of our staff and parents. Please consider that a one size fits all approach to dealing with Covid is not a fair or responsible way to make decisions. Thank you!
7/20/2020 20:03:34	Tyson	Schroeder	High School Teacher	Dodge City	The rate of infection and mortality rate for children is next to nothing. You have a better chance of drowning. We need to get back to school with all of the normalness that we had before the shutdown. This includes all the extracurricular activities! You say follow the science. I guess I would say follow the science. The dangers to students outside of school is greater than this virus. Mental health issues, suicide, self harm, abuse in all shapes and forms. I fear we are not thinking about these other issues and are only focused on this one. I personally had one of my students take his own life back in April. Was it because of the lockdown? Not being in school? The hopelessness of the world? I don't know, what I do know is that if we don't get back in the classroom with face to face teaching we will see more students attempt and complete suicide. I would encourage you to not vote with the governor's executive order to delay the start of school? What was the reason? Because of the numbers? Do you really think the numbers will be lower 3 weeks from now? And then what? Delay another 3 weeks? You have to go and go now and put out the fires at a local level when needed.
7/20/2020 20:03:49	Nicole	Wilson	My children	Lakin	So who is buying all these masks? And who is responsible when a child becomes dizzy, nauseous or sick from breathing their own CO2 for 8 hrs a day 5 days a week? Or worse if they pass out and injure themselves or God forbid die due to this??  Not to mention how much masks can compromise the immune system. Not exactly the smartest move during a pandemic????
7/20/2020 20:03:55	Alisha	Gibb	Parent of school age child	Latham	Our children NEED to be back in school, sooner rather than later. The fatality rate and hospitalizations evidence is not in support of delays and mandates ordered by the governor. I feel strongly that each district should be able to implement the appropriate return to their classrooms. This has never been a one size fits all issue. We are a very rural district with little to no cases.  I am NOT in support of the mask mandate in any way, shape or form. The general adult population can't properly wear masks, yet we expect children to wear these all day without touching their faces, pulling them down or playing with them. This is absurd. For those who wish to wear them, by all means let them. But for parents who don't have the same feelings the mandate should be revoked.  The bottom line is that children thrive when surrounded by friends, teachers and structure. The past five months have been anything but structured. My children are blessed to be in a safe, loving home. The fact is that there are too many that rely on school for a safe haven and good meal. Please don't delay this any further.
7/20/2020 20:03:56	Emily	McBee	Olathe School District	Olathe	Please vote to push class starting date back to Sept 8
7/20/2020 20:04:06	Sandra	Cromwell	USD 437	Topeka	I appreciate Governor Kelly's approach of using data and science to support her decisions. We must keep students and staff safe.
7/20/2020 20:04:15	Christy	May	Parent of JR high and middle schooler	Cimarron	I wish we would not delay that long. Our area doesn't have many cases, starting the end of August would be reasonable. Allowing sports to start practicing would help keep kids busy in our small town and not get anymore couped up. My little special needs boy needs his therapist and to get back to school.

7/20/2020 20:04:36	Jeff	Maska	Concern Ed citizen	Hays, ks	Delay opening school until after Labor Day
7/20/2020 20:04:43	Ann	Heise	USD 490	Wichita	Delaying the start of school gives us teachers time to make learning more safe and meaningful with our covid cases increasing. Please consider our desires to provide quality and meaningful education to the children of Kansas while not risking the health and safety of teachers, staff and students. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:04:44	J	Leonard		Topeka	As a parent of two school-aged children (elementary and middle school) in Shawnee county, I feel very strongly about the need for our children to be in and return to school in a classroom setting for their mental and psychological health and well being. As I write this today, our children have already been out of school for more than 20 weeks, as our Governor was the first in the nation to cancel schools in March and is now attempting to further delay our children from returning. It is my sincere hope that the SBE take into consideration the desire of parents like myself, and several others in our community, that do want our children (safely) back in school. More than anything, I want you to hear and understand the position of parents such as myself that are not necessarily on board with the Governor's plan and order to delay returning to school.
7/20/2020 20:04:46	Marcy	Ranfled		Valley Center	I think it is in the best interest of our children NOT to wear masks at school for any reason. Kids cases and deaths are EXTREMELY low. If a child feels sick they may stay at home. When will the children be able to go to school with out a mask? If this virus is here to stay, then we need to deal with that and not wear masks for the rest of our lives. Please, for the sake of humanity, do not require masks at school.
7/20/2020 20:04:47	Jennifer	Simmons	USD 352	Goodland	I honestly don't know how I feel...whatever is best to protect our children and teachers and staff is the best decision. I can see the benefits but at the same time what if an outbreak occurs after school starts... what will happen? I am also concerned about the masks... I have children with asthma, one being severe. I wish I had a better response and I pray for guidance for everyone in this situation!
7/20/2020 20:04:48	Caitlin	Sotelo	Alta Brown Elementary	Garden City	Please consider following the governors order. While in Garden City we have worked hard to make a plan and even had committees going before the plan came out, the extra time will only help the safety and health of students and staff. I teach in a kindergarten self contained special education classroom with 5 other adults and 15 students some of whom are medically fragile. These students don't know how to cover their mouths or sneeze into their arms. The extra time will give us time to get necessary supplies and come up with procedures to keep everyone safe!
7/20/2020 20:05:03	Morgan	Owen		Colby	No Delay
7/20/2020 20:05:07	Linda	Nowak	Lansing parent/teacher	Lansing	Please give our schools the extra time they need to figure out how to best serve our students and teachers. Keep Gov. Kelly's order.
7/20/2020 20:05:15	KyLeigh	Wilson	Usd 443 and usd 613	Dodge City	Start school on time online and move to in person when safe without masks.
7/20/2020 20:05:16	Kim	Niehues	Olathe Schools	Olathe	I support the decision of governor Kelly's of waiting to start until after Labor Day!
7/20/2020 20:05:16	LeeAnn	Hulse		Overland Park	Open the schools on time but be safe about it. These kids havent had organized schooling in 5 mths
7/20/2020 20:05:26	LIZ	BAIR		WICHITA	I would rather be safe then sorry. If there is a 1% chance my family can contract this, it is too much a risk. I back Governor Kelly 100%.
7/20/2020 20:05:37	Ashlea	Marsh		Concordia	Open us up in August!
7/20/2020 20:05:51	Naomi	Sevart		Wichita	Please vote to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. As a kindergarten teacher, there is nothing more that I want to meet my new students, however, I think it needs to be done later than August. The safety of all school personnel and their families and students and their families is more important than starting school a bit earlier. Teachers need time to learn new safety procedures and protocols and for preparing safe learning environments for all. Delaying the start of the school year will allow us to do so.
7/20/2020 20:05:54	Crystal	Ludowese	USD 297 St Francis Ele	Goodland	Delaying is fine. BUT can you please help with the mandatory masks in small children?? PLEASE. 10 hours a day (including bus time) is far to long for my 7 and 8 year olds to wear masks. Thank you

					<p>I am a teacher in Louisburg, KS and my child is also a student in the district. I am writing to ask you to approve Governor Kelly's executive order regarding the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>The executive order postpones the start of our school year by a few weeks. This provides valuable time for educators as we have the monumental task of creating the best, multi-faceted plan possible in unprecedented, ever changing times. We must have a solid plan for safety and learning before we enter into the school year. The science and statistics surrounding this virus are changing daily. The rate of progression for this virus in our local communities is also increasing each day. It is imperative that your vote be based on the most recent data and scientific discovery from reputable sources. After all, that is what we would expect of our students.</p> <p>When Governor Kelly's state-wide mask mandate was left up to individual counties we saw that the majority of counties refused to uphold it. This resulted in most counties experiencing increases in COVID-19 cases at higher rates than if masks would have been required. This was an unnecessary and costly mistake. Many counties and/or cities have already back-tracked and now have voted to uphold the mask order after cases increased drastically. We cannot afford mistakes to be made at local levels that endanger our students and staff and jeopardize the best chance we have for a successful school year. Some decisions are too important to be left to chance and the hope that others make responsible choices. The students and teachers, like myself, should not be subjects in a local control experiment.</p> <p>One of the history standards that I am responsible for teaching is that choices have consequences. As I take my students through the civilizations of history we study leaders, the choices they made, and the consequence that resulted. Some choices helped lead to success of civilizations and other choices, unfortunately, led to disaster for civilizations. I ask each of you one question. When future students learn of our Kansas history during this pandemic, and they will, what leadership will you be remembered for?</p> <p>Please vote to approve the executive order so that we, as educators and parents, have this time to better understand and adapt to the health crisis that we are now faced with. Our students deserve only the best from all of us.</p>
7/20/2020 20:05:59	Tiffany	Musil	USD416	Louisburg	
7/20/2020 20:06:10	Sara	Olson	Kansas City Kansas US	Lenexa	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's executive order. Protect the lives of students, their families, and school staff. As elected officials, you have a moral imperative to govern, and passing the buck by saying "It is a local control issue" seems like a way to skirt around taking responsibility for our state's schools. Sometimes the right decision may not be popular, but you must put Kansan lives above the drive to "get back to normal." It's not normal, and pretending everything is fine to placate the squeaky-wheel constituents will have devastating consequences for Kansas families.
7/20/2020 20:06:14	Brendan	Burke	None	Salina	Please keep our children and teachers safe by keeping schools closed.
7/20/2020 20:06:22	Christina	Nelson		Manhattan	Please support our Governor on this executive order. She is trying to keep our children safe, as well as faculty and staff.
7/20/2020 20:06:26	Kendra	Kelley	Colby High School	Colby	I would prefer school and sports to start on the normal time
7/20/2020 20:06:33	Kelly	Seward	Olathe School District	Olathe	Please do not start school until after Labor Day!!
7/20/2020 20:06:41	B	K		lebo	Please vote to delay the start of school. It is not safe for teachers or students. If lives are lost due to schools opening too soon, that's on you - board members. I don't know how you could ever live with yourselves knowing you had the opportunity to prevent it. Just one life lost is one too many. Please don't make this political. If you truly care about students, their lives, their families, their education, and those that educate them, then you know there is no way you could safely open schools yet. We learn more and more about this virus every day - delaying school a few weeks can only help us be better prepared and give us more information on how to proceed.
7/20/2020 20:06:42	Josh	Simmons	USD 352	Goodland	no delay
7/20/2020 20:06:56	Melanie	Remp	USD 500	Mission	I love my students more than anything, but I know they are already at risk due to food insecurity and pre-existing conditions. We can operate virtually and still provide services like food for students. Getting sick could be deadly for my students and their families. Give us time to figure out appropriate resources that will keep our students and families safe.

7/20/2020 20:07:04	Susan	Blochberger	Shawnee Mission reside	Lenexa, KS	I support the governor's order to postpone KS schools start date to Labor Day. Schools need time and personal protective equipment to start with the recommendations that need to be considered. Organization in school buildings is going to be even more challenging, in light of the things teachers & staff need to do to be adequately prepared. PLEASE consider the mental wellbeing and health risks of the people you are asking to do the work and listen to health professionals. Stress DOES impact the ability to be effective instructors. It DOES impact school families. It DOES impact mental health. Delaying the opening of schools while Covid 19 cases have increased is also in the best interest of staff and students, as it will hopefully, limit the number of times schools have to start and stop in-person instruction. Please do not make this a political battle but consider what is best in a highly unusual health situation. Thank you!!
7/20/2020 20:07:05	Amber	Gray	Parent	Sterling	I believe that our state is not a one size fits all. I believe that us smaller communities where numbers are low can still start school with Protections in place for all involved. Our school district has already made plans on how to handle the start of school and do so safely. For those that don't feel safe they have the option of online schooling. I realize No matter the decision people won't be happy so I feel this option is best to suit each district based on what they are comfortable with. Tks for your consideration!!
7/20/2020 20:07:09	Allison	Edwards	Blue valley schools	Overland park	We can't have large social gatherings or have funerals and attend weddings with/for loved ones why would we send our children to school. It only takes one child or teacher to get sick and shut it all down Again. It isn't worth it. Yes our educators love our children endlessly but why put them in danger and then they take it home to their families especially those of us that have been so committed to just stay home and not risk anything.
7/20/2020 20:07:12	SERENA	Fellers		Topeka	I am so thankful for this executive order. It will save lives. There are other states who are choosing to open up next month. Let's keep our children safe and watch how the other states choose to deal with the virus, and learn from them so we CAN open safely and efficiently in September. I beg of you to please approve this delay and keep our children safe. I have two kids. One who is a liver transplant recipient. Please show my family that his life matters just as much as the others. Follow the science. This won't last forever. Our kids will get back into the classroom. But for now, it's just not safe. I've been an educator, a student and now a parent of a student. I know the implications this executive order come with, but in the end, it keeps our children, our vulnerable and our teachers safe.
7/20/2020 20:07:10	Julie	Childerd	Starside	De Soto	Schools should start on August 13th like originally planned.
7/20/2020 20:07:23	April	Frederick	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	Please support the executive order, for my own children as well as myself and my students
7/20/2020 20:07:38	Whitney	Matthews	USD500	Olathe, KS	I am concerned that my already under funded building will not be able to keep students and staff safe. I am severely immune compromised and worry that rushing back without proper training and enough safety precaution will result in my death.
7/20/2020 20:07:40	Robin	Kingeter	Johnson County Resider	Overland Park	Please delay the start of school for the health and well-being of our students, their families, and the people who work in schools. It is not worth risking lives.
7/20/2020 20:07:40	Emily	Bryan		Olathe	If we delay opening schools, it'll only push kids further behind. The longer it gets pushed out, the more likelihood we will have school closures going into winter months due to covid, abstinence due to the flu, bad weather, etc. They need as much in person school in before covid causes closure or online schooling. By labor day it will be 6 months since they have been in school! As a working parent, it was very difficult to navigate 2 kids schedules and online learning and it will be especially more difficult with more requirements and expectations with online schooling in the fall
7/20/2020 20:07:48	Gregg	Glennemeier		Norton	Do not delay the start of school
7/20/2020 20:07:51	Nicole	Ratzlaff		Olathe	We support the delay and all measures to keep Kansans safe.
7/20/2020 20:08:01	Garrett	Hiebert	Goessel USD 411	Newton	I support the executive order as a reasonable first step to protect the health and safety of students, staff, and community members. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:08:11	Marcy	Saylan		9421 West 163rd place.	Delay school for 20-21 school year
7/20/2020 20:08:24	Nichelle	Holinde	Mom of students	Great Bend	Comment removed due to profanity

7/20/2020 20:08:31	Kelli	Bennett		Wichita	Working for a KS School District, I think it is best to do school online until at least January. I am also a mother to 8 kids that attend various school districts in the area. I realize that children are supposedly less likely to get the disease, but I don't want my son or daughter to be the 1 case that does. Why are you asking us to send our children back or teach in schools yet many meetings have been held online. Sending hundreds of kids to a school building is asking for trouble. Please consider your own son or daughter when voting today!!!
7/20/2020 20:08:35	Brandie	Brock	USD 102	Cimarron	Do what is best for students and teachers. If you vote to open at regular time, stop voting to cut funding. We will need more funds to keep the schools sanitized and prevent illness from spreading. I would suggest funding for masks for teachers.
7/20/2020 20:08:37	Megan	young		Spring Hill	Allow school sports and at least a hybrid option. These kids need school!
7/20/2020 20:08:40	Lacy	Wolters	Great Bend High School	Great Bend	Our district needs the extension of time to ensure that the very best safety precautions are in place prior to reopening buildings for students and staff. Barton County is experiencing an uptick in cases that needs to be taken into consideration as we move forward with the reopening plans. As a parent and fellow educator, I support the decision to delay school until September.
7/20/2020 20:08:41	Lindsay	Sheets		Hays	Open after Labor Day only if safe
7/20/2020 20:08:44	Rodger	Smith		SHAWNEE	No delay
7/20/2020 20:08:44	Crystal	Shaffer		Topeka	Kids need to be in school. No masks. No masks for teachers either. Masks are a choice not something to force on people. Open the schools and let the kids in. Teach them, feed them, love on them.
7/20/2020 20:08:45	Jennifer	Nickelson	Lansing USD 469	Leavenworth	Please move forward with delaying the school year. This is a once in a lifetime pandemic.
7/20/2020 20:08:52	Erin	Dedrickson	Children of USD232	Shawnee	We feel it is very important to the health and well-being of our children to be in in-person school starting as planned on August 13, 2020. We are willing to abide by any and all safety measures to ensure the commencement of school on time without any delays.
7/20/2020 20:08:53	Jennifer	Payne		Olathe	Our private catholic schools have been preparing for in-person classes for 4 months now. Please don't sign the Governors EOs. Set guidelines and if individual schools can meet the requirements, let them start in person.
7/20/2020 20:08:57	Beth	Schafers		Wichita	Please support Governor Kelly's extension for the start of the school year. A few extra weeks could save lives. It is the responsible thing to do - for our children, our teachers and staff, and our communities. Thank you!
7/20/2020 20:08:58	Jeni	Rainforth	Parents	Spring Hill	Do not delay school read facts and speak with doctors who know the truth.
7/20/2020 20:09:02	Sue	Huff	Myself	Lenexa	Send the children back to school in August. They have missed so much already and they are not afraid. They are braver than the adults about going back to learn and be with their peers.
7/20/2020 20:09:04	Denise	Thomas		Overland Park	School should not be open. Lives are at risk. This is a once in a 100 year pandemic. Safety should be your number one concern. Do not sacrifice teachers and students.
7/20/2020 20:09:06	Teresa	Enneking	Usd312	Hutchinson Ks	I support the Governor!
7/20/2020 20:09:08	Maureen	Hurd	Olathe Voter, Resident a	Olathe	I am writing to express support for Governor Kelly's recent order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. I also support how she has handled this pandemic. She shows sound decision making skills based on science and is not pressed to make decisions from political pressures. I believe her good intention is to allow the schools time to prepare and maintain safe standards for the children and the staff who support them in the schools.  As we all know this entire pandemic has made us question everything and while I believe children attending school is extremely important, it is not worth taking chances with their lives and the school personnel who support them everyday. Thank you for your consideration.
7/20/2020 20:09:19	Karen	Rogenmoser		Topeka	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order. Let's keep health of others in mind and not make this a political power play. Thank you for protecting my health and the health of others.
7/20/2020 20:09:23	Toni	Archambault	Lansing Schools	Lansing	I am good with my kids returning to school on schedule. I am comfortable with good cleaning procedures and social distancing. I am ok without them wearing masks, but will support masks if that is the decision.
7/20/2020 20:09:25	Terri	Current		Auburn	I believe it is the best interest of our children to open schools on time and with as little disruption to their normal school experience as possible. Please allow each school board to do what they believe is best for their students and schools. All Kansas schools cannot be lumped together and treated the same. Please do not go along with Governor Kelly's executive order. You have the right and responsibility to override her order. Thank you.

7/20/2020 20:09:26	Deliece	Hofen	parent	Olathe	One child, one staff member losing their life because we didn't delay school until their is a vaccine is truly not worth it. Teachers shouldn't have to risk their lives. Students should not be put at risk either. We need to keep people safe. Maslow's hierarchy. Simple ethics. Please do the right thing. Virtual school only until there is a wide spread use of the vaccine. Then let's get back to in person school and do it really well! Thank you!
7/20/2020 20:09:26	Jennifer	Juliano		Olathe	Please approve the order to delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year. The continued spike in Covid cases makes reopening in-person and on-time dangerous to all students , faculty, and staff at schools. Please keep them all safe by delaying the start in order to hopefully see a decline in cases and a solid plan set forth by all districts to deal with the pandemic.
7/20/2020 20:09:38	Amanda	Newell Green	KCKPS USD 500	Shawnee	The health of our children and families depend on this, please uphold the governors order to delay school.
7/20/2020 20:09:43	Logan	Heine		Alma	Waiting until after Labor Day to start will allow us teachers to get a grasp on how we will be providing instruction as many of our districts haven't even came up with a solid plan yet.
7/20/2020 20:09:50	Patrick	Retz	Self	Wichita	Need more time to develop plan & let outbreak cool down.
7/20/2020 20:10:02	Megan	Holcomb		Eudora	I think the delay of school should be upheld. However, if you decide to strike down this Executive Order in favor of local control I believe you should issue guidelines for the return to in person instruction. In areas where the virus is surging, it should most definitely be delayed, but sadly we can't always depend on the districts to make the right/safe choice, especially when feeling pressured by the State board. And lastly, I find it disconcerting and hypocritical that all these meetings about the return to in person schooling are being held VIRTUALLY. When we are preparing to ask our children (our most precious commodity) and teachers (a shrinking commodity) to enter into rooms for hours at a time while wearing masks and the adults making these decisions are not even doing the same.
7/20/2020 20:10:06	Melissa	Bane-Shelton	my child	Reading	My child attends Lebo Jr.Senior High in Coffey County. Please DO NOT delay opening school. Open on time. No mandatory mask.
7/20/2020 20:10:11	MeLisa	Gonzalez	Teachers	Olathe	Please follow the executive order and delay the start of school. Covid 19 is real and is scary. We need to put more things in place. The delay will help.
7/20/2020 20:10:14	Kendra	Rexroat	Lansing school district 4	Lansing	Yes. Please do not open before Labor Day. Stay closed as long as needed to find a good solution.
7/20/2020 20:10:16	Nyah	Small	Student	Horton	This delay is just a stepping stone into the governor taking control over our entire semester. I failed miserably at online school. My GPA dropped, and I am going into my senior year. If pediatricians recommend we go back, then what's the delay? The longer you keep us away from each other the more our immune systems suffer. If there are parents that are uncomfortable sending their kids to school then they should have the option to either home school or learn online, but don't let that affect everyone else. I am a hands on learner. Stop trying to quarantine the kids who aren't sick. We need our freedom back.

7/20/2020 20:10:18	Meagan	Costantini		Pittsburg, KS	<p>I am a Pittsburg, KS resident and a step-mother of a 14 year old going into her freshman year of high school.</p> <p>Please support schools starting after labor day!</p> <p>I would love to see schools telecommute for the first semester, especially until the spread of the virus is under control.</p> <p>I am high risk due to a chronic illness and so is my husband. We have our daughter half the time, one week on, one week off. Because there is 50% custody we don't really have any say what happens if school is in session. Further my mom is over 70 and high risk and my husband's parents are in their mid 70's and extremely high risk (COPD and one with cancer).</p> <p>If school in session we have to pick between our health and being able to see our daughter. We also have to choose between being able to see and help our parents and our daughter.</p> <p>We take all precautions we can, have groceries delivered, etc. Even if we got 3 extra weeks it would be a blessing for our family.</p> <p>Our family is not alone. I have friends that have lost parents, grandparents, best friends, and other loved ones to this virus. Kids are not immune, their parents are not immune.</p> <p>Even 3 weeks will allow schools to better prepare, science to advance, and for Kansas to see just how this spike in cases will play out. Please support our kids and support the governor's order.</p>
7/20/2020 20:10:27	Shannon	Cockrell	USD 260	Derby	<p>Safety first!!! Until there is more information and supplies can be provided to schools, students, and teachers, I feel the delay is necessary. I am also immuno-compromised and I know several other adults and children who would struggle with the stress of returning to an in person group setting when there is still so much we need to learn about this virus and how we can protect ourselves, our students, and their families. That being said, I miss my coworkers and the students in the elementary school that I work in. This isn't a one-size-fits-all situation so flexibility is important but I strongly support the delay until we can answer more questions and put minds at ease.</p>
7/20/2020 20:10:31	Richard	Bender	Elementary Teacher	Overland Park	<p>Please vote in favor of Gov. Kelly's executive order. It will be impossible safely open up schools right now.</p>
7/20/2020 20:10:31	Devan	Castle	My child	Hoxie	<p>Let the local BOE decide for themselves</p>
7/20/2020 20:10:36	Katie	Murphy	Teacher and Parent	Topeka	<p>Please vote to uphold the order and keeps all students and staff safe</p>
7/20/2020 20:10:37	beth	terlip		frontenac	<p>i am encouraging you to reopen kansas schools as normal. I have 4 kids in use 249 district. I will not send my kids back to school if they are required to wear a mask all day, this is many studies suggesting it is not safe for children and this will be a huge liability for our schools, masks should be optional. I will not enroll my children in frontenac virtual school either. The Spring semester online was less than adequate and my children need more. I am not in favor of a hybrid schedule either. There have been and will be many options for this who are immune compromised or have fear of returning. There should be options for us as well. There has been 1 covid related death in our county (btw the woman overdosed she did not die of covid. she did not even know she had it and neither of her children who live on the home with her contracted it). Our county currently has 5 people hospitalized (no minors) none of which are critical. Our other area hospitals covid patients have decreased as well and we have not yet come close to capacity. Many will not get the vaccine (myself and family included) and even if a vaccine was approved it would likely be even less effective than the flu vaccine, which has been around for years and is only 50% effective. Life must resume for Americans. If elementary age students will in daycare if they are not in school. More children will die of the flu, suicide, abuse, car accidents each year than covid. Open our schools !!!!</p>

7/20/2020 20:10:39	Christy	Chrisman	Spring Hill High School	Spring Hill	I am torn on which way to go. Here are my 2 main thoughts. With all the requirements needed in the schools to attend in person, will this will cause a distraction all the time. Second, what is the protocol if a student or staff test positive to Covid-19? With the numerous intermixing of students in different classrooms this would potentially take out a very high number of students and staff
7/20/2020 20:10:50	Jacqueline	Kennedy	USD469	Lansing	I think it is important to follow the governor's EO to hold the start of school until after Labor Day. Our districts need time to make plans that will work for each building. The logistics of social distancing alone needs careful thought. We also need time to see a decline in cases to determine how to teach our kids: remote learning, in-person learning, or a hybrid of both. I also hope the state BOE will have guidance on how to utilize Professional Development days to pay teachers for this foundation setting and still have days built in to the regular school year to tweak learning as this virus ebbs and flows. I implore you to adopt the governor's guidance.
7/20/2020 20:10:52	Jamie	Blackburn		Dodge City	As a parent, educator, and community member—I stand behind Governor Kelly. Our schools need time to plan and prepare in order to keep everyone as safe as possible.
7/20/2020 20:10:53	Laurie	Hoover		Lenexa	We should absolutely approve the governor's order to delay school. We need time to prepare how to protect our students and staff particularly at the secondary level where the virus is spreading among teenagers. We have many teachers and staff in high risk categories.
7/20/2020 20:10:59	Amanda	Barnett	Mother of 2 school age kids	Riverton	Please consider starting school on time and not delay it. Our kids are already behind from the spring closure. With safety measures placed in person school can be safe. Thank you for the consideration.
7/20/2020 20:11:00	Erin	Gould		Roeland Park	Please delay school start and give everyone a chance to better plan for how to teach remotely. Until KS has the virus under control, we need to keep our distance so our children and teachers can stay safe. I'd rather suspend school for an entire year than have one person die a preventable death.
7/20/2020 20:11:08	DeWayne	Coffman	Self	Kechi	There is never going to be a perfect time to go back to school. Enough with the executive orders and let's get back to work and school!!!!!!
7/20/2020 20:11:10	Allan	Gilson	Concerned parent and li	Olathe	Please follow the governor's guidance. School must be delayed, and may need to go on line for the year. Do not make this issue political. Thank you!
7/20/2020 20:11:17	Annette	Hoskins		Robinson, KS	I am a tax-paying citizen of Brown county. The greater harm will not be the coronavirus, but rather the intellectual, social, mental, and God forbid, in some cases physical, harm done to our kids by delaying school even further. Please vote to re-open our schools on time and get our kids back on schedule! Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:11:17	Kimberly	Courtney	AES and AHS	ASHLAND	Open schools like normal with counties setting their own mask guidelines
7/20/2020 20:11:21	Sally	Dyke	Self	Belleville	Let the local school districts determine best for their school.
7/20/2020 20:11:27	Kristin	Nyberg	Kansas City Kansas Pub	Independence MO	Delaying schools until at least Labor Day gives districts additional weeks to prepare and plan. It is not safe for teachers, staff, students to return to schools until there are no new COVID cases.
7/20/2020 20:11:46	Martha	Slack		PECK	Yes, delay until Sept. 9 to allow flattening of the curve and covid response training for staff.
7/20/2020 20:11:47	Kendra	Marshall		Pleasanton	Do what's best for the safety of everyone involved.
7/20/2020 20:12:09	Alicia	Cooper	USD 450	Tecumseh	The safety measures set out in the executive order in order for schools to be back in session are so extreme they would never be able to be accomplished. Masks all day for all grade levels will be impossible for younger elementary kids. Kids need learning in a school setting, with teachers face to face. Many pediatricians have stated it is safe for kids to return to school. They are experts in that field, we should listen to their advice. It is heartbreaking to me that we have gone from "distance learning is not good enough" to "distance learning will be the only option with these safety mandates in place." Our kids are being robbed of the education they deserve.
7/20/2020 20:12:12	Ashley	Pearcy	Hugoton High School	Hugoton	Open school's as planned!
7/20/2020 20:12:26	Angela	Randall	Concerned parent	Lawrence	I would like you to actually consider the science behind the delay in staying the 2020-21 school year. With the current rise in the number of covid cases in Kansas it does not make sense to start schools now. The three week delay will allow school districts figure out the best plan for their area. If everyone can take this time to wear masks and continue to social distance then we have a chance of lowering those numbers. We've seen the increase in cases in children ages 10-18. What happens when they infect a teacher? Or their parents? Children can receive an education without being but in danger. Our children are not guinea pigs. Teachers shouldn't have to risk their lives. Please vote to delay the start of school.



7/20/2020 20:12:29	Veronica	Murray		Abilene	There is no replacement for in person education at any age. I believe that precautions should be followed and school should start on time, along with sports that have enough coaches, participants, and officials to carry on. Those who are at risk or concerned should be offered an alternative. I also believe that local governing organizations make the best decisions for local conditions and represent the local population, therefore should have the "control".
7/20/2020 20:12:36	Joyce	Harris		Topeka	It has been said multiple times by both Governor Kelly and Dr. Norman that local control is best because they know their communities best. Therefore the the situation of delaying the start of school I believe this decision should be left to the local schools boards and the communities they serve. The "one size fits all" approach is is not in the best interest of the students of the state of Kansas. Thank you for making sure you are doing the very best for the state of Kansas.
7/20/2020 20:12:39	Karen	Thirnton	Teacher, grandparent	Garden City	I believe the decision of when to start school should be left to each local district. If they believe they can start safely as per the agreed upon calendar set, then do so. If they believe they need to wait then they can wait.
7/20/2020 20:12:40	Joanne	Brinsfield	Family	Eudora	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's executive order
7/20/2020 20:12:47	Erika	Courson		Derby	I think school needs to start back soon. My daughter really needs it
7/20/2020 20:12:56	Marla	Hayden		Sabetha	I am a teacher and a parent. I want to go to school as normal as possible. I don't think we should be mandated to wear a mask. It should be up to the parents. I also have an autistic son and he is not going to wear a mask.
7/20/2020 20:13:03	Casey	McCord		Leavenworth	Please support the executive order so that kids and teachers can return to school safely. Lives are at stake.
7/20/2020 20:13:09	Andrew	Bock	Mill Valley High School	Shawnee	I definitely believe that we should delay the start of the school year. Schools need the extra time to get all the necessary supplies ready for the beginning of the year during this uncertain time. Teachers need the extra time to ready their classrooms for proper social distancing practices and to adjust their lesson plans accordingly. Also, many teachers are in age groups that have proven to be at risk when exposed to COVID-19, and they deserve the time to be able to organize their classrooms and do their jobs without fear of being hospitalized or worse. Beyond this, I am an assistant tennis coach, and I desperately want our kids to be able to have a season, even if it is a shortened one. With the recent increase of coronavirus cases in Kansas, it seems that delaying the school year is the best option for keeping our teachers and students safe, as well as increasing the chances for having extracurriculars in the fall/winter. Better safe than sorry.
7/20/2020 20:13:10	Ashley	Niehues		Sabetha	I strongly hope they vote for us to start after Labor Day...I work at the school district and have children attending and I do not think a few extra weeks is too much to ask for. The children and staff both deserve the safest environment possible and need that extra time to prepare. I know for a fact our district could benefit from it and we are a smaller school so I can't even imagine the larger schools. Be proactive and give all the time needed and then start into things slowly to ensure safety verse jumping in too soon and then needing to shut down.
7/20/2020 20:13:20	Erin	Krehbiel	Parent and occupational	De Soto	I think the extra time is critical to get procedures in place too to keep kids safe. In areas where numbers are higher like ours how are we going to quickly test and contact trace to prevent massive outbreaks. Schools need time to plan and prepare. Lives depend on it!
7/20/2020 20:13:23	Jennifer	Mackey		Valley Center	Delay
7/20/2020 20:13:29	Melissa	McGlothlin		Cherryvale	I am in favor of Governor Kelly's executive order and hope you vote to support her decision. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:13:31	Jessica	Parke	Kansas City Kansas Pub	Overland Park	We are not prepared to go back to school in person. I subbed every single day during 3rd quarter due to a sub shortage. We will have an even greater demand for subs and a decreased supply because of Covid. If i am subbing every day again, i will not have the necessary time to plan for my instructing my own students. There are 800 middle schoolers in my school. There is no possible way we can keep them a safe distance from each other or staff. I think it's more important to consider safety now instead of politics. Please keep us safe!

7/20/2020 20:13:31	Sara	Miller	Rock Creek High School	Westmoreland	<p>I am a public educator in USD #323, Rock Creek, and I have taught high school for 30 years throughout northeast Kansas. I am writing in order to urge you to support Governor Kelly's executive order to push the start of public schools until after Labor Day. We need those three extra weeks to see a decrease in COVID-19 and the effects of a statewide mask order. We also need time to put a plan in place for our district and to buy necessary supplies to safely reopen schools.</p> <p>I am very concerned about the health of my students, my colleagues, and myself once school begins. Please take Governor Kelly's order into consideration. In addition, please rise above partisan issues to help our state. I am a registered Republican but I still very much support Governor Kelly, because she is putting the health of Kansans first. Thank you for considering my request and for serving the students of Kansas.</p>
7/20/2020 20:13:33	Haylee	Boulanger		Eureka	Students are going to weight room, camps, tournaments, previously scheduled scrimmages in their leagues, etc, so what would be different than practices and scheduled games?
7/20/2020 20:13:47	Scott	Tempero	Myself	Ellis	I am aware of the need for safety for kids and faculty in its importance, it is important to start schools before Labor Day. Delaying strains the parents financial resources, and the kids need for socialization. I am in favor of parents choice as to their children attending in class, or online.
7/20/2020 20:13:48	Ashley	Manrose		Topeka	Please do something about this executive order! Our students can not be expected to attend school this way, let alone having our teachers trying to enforce this. Our students are already behind, lets not continue the trend.
7/20/2020 20:13:54	Kristina	Carlson		Olathe	Please delay the start of school for the safety of our community. Online only the first quarter would be ideal.
7/20/2020 20:14:09	Dr. Keith	Ratzlaff	Blue Valley Parent	Olathe	I support Kelly at this time. Keep them closed. Online learning until we know more.
7/20/2020 20:14:11	Leta	Logan	Myself	Caldwell	This is the worst thing I have ever heard. I will be forced to pull my children from the school So that they may have a better chance at learning. I AM BITTERLY DISAPPOINTED IN YOUR LACK OF GOOD SENSE.
7/20/2020 20:14:28	Leslie	Foster		Olathe	I know you are getting lots of comments so I will keep mine short. I am asking that you please vote in favor of Gov. Kelly's EO to delay the start of school.
7/20/2020 20:14:29	Jennifer	Shields	Cherry Street Youth Center	Chanute	We would like the Board to consider each region separately. The needs and effects of COVID 19 are different around the state. What is right for metro areas is not right for rural areas. Small districts vs larger districts needs also vary. One size can't fit all.
7/20/2020 20:14:35	Marla	Knaus	Quinter Public Schools	Quinter Kansas	We need these kids in school with no masks and we don't need to delay! This virus is a hoax trying to control us! Let's stand up for our rights
7/20/2020 20:14:40	Don	Degenhardt	None	Hays	Wait until after Labor Day
7/20/2020 20:14:49	Jennifer	Barnhart	Parent, school employee	Overland Park	I write as a parent and employee. I implore you to please accept the Governor's order and delay the start of school. The order allows for more time for the numbers of positive COVID tests to go down and for districts to make necessary changes to improve the safety for students and school employees. I want my students to be learning and safe, I miss them dearly, but we cannot have 700 middle schoolers (25-28) in a classroom. My child cannot be in a high school, with 1500 or so students. I understand the concern about students social emotional health, being out of school was challenging. However, in my opinion as a mental health professional, I believe them being in school under the stressful situation and environment will be more detrimental to staff and students' mental health. Please give the gift of time, it's a very small price to pay for safety. On the other hand students and staff getting sick and/or dying is an unacceptable price to pay. Thank you for your time and service.
7/20/2020 20:14:56	Gina	Hester		Cherryvale	I don't know if school needs to be delayed because I'm afraid schools will be shut down at some point because of exposures. I want masks to be mandatory though, we need to protect not only our children but also the people who take care of them.
7/20/2020 20:14:56	Sherry	Brenton	USD232	Lenexa	Delayed start in case of remote learning. It is a great way for teachers to prepare for the best possible lessons during this difficult time and to slow the spread and see where we are after Labor day.
7/20/2020 20:14:58	Mindy	Waldron	USD233/ USD232	Shawnee	As a usd232 parent and usd233 teacher I am asking that you uphold the EO to postpone the start of school. This will allow proper protocols to be put into place, allow teachers to adequately prepare for a new way to teach, allow our State Covid numbers to drop and allow districts to come up with a plan on how to open while keeping all stakeholders safe.
7/20/2020 20:15:01	angela	olmstead		derby	Let the kids return to school. It is the best thing for them.

7/20/2020 20:15:22	Shara	Reilly	Parent and teacher in US	De Soto	Please support the governor's order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 20:15:27	Brett	Schreuder	Farmers	Cawker City	Open schools regular schedule
7/20/2020 20:15:29	Barbara	Geers	Retired career KS public	Shawnee	I fully support the delayed start. The added time gives school districts time to make necessary adjustments in staff assignments, student assignments, and effective delivery for the fall opening. Nothing will be easy and they need support to make anything work under these conditions. Thank you in advance for working to keep everyone safe and educated under healthy, well planned systems.
7/20/2020 20:15:31	Lynsi	Martinez	Circle Greenwich Eleme	Benton	I fully support the governors executive order to delay school until after Labor Day. My school is in Sedgwick County, and we have seen a surge of cases within the last few weeks. I have twin 3 month old daughters and a 4 year old son at home who I need to protect. I love my job and I miss my students but we need to be smart and safe about reopening. We shouldn't just consider if the kids could get the virus or how well they have been shown to recover, but how they have family members that may compromised if they brought the virus home. We need to see a steady decline in cases in order for schools to reopen face to face instruction.
7/20/2020 20:15:37	Molly	C	Elementary school	Frontenac	Close until after Labor Day. Give the school time to prepare for the year.
7/20/2020 20:15:37	Jeremy	Denney	None	Great Bend	Delaying the start of the school year was the right choice. Everybody needs to be safe - students and teachers.
7/20/2020 20:15:38	Reid	Frohlich	My family	Scott city ks	Do not delay school. The risk of delaying education is far greater than the risk of COVID.
7/20/2020 20:15:44	Jessica	Zemler	N/a - I am a parent with	Olathe, KS	I urge you to accept the governor's executive order delaying the start of school. I am a parent with kids in 5th and 2nd grade. We all want our children to resume their schooling, but doing so when many districts across the state are not ready will ultimately spread the virus to our children, teachers and parents. School districts were just provided the plan from the state last week and they only today got details about the executive order mandating masks and sanitization of hands. They need more time to be able to fully comply with these requirements and protect their staff, students, and families. And parents that have no other choice than to send their children to in-person schooling this fall especially those who do so due to home circumstances or work circumstances deserve to be as protected as possible from this deadly virus. Please vote to uphold the executive order. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:15:44	Amy	Schafer		Bel Aire	The kids should not return to school in person at all until this is under control. Too many kids will not take proper steps in keeping safe and healthy! Plus, there are parents who have serious health issues and have been doing everything in their power to stay healthy and clear of the virus throughout all of this. If just one child returns to school with this virus because parents wanted them in class and not at home, this could spread like a wild fire putting each student attending school and their family in harms way. This is just too risky and classes should resume online until the numbers are not rising at a fast rate like it currently is doing.

7/20/2020 20:15:46	Trisha	Alexander		<p>My question is how is 3 weeks going to make a difference? This virus isn't going away in 3 wks or for the next year. How are the children going to hear their teacher when they are wearing a mask? I can't hear the cashier when they are 2 ft in front of me. How do we expect kids to keep a mask on all day without messing with it? Keeping hands away from the face is more important and this is just encouraging it. Making kids use sanitizer every hour...God gave us bacteria on our skin for a very important reason. We will see an increase in illnesses just from this. My kids pediatrician said the number of prescriptions he has written for depression has sky rocketed...how is this helpful to our kids? I have a kiddo who is dyslexic and if we start then go to online that will not benefit him and he will fall behind. Inhave a senior who can't even get into an act because they have cancelled or moved them back or they are full because of limitations on amount of people you can have in area. How is that helpful to him? He has desires to play college football or basketball and has spent alot of time preparing for this since he was in 4th grade ..hownis this fair to him? The kids aren't even allowed ro practice until school resumes even though teams have been lifting weights with no issues a summer. By not allowing school, not allowing practice this pushes season back even further...and this is what is best for my child?? No it isn't. Studies disproved this...kida need activities and school and friends. Kids have not been affected. Do we need ro protect elderly and immune compromised...yes...but no one is telling them they have ro get out. Let parents choose whether they want to send their kids...if they don't choose an online platform, don't want to play sports or watch them? Don't, bit let the one who do choose to do so. Three weeks isn't going to change much...schools are already prepared and if they aren't three weeks isn't going to change much. We as parents are asked ro go ahead and enroll our children, pay for enrollment and yet we have no plan or no idea what is going on! You guys are taking away opportunities and moments these seniors will never have again...ever! When you were a senior would you have liked that? Would you have wanted your year to go on as it should and play a sport or activity some for the very last time?? These are things that are important to them so why are we taking that from them?? To make us feel better prepared?? I say it again this virus will still be here in 3 weeks! I ask that you take all of this into consideration and remember these are things that can and will affect them...especially my senior! Do what is right and let the parents decide what is best for their children. At least let counties make the decision because some places are not as affected as others and even then we don't know if numbers are correct. We have 11 active cases in McPherson, 1 hospitalization and 0 deaths. We are changing the course of education for 11 active cases?? It doesn't add up! Thank you for allowing me to give my honest opinion. Sincerely, mom of 5</p>
7/20/2020 20:15:49	Adam	Kinzer		<p>It is time to get back to the new normal, and the best way to do that is get kids back into the classroom. I'm ready to do what I do best and that is teaching young people. As an educator I will take all the necessary precautions to not only keep myself safe, but also my fellow co-workers but most importantly my students. Lastly I have a daughter who will be an 8th grader this year and my wife who is also a teacher have no worries about sending her to school. She needs to get back to some sort of normalcy, with her studies, extracurriculars and with her friends. Please open up the schools. Thank you</p>
7/20/2020 20:15:49	Called	Schraeder		<p>Vote to reject Governor Kellys' mandate to delay the start of school and also vote to reject the mandate for all children, staff, and visitors to wear masks. We all know how important the school routine is regarding the development of our children. Take into account the setback that our children have already incurred by concluding the previous year so soon.</p>
7/20/2020 20:16:00	Kellie	North	Teacher	<p>I want to return to school. I want to teach my children, but I desire to do all of this SAFELY! The information we get regarding COVID, changes from moment to moment (depending on who you listen to) I listen to doctors/scientists, who have been very clear stating that it is not safe to return to school. It is not safe for anyone! I have diabetes, if I get this deadly virus, I could die. Additionally, there is no way that we can be expected to keep children in masks, keep them social distancing, make sure they are practicing proper hygiene, comfort them with ALL the emotions that overwhelm them, and teach them! No one can! I implore you to do the right and safe thing, open school only when it is safe to do so.</p>

7/20/2020 20:16:09	Amanda	Lesser	USD 443	Dodge City	I am in favor of delaying the start of school. Districts are not prepared and the spike in cases are worse now than when school buildings were closed in the first place. I live in a district where many of our students have huge families in town and/or live in multi-family homes. That factor was a reason why COVID-19 spread so quickly in Dodge City, and schools were closed at that point in time. The spread will only become worse if we open, even with precautions. I believe it is necessary that all districts propose models for in person, hybrid, and distance learning. At the same time, districts need time to create those models. The models thrown together at the end of spring break worked, but not effectively nor efficiently. In my district especially, it was a flop. To open schools up at their normally scheduled dates will result in a lot of trial and error learning and trial and error safety precautions, something our state can't afford right now. Ultimately, no one will be happy with whatever is decided, but the safety of our students, their families, staff, and their families come first. I do not want to sacrifice any lives just for the sake of opening on time.
7/20/2020 20:16:09	J	Kornis		Shawnee	Please OPEN in person school with an online option for those who wish to stay at home. Sports open to all. I'm a substitute teacher with a high school student and college children. I need to work. My college kids need in person instruction. My high schooler need a life back to normal.
7/20/2020 20:16:16	Morgan	Peterson		Overland Park	Please uphold the governors executive order to keep schools closed an extra 3 weeks. People who work in schools are scared to go back and so far our districts have not provided any information on what the school year will look like. We do not have enough time without pushing the start date back to prepare for what in person teaching might look like or have enough time to prepare for online only at this point. Districts need more time to see if cases go down and if it might be safer for us to just keep learning at home. How many student and teacher lives are you willing to sacrifice just so kids can be in school? Because personally I think the number should be zero.
7/20/2020 20:16:21	Kimberly	Parks		Salina	I feel this should be left as a local decision. Let the community decide what is best.
7/20/2020 20:16:21	Jana	Becker		Plainville	Please allow our students to start on time as they are already falling behind as some parents are not able to "teach" at home while trying to hold down full time jobs to provide for their children. As a health care worker, I can not take off work to make sure my child is able to fully participate in all classroom work/activities. The children miss each other and are becoming depressed and confused. Also, please reconsider the mask order for younger children. You run MORE of a risk of sickness and exposure to things by incorrect wearing of a mask as well as little hands touching, pulling, and not understanding the proper ways. Adults have a hard time wearing these correctly and you expect my 5 year old to?! Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/20/2020 20:16:22	Chrysanne	Grund	Wallace County Kansas	Wallace	Please allow local school boards to make decisions about the start and continuation of school. Situations are different all across the state and we need to get kids back to school when we can.
7/20/2020 20:16:24	Channing	Hawks	Family	Hugoton	I support starting after Labor Day but believe it should be up to each county and their school board and local health officials  I do not support wearing masks as I believe they are a false sense of security and also believe they make people touch their face more than not wearing them.
7/20/2020 20:16:24	Linda	Meyers	Olathe school teacher	Overland Park	Please consider the health and safety of students, staff and the community when considering how school should happen this semester.
7/20/2020 20:16:26	Lindsay	Murray		Olathe	Don't keep me alive by keeping me from living. Please open schools and choose faith and good management over fear and hysteria.
7/20/2020 20:16:44	Courtney	Bell		Wichita	Please approve the governor's order. To do otherwise would be monumentally irresponsible, considering recent increases in Kansas Covid 19 spread and the new South Korean study that shows 10-19 year olds spread the virus at the same rate (if not more) than adults. Even with safety measures in place, there are too many variables that could contribute to community spread. Allow health officials to monitor the situation and districts to adjust to the second executive order, as well as the 1100 page guiding document you provided.
7/20/2020 20:16:50	Amanda	Snyder	Parent of 3 USD271 kid	Stockton	I'm for following CDC guidelines. Delay opening schools and protect both our staff, kids, and the families that they all come home to. It is our civic duty to protect those around us.

7/20/2020 20:16:55	Abby	Powell	Haysville GEAR UP	Wichita, Kansas	Given the continuing rise in covid cases in the state of Kansas and in Sedgwick county, I think it is best to delay the start of school with the hopes that the cases will be declining by the opening date in September. If school opens once cases are declining and smaller in number (whenever that may be) it will be safer for students, teachers, staff and families in our community.
7/20/2020 20:17:01	Amanda	Blackburn		Labette county	Please keep teachers and students safe!!
7/20/2020 20:17:26	Rebecca	Bachman	Parent	Hiawatha	My husband and I strongly feel that school needs to start as initially planned in August. If we postpone it until after Labor Day, it will directly coincide with the start of cold and flu season, and we all know Covid isn't going away anytime soon. Let's don't waste time, start school soon! We fear that school will have to go completely virtual before winter is over, so let's get started on the in person schooling as soon as possible! Virtual learning is not the same, and these kids suffer from it. We would love to see in person schooling done at least through Thanksgiving or early December. Then re-evaluate things at that time. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.
7/20/2020 20:17:26	Madison	Bowmaker	N/A	Derby	I don't want the Covid 19 and go to school, I'd rather do home school and be safe in my own home.
7/20/2020 20:17:31	Elizabeth	Barbeau	Olathe School District	Olathe	Thank you for taking the time to consider everyones wellbeing. As a parent and an educator, I know you are faced with an impossible decision. A decision that takes into account so many variables. So thank you for all your efforts in this unprecedented time.
7/20/2020 20:17:45	Brittney	Soto	Elementary School Staff	Salina	I'm requesting that the board accepts the order and delays school until after Labor Day. As a mom of a newborn and a toddler with respiratory issues, I'm extremely concerned about school reopening prematurely. Our states numbers are at an all time high and getting young children together who constantly put hands in their mouth and touch items and each other is reckless.i love my job and miss my students but we need to protect our students, staff, their families.
7/20/2020 20:17:47	Kristen	Maxwell	Teacher in KCKPS	Mission	<p>Hi, my name is Kristen Maxwell. I am a teacher in KCK and live in north Johnson County. I lived and worked in the Wyandotte High School attendance area for 8 years, before moving in with my parents in my childhood home to help care for my sister, a quadriplegic with Cerebral Palsy.</p> <p>I am writing to urge you to uphold Governor Kelly's forthcoming Executive Order on delaying the start of the school year. I am an ESL teacher and have spent my career working with vulnerable students and their families, both in non-profit and school settings. This past year I was one of 3 newcomer ESL teachers at Central Middle School, serving students from across USD 500 who were new to the US and had interrupted schooling of 1 year or more. Though many of my students did not fare well with digital learning, they were all still alive and well when I visited their homes to return their supplies at the end of the school year. Many of my refugee and immigrant students live in multi-generational households. Grandparents often being responsible for watching the children while those of working age (and ability) work. Wyandotte County has already seen some of the worst rates of Covid-19 in the state, and I can not begin to imagine how that could be exacerbated with a hasty return to school and the dangers it could put our students and their families in.</p> <p>I also know that though I myself am not considered high risk, I provide care for my sister who is. She has left the house 2 times since March, both in the last month for doctors' appointments. I and another colleague who lives with her father who is battling lung cancer have weighed the decision of finding alternate housing if school were to resume in person without the proper safety measures in place. It would provide a strain on our families we are providing care for, but would ultimately keep them safer.</p> <p>We are living in unprecedented times. I was thinking back to meetings I was having with co-teachers at this time last year, and how we never could have imagined our jobs becoming what they did. I do not believe that schools have begun to wrap their minds around what lies ahead and need more time to be in compliance with both the physical and learning components of the plan released.</p> <p>Please uphold Governor Kelly's executive order.</p>

7/20/2020 20:17:59	Katlin	Gray		Lenexa	Voting to delay the school year for students would be beneficial for the safety of all involved. It would also give the schools, mainly teachers, time to prepare for the year based on whatever plans the districts release. Teachers can plan for the year using technology. They can prepare their rooms for in person learning when that happens. Districts will also be able to adequately train their teachers and to acquire the proper PPE. Please consider this when voting on the Governors executive order.
7/20/2020 20:18:15	April	Ogden	Public school teacher	Wabaunsee	Opening after Labor Day would give our district and opportunity to prepare our classrooms in a manner that allows for social distancing, communicate to parents/community the details if how things will "look" in each building, organize staff committees to meet day to day procedures.
7/20/2020 20:18:20	Leslie	Gast		Overland Park (Olathe s	I believe that we have already set children back enough with online distance learning from March to May, and I'm concerned that not enough people are putting the well-being of our children first and foremost. Online learning is not an acceptable substitute for school. I believe that the benefits of in-person education FAR outweigh the risk of children getting COVID-19 (in Johnson County, the chances of a child being hospitalized with the virus is about 1 in 180,720 - I did the math). As far as the teachers and staff being more at risk, I feel confident that they can maintain social distance from each other and take precautionary measures while being in the same building. Any parents or teachers who are concerned with their own or their children's health and would like to opt out of in-person schooling should certainly be given the opportunity to do so. Pediatricians should be the experts who have the most clout in this discussion and they recommend in-person schooling with no delayed start. So, PLEASE vote to allow individual districts to decide whether or not to delay the start of in-person school. This decision should be the responsibility of individual parents, pediatricians, and educators, NOT politicians. Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 20:18:23	Jenifer	Phillips	USD 500	Kansas City, MO	I'm a mom, wife, and parent. I'm a resident of KCMO but I teach in KCK. I'm entering year 14 of my teaching career, but my 3rd with USD 500. I absolutely love where I work. My coworkers and students are beyond amazing! I care deeply for them all. I truly miss my students. I know how important teaching in person is. Online truly doesn't reach every kiddo. However, I am a bit terrified to go back to in person learning. Covid cases are rapidly rising on both sides of the state line in the Kansas City metro. It makes absolutely ZERO sense to resume school in person right now. I would be devastated if any of my students, coworkers, or family contracted Covid. It would also be a huge burden to school states if teachers start falling ill. Please, please consider delaying the start of school, per Governor Kelly's order. We also really need to consider remote learning until Covid cases decrease significantly. Thanks.
7/20/2020 20:18:25	Amy	Wegner		Leawood	Please open public schools by Labor Day, no later! Kids need education and social interaction. We are doing a disservice to our children by keeping public schools closed.
7/20/2020 20:18:30	Andrew	Bock	Mill Valley High School	Shawnee	I definitely believe that we should delay the start of the school year. Schools need the extra time to get all the necessary supplies ready for the beginning of the year during this uncertain time. Teachers need the extra time to ready their classrooms for proper social distancing practices and to adjust their lesson plans accordingly. Also, many teachers are in age groups that have proven to be at risk when exposed to COVID-19, and they deserve the time to be able to organize their classrooms and do their jobs without fear of being hospitalized or worse. Beyond this, I am an assistant tennis coach, and I desperately want our kids to be able to have a season, even if it is a shortened one. With the recent increase of coronavirus cases in Kansas, it seems that delaying the school year is the best option for keeping our teachers and students safe, as well as increasing the chances for having extracurriculars in the fall/winter. Better safe than sorry.
7/20/2020 20:18:50	Jan	Ackerman		Colby	I oppose delaying school, the children need to be educated!
7/20/2020 20:18:53	Shawntel	Shirkey	USD 259	Wichita	Delaying the start of school is the best thing we can do right now to keep everyone in our community safe. Schools are not built to keep safe social distance. If we open schools, we can guarantee a major rise in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations.
7/20/2020 20:19:05	Allison	Johnson		Olathe	Please uphold the governors executive order to delay the start of school in order to protect children and school staff.

7/20/2020 20:19:09	Jori	Nelson	Public school teacher	Prairie Village	Uphold the Governor's order to keep teachers, staff, students, and families safe. Make Kansas proud!
7/20/2020 20:19:10	Randy	Elam		Derby	Too risky for in person classes until covid is under control, online learning only!! Keep the staff and students SAFE!!
7/20/2020 20:19:10	Trisha	Smith		Shawnee, KS	I agree with Governor Kelly 100% and beyond. Not only should we delay the start of school until after Labor Day, but we should Also have 14 days straight of no new COVID-19 cases before we even consider doing in-person school.
7/20/2020 20:19:11	Kelsey	R		Ashland	We never shut down daycare and didnt make those kids social distance. why take away education from our children that need it. Most parents cannot teach as well as our teachers. Do not hinder our future by making school a hard environment to learn in.
7/20/2020 20:19:20	James	Cressler	Parent	Wichita	Support DELAY opening for schools
7/20/2020 20:19:21	Emily	Forte		Wichita	I would prefer school be delayed. Cases are skyrocketing. I'm at high risk working in healthcare and I don't want to pass it to my kids who pass it to al their classmates. We also have grandparents who help with kids, which is the case in many households. Really, until a vaccine is available, it should be illegal for schools to be open.
7/20/2020 20:19:22	Tiffany	Long		Lenexa	Approve this delay for schools to have time to better prepare for what will be the safest for children, faculty and staff!
7/20/2020 20:19:24	Regan	Veach	Olathe school teacher	Overland Park	Please vote to delay school start!
7/20/2020 20:19:36	Rosemary	Maxwell	Self-taxpayer	Mission	The start of school should be delayed until the case numbers are back down considerably.
7/20/2020 20:19:41	Heather	Curry	parent	Olathe	I think giving the school districts extra time to prepare to open for "in person" school is a wise decision. There is no way in about 4 weeks school could open in an organized way when teachers haven't even been told a plan. And have had no time to prepare for this upcoming year. Sure, I wish they could go back sooner, but if it means they are more prepared to keep this virus under control at school, and be able to stay in school, I support that. Being able to start school prepared and ready and not have to change directions as much only helps the students and teachers. The kids mental health is at the breaking point and going back to school, too early, then having to shut down again only makes it harder on the kids. They desperately need in person school, even if it looks different! The kids need sports for their mental health and social well being! Please find a way to keep fall and spring sports!
7/20/2020 20:19:57	Kellie	Schmalzried	USD 482 school board r	Dighton	USD 482 is prepared to start school as scheduled! Our staff and our administrators have done a phenomenal job over the summer preparing for the opening day and should be allowed to do so. This should be a county by county decision based on cases and spread. We do not have any new cases and all previous cases (less than 10) have fully recovered. Our children should get to go to school as scheduled!
7/20/2020 20:19:59	Christina	Miller	Parent	860 N Westlink wichita	I support Gov. Kelly. Push back the opening for our schools until Sept. 9th. After watching the Wichita BOE meeting last week, our schools are not ready. Our hospitals are stressed. Our teachers are scared. We will not go back in August. Funding for Wichita schools will be affected by the parents who are not ready. Give us time.
7/20/2020 20:20:01	Kathy	Clapp	Greenbush	Independence	I believe schools should be closed until deemed safe. Teachers need to use this time to make online classes more rigorous and structured. Districts need to be made safe.



7/20/2020 20:20:01	Beth	Sarver	The Kansas City Sudbur	Shawnee Mission	<p>There are too many variables at play to make school safe for in person learning. The variables that no one seems to be discussing are as follows...</p> <p>Students with behavioral concerns, trauma and disabilities that make it essential that they are able to be in close proximity to teachers... what's the plan for them? The most high needs kids are often already poorly served by schools. With diminishing staff capacity, how will these kids be cared for? Teacher stress levels were already through the roof... with the compounding impact of covid and all of the unknown variables, how will teacher mental health be supported, protected? What about the adrenal fatigue that plagues our teacher populations working with these high needs kids, could their weakened immune system become more susceptible to covid? Since our state is so divided around a comprehensive plan, how are teachers to know if there students come to school from homes that believe science and practice appropriate social distancing , etc or those who come from homes that believe this is all a hoax and attend a variety of gatherings with family and friends. Every person and household that interacts with the systems in person are comprised of multiple variables that could become catalysts for the spread of covid. Family of privilege and means will do what is best for these children and families who are most often disenfranchised with again be more susceptible to the spread of covid.</p> <p>The fact that public schools are even considering in person instruction right now is ridiculous. Our boys will be kept home. We all want schools to open safely, but the lack of coherence in planning makes that statistically impossible.</p>
7/20/2020 20:20:17	Brianne	Vinson		Eldorado	<p>Children need to get back to school. They need to learn and grown their minds. I have a soon to be first grader whom my husband and I are positive would be reading by now if it weren't for the premature closure of schools. I am more than capable of teaching her from home and that is just what we will do this year. I am fortunate enough to have a husband who works so that I can stay home and take care of our children. My sister is in the opposite situation. She has 4 children and absolutely HAS to work to put food on the table. She doesn't have time for her workload as it is. How will she spare time for homeschooling? You are abandoning the children who live in abusive homes. Why? Because you're scared of a less than 1% chance of death? Newsflash...we will all die someday. This generation of young children are on the track to die uneducated and afraid of something that 99% of our population has yet to contract since the month of March! Get schools open and don't leave those who are less fortunate behind! And yes, I'd like to know what ever happened to "No child left behind". You are leaving them ALL behind! So far 6 months behind and I bet you our lovely governor isn't finished with her delays. Also, masks do not work! I feel you should give everyone the choice on if they should wear them. Forcing things will not put you on good terms with already extremely frustrated parents.</p>
7/20/2020 20:20:23	Roni	Ventura		Overland Park	<p>I am a teacher. I want nothing more than to be with my students in a classroom! With that being said, I fully support the delay of schools until after Labor Day. This small amount of extra time will not harm students' education. Many schools across the country do not start until after Labor Day to begin with. It will allow for teachers and districts to better prepare for the fall. Most importantly it will give our state time to lower our COVID numbers so that it will be safer to return to, and maintain, in- person teaching. This is a step in the right direction for the safety of our students and staff. Please vote in favor of the Governor's Order.</p>
7/20/2020 20:20:27	Joy	Hord	My family	Olathe	<p>Yes, I am 100% in favor of delaying the start of the 20-21 K-12 school Year.</p>
7/20/2020 20:20:31	Emily	Preston		Bel Aire	<p>If you delay schools, you are going to have an entire group of students who are even further behind in learning, who will likely never catch up. Science shows COVID isn't spread between children/from children to adults like it is spread from adult to adult. Are you going to shut down every flu season now? Do the right thing for Kansas students. Don't push them even further behind.</p>
7/20/2020 20:20:42	Erin	Thomas		Linn Valley	<p>I am a teacher. I do not want to get sick, nor do I want to pass any illness along to my students and their families. COVID cases are blowing up in Kansas, and around our nation. Starting schools now is reckless and unsafe. Please support our governor.</p>
7/20/2020 20:20:43	Pam	Howze	Teacher and parent	Kansas city	<p>I dearly wish that we were ready to go back but unfortunately due to a number of failures and inability of people to follow directions we are not. I like the idea of waiting until after Labor Day to see where we are. I think teachers need training and may have to start sooner but not at the beginning of august. I just don't know that training will really be effective for that long.</p>
7/20/2020 20:20:43	Courtney	Thurman	I am a Parent	Olathe	<p>I vote to delay the start of school</p>

7/20/2020 20:20:52	Laura	Fasl	Olathe Northwest high s	Lenexa	School should absolutely open as planned on August 14. This virus is going no where and we have to learn to live with it! It has a 99.8% recovery rate with 78% of deaths occurring from Covid age 65 & over. ZERO deaths under age 25. The detriment not going to school will have on our kids has the potential to be devastating. Chances are the schools will close down during winter months so let them be "normal" at the start of school. This decision will cause more harm to our children than COVID-19 will. The idea of the early school dismissal in the Spring, the subsequent lockdown, closure of businesses, wrecking of our economy and wearing of masks was all designed to flatten the curve so that our hospital systems were not overwhelmed. It was NEVER designed to get rid of the coronavirus. NEVER. Is delaying school and cancelling sports and camps going to get rid of the coronavirus? No, it's still going to be there after Labor Day. And if the number of positive cases is not hovering around zero, Governor Kelly is going to delay school further. It's ridiculous.
7/20/2020 20:21:00	Chad	Lynn		Olathe	Get the kids back in school. They need this for their mental health. We have to consider all aspects of health. Transitioning to home will be easier once teachers can meet and set expectations if they need to go back online.
7/20/2020 20:21:00	Meri	Miller-Kahle	6th grade sped teacher	Manhattan	Please let us have until after Labor Day before we go back. We need the time to plan and prepare! Please vote to follow Gov Kelly's EO!
7/20/2020 20:21:17	Norton	Ritter		Baldwin City	Close the schools
7/20/2020 20:21:31	Amanda	Brooks	Teacher - KCKPS	Lenexa	Please support Governor Kelly's E.O. to delay the start of schools. With the numbers trending upward and our lack of knowledge of how this virus will affect us in the long term, we are subjecting students and teachers to possible long-term effects. This is not about party. This is not about what you think Governor Kelly's power should be or not. This is about our students and our teachers. We should be doing everything that we can to protect them.
7/20/2020 20:21:37	Jennifer	Creek	Olathe Public Schools (b	Prairie Village	Please vote in support of Governor Kelly's Executive Order to delay the start of the school year. I want nothing more than to be in school teaching my students. I know that it is vital to their well-being. However, it is simply impossible to ensure the safety of students, staff, and parents if we return to in-person learning to soon. Students cannot learn and thrive if they are sick or worried about the health of their peers, teachers, and parents in their life. I also feel strongly about protecting the local control given to the school boards in the state, and appreciate that is a consideration in your decision. But we have seen that people are prioritizing politics over science, and community health is not always driving decisions. Hoping people will just follow a recommendation without a mandate and strong leadership is apparently not enough. At this point, that mentality has not been successful in keeping this virus from spreading. Please—please—vote to support this Executive Order to delay schools and give administrators time to make plans that support and protect our community.
7/20/2020 20:21:59	Rachel	Nyp	Parent	Lawrence	Please let our kids go back to school on time in Aug. Delaying school is harming our children and depriving them of an education that we pay for with our taxes. Their is no reason our schools shouldn't be prepared. They had all summer to prepare to go back to school.
7/20/2020 20:22:00	Marissa	Anderson	Parent of K-12 student	Olathe	Please delay school until after Sept 8 or even later to keep our students and teachers safe
7/20/2020 20:22:02	Taryn	Robinson	Blue valley	Johnson county	I do not thing going back to school this fall is a good idea. We are not moving in the same direction and people are not taking this serious. But.. if we are going to go back at some point I would like to suggest we go on winter break 2 weeks early. This will allow family to quarantine before traveling family for Christmas. My father in law has stage 4 cancer and if we don't take our kids out of school 2 weeks early then we won't be able to see him till after the first of the year. Just a recommendation. Thank you
7/20/2020 20:22:09	Jessica	Rogers		De Soto	I think it is a very reasonable idea to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. I am also looking forward to learning more about remote learning options.
7/20/2020 20:22:10	Michelle	Pfister	n/a - parent	Olathe	want kids to return to school, my daughter will be a senior at Olathe West HS, studies indicate that young people are not spreading the virus or becoming very ill if contracted, 85% of deaths in Johnson County, KS have been 70 yrs old or over, with 70% being over 80. Middle school and high school students can wear masks, wash hands, and distance when necessary, need in person learning for education, socialization, mental health and general well being. Families should be given the option of in person school, and maybe staff that is concerned can teach virtually. But, many people have to return to work regardless of their profession. And, I know many teachers who want to be there, and want their kids to be in school. Thank you!

7/20/2020 20:22:14	Sarabeth	Morgan	USD497	Lawrence	Thank you so much for putting the safety of students and teachers above political games!! I 100% support a delayed school start in Kansas, given the data. If trends continue upward, please also consider extending this delay as needed.
7/20/2020 20:22:16	Verneda	Edwards	Self	Spring Hill	I hope that you will vote to uphold Gov. Kelly's mandate to delay the start of schools. As Covid-19 case continue to climb in our county it is irresponsible to think schools can begin on time. Preparing for the year is overwhelming. Time is needed - to quell the number of cases and to make adequate preparations.
7/20/2020 20:22:20	Catherine	Wolfe	olathe School Districf	olathe	Yes! Delay for safety of everyone!
7/20/2020 20:22:31	Shirley	Thompson	Self	Osborne	Each district should make the decision about reopening according to the local situation. Many districts will be ready on schedule and should be allowed to start. There are too many detrimental effects of mask wearing for extended periods and incorrect use is a false security. Schedules can be adjusted if the local numbers of COVID-19 cases build. At the present time I believe our county has only had three or four cases. Very few people in this county have worn a mask. Funeral meals of 60 to 100 people have been held with no consequence of this virus.
7/20/2020 20:22:33	Claudean	McKellips	Teacher for Over 20 yea	Lawrence	If you are meeting virtually, you know, it is not safe to open schools. If Kansas goes online; everyone gets to live.
7/20/2020 20:22:34	Matthew	Glenn		Leawood	The start of school should be left up to the districts to decide.
7/20/2020 20:22:37	Jessica	Ellison	Lansing USD 469	Lansing	School should remain out of session until at least after labor day, preferably until after most of the threat of COVID-19 has passed.
7/20/2020 20:22:59	Jennifer	Axman		Hoisington	I believe the school year, at a minimum, should be delayed until after Labor Day and students should be mandated to wear masks. Temperature checks should be required for all staff and students every day, as well as, frequent hand washing. I also believe that the required hours for this school year should be waived.
7/20/2020 20:23:00	April	Dugger		Colby	I believe we need to open as normal as possible. They've been through enough. Sanitizing every hour is going to kill good bacteria as well and weaken their immune systems. Good hand washing. Set a timer. Make it a game. Turn it into a lesson. Get creative with it. These kids need normalcy. Please.
7/20/2020 20:23:07	Mwlany	Barnes	Grandparent	Andover	Online learning only until a vaccine is available. Sedgwick County reported 365 children between birth and 20 years of age positive for COVID 19 in the last week 7/20/2020.
7/20/2020 20:23:13	Cathy	Huebner		Lawrence	Please vote to delay the start of school and follow the governors executive order to allow school districts to create safe plans for return and to allow communities with returning college students to evaluate what those returns do to Covid cases in those areas.
7/20/2020 20:23:20	Rebecca	Prue	Elementary Parent	Topeka	If we are going to start all virtual, make the phases longer than 5-7 days, so we can start on time. The phases ideally should be no less than 14 days since that is the 'incubation period'. Please remember our kids need this structure and as a working parent we need it too.
7/20/2020 20:23:22	Andy	Gigstad	Blue Valley Elementary	Overland Park	I understand the governor's requirement to wear masks, sanitize, and social distance. However, why should that push back the start of school? It certainly seems like the first of many delays. I am a working parent that has barely been able to survive the shut-down and the start of school in August served as a beacon of hope for my family. Every resident in the state of Kansas has been required to wear a mask since early July and both masks / sanitizers are much easier to purchase. So, again, why delay? To serve as another way for the governor to exercise her power. Give me liberty or give me death...Please consider the fate of our youth and don't allow the governor to demonstrate the power to mandate how local Kansas schools operate.
7/20/2020 20:23:27	Alicia	Dean		Wichita	With Sedgwick county cases on a quick rise, I feel it is best to give schools the extra time to make accommodations, train staff, and get a better grasp on the trajectory of COVID-19 in our area. I am a 30 yr old, healthy adult and am on day 18 of covid, and it is believed that I caught it at my summer job, where I care for a teenage special needs child. I do want kids back in school. I also want to give our school leaders the time and grace that is needed to plan for the safest return possible.

					<p>I am commenting as a parent of three elementary-aged children (one with health challenges), and as a teacher. Please accept and follow through with Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school start dates until Labor Day. This EO follows CDC guidelines of low community transmission being a necessity before opening schools fully. It includes safety guidelines that will be necessary in keeping both staff and students as safe as possible in these dangerous times.</p> <p>My health, my wife's health (she teaches also), my children's health, my students' health, and the health of scores of co-workers and family members depends on us following the CDC guidelines. Look at the recent outbreaks at camps in Texas, Illinois, Georgia, and Missouri for a peek at what our schools could become, especially given that 40 states are showing increases of infection cases. Just today I saw a student death and a teacher death, both in Florida.</p> <p>I ask that you put aside the political pressures and act in the best interest of the lives and safety of Kansans in general. More than the lives of students and teachers is at stake, as each person in a school has family at home, friends at church, and other contacts outside the school. The risks of opening schools too early without ensuring safety are immeasurable, and the disruptions (like in March of 2020) that could occur if we start unprepared but then have to close schools would be equally devastating. Given several weeks of preparation time, including a chance for the increases to flatten out, will allow local school boards to craft policies and procedures that will work for their communities, as well as procure PPE for employees and students. Plus, there's a small benefit to transfer students if we all start on the same schedule.</p> <p>Local boards and communities can still have a vigorous debate about whether their schools should offer only distance learning, or have limited or traditional in-person learning, or something in between, a delay now (during a recognized increase in cases) will at least give school leaders time to put proper safety precautions in place.</p>
7/20/2020 20:23:32	Jason	Hibbs	Children who attend Winfield KS		
7/20/2020 20:23:33	Kate	Wozniak		Prairie Village	We need to see AT LEAST a 2-3 weeks of a downward trend in cases prior to even consider opening schools.
7/20/2020 20:23:34	Aaron	Roach	Father of USD 350 student	St. John	<p>I believe delaying the start of school is stripping away our children's right to an education. If it's safe to have kids travel all over the state playing sports, it's safe for kids to get back to school. Stafford county has had 2 cases with 0 deaths over the last several months. Why should we be treated the same as Sedgwick county or any other hot spots?? Our students need to get back to school where they can further their education and engage in the social activities that are essential for young children. I truly believe that Gov. Kelly will do all she can to prevent the youth of KANSAS from entering school this year. This is a slippery slope and she is not fit to lead this state. My daughter will be in 1st grade this year. Since the second week of March, the regression I have seen in her is something that saddens and angers me. Our kids deserve the best education possible and taking that away from them is nothing short of selfish. It should be left up to the parents on how they want their children to be educated, not a liberal governor following her own parties personal agenda. DONT NOT LET HER RUIN THEIR FUTURES!!!! My wife will be starting nursing school this fall as well as working part time. I have a full time job as well and we cannot have full time teacher put on our shoulders too. That is not fair to us and ESPECIALLY not fair to our children. I trust that you all have the children of Kansas's best interest at heart and that you will make the right decision. Please let our students go back to school on time and trust that parents and educators know the best course of action for each of their students and children. Thank you and God bless you for the task you've been given.</p>
7/20/2020 20:23:38	Shannon	Leitch	Parent of students and a	Wamego	<p>Please allow the governor's orders to stand as they are. The extra time will allow districts and their teachers and staff get the buildings prepared. Teachers will also have time to do professional development for not only the safety measures for their buildings but also for the competencies. This will allow time for decisions to be made and enacted. Buses and their drivers, kitchen staff, and other auxillary staff members will be able to have things ready to go for a September start date. Contingency planning can happen for all concerned and those plans can be shared and prepared for by communities. We all want to return but please respect that the return needs to happen with proper planning. Thank you.</p>

7/20/2020 20:23:42	Mary Ann	Woirhaye	private citizen, patron of	Overland Park	Please veto the Governor's executive order to delay the opening of schools. There is no evidence to suggest that a 3 week delay will reduce the spread of infection of Covid-19 and it harms at-risk students by deepening the economic and educational divide. Most school districts had already put together reopening plans with both in-person and virtual options giving families choice. If school opening is delayed until September, we risk never opening doors to students. A virtual-only Fall is not an option for working families. It categorically disadvantages students who do not have parental oversight. Further, the promise of "better" virtual options falls on skeptical ears given that the continuous learning in Spring was so, so poorly executed. Schools are absolutely an essential service and teachers are essential workers. We ask for the opportunity to begin class work in August.
7/20/2020 20:23:54	Ashley	Banks	Parent	Overland Park	Open schools at regular start date
7/20/2020 20:23:54	Janice	Tetley	Community member	Olathe	Schools need to open as planned with the option for in school or remote learning.
7/20/2020 20:23:56	C	Chay Thompson	My kids	Wichita	Online only for now numbers are going up
7/20/2020 20:24:06	Deanna	Benavides		Overland Park	In order to keep all kids and staff safe, we need to delay the start of school! In-person learning will lead to unnecessary sickness and possibly death. I don't see how anybody could be okay with that.
7/20/2020 20:24:07	Meagan	Witkowski	Parent of Olathe SD stud	Overland Park	I believe school should start in person after Labor Day and all students and staff MUST wear masks.
7/20/2020 20:24:11	Amanda	Kippenberger	None	Derby	Schools need to stay closed until after Labor Day and children need to wear masks in school.
7/20/2020 20:24:11	Michael	Black	SMSD	leawood	Waiting a couple more weeks won't do anything. What is "long enough", a week, a month, a YEAR?! Covid isn't going anywhere. This IS the new norm. Get the kids back to school on time. Enough is enough.
7/20/2020 20:24:15	Natasha	Janousek		Lenexa	I urge the board to accept the Governor's recommendation to delay the start of the 20-21 school year. I am a teacher and do not feel safe going back to school while the numbers of cases are rising significantly in my area. Please keep the students and staff of all schools safe.
7/20/2020 20:24:16	Rachael	Werth		Goddard	Please allow school to begin in August
7/20/2020 20:24:19	Amanda	Volkman	Parent	11750 n ridge rd sedgwi	6 months is to long for summer break. They want to go to school and they need to. If we can do it safely I dont see the problem. We the parents should be the ones to decide whether or not to send them to school not the governor. The kids need to start sooner than later. Lots of kids are behind already becuse of closing schools down 2 months early. Dont let them get even more behind. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:24:27	Olivia	Heffner	Parent of 3 children in C	Lenexa	I have 3 children in the Olathe Public School District. One in Elementary, one in middle school and one in high school. I want all 3 of my children back in school and all 3 of my children want to be back in school. However, I believe not only do the children need to be protected but teachers & the rest of the adult staff need to be protected too. Teachers haven't been given any information on what is going on and they need time to prepare after they find out because they will be the ones watching over our children when our children return. I don't want schools to feel rushed to open leaving proper precautions overlooked. I think after Labor Day is a good timeframe to start back up compared to a few weeks from now. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:24:40	Sara	Alderman	Teacher and Parent	Alma	Delay start of school allowing schools to develop a safe plan to re-open. Require masks k-12 to protect all the students and staff.
7/20/2020 20:24:40	Heather	Rubesch	My family that includes	Prairie Village	Since I have high schoolers, I would like to see at least a few days a week of in person learning. It will be really hard for upper high school kids to get the full curriculum of advanced science and math courses online. I would also be willing to give up electives, sports, etc so they can focus on graduation requirements and redeploy those specials teachers to core courses. That would allow for reduced class sizes.
7/20/2020 20:24:40	Tabitha	Rainwater	KCKPS	Kansas City	For the health and safety of employees, children, and families, please strongly consider delaying the beginning of the school. This will ensure students, staff, and all families will be away from the chance of exposure to COVID-19. This will also give teachers time to prepare for whatever they're district decides to do for the fall semester.
7/20/2020 20:24:45	Paula	Alters		Olathe	Please listen and respect the recommendations of both Governor Kelly and the scientists regarding delaying the start of the school year. There is a reason that they are making these critical decisions for the State of Kansas. They would like the children back in school as well but know that right now, we must be very careful and stay focused on the health of our fellow men and women. This virus is too contagious and dangerous not to take it seriously. My family, my neighbors, our community would appreciate you upholding the Governor's mandate and recommendation.

7/20/2020 20:24:46	Kirstin	Gray	Maize USD 266	Wichita	I think schools should open. If parents want to keep their children at home then by all means they should be able to do that. My child is in special education classes and is already falling behind despite our best efforts at home. I want my child in school.
7/20/2020 20:24:54	Tammy	Roberts	Parent	Salina	I believe it is safe for my sophomore to return to school in August. USD 305 had released a well thought out plan to keep students safe and I believe they are acting on the best interest of all parents with their options.
7/20/2020 20:25:03	Candice	Chay Thompson	Wichita	Wichita	Numbers are high online only
7/20/2020 20:25:12	Jeremy	Shank	Parent	Shawnee	I believe that delaying the school year is necessary. We need to keep students, faculty, and other staff from contacting Covid-19. It will keep not only those in schools from contracting the disease but also their family members. A delay isn't keeping students from learning, just extending their summer break until the cases go down in number. This disease is easily spread and we will lessen the chance that we will need to quarantine during the school year and disrupt learning in the middle of the year. Delaying a few weeks is better than stopping and then restarting in the middle of the year. There isn't any need for politics in this choice only for the safety for oh children and teachers. Please approve the Governor's executive order and take this disease seriously when others will not.
7/20/2020 20:25:16	Esteban	Aranguiz	Burden-central	Atlanta,ks	I don't think that the school year need to be delaying. If we follow all the procedures and requirements that the governor want, be no problem, as longest the parents support them. Parents and schools need to be one team.
7/20/2020 20:25:17	Mandy	Kennedy	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita	Open schools up on time as usual
7/20/2020 20:25:20	Matthew	Ryan		Colby	Start back to school on time!!!
7/20/2020 20:25:24	Shannon	Everard		Overland Park	Reject the Governor's order and let the districts decide. Kids need to be back in person in school and sports!
7/20/2020 20:25:25	Wendee	Olmstead	None	Cheney	Please let the children have some normalcy. Let them start school and sports and school activities as usual.
7/20/2020 20:25:30	Lisa	Simpson	teachers	Wyandotte	I strongly believe that the start of school should be delayed. It will give the schools and teachers the chance to develop a safe plan for the re-opening of school.
7/20/2020 20:25:48	Danyale	Yarger		Goodland	The schools should remain closed until a later date. People always have sent their kids to school sick this will be no different and I'm not willing to risk the life of my child or that of the teachers it's stupid!
7/20/2020 20:25:49	Cheri	Pryor	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	I am a teacher and have been a teacher for 27 years. I am asking you to please uphold Governor Kelly's EO. Teachers and staff desperately need this extra time for training and planning for this unprecedented school year and to fully learn all of the protocols to keep students, teachers and staff safe. There is much for us to do and know and learn before students return to school. I feel worried and scared for everyone right now as there are so many unknowns with this virus. I want our district to do what is safe, just, and prudent so that we do not lose lives. Thank you for your consideration.
7/20/2020 20:25:57	Kathleen	Bock	Olathe USD 233, Olathe	Shawnee	As a veteran teacher of 32 years at Olathe North High School, I never thought we'd be faced with a health crisis that would effect my students and me. I'm truly scared to return to school on Aug. 10th and risk my life because I do have underlying health concerns. With our Covid numbers and hospitalizations increasing in our area in recent days, I would feel more comfortable waiting to start school until after Labor Day. I would love nothing more than to start the school year normally and safely with my students, but I feel it's impossible at this point. Please vote to uphold Governor Kelly's Executive Order that will allow teachers and schools to fully prepare our classrooms and get supplies we need to stay safe. A gift of a few weeks will allow us to get our Covid numbers down. My husband is a substitute teacher for DeSoto USD 232 and also coaches two sports. My son also coaches at Mill Valley HS in DeSoto. THIS EFFECTS MY WHOLE FAMILY. Please think about your decision with everyone in mind. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:26:01	Kally	Hearron		Overland Park	As a mom with a daughter that is going to be a senior and one that is a freshman I believe with my whole heart that my kids need to be back in school with friends and routine. I believe with proper measures such as masks and hand hygiene this can be done safely for everyone
7/20/2020 20:26:02	Amy	Banks		Alma	Please please do not vote against the executive order to delay schools opening. For the safety of our students and staff it is imperative that you approve this delay so that Admins, Nurses, Teachers and all staff can put together a comprehensive plan to ensure the safety of all.

7/20/2020 20:26:03	Bill	Martinie		Olathe	Please vote to uphold the Governor's executive order. I know it is a very difficult decision but the safety of our students, teachers and the families of those involved is too precious to risk as this virus rages uncontrolled. Thank you
7/20/2020 20:26:05	Lara	Caldwell		Overland Park	I support the delay.
7/20/2020 20:26:07	Cate	Eighmey		Olathe	I support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school!
7/20/2020 20:26:08	David	Allen	USD 335-BOE Presiden	Soldier	Please allow local districts to determine what is best for our districts
7/20/2020 20:26:11	Janna	Dressman		Frankfort	I encourage you to support Governor Kelly and delay opening schools until after Labor Day. Kansas is considered a red zone state due to our coronavirus rates/cases. Our hospitals are filling up. I am a single parent, teacher, and mother of a child with health conditions and multiple hospitalizations due to respiratory illnesses (including pneumonia). Also, teachers need time to prepare since the 1000 page document was recently released.
7/20/2020 20:26:19	Holly	Osborne	Parent of 2 school age cl	Derby	I support the Governors decision to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. Please do the same
7/20/2020 20:26:22	Marci	Jennings		De Soto	Please delay the start of in person school.
7/20/2020 20:26:36	David	Reber	Kansas citizen and taxp	Rural, Leavenworth Cou	If you are meeting remotely to discuss the opening of schools, you shouldn't be opening schools.
7/20/2020 20:26:40	Jacqueline	Sweet		Wichita	My children attend USD 265. I request that you please support the governor's decision to delay the start of school for the 2020-2021 school year. I understand that there are districts in the state that have not been hit as hard as Sedgwick County, but I am honestly afraid for my children to attend in person school any time within in the next few months. I request that our county is ordered to not have in person school until our county levels are deemed safe by our county health officials.
7/20/2020 20:26:42	Rita	Hopson	NA	Phillipsburg	I feel schools should not start until after Labor Day and then with several precautions in place. Maybe online 3 days and 2 days in class with 1/2 class at a time. If one group was Mon-Tue and the other Thur-Fri there would be time between to sanitize while doing an on line day. Also I think there should be divider shields between children. Even though children don't present symptoms as often, it is believed they can be carriers. It would be a shame if a child lost their grandparent because they brought it home from school.
7/20/2020 20:26:55	Jordan	Boone	Parent	Wichita KS	Please delay school until after Labor Day
7/20/2020 20:27:10	Jennifer	Robinson	My family	Olathe	Please adopt and observe Governor Kelly's executive order, delaying the opening of Kansas schools until after Labor Day. Allow schools time to secure the PPE and supplies needed as well as training staff for the additional responsibilities of virtual as well as in person learning. The infection rate in our county continues to rise and this is the wrong time for students to return to school safely. Put the health of our students and teachers first!!
7/20/2020 20:27:13	Mary	Hensley	Hensley family	Topeka	Please allow the school board and schools to determine when the beat time for their school to start is. Maybe give them an option to start online for the first 6 weeks and then move to classroom learning. But many students don't learn well online. Please leave that control up to the school.
7/20/2020 20:27:25	Travis	Gray	USD 232 (Mill Valley H	Shawnee	I urge the board to vote against the governor's emergency order on delaying the start of school. Kansas' population is too diverse to have a blanket order for the entire state. Let school open on time, and give school districts the local control they deserve. It is also very important for our kids to have extra curricular activities in their lives. It is healthy for them mentally and physically. It also keeps them out of trouble. **KSHSAA needs authority to allow practice for fall sports. If a delay in the start of school ends up being passed by local school districts, then the kids will lose half their seasons. Please allow them to start practice prior to the start of school. Thanks for your consideration!
7/20/2020 20:27:30	Amy	Hinrichs		Emporia	Please keep schools closed at least until after Labor Day and reevaluate as it gets closer. COVID cases are going up yet again. It is not safe, yet! We closed schools in the spring with less cases than we have no. I would be absolutely devastating to our children and their teachers to go back while the virus is so rampant. Please make a wise decision!
7/20/2020 20:27:31	Miranda	Hamilton		Topeka	I am happy the start of the school year is being delayed. It gives schools and families more time to prepare and be safe.
7/20/2020 20:27:31	Vickie	clipstonLenexa		Lenexa	Unless we are waiting for a vaccine. We should begin school now . We need masks, shields, protectors on the table to separate the children, no more than 10 in a classroom. EFFECTIVE TEACHING!!!! On line learning does not work for young children.

7/20/2020 20:27:47	Samantha	Creekmur	Open up the schools!	Wichita KS	Open up the schools! Not everyone can afford and to teach their children how to learn everything they need to know in life! School is where they need to be for the learning! A lot of children has IEPS by not them children going to school is messing up with the children that has IEPS. Two of my children has IEPS and they want to go back to school and learn! They don't want to stay home! My 5 year old boy is looking forward to school! How else are we supposed to get used to this NEW VIRUS if we can't get used to it been AROUND! My kids went into depression due to them NOT going to school! Is that what you want children to get is DEPRESSION! Depression is not a good thing! I had to help one of my children out of it! So please children back to school! Let them parents make the Decision not to our governor! We have the rights to let them go to school or NOT! But my CHILDREN wants to GO BACK and NOT LIVE IN FEAR!
7/20/2020 20:27:49	Callyne	Brown		Salina	I think it is in the best interest of all Kansans to keep schools closed. The number of positive covid cases and deaths are on the rise. There is no way to actually keep children, teachers or support staff safe until we have a better idea on how to do so. If distance learning must be done for the semester, this is the time to figure out how to do it properly.
7/20/2020 20:28:06	Jessica	Pereira	Parent of 3	Wichita/Maize	Open the schools without restrictions!! This is ridiculous!!!
7/20/2020 20:28:11	Cathy	Wieland	parent	Colby, Ks	please start school on time, do not delay
7/20/2020 20:28:13	Liz	Burke	Parent	Salina, KS	Please accept and support the Governor's executive order to postpone school until September. Hopefully people will take mask wearing and social distancing seriously so we can flatten the curve. It will also give school districts time to plan to meet students and staff's safety needs. Also please consider virtual/distance learning for districts based on their needs in their community. Thank you for the consideration.
7/20/2020 20:28:14	Megan	Larson	USD239	Minneapolis	I feel it would be best practice to not resume most students on site / brick and mortar until the number of cases have plateaued or decreased. To begin school as numbers are still rising does not seem safe for community.
7/20/2020 20:28:20	Nina	Wilson	USD259	Wichita	I hope you support and uphold Gov Kelly's EO to delay school starting until September, mostly because teachers and staff will need more time to plan and implement the necessary changes to our school day. It is NOT All Systems Normal. I cannot teach my tried and true music curriculum. I don't know if I'll be able to teach in my classroom or from a cart. I don't know if I' can use ANY of my normal learning tools: instruments that need shared, social dancing, even the natural child's instrument: singing! I have taken uncounted hours of virtual PD this summer on my own time with no recompense, just in hopes of wrapping my brain around how to make this learning experience meaningful, and hopefully joyful. Yet, all of these hours of PD can't help when I don't have the district's plan in front of me. Gov Kelly recognizes this. She values the countless hours educators and community members put into the plan, but we can't possibly process the details of this plan, no less be ready to implement it, in a few short weeks. She is also giving our urban communities time to prepare by lowering the infection rates, and for parents to make arrangements for the inevitable switch to online learning that is bound to happen. Please, honor her sensibility.
7/20/2020 20:28:21	Kristine	Middendorf	Self	Olathe	Please vote to keep schools closed until September 9. The urban communities need to flatten the curve before we return.
7/20/2020 20:28:22	Elva	Rose		Olathe	As a mother, I do not want my daughter to be at risk. School must be delayed.
7/20/2020 20:28:25	Shauna	Rumbaugh		Spearville	Please accept Governor Kelly's pending executive orders regarding K-12 schools. I appreciate all the work the Kansas BOE and so many others have done to protect our students and teachers while providing the best educational opportunities possible under the challenging circumstances. School districts need time to determine how to proceed and implement the board's recommendations, and delaying the start date will help them accomplish that. Thank you for your time and service to Kansas education!
7/20/2020 20:28:41	Dana	Grammon	Phillips County Health	Logan	I believe without a doubt that schools need to start after Labor Day and also all KSHAA activists suspended until that time as well. If you don't shut the sports down, it does no good to shut down school
7/20/2020 20:28:42	Erin	Kelly		Ottawa	Kansas is now one of the leaders in new Coronavirus cases. Furthermore, every instance of students gathering in large groups has resulted in infections. It would be irresponsible to ask students, teachers, and staff to put themselves at risk.
7/20/2020 20:28:45	Leigh	White	Parent	Shawnee	I feel it would be in the best interest for classes to resume in person before Labor Day as safely as possible. There is no substitute for in person schooling for students.



7/20/2020 20:28:51	Carrie	Gardner	Blue Valley and Piper	Kansas City, KS	I am a mother of two children that will be attending Piper schools in the fall. I am very concerned that they have no had adequate time to prepare for my children to attend school safely. I didn't realize how much this was weighing on me until I watched the Governor's announcement and I was literally brought to tears as a rush of relief flooded over me. For that moment the knots in my stomach, that I hadn't even realized I was carrying, released and I finally felt hopeful that our schools would be able to prepare to keep my most prized possessions safe upon their return. And that relief was taken away all too soon when I realized there was still a chance this decision would get overturn. Immediately, the anxiousness returned and I again began fearing for my children's health. I too am an educator in the Blue Valley School District and though I am very concerned with my own safety I wanted to first address my concerns as a parent for though this virus isn't impacting children as severely I do worry about the long term effects that we may not be aware of yet. So I ask you as both a mother and an educator to please think about our children and their teachers safety and follow our Governor's guidance in allowing schools more time.
7/20/2020 20:28:53	Kenneth	Sweet		Wichita	My three children attend school in USD 265. I request that the governor's order to delay school is honored. I also ask that Sedgwick county be ordered to delay in person school until Covid numbers are deemed safe by county health officials
7/20/2020 20:28:54	Tami	Cowley	Self	Horton	Personally I think this entire this is utter nonsense. I have a special needs kid who needs her school and teachers. When the schools shut down in March my house became a war zone instead of her safe zone due to her not having her normalization and her sped teachers. She is in the sped room for much of the day. And as far as her wearing a mask; good luck. She's 15 with the mental and developmental capacity of a 6 year old. Plus she has sever ADHD, among multiple other mental health issues. Someone or something needs to stop this insanity! I, in absolutely no way, feel the the governor is right in what she's trying to do. Where was all this panic and paranoia during the H1N1 era? It caused more deaths than this mess has. As far as I'm concerned she is way overstepping and needs to be stopped
7/20/2020 20:29:01	Randi	Krier		Wichita	Please open schools on time. I am a 6th grade teacher anxious to go back to in-person school. Our kids are suffering. I have heard from so many parents who are worried about their children's mental and physical health from staying home. This virus has a 99.9+% survival rate, and the mortality rate for people ages 0-25 is nearly ZERO. Why are we punishing the kids for something that really doesn't affect them? Number of cases means nothing; hospitalizations and deaths are going down. At the very least, give parents the choice whether to send kids to school or keep them home. Please, for the sake of the children, let us go to school.
7/20/2020 20:29:04	Sue Ellen	Arnold	None	Wichita, Kansas	Listen to Governor Kelly. Three weeks is a small price to pay for the safety of our children.
7/20/2020 20:29:13	Kari	Mitchell	Parent and teacher	Wichita	Covid numbers have been too high locally and we need a few more weeks to see numbers fall. Teachers need a delayed start to prepare for in class and the expected switch to online learning at a moments notice. Food services for families would be a relief for that burden many families face. Thank you for your service and consideration.
7/20/2020 20:29:23	Olivia	Haney	N/A	Kansas City	I went to school in the olathe school district and constantly felt over like the students were packed in like sardines. I can not imagine trying to safely social distance in any of the schools. This is also too big of a stress to add onto teachers already overwhelming workload.
7/20/2020 20:29:25	Hannah	Gabel	USD 259	Wichita	We should not physically open schools until COVID cases have been in a steady decline for an extended amount of time. We need to delay the start of school until after Labor a day so we can make sure all teachers and staff members are adequately prepared for all the new protocols we will be dealing with. There needs to be a clear matrix for districts to follow that shows when remote, hybrid, and in person are acceptable and it needs to be BASED ON SCIENCE. Please understand that we teachers WANT TO TEACH! But we want to be able to do so safely and to the best of our abilities. The longer it takes officials to make decisions, the less time we have to prepare for our kids. This is not a political issue and should not be treated as such. This is about the numbers. Listen to the experts and support your teachers.
7/20/2020 20:29:36	Emily	Decker		Hays	I don't believe we are ready to start school mid August. I believe we should formulate a plan, and start after Labor Day.

7/20/2020 20:29:42	Jessica	Franz		Olathe	I 100% agree with the governor's assessment that is based on recommendations of public health experts. Additionally, the AAP recommends the same thing. In places with growing cases, schools should remain closed. If our cases were going down, there may be an argument to open. Unfortunately, Kansas is currently number one in cases per capita. That is not a statistic we want. Until we can turn our curve around and cases are going down, schools should remain closed.
7/20/2020 20:29:47	Avery	Goering		Mulvane	Make the choice safest for our kids and our school staff. Push back the start date. Determine if in person is viable, or if we need to go all online. As a teacher, I can tell you, there is no possible way of getting my students properly socially distanced. And they certainly aren't going to wear their mask without playing with it.
7/20/2020 20:29:48	Dianne	Carpenter	Parent & Staff at Elementary	337 N Arroyo St, Olathe	I am okay with starting school in September. I have an autoimmune disease but I'm am still ready to return. The confusion caused by so many conflicting reports has frustrated me beyond the point of crying. Therefore I have come to peace with returning & taking the risk as well as sending my three children. I am fine wearing a mask - I have special ordered ten clear masks as the children I work with in special education really need to see my face. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my thoughts.
7/20/2020 20:29:50	Mary	Colvin		Weir	We just received the guidance from KSDE. We need TIME to put everything into plans and action. We had to rush to turn in a dime in the spring and it didn't go well. Let's not go about it the same way again. The delay is what is best for everyone!
7/20/2020 20:29:51	Jessica	Lynn	SMSD parent	Prairie Village	It is not safe to return to school with infection rates this high and climbing. Protect students their teachers and their parents by delaying. Work to bring infection rates down before reopening
7/20/2020 20:29:53	Judith	Zerr-Schamberger		Hays	Please keep the schools closed till after Labor Day! Also don't hesitate to close schools if CV numbers go up. Everyone legal age needs to have a will!
7/20/2020 20:30:05	Kelly	Stromberg	Parent of school age child	Leawood	I think that school should not physically open until a period of at least two weeks with no new cases of Covid19. I think that clubs that can meet over Zoom SHOULD be allowed to continue.
7/20/2020 20:30:05	Morgan	Travis		Wichita	Open up schools and let kids learn. They need the social interaction and to be around other children. It's essential for them. Kids aren't being affected by this virus and teachers can wear masks like every other profession has to currently.
7/20/2020 20:30:09	Amanda	Fisher	None	Olathe	I urge you to please agree to uphold the executive order to delay the start of school in Kansas. This will allow teachers, students, staff, and their families to stay safe and healthy rather than possibly being exposed to CovID 19 unnecessarily. I do not want to choose between a profession I love and the health of myself and others.
7/20/2020 20:30:15	Justin	Mumpower		Maple Hill, Ks	Please allow the counties to make the decision on when schools should start. Our county currently only has one active case, making 39 total with 38 fully recovered. I have 2 high school students and a wife that is a teacher. They are all ready to get back to school. Thank you, Justin Mumpower

					<p>PLEASE ALLOW KANSAS SCHOOLS TO OPEN AT THEIR OWN DISCRETION!</p> <p>In short, I disagree with Governor Kelly using her executive powers to delay the opening of all Kansas schools.</p> <p>Many districts from around the state have taken hundreds of hours, spent hundreds of thousands of dollars, and painstakingly worked through the spring and summer to ensure opening on time, or earlier, for the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>With that being said, I completely understand that some districts and locations in Kansas may not be ready, or COVID related circumstances may encourage a delay in their opening.</p> <p>Allow this to be a decision made at the local level, and not an all-encompassing mandate from the top.</p> <p>The American Academy of Pediatricians supports students being in schools this year. Every European nation that saw their students return to school experienced a zero percent increase in disease transmission.</p> <p>If students and staff do not want to return, they do not have too. No one is forcing anyone to send their child to a public school, and no one is forcing any Kansas citizens to teach in a public school setting.</p> <p>In closing, please vote no in regards to Governor Kelly's desire to delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year. All the choice to be made at the local level. Thank you for your time.</p>
7/20/2020 20:30:15	Kelly	Williams	Nemaha Central High School	Seneca	
7/20/2020 20:30:23	Kristin	Robertson		Topeka	Communities across the state are vastly different; schools and districts deserve the chance to make their own decisions regarding reopening. Trust our educators to know what's best for their students!
7/20/2020 20:30:29	Trinda	Wheeler	Blue Valley	Olathe	Please support the executive order. The document you unveiled last week needs more time to be implemented and new Covid case numbers are still rising. Also, please consider upgrading the guidance shared during last week's meeting on "determining" which "type" of instruction to be holding (rising=virtual, flat=hybrid, low/decreasing=in person) to something more binding. It was the most useful piece and I've not seen it in the official document.
7/20/2020 20:30:34	Martha	Davis	Elementary school	Sedan	I work at Sedan Elementary as the administrative assistant. These children have been out of school for far too long. School is a safe haven for a lot of kids. It's a place where you are fed, you are taught life lessons and most importantly you are felt loved by someone. I am from a small school where social distancing will be doable. We have small enough class sizes. So why not just let each district decide what they want to do? I am sure each district has been working hard this summer in order to prepare for the start of school next month.
7/20/2020 20:30:34	Laura	Harpold	USD #500 Kansas City	Kansas City	Please delay the return to school until after Labor Day. The State of Kansas is currently in the Red Zone...classified as "Out of Control" on the spread of the virus. How can we consider putting the lives of students, teachers and families at risk? Stop politicizing this as a Republican blocking a Democratic governor. This issue is about health and safety. Please, do the right thing...vote to support the delay. Thank you!
7/20/2020 20:30:36	Liz	Gravatt		Lawrence	I appreciate your service on the State Board of Education, and I cannot imagine how impossible this decision seems. Please delay school until after Labor Day, and even longer if necessary. This would be a temporary delay, instead of a possible long-term delay for students due to extended illness, or death. We are in a situation where every option available is bad, and each option comes with bad consequences. As a teacher myself (Bachelor of Music Education, and I own/operate a horseback riding lesson business) I cannot bear the thought of losing any of my students to this pandemic, or the thought of them losing me. I wish I had the magic answer, but I don't. The best I can think of is outdoor classrooms, which still come with insane logistics, but I absolutely believe that any kind of in-person learning will be disastrous to physical health (illness/death), mental health (there's no way to make in-person learning anything like it "normally" is, which will in itself be traumatic), and morale for students, teachers, staff, volunteers, etc. Teachers are already in short supply, the substitute pool will be smaller, and when there's nobody left to teach, then what? Again, I'm afraid I do not have the answer. I wish you all courage as you consider this monumental decision. Thank you for the opportunity to express my thoughts.

7/20/2020 20:30:39	Dede	Bien	Parent	Overland Park	Shutting down our schools with the lowest death rate during this pandemic is absolutely ridiculous. This is a virus we need to learn to live with. Teachers are essential employees, get back to work and get children back in schools. Shame on our Governor for making this political!!!
7/20/2020 20:30:40	Julie	Orton		Saint George	Please do not wait until after Labor Day to open schools. Children have already missed too much precious classroom time and my kids are falling behind as it is. They also should not wear masks as they are not proven to protect against virus transmission, they will be a distraction and children will touch them thus making them even more ineffective. I also worry about how they will be uncomfortable to wear as well all day. Wearing them on busses and into classrooms is fine but all day is ridiculous.
7/20/2020 20:30:40	Danielle	Whitmer	Haysville GEAR UP	Rose Hill	I support Gov Kelly's decision to postpone opening schools.
7/20/2020 20:30:42	Sherry	Jackson	Myself and I work for UI	Salina	I teach for Salina School District. I am NOT in favor of school being postponed for many reasons. Please read below and please keep schools on their original schedule to open.  Just so you know I'm 55 and have been a teacher for over 30 years. My first responsibility is to my students. Children NEED to be back in school. Teachers that are able to teach need to be back in school. Here are a couple of reasons why: 1. We have many children in high risk environments and are being abused and neglected. School is the only structured safe place for them. This is a HUGE reason and must be considered. We have to send a message to these kids that we care about their well being and their education. If this group of kids have to continue to stay home, the results will be devastating. The results are already devastating. My heart just goes out to the little boy who was locked in a shed during quarantine in Wichita. There are many many more kids in equally dire circumstances. 2. I actually teach in a middle to higher socioeconomic school and while some of my students thrived online, many could not handle it. I saw alarming signs of depression in the short time of online school. Students need socialization and many kids could not understand why we couldn't go to school or why they couldn't see their friends. Many of my families struggled to make sure their kids were attending class and doing their work while they were at work. 3. We also cannot raise a generation of kids who are scared of their own shadows and who cannot think for themselves. The adults have to model rational thinking during this time and stress to kids good hygiene practices and to stay home when sick but to not be afraid to get back to normal life. 4. This virus has a very low death rate. While positive cases are being reported of rising, death rates are going down. For some reason people do not want to talk about this aspect of the virus. 5. People ( teachers, families, students, everyone) need to take control of their immune health. The depts of health at our state and national level should be putting out information about building immunities naturally. People need to eat healthy and get exercise and take responsibility for themselves. I truly get it that our health compromised individuals need to be protected but our healthy people need to be going about daily life. 6. There are hundreds of thousands of viruses around us and in us. Our bodies are wonderfully made to fight those viruses daily. We will never go back to school if we take this kind of draconian action every time a virus rears its ugly head.
7/20/2020 20:30:49	laurie	smith	USD 305	Salina	Definitely wait!!
7/20/2020 20:30:54	Jamie	Rice		Spring Hill	Open the schools! Let the kids get back to normal!! And no mandatory masks for Elementary (or any other age, but especially the young ones). This is an actual joke at this point. I will homeschool my kids if they have to go to a prison-like school where they have to leave their personal liberty at the door! My children's health is my responsibility not yours. Mask up your teachers if you must, but let's get back to normal! Enough with the fear.
7/20/2020 20:31:02	Lisa	Ross	USD437	Topeka	I am a teacher and parent of four public school students. We live in Shawnee county. Given the guidance that you issued just last week, our schools need the extra time to get prepared and to give us as teachers time to pull together lessons that will be delivered in a new way. Please vote to delay the start of school. This is the safest and most effective way to open up the school year this year. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:31:06	Megan	Lee	De Soto USD232	Lenexa	I respectfully request the board to vote YES on delaying the start of the school year. As both an educator and a parent, I am very concerned about starting school in-person within the next few weeks. The number of Covid cases in our area are rising rapidly without an end in sight. I want my children, my students, my fellow educators, and myself to have a safe environment in which to return. Thank you for all you do for the state of Kansas.
7/20/2020 20:31:09	Linda	Fadely	USD #286	Sedan	Please don't open up the schools until after Labor Day!

7/20/2020 20:31:31	Abby	Smith		Wichita	Open after labor day
					As a special education teacher my first priority has always been to keep my students safe. I once had a parent ask me what I would do if a lockdown was called due to an intruder and her son with autism was in the restroom or somewhere other than the classroom where he might not understand what to do. I told her I would go get him so he would hopefully be safe. This school year will be no different, I want to keep my students safe and with current COVID 19 numbers continuing to climb across the state I firmly believe we are not safe returning to the buildings yet. Many of my students have significant medical needs that also concern me. Like many others, I also believe that students need the socialization that school in an average year provides but there is nothing average about this year and socialization will not be the same. For example, since I teach in a functional special education setting we often play board games to practice turn taking, communication, and so much more. These opportunities will not be an option this year. In order to return to a face to face educational setting we will need so many resources that are not currently available. I know virtual is not optimal but what learning environment will be optimal this year? If my students and the staff that supports them cannot remain healthy, if we see even one death in our school related to COVID-19 we have seen too many. I've had students and staff both die in my 18 years as an educator. Those are things you never forget or recover from so why would we take the risk of lives for a less than optimal education due to social distancing, frequent disruptions to clean surfaces, wash hands, etc. I want to be at the school with my students but I want to be safe and be able to continue to see my parents with underlying health concerns outside the school day without fear of exposing them. Currently, I believe the delay until after Labor Day should be supported and if we continue to see our numbers climb a virtual school year should be implemented state wide. One life lost from exposure at school is too many! I feel the same way for my own children as well. Thank you for your time!
7/20/2020 20:31:32	Brooke	Claypool	East Central Kansas Spe	Prescott, KS	
7/20/2020 20:31:39	Bobbi	Hogue	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	Please delay the opening of schools!!
7/20/2020 20:31:50	Timothy	Lee	CHS	Haysville	Why would we go back to school now when the cases are at a record night when we left school when the numbers weren't even a 1/3 of what they are now?

					<p>The decision by Governor Kelly to postpone the start of K-12 schools to after Labor Day is yet another example of her administration's inability to plan effectively and to govern with a data-driven, fact-based approach.</p> <p>In her news conference, the governor indicated that school districts needed additional time to purchase supplies and equipment to mitigate the spread of Covid-19 once classes begin. The Kelly administration, the Kansas State Department of Education, and the school districts have had all summer to make these plans. That they have failed to act in a timely manner does not reflect well on the state's leadership. Someone might object by saying that the KSDE plan for reopening in the fall was only released this week. That is correct, but KSDE should have completed its plans earlier so that preparations could be made in time for the start of the fall semester. Everyone has recognized that additional preparations for fall learning would be required, so why wasn't a reasonable timeline settled upon?</p> <p>Governor Kelly and Secretary Norman often tout themselves as leaders who base their decisions on science and data. But when they fail to reopen our schools in a timely manner, they ignore a growing body of evidence that suggests that school children are not serious disease transmitters and that keeping kids out of school hurts our youth scholastically, emotionally, and even physically. The American Academy of Pediatrics has advocated for reopening schools in a safe manner. Numerous pediatricians have echoed the AAP's statement. Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City has stated that it is safe for Kansas City-area schools to reopen this fall with appropriate precautions. Are Governor Kelly and Secretary Norman really suggesting that they know better than the AAP, numerous medical professionals, and the preeminent children's hospital in our region? It seems that they are defying the data and the science by delaying the start of schools.</p> <p>Meanwhile, child abuse reports have dropped dramatically across the nation, leaving child health professionals worried about the system that protects vulnerable children. Kansas has an appalling record on taking care of at-risk children already. Governor Kelly's decisions only compound that crisis.</p> <p>Kansas children have already lost precious instructional time due to the closure of schools in the spring. The governor now threatens to exacerbate that by taking away three weeks of learning for the fall semester. Our children deserve</p>
7/20/2020 20:31:57	Christopher	Childers		Pittsburg	
7/20/2020 20:32:01	Connie	Ernatt	Parent	Wichita	It is unsafe for school at this time!
7/20/2020 20:32:02	Adam	Schultze	None	Shawnee, ks	Please start school and school activities. The positive test count is not a reliable metric because of changes in testing quantity performed. Hospitalization and death rates have been counted more consistently and have remained relatively flat. School age children are at an extremely low risk, and their parents are a very low risk. The harm to the quality of our children's education is dramatic and will be seen in the ACT test scores next year. Please allow school to without further delay.
7/20/2020 20:32:04	Natalie	Randall	Natalie K. Randall, Atty	Dodge City	I hope each of you received the individual emails I sent out regarding my concerns. Most everyone in our area understands that the schools will be a source of reigniting the infection within our community, which has been hard hit already. Giving the teachers and staff, including my husband who is a bus driver, adequate time to put proper measures in place while, maybe not a perfect solution, is simply better than going forward without being adequately prepared. Please respect the Governor's decision in giving everyone adequate time to make the most common sense arrangements that can be put in place at this time.
7/20/2020 20:32:13	Christine	Bachtel	USD 469 Lansing	Leavenworth County, La	Please do not open schools before Labor Day. We are still rising in cases in Kansas and in our county. We need to give it chance to start lowering before we reopen schools.
7/20/2020 20:32:27	Robin	Simmons	Olathe 233	Spring Hill	I support the Governor's EO.
7/20/2020 20:32:30	Jenni	Howard	Teachers	Topeka	I support Gov Kelly's decision to delay schools. We have a lot to figure out and just received the info to do so. Give the schools time so that teachers and students are safe.
7/20/2020 20:32:47	Katie	Norwood		Olathe	I fully support the Governor's executive order delaying the opening of schools. Please give schools the time to prepare. Olathe is not ready to open. Our numbers are too high. Please protect our children and beloved teachers.
7/20/2020 20:32:50	Rona	Kramer		Cimarron	I think It's a great plan to delay school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 20:32:53	Darcy	Demetre Hill		Olathe	I support Gov. Kelly's executive order to delay school until after a Labor Day. While I'm eager for our kids to return to the classroom, I think schools need additional time to plan and implement a safe return.

7/20/2020 20:33:05	Jenny	Babiuch	Parent in Olathe SD	Overland Park	I am desperately concerned that school will not open this fall. I am a single mother of three school age children. Two of my children have an IEP and must be in-class to learn effectively. My son, Pablo, has autism and needs one on one, in-person learning. Remote learning is not acceptable in this situation! I understand all families have different situations and I respect that . Please do not punish the children and families that require in-class learning. We have been told modifications have been made in the classrooms - so let's wear masks and make it work. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:33:17	Xi	Jin	classroom teacher	Leawood	Please delay the reopening or start the new school year online! The cases are surging! Reopening school will make the situation even worse!
7/20/2020 20:33:19	Johnna	Flack	Most teachers in Kansas	Easton	Give the schools time to prepare for students and their safety. Not 1 school will be prepared in 3 weeks. 6 weeks is more doable. I also believe you should mandate a hybrid type learning order. It will allow students to be in school and allow for social distancing. 1 dead kid is too many. 1 dead teacher is too many. Do the right thing. Follow the science and those that are experts.
7/20/2020 20:33:19	Margaret	Haik	parent	Overland Park	The cognitive dissonance over this issue is amazing. Science experts tell us that the worst thing to do during this pandemic is to gather large groups of people indoors for extended periods of time. Yet, that is what we are considering doing for our children. Somehow we're trying to justify it as "necessary." Why? It is not necessary; it will be dangerous. We will do more damage to our children's educational and emotional growth if we constantly have to shut down for a week here and there to disinfect the school when someone shows up sick. School needs to be delayed or put online until it is TRULY safe to get them all under one roof again.
7/20/2020 20:33:21	Lisa	baumgard		Usd 437	school needs to start in August and should be in person
7/20/2020 20:33:21	Christine	McPherson	Shawnee Mission School	Tecumseh	It is not practical to screen temps on all students or and staff daily. The youngest students need to be able to see faces to learn effectively- masks are not needed as they have not been required by daycare centers and have been no outbreaks-Why are they required for schools??
7/20/2020 20:33:24	Kristen	Harshaw		Topeka	I am a special education teacher, am the mother of a 4 year old who will start preschool in a public school this year, and am 5 months pregnant with another little guy who will eventually go to public schools. Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day, as it will allow for more time to develop a plan to keep my students, my sons, my colleagues, and myself safe.  It is my sincere hope that school districts can use this time to involve teachers in the development of inclusive virtual learning plans, to ensure everyone's safety in the months until we have a vaccine for COVID-19 accessible to everyone who enters our school buildings.  Thank you!
7/20/2020 20:33:41	Amanda	Lattimer	USD434	Carbondale	As both a parent and as a teacher here in Kansas, I am asking you to stand with Governor Kelly to do your best to keep our students and staff safe as we reopen schools. We need to ensure that the schools are able to prepare for safety measures and that we do this right. By doing so, hopefully we will be able to ensure less virus transmission and stay in our buildings longer. We need to work in unison not divided. This should be about the safety of all of the lives that come into our buildings.

7/20/2020 20:33:50	Monica	Wright		Cimarron	<p>I'm glad the governor signed an executive order to help get schools ready for the school year. In my opinion, I hope we go to a hybrid/online learning model for at least this year. I have an asthmatic child that gets very, very sick at least 1 or 2x a year; I don't want to imagine what that looks like adding covid to the scenario. We do what we can to protect ourselves at home. But realistically, we all know schools spread illnesses quicker than grocery stores, even with protective measures in place. I have 4 children entering the school system this year, with a wide range in age, I would like to think that the older ones would be safer but the transferring of classes in a small areas like the hallways gives concern. The younger kids, just given their age and learning of hygiene processes will bring a risk as well.</p> <p>I'm a nurse at a local hospital, I've seen the patients with chronic issues succumb to the virus and I've watched a healthy person fight for over a month, to just be able to leave the hospital. I've been at the bedside when a mother, not much younger than I, facetime her children, again not much younger than my own and tell them the nurses in the costumes were her friends and not be scared. Imagine if a young child is on the receiving end of the costume nurse? And just imagine for a moment that I was that mother with the ill child. Not only am I unable to help the community in my job role, I am pulled away from my other children to be with the sickest one. I say this not for sympathy for me, but for a perspective for others to what we are putting our communities at risk for.</p> <p>My nurse brain says we have to protect everyone, even the ones that are not at as high of risk because it spreads so easily and again we put people that are more vulnerable at risk. Our teachers will get ill, the students will get ill, their families will get ill and then it spreads to their workplaces and their families. We live in a rural area that travels to bigger towns to work, we will spread it back and forth in some way. Just how the virus started in our county. I hope this helps with the process of what to do moving forward. I get you can't please everyone, but I'm hoping we can take this into consideration when deciding.</p>
7/20/2020 20:33:50	Amy	Duever		Herkimer	<p>There is no reason to delay school opening. Students aged 18 and younger are not severely effected by the coronavirus, nor are they the spreaders of the virus. More students die from the flu and we do not close schools for the flu.</p>
7/20/2020 20:33:51	Alexa	Heim	Representing myself as a	Wichita (67209)	<p>I strongly support the executive order from Governor Kelly. I also wrote to my BOE representative last week to urge him to also support the executive order. I believe this executive order is helpful in many ways. One being, we have the chance to slow down the number of COVID-19 cases. Two, educators have more time to prepare for students. Three, this gives parents more time to weigh the different options they have available for their child. I strongly feel that with the spike in cases in Sedgwick county, a delayed start would keep our community safe. I am asking the board today to please support Governor Kelly's executive order and delay the opening of schools. Students and staff members deserve to go back to school in a safe environment.</p>
7/20/2020 20:33:49	Alisha	Kough	Self	Scott city	<p>This order does not fit every school district! We have had 19 total cases since this all began here in our community. We have not had a huge spike even after we opened back up. Our students have been going on vacation and gathering in larger groups and still...no spikes in our community. I firmly believe each community should have the choice on how to open their schools. These kids that we are keeping home are only being delayed more and more with these rules. And with each set back we are making it that much harder for the teachers to do their jobs and meet educational benchmarks with these students.</p> <p>I am a mother and step mother of seven kids from fourth grade to freshman in college. I will tell you right now that the solution is not delaying the education of our children but rather implementing better solutions and working on plans in the event we actually need to move back to online schooling. In our community there is zero need for such a delay. Let the communities have a say. Let us do what fits our situation. Our state has way more rural areas than we do cities or even very large towns. It's a lot like if I were to give all of my children the same curfew or bedtime. The needs of a nine year old are different than college student. It wouldn't make sense. Celebrate our diversity and encourage a different approach than other states and let us decide.</p>
7/20/2020 20:33:55	A	N		Wichita	<p>Please keep the delay and or go to virtual learning as our number of cases continues to climb. Please keep us and our families safe.</p>



7/20/2020 20:33:58	Lindsey	Shriver		Overland Park	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day. This will allow schools to better prepare for the safety and education for our children.
7/20/2020 20:34:02	Janette	Parker	Parent	Olathe	Keep schools closed until it is safe. We can not expect students or teachers to risk their lives indoors with this virus. Start school online and move to in person when it is safe.
7/20/2020 20:34:02	Michael	Pruitt		Country	Kids need to get back to school, they are the least affected.
7/20/2020 20:34:02	Peter	White	Parent	Shawnee	For the mental stability of our youth, the students need to return to school prior to Labor Day. Nothing can replicate in school learning and after school activities for young maturation.
7/20/2020 20:34:04	Chelsea	Lincoln		Shawnee, Ks	I believe that the state school board should vote against the governor's order. To many children rely on the services that schools provide in addition to the education they are being taught.
7/20/2020 20:34:05	Elaine	Scheelk		Shawnee	I ask that you please uphold the Governor's mandate to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. This allows our educators more time to prepare adequate plans for both in person and potential distance learning options as well as providing adequate processes for sanitizing, check in and distancing requirements. The investment of time is a common sense way to be more prepared and to allow the mask mandate to effect a change in the trajectory of the viral spread. Thank You, Elaine Scheelk
7/20/2020 20:34:14	Kristie	McBratney	TPS 501	Lawrence	Support schools delayed start. Safety first. Planning for safety is best.
7/20/2020 20:34:17	Marie	Giago	Moms	Lawrence, Kansas	Yes, delay the start
7/20/2020 20:34:19	Andy	Potterf		Goodland ks	I believe this order from the governor is over reaching and as it has been stated before you can't put the state of Kansas in a one size fits all shoe. There is major differences between the east and the west half of the state. The county which I reside in has 9 case with 7 recovered. Why should children and teachers be made to wear masks with so few cases?
7/20/2020 20:34:21	Angie	Malwitz		Liberal	I support schools opening late. This would allow teachers to be better prepared for the demands of educating students in times likes these.
7/20/2020 20:34:23	Sloane	Freeman		Sharon, KS	The schools need to open at regular time. If we are seriously considering closing longer thru the winter, the kids need to start on time. I've been worried about the kids that don't get a meal at home, that don't get cared for, that don't get loved at home. Kids whose parents don't care if they get their school work online done or not. Kids that need school for a safe place. Kids that need extra educational tools, on an IEP. Parents aren't teachers, otherwise we would have gone to school to learn how to teach. Kids have a low risk of contracting COVID, as has been shown in many studies. Require masks, whatever you need to, but we cannot let fear control the future of our children's livelihood. We need to provide cleaning measures and give schools the supplies needed for proper cleaning. We do have to protect everyone, but keeping everyone out of school longer is not the answer. It only cripples the future.
7/20/2020 20:34:29	Rebecca	Carlson	Usd233	Spring Hill	Do not accept the delay in school let us start on time and get learning going.
7/20/2020 20:34:31	Traci	Longberg		Wichita/Maize	Delay it! We need Covid numbers down & not a death sentence for our kids, teachers, staff, etc. I am really happy about the masks, but feel that online is not going to hurt our kids until a vaccine is in place. It is all about lives and everyone should be safe. Unfortunately, schools happen to be the number one breeding ground for illnesses. I really think that the phases should be put into place like Topeka, Ks. This will allow the online learning transition to be in place when the Covid numbers rise and we have to quarantine again during flu season.
7/20/2020 20:34:34	Stephanie	Drymalski	Myself	Liberal	I am in support of this order. I believe starting later will help my school district prepare and ensure that when they do open schools it will be done safely. I believe without this order, my district - which has the 2nd highest percentage of COVID19 cases in the state would decide to open in August without a well thought out plan that puts students and staff at risk.
7/20/2020 20:34:36	JAMIE	ZACARIAS		WICHITA	School should be delayed to avoid further cases.
7/20/2020 20:34:44	Katie	Entwisle	Usd #263	Derby	Please delay the start of the 2020 school year until after the number of Covid-19 infections begins to decline. The fear of losing a loved one, be it a child or adult, is not worth the risk of starting school as previously scheduled in August.
7/20/2020 20:34:45	Amy	Gingrich		Olathe	Please vote yes to delay schools opening until after Labor Day. I am a Kansas teacher and I do not feel we are prepared to keep our building staff safe!

7/20/2020 20:34:52	Geri	Hartley	Parent	Ozawkie	I agree with following the gov order. We should promote following the order of our leaders. In addition, it will not be absolutely detrimental to the children of our state to delay a few weeks. I represent in juvenile or child in need of care cases and have had 3 of my own. While schools need to open in person, they don't need to rush to open in person immediately. Allow us to get numbers under control.
7/20/2020 20:34:53	Debi	Woltz		Lenexa	The entire first semester of the 2020-21 school year should be remote learning only. Once teachers begin falling ill from contamination in classrooms, then there will be no staff to teach in the classroom OR virtually. Please keep our teachers, staff, and children safe AT HOME.
7/20/2020 20:34:56	Bekki	Ringle	- None -	Salina	I support delaying the opening of Kansas schools. Teachers and support staff deserve time and preparation to reinforce their health and well-being. Many counties throughout Kansas have not enforced a mask ordinance, and it's disheartening to think we can send them back in a couple weeks to be closed in with those who haven't taken any precaution and could be asymptomatic. To whom it may concern,
7/20/2020 20:34:57	Levi	Hogan		Olathe	The current situation with the novel coronavirus pandemic is dire in our nation, including in the state of KS. Cases of COVID-19 have been rapidly rising, and this rise cannot be statistically explained only by increased testing.  This virus is deadly for many, and those that survive can have potentially lifelong crippling effects to their lungs, heart, brain, and other organs. In fact, we still don't even know the true impact of COVID-19 on future health. It's best to take a cautious approach that assumes these effects may even be worse than we now realize.  All of this means that if we open schools, and pack everyone into them, we will have death. Rampant outbreaks are inevitable, and deaths will accompany this sickness. This isn't alarmism, it's a firm scientific projection based on the last few months of data. Many, many students will get sick when schools reopen. Some will die. Many teachers will get sick, and some will die (at a higher proportion than students). Janitors will get sick and die. Administrators will get sick and die. Lunch staff will get sick and die. The families of all of these groups, including vulnerable and elderly family members, will get sick from their students transferring the virus home, and some of those family members will die. And many will propagate the virus further in their workplace and communities. How will the school system even handle these crises? And the lawsuits that will inevitably arise?  There are also many deleterious effects of keeping schools completely closed. Students are delayed further in learning and social development, and parents are put in tough positions without the childcare that school provides during the workday. A particularly concerning impact is that students from lower-income families, disproportionately students of color, are impacted even more by a lack of in-school learning, and potentially a lack of the regular meal schedule they receive at school. Critically, the achievement gap already experienced between white students and students of color will be exacerbated as schools stay closed.  However, these same populations vulnerable to an increased achievement gap are also the populations most vulnerable to COVID-19. And if it comes down to missing part of another school year, or dying/having family members die, the better option is clear: keep schools closed, engaged in remote learning. Work to find ways to make this as effective and
7/20/2020 20:35:04	Bridget	Remer	A parent and a teacher	Silver lake	Do what is right to keep kids, teachers and families safe! Delay school until numbers decrease.
7/20/2020 20:35:06	Peggy	Cowan	Self/retired/grandparent	Olathe	We stand with Governor Kelly & her leadership. Keep our children, teachers & school personnel safe.
7/20/2020 20:35:09	Robin	Schwanke	None	Colby	I believe they delayed start date, after Labor Day is a good idea.
7/20/2020 20:35:20	Jenni	Penka	Parent	St. Francis	I feel kids need to get back to school and get a good education. Shorting school years will not help that. My children do not learn well via online learning either. We live in far northwest Kansas where we have not had issues with the virus.
7/20/2020 20:35:30	Kelly	Grist	My family	Lenexa	Delay opening. Five teachers time to prepare for online or partial school.
7/20/2020 20:35:34	Laura	Peacock-whiteside		Lenexa	I fully support the delayed opening as a parent and a teacher. There are no feasible or safe ways to bring students back in person or even hybrid now. There must be at least 14 days of no new cases before students and teachers can be brought to school buildings.
7/20/2020 20:35:49	Crystal	Zacarias	WSU	Wichita	The school year should be postponed.

7/20/2020 20:35:54	Shawn	Curry	Colby high school paren	Colby, ks	Start school, and activities on time. The emotional and psychological damage to the kids will be worse than COVID could ever be!!!
7/20/2020 20:35:54	Kelli	Kniffen	Parent/Substitute Teach	Olathe	We are not prepared to start the school year under the current conditions. Teachers need training in teaching online and hybrid teaching. Cleaning and PPE supplies need to be obtained. Please approve this order and spend the time and money on training teacher, paras and staff best online teaching practices and how to teach their kids to interact safely and acquiring PPE and cleaning supplies to make it possible for a safe return when case numbers go down.
7/20/2020 20:36:01	Jennifer	Johnson	SLP's	Wichita	Please wait to start school, my personal children as well as the children on my case load deserve more than your assumptions that we will be safe. This virus has proven it can mutate, it will make the students and staff I'll- at what cost? Academics can be taught and retaught. Life's if families can not be put in 2nd place. Thank you
7/20/2020 20:36:01	Ellen	Cleveland		Tonganoxie	Please vote to uphold the governor's mandate and delay the start of school.
7/20/2020 20:36:04	Carol	Edwards	Wichita	Wichita	These kids need to go back to school, they need it and so do the parents!! The kids that have iep's need the consistently of the work and mental work that they can't get from the parents that don't know how to home school!! If you let this governor do this then you except everything that she is doing and it's wrong in so many ways!! I have been reading a lot about different countries that just left everything as is and they are already over the cov-19 and that's the way it be, but it's not!! You and the governor want everyone to live in fear and that's not the way it it should be, especially with our children!!
7/20/2020 20:36:13	Tricia	Howell	My five school kids	Lansing	THEY NEED TO BE BACK IN SCHOOL!!!! SEND THESE KIDS BACK TO SCHOOL!!!!
7/20/2020 20:36:23	Adam	King		TOPEKA	Definitely delay the opening of our schools!
7/20/2020 20:36:28	Kira	Teeter		Grinnell	I emphatically oppose postponing the opening of schools. Kids need to go to schools and return to some semblance of normalcy.
7/20/2020 20:36:33	Julie	White		Spring Hill	Begin the school year on time!! The kids need to get back in the classroom!
7/20/2020 20:36:44	Anita	Johnson	Ashland USD 220	Ashland	Please keep schools closed until Labor Day to give them the time to prepare given the new rise in infections and to give the public the opportunity to help lower the rate of infection in Kansas.
7/20/2020 20:36:52	Stephanie	Bowen	Olathe School District	Olathe	As a grandmother of school age children, and a health care professional, I think that the delay of school is very unnecessary, I believe the wearing of face masks for children would be completely in effect, and unhealthy for the child. I do encourage extensive hand hygiene, with multiple hand washing throughout the day, and the practice of keeping your hands to yourself, also hand sanitizers available. Temperatures being taken are a fine screening tool, unless the child is Asymptomatic. I think a delay in school will only put children behind even further than they are from only having virtually a 1/2 year last year. Common since plays a huge factor in this decision, and educating the kids is far better than isolation. Thank you!!
7/20/2020 20:36:54	Teresa	Bradshaw	Kingman HS	Kingman	I am a former PreK teacher and director, but currently working as a paraeducator in an Olathe School District SPED preschool classroom to be more available to my own three children during their middle and high school years. (7th, 9th, and 11th) As both an educator and parent I believe it's best for our kids to be in school. However it is not worth the major health risk to students, teachers, additional district staff, and all of their family members to return when numbers are still increasing. At much as the kids and I love school and extracurricular activities, we are nervous to do in person learning with the current risks and covid cases steadily increasing. Please vote to uphold the governor's executive order delaying school until after Labor Day. Whether families and districts ultimately decide in person or virtual, this will allow districts, administrators and teachers to plan and take the necessary precautions to make learning as safe and effective as possible.
7/20/2020 20:36:55	Natasha	Pyle	My family	McPherson Ks	Delayed start would help schools have time to implement precautions, obtain necessary supplies, and remodel rooms if necessary. Teachers would have time to get training on effective distant learning techniques and develop lessons to accommodate those who are in school. It might allow time for numbers to go down as well.
7/20/2020 20:36:58	Jill	Clements	Parent in SMSD	Roeland Park	Please allow kids to return to school before Labor Day. Kids are getting bored which then causes other issues. Also, most teachers I have talked to want kids to return. Thanks for all you do to protect our kids!
7/20/2020 20:37:01	Richard	Cleveland		Tonganoxie	I support Governor Kelly's executive order. I appreciate her listening and reading the science to protect our students and teachers. More than anything I want my kids to be able to go back to school, but it's not safe since so many are not following the guidelines to protect others. This is not a political issue; this is a human life issue.
					Please vote uphold the governor's mandate to delay the start of school.

7/20/2020 20:37:09	Anne	Rose		Abilene	Please consider starting school on time and in person!! These students need to be back in the classrooms, participating fully in activities and teachers want to teach!!! Let's resume our normal schedule in masks if needed. Studies show that young people don't contribute much to the spread of this illness. But they do need an education and the "continuous learning" they did in the fall was ok, but no where near the amount of education they would have gotten in class. Parents, teachers, and kids are ready to get back to business!!!
7/20/2020 20:37:10	Kelly	Smith	Olathe public schools	Olathe	As a teacher and parent I request that you uphold the governor's mandate to postpone starting school. The extra time will allow larger districts more time to train staff and gather supplies to protect both staff and students. The additional time will also hopefully allow the mask mandate to decrease the numbers of people testing positive. Please vote with Science and not with politics.
7/20/2020 20:37:16	Sarah	B	Blue Valley School Dist	Olathe	Thank you for representing our State. I ask that you please uphold Governor Kelly's executive order to begin school after Labor Day. As an educator in Kansas for over 25 years, I want nothing more to return to the classroom. However, opening schools now is reckless as we watch our COVID numbers rise. I'm not sure how as an educator I can guarantee my students and families safety along with my own family. I have always told my students that my job is "to keep you safe". With small classrooms, limited supplies, and a small substitute pool makes learning difficult under these unusual circumstances. With the current mask mandate, hopefully the extra 3 weeks will allow us to bring our numbers down to begin school safely. Thank you again for your time in considering the safety of the students and faculty of Kansas Schools!
7/20/2020 20:37:24	Jennifer	Nelson		Overland Park	Please delay school starting to keep our children and teachers safe.
7/20/2020 20:37:29	Megan	Wyman		Cimarron	Delaying school is detrimental to our children's learning. They've been out of school since March and many completely missed the last quarter of learning. They're behind where they need to be going into a new year already. This also means that there is no jump start available to help the children who were already behind in March. This gap is going to continue to widen. Also, we live in a rural farming community, and moving into early summer with children still in school will cause many challenges for these children and families.
7/20/2020 20:37:32	Lance	Herron	Parent from Eudora Hig	Eudora, Ks.	My high school son has been playing baseball with a Lawrence team in tournaments around the state and soccer with his high school team, the entire summer. There have not been any problems with this epidemic. They all know the precautions that they need to take and are doing a good job of social distancing when not involved in action. These kids need to have their sports! There have been numerous studies saying that a kid's well-being is much higher when they are allowed to be themselves. My other son's high school career was ended abruptly, please allow these kids to resume normalcy. If a kid is fearful, then he can choose to not play, but more than 90% of high school kids want to play their sports.
7/20/2020 20:37:43	Kate	Boetcher	SMSD	Lenexa	I am in agreement that school should begin late. It will give teachers more time to plan how to do it safely.
7/20/2020 20:37:45	Stacea	Yell		Belvue	As not only a parent but also as someone who works in early childhood education and also has worked in the school district. I fully support a delay in returning to school. I have personally spoken with teachers who have told me about children being sent to school ill and not being picked up until school was almost over. I have also seen this in my own experiences with childcare. There are many other reasons why I feel this would be one of the best options but this is always in the front of my mind.
7/20/2020 20:37:48	Rachel	Hancock	David Brewer Elementar	Kansas City	I believe we need to delay the start of the 20-21 school year until at least after Labor Day to allow school staff to prepare according to the guidelines set out by the state. I also believe this is in the best interest for the students/staff to allow more time to hopefully flatten the curve and lower local cases. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:38:06	Abi	Sanny		Wichita	I support the mandate and hope the state board does too. As an educator I want nothing more than for teachers and students to be back together. I also don't want to put anyone in an unsafe position. Please follow the recommendations and keep our kids and my colleagues safe.
7/20/2020 20:38:07	Adrian	Waller	Wichita HS South	Wichita	Delaying the school year is the correct decision and should be supported for the safety of both students and staff, as well as the family members those people could potentially infect.

7/20/2020 20:38:08	Keith	Lunkenheimer		Derby	Teachers are the only essential workers permitted to protest showing up for work and still be paid. Learning is not nearly as effective online as it is at school and Kansas schools must open on time. By delaying opening we go further into flu season, have students who won't know their teachers and vice versa and risk a lesser time in school. Now is the time to get back to school so if we have to close in winter we have at least had some good instructional time .
7/20/2020 20:38:10	Ellie	Sickman		Tonganoxie	I hope you will vote to delay the start of school.
7/20/2020 20:38:11	Kali	Craft	KCKPS	Gladstone, MO	As a 3rd grade teacher and a brand new mother of a newborn son, I would like the board of education to please consider delaying school until after Labor Day. Let the virus cases in the state of Kansas calm down and allow schools to prepare better for opening back up safely with students, families, and staff in mind.
7/20/2020 20:38:11	Traci	Forman		Topeka	no delay. Teachers wear masks if they choose. Kids do Not wear masks
7/20/2020 20:38:35	Jilk	Hoefler	Me	Wichita	Keep schools open and on track
7/20/2020 20:38:56	Jeff	Schwinn	Parent	Topeka	What are working parents to do with even hybrid options. Half at school and half at home is a joke. I want my kids in school where my tax dollars are sent. How are people to maintain jobs with trying to figure out what to do with kids while still be held accountable for getting them on virtually. Impossible!!
7/20/2020 20:39:00	Michelle	Miller		Lenexa	<p>Open schools / reject governor's order</p> <p>For context, I have 3 young children (preschool, Kindergarten, and 2nd grade students). My husband and I work full time. Young children (especially the incoming Kindergartener) need adult supervision as they are just learning how to focus and learn. I lived a nightmare this past Spring working from home with 3 young children. It doesn't work. The children are neglected and no one should endorse neglecting children.</p> <p>Eventually, I found alternative daycare options that were open and able to enroll my children. I learned of this miraculous option via other parents. Nearly all working parents in the neighborhood sent their children back to daycare. I can guarantee you that if schools don't open, working parents will continue sending children to daycare. Why are daycares perceived to be safe for children, but schools are not? School administrators should be looking at daycares for the guidance on how to safely gather children. I would very much prefer my children attend elementary school with professionally trained educators rather than a daycare. I know many daycares are offering private Kindergarten, which again supports my assertion that other business entities are finding ways to safely gather children.</p> <p>I understand some teachers have concerns about going back to work, but what makes teachers different from any other essential worker? Health care workers, grocery store workers, and daycare workers to name a few haven't skipped a beat and have found their new normal. Teachers should do the same.</p> <p>Last week, I listened to the Olathe Public School Board of Education briefing. I heard 90% of parents want their children back in school. Thus, I conclude with the assertion that I am not alone – the majority of parents want schools reopened.</p>
7/20/2020 20:39:06	Betsy	Tipping		Topeka	Please support Governor Kelly, the educators, school staff and children. As educators we need time to fully understand the KSDE plan and be prepared for students to attend school in person. We need time to get safety protocols in place since the number of cases of Covid 19 are continuing to rise.
7/20/2020 20:39:10	Hannah	Haack	Smith County memorial	Smith Center	Mandatory mask wearing is ridiculous in kids. Please allow schools to just use common sense with distancing, good hand washing. Delaying school will not change the virus. Let's start school and allow people to work and be productive.
7/20/2020 20:39:22	Bob	Selby	Retired educator in post	Colby	Please, please accept the executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. I have only one grand daughter who will be in the 6th grade in the Buhler School District although she lives in Hutchinson, KS. Perhaps the extended 3 weeks to allow the school district to plan on how to handle this virus could save her life. Please vote to delay the start of school until after Labor Day!

7/20/2020 20:39:36	Heather	Rush		Atchison County	If we delay start date then revisions to the required number of days need to be looked at, This summer kids missed out on camps, vacations, sports and other social activities that help ensure students be well rounded people. Kids (and parents ) need to be thinking that life will get back to normal. The mental health of our nation needs to be considered as much as our physical health!
7/20/2020 20:40:05	Bryce	Fuhrmann		Derby	Safety comes first! I am so grateful that our governor stood up for the well being of our children, teachers, administrators, and support staff, as well as all whom they come in contact with. As the board of education, I trust that you, too, will make the proper decision.
7/20/2020 20:40:16	Elisha	Cairns	USD 418	McPherson	Please do not open schools until after Labor day. As a grade school teacher I am incredibly fearful of returning to work as cases continue to rise in my county and surrounding ones. We need time for mask ordinances to work and cases to decrease. I beg everyone on the school board to put aside politics and think about what is best for students and staff. We can all agree that children need to be back in school, but it seems that if that happens in August we are signing up for a quick turn around into online learning which is not the best for them. Please extend the start of school until after September to give districts more time to prepare, teachers more time to prepare, and parents more time to prep their children for the changes to come this school year.
7/20/2020 20:40:20	Patsy	Bastin		Haysville	Delaying schools means there will be less total school time period. Schools will close undoubtedly during flu season and it makes no sense to close in late summer- districts have had 6 months to prepare and 3 additional weeks is ridiculous. Get these kids back in school- you are harming them by not!
7/20/2020 20:40:20	Danielle	Stephens		Lawrence	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school for the fall till after Labor Day. The students and all school staff are depending on you to keep them safe. School districts in my opinion, especially USD 497 my local district, also need this additional time to prepare for the return to brick and mortar school. I have three students, one high school and two elementary, who are nervous to return to school buildings due to the increase in cases in Douglas County.
7/20/2020 20:40:23	Dan	Pyle	My family	McPherson	Send the kids to school! 90% of pediatricians recommend it and will send their own kids. 10-15% will homeschool and draw money away from school districts. So dont have in person school at your own peril!!
7/20/2020 20:40:24	Ange	Allen	USD 335	Soldier	Please, please let local school boards as elected officials fulfill their responsibility to make decisions for OUR local school. Please do not mandate a one size fits all policy. Thank you for your dedication to Kansas school children.
7/20/2020 20:40:34	Andrea	Nichols		Lenexa	Totally good giving schools a few more weeks to prepare for opening!
7/20/2020 20:40:36	Emily	Lawler-White	Parents Group	Leavenworth	Listen to the Governor. Look what happened when we didn't listen with the masks...we became one of the highest covid states. Please keep our kids safe and delay the school opening if at all this year.
7/20/2020 20:40:45	Kimberly	Askew		Overland Park	please vote to delay opening schools until after labor day. It will give us more time to be trained more thoroughly in how to keep our students and ourselves safe while in our classrooms.
7/20/2020 20:40:57	Kristen	Meek		Spring Hill	Please delay the opening of school to allow schools and parents more time to make informed decisions

					<p>I am in support of Governor Kelly's Executive Order delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. I read a statement from Dr. Horst earlier today and was disappointed in her response. She stated that it was up to the local school boards to make this call. While under normal circumstance, I would agree with this statement, these aren't normal circumstances. There are times that the larger government entity needs to make the call for the greater good. As politely as I can state this, our local school board members in our rural towns do not have the knowledge or competency to make such a decision. There is so much divide on what the best course of action is and it has become highly political. The well-being and health of children, teachers, and their families should not be political. I don't trust local school board members to put their personal beliefs aside and listen to teachers, school nurses, and administrators on what our concerns are.</p> <p>We need to be prepared. Dr. Horst stated that we should already be mostly prepared because we've had months. That just isn't true. We were just given the guidance document last week. Some tentative plans were made, of course, and as always, we will be ready to do whatever it is the BOE decides, but those extra three weeks would give us the ability to have a sound plan, rather than one hastily put together. It could be the difference in having school remain open for the remainder of the year, rather than the back and forth between brick and mortar and remote learning we will more than likely face if we don't have the precautions we need in place. Give us the time we need to make this new normal as seamless as possible.</p>
7/20/2020 20:41:01	Michelle	Krause	USD 115	Seneca	Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 20:41:21	Greg	Farney	Sterling JH and High Sc	Sterling	No delay, Start on time, full activities
7/20/2020 20:41:22	Jamie	Russell	None	Bonner springs	We don't need to start up school when covid 19 is all time high in my opinion
7/20/2020 20:41:42	Susan	Alexander	Myself	Perry	I teach in Topeka at Washburn University but live in Perry district. Please keep schools closed until Labor Day and then have them all go virtual for a month and see if all of us Kansans can't work together to get this virus under control.
7/20/2020 20:41:46	Ellen	Pollom		Overland Park	Please uphold Governor Kelly's mandate to keep schools closed until after Labor Day, for the safety of both our children and the hard-working teachers and staff who are not prepared to be front-line workers. It will be difficult enough to put safety measures in place in our already-crowded classrooms. Please allow time to see her mask mandate have a positive effect on our case numbers before opening schools back up.
7/20/2020 20:41:49	Sara	Dreisbach		Cherryvale, KS	Please support the governor's orders, especially the one requiring masks. As a school employee with some health issues and elderly parents I care for I am scared I will bring the virus home to them. The science proves that masks work and are really the only prevention we have until a vaccine is created. Please back the science. Please support our teachers and staff. Please support the governor.
7/20/2020 20:41:52	Robbie	Adams	Maize elementary	Maize	Please help us get our kids in school!!!! They need to go back! Please listen to the pediatricians!!!
7/20/2020 20:41:53	John	Fiedler	Parent	Olathe	I am in favor of delaying schools starting.
7/20/2020 20:41:59	Renee	Newbanks	KSBofE	Olathe	These kids have been on a roller coaster of emotions. Too keep them in the dark on what school is going to look like is very hard on them emotionally. We are desperately looking forward to sports at the HS level. As a former collegiate athlete, I understand how much they need to play sports in order to function and do well in school. A lot of kids would not try to succeed in school if they didn't have sports that pushed them to be successful academically. Please don't ruin another year of sports/academics/events like what happened in the Spring of 2020.
7/20/2020 20:42:00	Traci	Kallhoff	Self- I am a HS teacher	Wichita	I support the governor's order to delay school until September. There has been so much uncertainty and waiting by all of us - as parents and teachers that the additional time is necessary for proper planning. Also, if at all possible please urge districts to consider hybrid schedules OR online (remote) for at least the first 9 weeks, if not the entire first semester. Especially in counties with high numbers right now.
7/20/2020 20:42:04	Hanna	Murrell		Fort Scott	Thank you for hearing our comments!
					I think we should follow the governor's recommendations to start school after Labor Day. Students K-12 should wear mask when social distancing cannot occur. Fall sports should be switched to spring and spring to fall. For all indoor sports I think fans should be limited to 4 per student participant.

7/20/2020 20:42:07	Windy	Garrett	Self	Kansas City	You must consider the health, wellness and safety of all, not just students. Many students are sent to school ill, so parents can work. Please support a delay that would better allow staff to plan and prepare for such situations.
7/20/2020 20:42:09	Adina	Van Os		Wamego	I am a school staff person (food service). I feel very strongly that postponing the school year is a smart and right decision. It gives time for school employees to come up with a safe plan for their classrooms/departments as well as gives families time to come up with the best plans for their children's education and health safety.
7/20/2020 20:42:11	Angeline	Spader		Auburn	There is no reason to extend the shut down 3 more weeks! These kids need to be back in school! The schools are ready for them to come back and prolonging it is doing nothing!
7/20/2020 20:42:15	Keshia	Causey		Great Bend	Our children are already hurting from schools closing down early in the spring. How much more lack of education can 1 individual take? Remember the phrase "use it or lose it"? Well, that's exactly what is happening to our youth at this moment. Our teachers are already SOOOO underpaid but now they're going to be expected to help catch these kids up from the lack of school completed earlier this year, come up with potentially 3 different formats of lesson plans. This is just all uncalled for. I also think individual counties or school districts should be able to chose what is best for them. Some counties have minimal cases while others are "hot spots" and should potentially hold off until after Labor Day but for those that have minimal cases shouldn't be expected to hold off. This isn't a one size fits all virus. Kids have been playing summer sports since June 1, but the media is telling us we're seeing a surge since July 4 parties which makes no sense at all. Thank you for your time!
7/20/2020 20:42:16	Julie	Brown		Mission	PLEASE uphold the EO to delay school openings. Our schools need more time to get this under control and put a solid, healthy and sustainable plan in place.
7/20/2020 20:42:26	Jason	Kingman		Lawrence	Please vote to uphold the executive order to delay the opening of schools.
7/20/2020 20:42:28	Katie	Knieling		Larned	Over the summer we have moved to a new town where are our kids are new and have no friends yet. Their ages are four and eight. They are very social little girls and need school For education as well as social interaction. Please do not delay school opening Or follow the executive orders that Governor Kelly has put in place. Our children deserve an education and school experience opportunity just as we were given growing up. The virus is not going to just "disappear ". We cannot alter these kids lives any longer. It is going to start affecting them physically as well as mentally. My husband and I both work on the front lines. He is in law-enforcement and I work in EMS. I understand taking precautions and trying to prevent The spread of Covid just as you would take precautions against influenza, But please don't be extreme and make our children (as well as the teachers and school staff) suffer!
7/20/2020 20:42:32	Laura	Oaks	Private citizen	Basehor	All for keeping schools closed until after Labor Day! Also very much for hybrid return to school...2 days in and 3 days out.
7/20/2020 20:42:37	Katrina	Hawkins	Parent to three students	Leavenworth	Keep schools closed until after Labor Day, please! Keep our kids safe and once schools do open please require masks.
7/20/2020 20:42:43	Kellie	Campbell	Ottawa USD 290, and a	Gardner	Please delay school so we have more time to prepare. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:42:45	Kate	McNeil		Olathe	<p>Thank you for all of your hard work and service during this difficult time and what, I'm sure, will be a difficult year. I ask that you support Governor Kelly's executive order to keep our children, and all school employees, safe. I appreciate her leadership in listening to health officials and putting the safety of Kansas students and staff (teachers, administrators, paras, custodians, etc.).</p> <p>I have a child entering kindergarten and a child entering middle school. Any other year, this would be an exciting time for all of us. But, this year, I'm concerned for the health of everyone involved in the schools. Right now, Kansas is still in a bad place with COVID, but we can get to a better place.</p> <p>Thank you for supporting the governor's orders to prioritize the health and safety of our kids, teachers, and families!</p>



7/20/2020 20:42:48	Beth	Nelson		Olathe	I am a parent and an educator in Olathe. I fully support Laura Kelly's EO to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. She was right in March when she closed schools and then also when she mandated wearing masks. Unfortunately, politics came into play and went against her best efforts to keep us safe. Now, we have numbers rising again. Please do the right thing for our students, educators, school staff and all the family members they will go home to at night. Let's be an example of a state that bases decisions on science and health to save lives rather than one of the the states that learns the hard way.
7/20/2020 20:42:51	Donna	Maska	Concerned citizen	Hays	Please keep schools closed until at least after Labor Day for the safety of our educators and students!
7/20/2020 20:43:07	Krysten	Hearron		Overland Park	As a Senior in high school I have already missed a very influential portion of my junior year which meant losing a lot of guidance for beginning a new step into college. Losing the last quarter of my junior year was something that I will not be able to get back, and not starting off my senior year on time will only lead to more stress for my class. Delaying school means extending it farther into our summer, which is the time we will be using to prepare for our arrival to our next step in life whatever that may mean. As someone who suffers from chronic asthma and other pulmonary issues, I cannot find a justifiable reason to continue with this order. If you must send us with masks that we will do it. But considering this disease is droplet spread and not airborne, if we have masks as previously ordered there would be even more lack of reason to send us to school. Just like every other disease to plague the US in current times it will most likely be around for a long time coming, and holding us back from social interaction at this point in time would be more for a political show than for the so called safety of the people being affected.
7/20/2020 20:43:09	Kyle	Joyce	KCKPS	Kansas City	Please uphold the Governors order to delay the start of K-12 schools until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 20:43:13	Shelby	Wittman		Cimarron	If our area is safe to return to school, then please do so. Lets not have our kids fall further behind.
7/20/2020 20:43:19	LaDonna	Ward		Ulysses	If extending the reopening will help schools better prepare and also give time for the "State of Disaster Emergency Declaration" to expire Sept. 15th (along with any Covid, Governor enforced mandates, like masks requirements). Wait. Our kids don't need to be forced to comply to the Governor's insane requirements.
7/20/2020 20:43:40	Stacy	Ritchhart	USD 469	Lansing	After Labor Day.
7/20/2020 20:43:44	Becky	Smith	None	Olathe	Please open schools in KC on time!!!!
7/20/2020 20:43:48	Elizabeth	Agin-Erwin		Madison	Pass her order, delay school openings
7/20/2020 20:43:49	Susan	McRae	Parent and School Secre	Overland Park	Please vote with Laura Kelly to keep our schools closed until at least Labor Day for the safety of our kids and the safety of the staff in schools. Thank you!
7/20/2020 20:43:57	Andreaia	Moore	Hugoton Middle School	Hugoton, KS	Local control, no delay in school or sports.  Yes, we are far too concerned with only one aspect of students/humans. Physical health is important, I do not deny that. But what happened to caring for the whole of a person? Educators/Parents/Students (everyone involved). Attempting to isolate will continue to degrade mental health as well as the economy and schools are not exempt from this whatsoever of course. So, be flexible and as we know, nothing is set in stone. There has never been more than 0.7% of the population of Stevens County with an active infection, so I think we should try starting school (especially in this area) and adjust as needed.
7/20/2020 20:44:01	Kelly	Wiechman		ANDOVER	I think that delaying school will be better in stopping the spread of Covid 19. I believe that this should be done not only to protect the students, but also the families of students and teachers. Please delay the opening of schools our communities need it.
7/20/2020 20:44:09	Pam	Jackson	None	Lawrence	Please do not open before Labor Day I have not heard any sufficient safeguards available yet.
7/20/2020 20:44:13	Jessica	Kramer		Clay Center	PLEASE please open our schools on time!
7/20/2020 20:44:22	Alyson	Lumry	Parent of hs student and	Meade	As both a parent and teacher I feel it is vital for our students' mental and physical health to return to school. I feel KSDE's plans that were developed this summer should be followed. The 3 options of in school, hybrid and online options should be available.
7/20/2020 20:44:31	Darcy	Farney	Sterling Jr/High school	Sterling	Don't delay school or activities. Start on time.
7/20/2020 20:44:29	Lacy	Blaney		Wichita	Schools should be delayed for the safety of our children, for the teachers, for the faculty and staff as well as for the family members at home.

7/20/2020 20:44:33	Delaine	Molt		Horton	Leave it up to the school district. I will be my senior year this upcoming fall at Horton high. Our school is small and should not be treated the same as a Kansas City school.
7/20/2020 20:44:36	Rachel	McRae	concerned citizen	Overland Park	My mom works at a Blue Valley school, and my brother also attends one. Sending them back to school would put my entire family at risk. The school district does not pay my mom enough to ask her to risk her life and I simple be in a building when it is completely unnecessary
7/20/2020 20:44:39	Panya	Amphone	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita	Please delay the school year! It is not yet safe and the systems we have in place are not adequate for safely sending students back to school. As an educator, I know that delaying school until numbers start to decrease is the best option.
7/20/2020 20:45:11	Patricia	Hildenbrand		Topeka	I support delaying the start of in-person classroom instruction the fall through at least September 9, and will be closely watching the number of new cases to make a decision on when to send our daughter.
7/20/2020 20:44:59	Megan	Ernst		Olathe	Please vote to keep schools closed until after Labor Day or longer. Please keep our students and teachers safe! Thank you!
7/20/2020 20:45:21	Laura	Labertew	Teacher and parent	Mcpherson	PLEASE VETO Gov. Kelley's order! Put kids back in school. I am a teacher in McPherson. I have a Junior and a Senior who desperately want to finish their high school careers and need to go back to school and get to participate in activities. I understand the need for safety measures, but we can do that! If it means our children get the quality, in-person education they deserve and get to play the sports and participate in all the other activities they have worked so hard to be apart of, then we will can do what is asked. My own children as well as many, many peers, have been to multiple, multiple activities all summer long and have finally gotten that spark back. They want to do things, to be with peers, to work, to compete! This will not change. They will be with large groups of people whether they are allowed to go to school or not. They want to be in school, with their friends, learning, creating, and being kids! I worry greatly about the emotional and social state of children if they are required to stay at home any longer. Parents have to work and cannot be held responsible for their children's education while trying to maintain employment. This is creating hostile home environments for some kids. I teach Special Ed...what about those kids...they need us, they need to be in school, they need our in-person support, they want to be in school. I know there are risks..but there are risks in everything we do. This virus has taken over our lives since March and it's time to move on. Our kids deserve better! Our kids deserve a quality education, sports opportunities, social opportunities, teacher direct support, etc, etc. I could go on and on...I just beg of you to LET US GO BACK TO SCHOOL! Thank you!
7/20/2020 20:45:21	Deirdra	Kuhlmann	self	Stockton	I feel that the school may need this time to get extra training and supplies and the funding and money in place to help prevent unnecessary spread of COVID19. I also believe that not all schools need to have the "all masked " rule. If we are letting parents choose whether to send their children or choose at home learning. I am wondering how/who provides all these masks? I am also concerned with the actions of refusal of wearing masks, at certain age levels rebellion and refusal will look different. Teachers need to be able to teach not be on mask watch. Online /home learning should be last resort due to an outbreak in the county. Parents cannot afford to risk job loss/paychecks. Hopefully encouraging masks to prevent shut down will help some. I am a teacher and I just want go to work and know what to prepare for!
7/20/2020 20:45:34	Samantha	Armistead	Teacher at Blue Valley U	Overland Park	Please uphold Governor Kelly's order to postpone the reopening of schools. I am a teacher. I want to teach, but I also have a family. I have a family that depends on me. I'm personally terrified to enter an over-crowded school environment with limited access to hand washing/sinks and not enough space to social distance. We do not have COVID under control. Science does not yet understand the current and long-term risks/effects of this disease. I go above and beyond for my students, but I don't want to knowingly risk death in a preventable scenario.
7/20/2020 20:45:35	Hollyann	Kessler		Dodge City	PLEASE vote to uphold and enforce the executive order. We, as a state, have shown we cannot appropriately make decisions at the local level. This provides ALL districts with an equitable start to the year and an equitable timeline for athletics and activities to begin. Delaying school also gives teachers and staff adequate time to prepare for the vastly different teaching environment we'll be in this year.

7/20/2020 20:45:37	Mary Lou	Bills	Olathe West HS/own far	Olathe	More for my own family than my job... My daughter is a middle schooler with extreme anxiety, high functioning Autism, and asthma. While she hates being in social situations, she is tired of being home and is ready to start school. HOWEVER, she is scared to go to school with her asthma and the possibility of getting COVID. Couple that with her anxiety and it's not a good situation. She would like to be in school, but only if we can do everything possible to make it safe. So I vote for a later start if that will give us the time to put something into place to keep everyone safer.
7/20/2020 20:45:38	Zachary	Stoltenberg		Tonganoxie	The governors order ignores science and the cdc recommendations. Decisions should be left to individual school districts. Statewide mandates and decrees are wrong.
7/20/2020 20:45:40	Kami	Booi	Colby Public Schools	Colby	Please allow our kids to start school and sports as scheduled! Waiting until after Labor Day is not the answer!! These kids need normalcy in their lives! They already have had so much taken from them! I have a Senior and a Freshman this upcoming school year!!! They so desperately want to return to school and play their sports! To make those long lasting memories. It is what they live for!!! Please don't allow this very disgruntled Governor to continue to make decisions that hurt our youth!! Thank you!!!
7/20/2020 20:45:45	Tanya	Wilson		Stilwell	Urging a vote for schools to open for education and activities for those who wish to attend in person. There is no right way forward, so options are needed. Some families need to or want to elect virtual learning options and other families will need to periodically quarantine, requiring more options.  Delaying or closing schools does not cause kids to interact less and in many cases, especially with teens, if school is closed, they will be interacting without health safety modeling. We have tried hard as parents to follow the rules, but many a parent will tell you that closing schools does not stop kids from interacting. They will follow reasonable rules, but they will not stop being kids, having fun and pursuing goals.  Holding back schooling and activities hurts the kids in so many ways educationally, emotionally, physically and mentally. School closing is not protecting our community, it is pushing kids away from schools, from the many opportunities that school provides and away from a structured approach to health safety.  Options are critical when there is no one right way forward.  I ask you to re-explore how families who wish to continue school starting in August may do so. What a great story that our community believes in our public schools and the ingenuity of our communities to find a way forward. Don't try to do it alone. Call on us, we will answer.
7/20/2020 20:46:02	Ashley	avery	usd 500	kansas city	virtual learning. Its not safe for teachers, staff, or students. I can not afford my child to bring home covid to me or their dad because this has turned political. Please think about everyones health & safety
7/20/2020 20:46:06	Rose	Galliant		Wichita	I really don't want my daughter to be delayed in school, and by pushing the start of school back I think she will fall behind along with everyone else. And even at that my income is with the bus system, getting students back and forth to school so now I'm also losing money to be able to survive. Not to mention my daughter has an IEP that needs to continue and since there hasn't been school for 4 months now and will be 5 and half months when they start back up now idk how any, little own my daughter can catch up.
7/20/2020 20:46:07	Debra	Laughlin	Self	Mount Hope	Delaying is not necessary. Kids can begin online and then move to in person. We live in a world where sickness is a given and we cannot continue to be fear driven. Masks for teachers should be optional unless they are ill or prefer one. Let the local districts and school boards decide this. The state does not need to.
7/20/2020 20:46:16	Shayna	Conant		Cimarron	Please open schools!!! Our kids need to go to school, not only for education but to see their friends and teachers. My husband and I work full time jobs and can not give our kids the time they need to learn like they do in school. And for what it is worth, the kids are not going to keep masks on! I have a 8 and 5 year old and they will not keep them on, they are kids! They will be touching their face more with the mask on than without.
7/20/2020 20:46:19	Connie	Taylor		Olathe	Yes, delay school. Let's make sure children, parents, teachers, and support staff will be safe.

					<p>Please uphold the Governor's executive order. As a teacher in Kansas City, Kansas and a parent in Shawnee Mission, I am incredibly worried about the gamble of sending children, teachers, staff, and others back to school too soon. Ignoring the order sets the stage for the same type of problems that make the order a necessity in the first place.</p> <p>Unfortunately, Kansans' willingness to ignore health protocols have proven that it is absolutely necessary to 1) avoid opening schools to soon and 2) allow everyone more time to make sure that we have the absolute best plans in place to serve students and families.</p> <p>I know this creates a difficult situation for parents and kids, but the possible outcomes of rushing back into school before we are ready spells disaster for everyone.</p>
7/20/2020 20:46:21	Adriane	Metcalf		Shawnee	
7/20/2020 20:46:21	Brandi	Mertens	SCKSEC	Kingman	I support the governor's order.
7/20/2020 20:46:42	Danielle	Hayworth	My child	Wichita	As a parent who's child has a IEP but also health issues please postpone school until we see a decline of the virus. Yes my child is going into high school behind but after already losing a child it scares me to have to put my child in that position really that she's going to the biggest school in Kansas. Adults don't even want to wear mask to the store how can we expect our children to really when they might have parents who doesn't think wearing a mask is even right. I would t want your job deciding what to do and I don't have the answers but all I can say is I'm scared. I already know one person who has died from it and don't want to see more. I'm willing to see breaks being canceled anything to keep our kids and school staff safe. And you know parents will send there kids to school sick it happens all the time then what will happen really in middle and high school where they have different classes I can see it spreading so fast.
7/20/2020 20:46:54	Lacey	Kenyon		Palco	I don't believe it is the best interest to delay. Why couldn't this had been decided sooner? Delay in order to get supplies? I'm sorry. Covid has been affecting schools since March. Delaying makes ZERO sense. For the mental and social well being of my daughters. I can tell you right now this is doing more harm than good. For me especially, financially. I'm a nonclassified employee who is also a single mother and that's taking away almost TWO weeks' worth of income from me. LET US GO BACK TO SCHOOL! Let our kids go back. Otherwise, I'm almost positive Covid and all of these mandates will be spiking the suicide rates among the youth in this state. But its ok, we can just continue to ignore that to push a stupid agenda, right?
7/20/2020 20:47:01	Kimberly	Cole		Hutchinson	I am a parent and teacher and I feel like the order to delay school is in the best interest of students and staff. By delaying school, teachers will have more time to prepare. It will also give more time for Kansas numbers to go down.
7/20/2020 20:47:03	Whitney	Schmale	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	I am a counselor in a school of about 1950 students. The community I reside in is pretty divided on mask wearing. I don't have any confidence that our students will abide by the safety precautions we set forth for them. They don't wear it in public places why would they wear it at school. Our classrooms are packed with 26-30 kids. I have no idea how we will socially distance within our space. My husband teaches at the same school and our son attends there as well. If one of us tests positive I'm assuming our entire family would have to be gone. As a counselor my colleagues would have to pick up my slack. Please consider making at least first quarter virtual.
7/20/2020 20:47:32	Heather	Waters		Lansing	Health matters. Keep school buildings closed to ensure safety of Kansas kids and families.
7/20/2020 20:47:42	Betty	Beaver	Grandparent	Overland Park	Please vote to delay the start of schools in Kansas until at least after Labor Day to help curb the spread of COVID 19.
7/20/2020 20:47:59	Shelby	Muha	Myself, teacher in Olath	Olathe, KS	I urge you to follow Governor Kelly's Executive Order to give cases of COVID-19 numbers a chance to come down and school districts adequate time to prepare for meeting safety guidelines for students. As a teacher, I do not feel safe being back in a school building right now and ask that you keep me and my family's health a priority for you. I can't reason with those that refute scientific evidence, and I ask, that as an educated school board, that scientific evidence holds value for you too. We have to come together to overcome this and get COVID-19 under control, or we will pay the price for many days, months and years to come.

7/20/2020 20:48:00	Val	Shober	Parent	Inman	School needs to start in August as planned, but if you decide to wait until September 9, let fall sports be able to practice starting as planned on August 17th. These kids have missed so much already, let them participate in fall sports as planned.
7/20/2020 20:48:02	Sally	Kennedy	Usd286	Sedan	Starting school should be delayed to give districts time to prepare for extra safety measures. Sports are NOT a reason to start school in August.
7/20/2020 20:48:05	Kristi	Sextro	Teachers	Horton KS	Our children NEED to be back in the classroom!!
7/20/2020 20:48:10	Brooke	Rose	Parent of 3 BV students	Overland Park	I would like to express my preference to uphold the orders to delay schools. Scientifically our numbers are worse now than when the decision was made to close schools in the spring. More is being learned daily about how/when this virus is transmitted and our children should not be an experimental group. They are our future. Delaying schools will give more time to “flatten the curve” which is what we tried to do in the spring and it worked. In my opinion, we opened back too soon and there are many in our community that do not take this seriously and are not respecting the orders to wear a mask, which is evident in our numbers. Those that do not view this as danger are the same ones wanting to start back to school. By doing so, the rest of the community (children, teachers, staff, parents and grandparents) are all being put at risk. By delaying schools, we can protect those and also show that for “normalcy” to return we have to respect the mandates and orders. I fully want my children to be back in school but safely and not in a manner to which a waiver must be signed or in a manner this is unsafe. As a parent that has lost a child, no percentage, no matter how small, is worth it. Thank you for your time in reading this message.
7/20/2020 20:48:14	Jae	Mills		Goodland	Schools should resume as normal for the western side of the state. Let the parents decide if their kids should wear a mask or not!
7/20/2020 20:48:21	Lisa	Friend		Derby	Our children need to start school around Labor Day. No masks required, optional.
7/20/2020 20:48:21	Melissa	Martin	Parent	Marion	Schools should be delayed! I do not want my child to get sick.
7/20/2020 20:48:25	Alisha	Cox	Conway Springs K-8 Sc	Cheney	I fully support the delay of school until after the Labor Day holiday.
7/20/2020 20:48:37	Kobie	Kempf	Student	Derby	As a student I feel as if it is unnecessary for us to not go to school until September. If you think about it and look into it, many parents are letting kids go out to stores, or out in public in general. When you look at it many of us students have been together and around each other in large and small groups even as Covid-19 is going on. I feel as if we should be able to go to school as long as we are following the rules that are assigned, and for the kids that do not follow the rules or the students that’s parents do not want them in the building have the opportunity to do online. Teachers could livestream the class while it’s in session so the kids doing online can follow along and still attend the class. And if that is “too much work” then put in the extra effort and make it happen if y’all care about our education as much as you push it on us then be willing to go the extra step. If we cannot attend in person, I feel as if we should start off with online in August and when we are able to go back to school then just resume on where we left off. Online school has no restrictions on masks and does not put people “in danger”. If we do this then we will still be on track for the usual time that school starts back up. As a student I feel as if we should also be heard and voice our opinions on this decision.
7/20/2020 20:48:39	Tracy	Woolf	Mill Creek Elementary	Lenexa	I strongly encourage the State School Board to put the safety of Kansas teachers and students first by delaying the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 20:48:42	Alison	Plankers		Olathe, KS	I support Governor Kelly’s Executive order and am in favor of delaying the start date of the 2020-2021 school year.
7/20/2020 20:48:48	Alyssa	Holsworth	Blue Valley Teacher	Overland Park	Please support the governor’s executive order to delay start of school.
7/20/2020 20:48:58	Serina	Ruffin	Parent	Kansas City	The schools should not be opened yet as CDC and health department recommends.
7/20/2020 20:49:00	Leigh Ann	Vermillion	Usd 226 and usd 483 M	Plains	Yes school need to stay closed until September giving everyone a chance to figure things out. We are spiking in the SWK now.
7/20/2020 20:49:04	Sara	Talley		Olathe	Please uphold the governor’s executive order to delay the start of school. Kansas is still considered a red zone. Schools need time to take steps to put in place the mitigating measures Governor Kelly announced today. This also gives us a couple incubation periods to hopefully see a turn around in our numbers. It is not safe to reopen when our numbers are still trending upwards. Please give schools the time they need and help keep Kansas children and educators safe.
7/20/2020 20:49:07	Tammy	Fowler		Oskaloosa	Start at regular schedule

7/20/2020 20:49:29	Melissa	Hiatt	Parent	Overland Park	What will happen with our IEP students who are not receiving services with school being closed/online? They have been left behind and forgotten it seems. Even if school opens later or is online, many of these students REQUIRE in person therapies and education. Please consider the neediest student's education and lack of services when determining your response.
7/20/2020 20:49:39	Jennifer	Fields		Galena	No to wearing masks for K-12 school age children.
7/20/2020 20:49:42	Brandi	Fernandez	Parents	Lenexa	I feel we have had since March to be preparing. I'm a nurse and have been working during this pandemic, caring for covid patients, educating my family and friends. The kids need school, social interaction and we are prepared. Another 2 weeks isn't going to make a difference. Numbers are up yes, but hospital numbers are good. I think all people are ready. There is never going to be 100 percent agreement on this subject, but the risks of not going out weigh waiting 2 weeks for sure. My daughter is a high school teacher, she wants her students in class. I have an 8 year old, he wants to go to school. He has wore a mask at Jcprd camp, he is prepared, he wants to learn at school. I cannot home school and had the luxury of my son having a sister for a teacher who helped him with a smile, but even they were over online schoolwork. He has ADHD and the last thing he needs is more screentime. We are ready,, take precautions, educate students and parents, but let them go to school. My daughter was a senior this last spring. It's not the school work she missed, it was soccer, friends and the end of senior year. Friends lost along the way, time she cannot get back. Let's not start the way we ended. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:49:48	Blythe	Edelman		Kansas City	Please delay the 2020-21 school year. The numbers of corona virus keep rising. One death of a student or staff member is one too many. I know the argument is that there are some districts with little or no cases, but if we send hundreds of students and staff into crowded buildings, those numbers will rise and it will inevitably spread. Please give teachers time to prepare and our state more time to see where the case numbers are going before we throw everyone into a potentially unsafe situation. The virus does not know city and county borders.
7/20/2020 20:49:53	Traci	Lang	Elementary School	Great Bend	Please delay opening schools until after Labor Day. For the public health and safety of all. K-6 Certified Elementary Teacher
7/20/2020 20:49:56	Mallory	Borrego	USD259	Wichita	I am writing in favor of delaying schools until after Labor Day. I am starting my 11th year teaching for Wichita Public Schools. As we continue to navigate uncharted territory, more time and training is needed to make sure we are prepared to meet the needs of our students. We quickly need to become healthcare experts, counselors, social workers, and curriculum specialists with new banded standards. The extra time to prepare will be essential to making sure the start of our year is as smooth as possible. I also am a mom of three children that attend private schools here in Wichita and would like their own teachers to feel confident with the environments they will be teaching in.
7/20/2020 20:49:59	Heather	Wolf	Shawnee Mission School	Lenexa	I teach special education students. Sometimes they don't keep their bodily fluids to themselves. Sometimes they come to school sick. Sometimes they are not able to keep the personal space bubble between themselves and others. I miss them, I want to teach them, but I want to do it safely. I'm high risk. I care for my high(er) risk mother. Please help us with funding. With flexible teaching plans. With appropriate PPE for students and teachers. With extended Sick leave. Safe guidelines. Please. I love my job, but who will teach them when I'm sick/gone?

					<p>As a mom of four young kids, I ask that you please approve Gov Kelly's recent orders.</p> <p>This pandemic has laid bare so many harsh realities that our society has failed to address: a lack of affordable childcare. A lack of affordable healthcare. A lack of jobs that pay a living wage. A lack of jobs that acknowledge employees are also moms and dads who are responsible for raising families.</p> <p>Instead of fixing these things, we seem to dump it all at the feet of our underpaid teachers and underfunded schools. Parents can't afford childcare - schools. Parents can't afford to feed their kids nutritious food - schools. Kids don't have a safe place to go for help - schools. Kids need internet access - schools. Kids are bored and parents are overwhelmed - schools. Kids need to socialize - schools. The economy needs to reopen - schools. On top of that, they're also responsible for education. We're asking teachers to be superheroes and schools to be one-stop shops for all of our country's ills.</p> <p>Think back to this spring - in a matter of days, teachers were expected to all of the sudden convert their entire classroom experience onto a digital platform. There was no playbook for this. No guidance or best practices to follow. And absolutely no time to do it in. And teachers just...did it. They made it happen for our kids. The virtual learning wasn't a super enriching experience for our family and it was messy to manage. But our district, along with schools around the country, have spent the last four months building the infrastructure and parameters necessary for a meaningful and productive virtual experience so our kids can learn and our teachers can teach in a safe environment.</p> <p>Because after all - we are in the midst of a global pandemic. We can all demand "normal" because our kids "deserve" it until we're blue in the face. But a global pandemic just isn't normal. If we wanted schools to safely open, we should have already done what was necessary to make that possible (and our political leaders should have mandated and enforced it). Other countries did and now they are safely moving forward. We as a country didn't and here we are - with uncontrolled community spread and rapidly rising cases.</p>
7/20/2020 20:50:05	Danielle	Robinson	My family	Prairie Village	
7/20/2020 20:50:07	Sharon	Clark	Grandma	Wichita	I believe delaying the start of school is wise.
7/20/2020 20:50:10	Laura	Evans		Wichita	While there's probably no realistic way to get the virus under control, postponing until September gives districts and schools more time to come up with a game plan, and more time to allocate necessary resources.
7/20/2020 20:50:25	Robert	Everard		Overland Park	Reject Gov. Kelly's delayed school proposal.
7/20/2020 20:50:28	Nikki	Braam	Kansas Teacher	Kansas City	Please stand with Governor Kelly in her decision to delay the start of school. Our children, families, custodial staff, bus drivers, health and nutrition staff, and educators deserve to return to the safest environment possible and more time to prepare will help make that happen!
7/20/2020 20:50:30	Carrie Jo	Gros	Self - I speak as a teacher	Topeka Kansas	Please delay until after Labor Day - we need time to prepare.
7/20/2020 20:50:33	Tiffany	Swinehart		Overland Park	<p>It is necessary we not open schools until after Labor Day (or even LONGER) to provide extra time for schools/teachers to prepare for this unprecedented school year. This also allows time for the mask order to be in place for 2 months, which hopefully will cause the virus rates to decline.</p> <p>If BOE and school board meetings are still being held online, why would you send adult teachers and children to school in-person so quickly.</p> <p>Kids may not show that they are spreaders of the virus, but we still don't know the effect the virus may take on kids bodies after a year or longer. We need more data.</p>
7/20/2020 20:50:58	Bryan	Blankinship		Sedan	Comment removed for profanity

7/20/2020 20:50:58	Caitlyn	Eakin		Great Bend	Open up the schools at a normal time and in a manner that does not mandate a requirement of masks but a choice of parents, teachers, students. It is the governments duty to defend our Constitutional Rights, not our health. Science shows us that children who suffer from toxic stress or multiple ACEs benefit great from 5 positive influences to every 1 negative influence. This is why schools need to be open and in-person. At what point do we take a look at the statistics that show us that this virus is less dangerous than the seasonal flu and that the CDC has openly admitted to combining testing and that the antibody test shows a positive, including for the common cold. The precedence you continue to set will have a lasting effect on our youth and school system for years to come. Let the legacy of your decision in this moment be from common sense and practical thinking.
7/20/2020 20:51:03	Jan	Degenhardt		Hays	After Labor Day
7/20/2020 20:51:19	Laura	Juranek	I am a teacher and a parent	Olathe	I support Governor Kelly's order to delay schools!
7/20/2020 20:51:21	Katie	Jackson	School	Concordia	Please wait until September 9th to open schools. It is just not safe right now and school personnel need to be able to devise a plan to increase safety measures.
7/20/2020 20:51:26	Julia	Spillman	USD 233	OLATHE	As a parent and an educator, I believe and support in class learning. These children (and I have triplets going into kindergarten this year) need to be in the classroom to get the best education they can. While I took my 15 month old to the pediatrician last week, she said that the kids need to get back to school. It is in their best interest. If you do the math less than 1 percent of Kansas's population have tested positive. And that 1 percent we are scared of. What worries me even more are all the tests that are being performed by just opening the swab and not administering it and getting a positive test, that skews our results. These kids thrive in the classroom and for some, the teachers are the ones that care for them and make sure that they are loved and helped. When we aren't in the classroom we lose that. Please consider giving the teachers and parents the choice of what they want to do. Not dictate what the government wants us to do. If this truly isn't political, then it will be left up to the parents and teachers on how they want to proceed. The government controlling my children's education isn't what I signed up for when I had them nor decided to place them in public education. They nor I are puppets.
7/20/2020 20:51:28	Jeff	Jones	Kansas Teacher USD 42	Otis	I am a physical education teacher in USD 428. I firmly believe that schools should open as scheduled, however, I do believe that all districts should start with a Hybrid Schedule where students attend every other day. That way on any given day schools would only have half of the students in the building. This will give us a safe way to get our students back into the building while providing staff a much safer way to educate students. Students would only be in the building part time but teachers would be able to give students more one on one time with reduced class sizes. This method would serve as a gateway to getting students back in the classroom full time and would be much more effective than trying to teach virtually.
7/20/2020 20:51:29	Danielle	Bernard		Kearney	For everyone's continued health and safety I believe it would be best to delay the school year until at least after Labor Day
7/20/2020 20:51:31	Darcy	O'Toole		Wichita	I ask that you delay the start of school. As an educator, I miss my kids. I miss our talks, our lessons, and even recess duty. However, I am high risk and at least three of my students next year are high risk. I'm only 25, but have asthma and previous lung damage from pneumonia with sepsis. There's nothing more I would rather do than go back to work. It's my second home, and my colleagues are my second family. I depend on my latchkey paycheck to pay my student loans and that's a job I'll be missing as well. However, I want to go back when it is safe for everybody. Delaying the start of schools allows us time to procure PPE and individualized school supply bundles, which I'm sure we'll be buying with our own money. I will do whatever is necessary to keep us safe and still provide a quality and equitable education. Delaying until September also allows time for our numbers to, hopefully, decrease. I urge you to delay school, for at least a few weeks until after labor day, to give us time to get what we need and set up our classrooms in a way that will keep us all safe while we learn together.
7/20/2020 20:51:34	Sharon "Vinnie"	Reed		Wichita	Please delay the start of school until it is safe for us all. I am willing to meet face-to-face with students but not with my current number of students. My kids are little and will not social distance. I will never get a group of 3-5 year-olds to stay away from each other and many of them have dressing and toileting needs that can be handled without close contact. If that's not safe then opening school is not safe.
7/20/2020 20:51:35	Brooke	Steenhard	Steenhard household	Olathe	I agree to delaying the reopening to allow the mask mandate to help slow the spread.



7/20/2020 20:51:35	Amanda	Harrison	myself, I am a teacher th	Moundridge, KS	The cases of Covid continue to rise in the state of Kansas. It is clear that sending teachers and students to school is not going to be safe. How many teachers don't have pre-existing conditions, pregnancy, etc? I want to tell my own children that our Kansas state board and school systems are doing everything they can to keep them safe. I hope that you make the right decision for us to postpone in person school until a safe solution can be found.
7/20/2020 20:51:43	Terri	Schmitt	USD 233	Overland Park,KS	Of course
7/20/2020 20:51:45	Katie	Shaw		Ashland	School needs to resume. No mask requirements. Leave everything up to the local board to decide. There are many rural Kansas schools that have very few if any Covid cases. Locally, we need to be able to decide what is best for our community. Thank you!
7/20/2020 20:52:18	Hannah	Clarke	Get Our Kids back to Sc	Spring Hill Ks	Please open our schools for in class instruction. The social emotional cost on families and children far outweigh any risks
7/20/2020 20:52:29	Stacey	Smith	USD 500	Shawnee	please vote to postpone opening schools. Kansas is a red state and that alone makes it unsafe for students and staff to return to school. Children may be at low risk but please consider all the teachers and staff who wish to stay safe for their own families sake. Teachers lives matter!
7/20/2020 20:52:43	Elizabeth	Reller		Shawnee, KS	As a teacher, I support delaying the start of school to allow more time to adequately prepare for all of the changes this school year will bring. Thank you for your support in keeping educators, students, and their families safe.
7/20/2020 20:52:44	Stephanie	Iams	Parent	Olathe	We are in a pandemic. Correct? I understand the importance of schools opening . However, for our entire school community and community at large safety is my number one priority! I would like to see school closed until pandemic is under control . At least the entire first semester. At that point in time I will need data driven statistics with scientific evidence to show it is safe to return to a school building. At this time my children will be at home using what the school district provides through technology for their education. Let me add emotional, social, mental and physical health are a concern to many I wonder how children would react if a peer or teacher passed away from the virus? That would be a tough one to swallow. Talk about depression, emotions etc. We have known ( our community) about the pandemic since March. We have responsibilities to our community and our families... we have been making adjustments for our children for 4 months. Planning and preparing to provide the healthiest environment at home. This includes, adjusting work schedules. moving work home, education, technology, games, physical exercise, reading, writing , pitching a tent in our yard, tracking the pandemic, movies, cooking, etc and making additional sacrifices monetary ! I simply won't put my kids in unknown territory . Safety is ALWAYS FIRST.
7/20/2020 20:52:58	Patrick	Miller		Lenexa	I want schools to open. There is no public safety benefit, since working parents will be forced to put their children in daycare. If daycares can figure this out, then I am sure schools can as well.
7/20/2020 20:53:22	David	Ackerman		Manhattan	This is no doubt a tough situation and the decision you all face is tremendous. No only are having to focus on the children, faculty and staff but their families as well. I have known several people who have contracted COVID19 and sadly a few whom have passed as a result. I would wish that suffering on no one and I certainly hope you recognize all the risks here (I am sure you do). Our children and these wonderful staff members surely want to be back in the classroom but equally, I am sure they want to do so with safety and confidence. They do not want to be test subjects or pawns in a political game. The smart thing to do here is recognize the risks and manage against those as best as possible. Delaying the start is a great first step as is considering a hybrid model (at the very least). Florida is a perfect example of going into reintegration too soon and without the necessary safeguards in place. I k ow you cannot please everyone but protection comes before pleasing. I wish you grace, wisdom and humility in your decision.
7/20/2020 20:53:29	Angela	Place	(my family - 3 teenagers	Leawood	Please support the Governor's order! A short delay helps us slow the spread of this virus and prepare for a more successful (and longer-lasting!!!) in-person school year. Thank you!
7/20/2020 20:53:32	Kristin	Shorb		Topeka	I do not support the delay of the new school year. I believe children need to get back into the routine of the school year and back to active learning. The risks of children getting or spreading Covid-19 are minimal and do not justify keeping children out of school an additional three weeks.
7/20/2020 20:53:36	Jennifer	Johnson		Spring Hill	I fully support delaying the start of the school year until September 8th or beyond. Teachers and staff members need time to get prepared and to make school as safe as possible.

7/20/2020 20:53:43	Sara	Winter		Pottawatomie	There are 5 active cases and zero hospitalizations in PT county. I feel it's time to open the schools here. Online learning was not adequate for the long run. Our teachers are not prepared to begin a school year with kids they don't know. It was different in the spring when they already had an established classroom.
7/20/2020 20:53:43	Lazons	Stovall	Kansas NEA	Kansas City, Kansas	It is imperative that students in K-12. stay closed. As the cases rise in the state. We need to protect teachers and their students. Students often go home to grandparents and other care takers who are a high risk for covid. There is no way to keep kids and teacher safe in buildings that were not designed to handle a pandemic. Children do get sick. We all want our students to learn but we must be safe and smarter than this virus. Social Distancing is key. Unfortunately we can not social distancing in small classrooms. Please, I implore you to support the Governor and relay the school starting. All students should start school virtual.
7/20/2020 20:53:44	Karen	King		Wichita	Please do NOT delay the start of school for our children.
7/20/2020 20:54:01	Julie	Terry		Stilwell	Please delay school starting. In fact I think virtual is needed through Christmas. At least. Our children are precious. Even one child or teacher lost is to many. A few months is a small amount of time to sacrifice to make sure our families are safe. Laura Kelly was elected to make these decisions. Let her!
7/20/2020 20:54:05	Cindy	Fritts		Eureka	Please do not delay the beginning of school. As a special education para I worry about how much time my students have already missed. Look at the data we may have an uptick of positive cases but the hospitalizations and the deaths are what we need to look at.
7/20/2020 20:54:06	Alphonso	Meza		Wichita	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day, however if you won't do that please recommend online only as I have 2 kids in extremely packed middle and high schools. Along with my children my wife works in wine of their schools as well.
7/20/2020 20:54:08	Deborah	James		Haviland	I think that schools should not yet open since the regulations and recommendations which schools are expected to meet were put before the superintendents at such a late point in the summer. I believe that the leaders who put together the recommendations for health and safety should have had this information to the school districts earlier in the summer so that classes could have begun on time. I am also disappointed that activities (for example theater and debate) where physical distancing and other proper precautions could be taken must also be delayed.
7/20/2020 20:54:12	Rebecca	Light	Parent of student. Own	Pittsburg	Please reopen schools sooner than later. While my student will be fine, there are a lot of children whose mental and physical health are suffering during their time away from school. If retail workers, Healthcare workers and support staff, food distribution workers and many more can continue to work through the pandemic, then so can the teachers. Cares Act allows for workers to take FMLA to care for themselves or loved ones impacted by COVID. That is always an option for teachers. 90% of families want to return to school. Online options should be available for those with health concerns. This could be offered through a joint central State education arm partnered with local schools as to not put a strain on the resources at the local school level. Furthermore, a large population of children have been active in team sports all summer long With no negative reportings thus showing that these activities should continue. Child care centers are open as well and have adapted. Schools should not be an exception to the norm. Children are statistically not a risk group. Only those over the age of 60 with comorbidities are statistically at risk and they should take appropriate precautions without risking the health of our children.
7/20/2020 20:54:17	Jayne	Fincher		Overland Park, KS	PLEASE OPEN OUR SCHOOLS!
7/20/2020 20:54:26	Christine	White		Shawnee	We attend a private school that is ready to begin in August. Districts that are ready should be allowed to begin.
7/20/2020 20:54:36	Nancy	Sapp	USD443	Dodge City	I believe for the safety of the staff, students and their families I believe it is best to delay school until after Labor Day. Schools are going to have a difficult time even with social distancing, temperature checks, cleaning and such so a few more weeks can help continue to work on have to cover all this. Also with the increase in numbers throughout the state we seem to be getting worse rather than declining in numbers. Yes most children do learn better with a teacher but 1) there is already a teacher shortage and 2) there are even fewer substitutes especially since many substitutes who are in long term teaching positions.

7/20/2020 20:54:38	Jennifer	Schley		wamego	Please open schools in as much as a normal way as possible. Please do not shut down our schools or kids' sports/events for a virus that has a 98.7% survival rate. It is rare for children to infect others. Children need socialization and do not learn well online. We won't send our kids back to school if electives aren't offered. We won't send them back if they are at their desk for 8 hours a day. We will forgo enrollment and hire a tutor to come into our home and teach them. We pray it does not come to this decision. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:54:43	DJ	Chezski	n/a	Basehor	School should be online for an entire semester. If child care is needed, it should be provided, but school should occur online.
7/20/2020 20:54:49	Megan	Steele	Private education	Manhattan	Please allow schools to open and open with no restrictions. Children will play with their masks all day causing more germs to be around their face than normal. Children should not be punished because adults are having political and power play issues. Let's out our children back in schools and be normal.
7/20/2020 20:55:02	Jolynna	Addink	KCKPS	kCK	I am an instructional coach with 4 children. We are dispersed in 4 different KCKPS schools. One of my daughters (age 11) is medically fragile. The risk for her is too great to attend; however her risk of being exposed second hand from her siblings is significant. Please consider families like ours. I worry about my community in WyCo. A friend, and fellow leader's family is currently suffered. This the third family in a week that WE KNOW.
7/20/2020 20:55:03	Barbara	Meyer	USD 259	Wichita	I support delaying start of school due to increased COVID cases in our state
7/20/2020 20:55:07	Kristen	Houston		McPherson, Kansas	As a 5th grade teacher and parent of two children in the district I would strongly encourage SBOE members to vote in favor of the Governor's EO. Until COVID cases in Kansas are on a consistent downward trend, I don't feel safe in a school building with 350 students and staff in enclosed, small spaces. In addition, my high schoolers will be exposing themselves to hundreds of people each day as they pass in the halls. We have been conservative by following recommended guidelines and now myself and our children will exponentially increase our exposure to the virus. Again, please vote with the Governor to delay schools allowing safety measures to be put in place and staff to be trained well in those safety measures.
7/20/2020 20:55:10	Abigail	Crawford		Hugoton	I support delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. I think the risks are too high for students, parents, and school staff to safely open on time. This extra time will allow teachers and staff to better prepare. Although including the safety measures of masks and temperature checks may be burdensome, it is what is best for the community at large and our country. If fall sports are cancelled or delayed the temperature checks give athletic trainers another opportunity for meaningful work.
7/20/2020 20:55:39	Cyndie	Aumiller	Teacher and community	Hoxie	Gov. Kelly is over-reaching and exerting control and power over ALL Kansas schools, parents, and children. Living in an area of the state where COVID cases are few and far between is forcing our children to lose out on a quality education because a few counties have had numerous cases. (Whether those cases are actual is another argument). After having a forced virtual classroom last spring, I can tell you that even the active parents were done after two weeks. Then there were the parents who didn't interact AT ALL...who I did not hear from...from Spring Break until the end of the school year. In addition, her mandate that everyone must wear masks is a ridiculous power grab...most likely to force you to bend to her will on the late start date. The American Academy of Pediatrics has stated that children under the age of 12 should NOT wear masks.
7/20/2020 20:55:39	Jennifer	Charlton	Parent	Olathe	I am grateful that the school system has ppe and screen for symptoms . I do want to protect our teacher and students. However., the risks of not offering in person classes for students will be so damaging emotionally and intellectually. Both my husband and I work and not prepared to home school again. If day cares, bars and reestraunts can be open( over night summer camps have even been open) we are doing a huge injustice to not provide education to our children. I have a nephew who need special services and a son who turned from a happy trees to a depressed teen I. A matter of months without school or sports. The risk of dying from the flu is greater for children than. Coronavirus. If we don't send our children grandparents who are at risk feel they need to step in and help. I will wear my mask and pay for those who need one but we cannot throw aware our children's learning and social development out of fear . Please consider all the statistics- depression, obesity, those in need of services and those for who school is a safe haven and open the schools. I will do my part, I will encourage distancing, mask, hygiene and will continue to care for patients in the hospital as I have for the last 20 years, Please reopen for our children and families.

7/20/2020 20:55:41	Joyce	Tice		Hoxie	I feel strongly that school in our area of the state can start at their regular schedule. Not every school starts at the same time normally, so if the eastern schools in the state want to start later let them. Let it up to each individual USD to decide!
7/20/2020 20:55:54	Prasanthi	Dandamudi	N/A - parent	Overland Park	I'd like to request the board to consider exploring creative ways to provide quality virtual education to kids instead of forcing families to expose themselves to this deadly virus. We have already lost 143,000 people in the US as of today - do we really want to gamble with more lives, especially of kids?
7/20/2020 20:55:57	Josh	Devader	Wabaunsee county scho	Maple hill	Open the schools. More damage done with them closed
7/20/2020 20:56:02	Jamie	Pasek		Russell	We've had very few cases in our rural community. This should not be a one size fits all order.
7/20/2020 20:56:14	Alan	King		Wichita	I have concerns about the welfare of our children if you delay classes.
7/20/2020 20:56:16	Shelley	Minnick	Teacher	Derby	Please accept Governor Kelly's EO to delay the start of school. Teachers were just given the information for returning to school and have a lot to do to prepare our classrooms for a new way of doing things. Also it will give us time to hopefully see the numbers start to go down. I'm personally very concerned about my health and safety, as well as my students.
7/20/2020 20:56:19	Mackenzie	Renner	Teacher	Topeka	As an at risk teacher, I would prefer for school to start after Labor Day or later. I'm scared for my health and the health of my family. I teach 1st grade and they don't know how to keep their germs to themselves.
7/20/2020 20:56:20	Kelly	Brown	USD 271	Hays	I think that this is a great idea. It gives districts more time to create and implement plans of learning as well as complete any needed training in order to keep our students and families safe. In order for us to give our students the best learning we can in times as uncharted as these, we need the ~3 weeks to prepare and familiarize ourselves with the competencies and the Navigating Change document.  I also know that different parts of the state are dealing with vastly different situations. The rural districts are less impacted by COVID, but possibly are more impacted by school shutdowns as the number childcare providers available is much lower than in a more heavily populated area so parents are having to either change their job or quit so someone can be home with their children.  I would like to see school return to the classrooms and in order for that to happen we need to be as prepared as we can. This means having plans for learning as well as creating the safest environment we can for our students.
7/20/2020 20:56:21	Lynnette	Hibbs	Usd465	Winfield	I want to wait to start school on September 9th so we have a better idea about facts and science regarding COVID 19 cases in the state.
7/20/2020 20:56:26	Jennifer	Robinson	USD 259 - parent	Wichita	With the recent increases in COVID-19 cases in Sedgwick County, I have been anxious about sending my kindergartener to school in a few short weeks. I was surprised and relieved at the Governor's announcement to delay back to school until September 8th. It is my sincere hope that our community will work together to bring the number of active cases down significantly so we may return to school safely.  I urge you to support Governor Kelly's initiative. Our children's and teachers' lives depend on it.

7/20/2020 20:56:29	Matthew	Hanne		Wichita	<p>A few years ago, Kansas tried “a real, live experiment” in economics and tax cuts. That experiment was a failure. Kansas is at the precipice of another experiment, and this time we are considering using the children, families, teachers and school staffs of Kansas as the experimental subjects.</p> <p>There might very well be areas of low community spread in Kansas where such an experiment might be successful. But there are many other areas where community spread is higher, risk factors are higher, and this real, live experiment we are considering will result in real sickness and death.</p> <p>You have been elected as trusted leaders to shape the lives of children throughout the state. Please consider the highest moral call to “do no harm”, and approve of executive order 20-58.</p> <p>Furthermore, you have the power to be stronger leaders by recommending starting the year with distance learning in counties that have significant case loads, until such a time that community spread is reduced to acceptable levels. The burden of leadership is great, and I cannot imagine how difficult these decisions must be. However, when it comes to the health and safety of Kansas families, I believe we must err on the side of caution. We need you to be the leaders who will work to protect us. Let us be a state that shows how we can effectively deal with the threat we all face, rather than an example of how to abdicate responsibility.</p>
7/20/2020 20:56:29	Casie	Tullis	Parent of students	Leon	<p>Allow each district to manage their own staff and students with regards to start dates and how they manage the students learning. Each district is unique to the community, families, and children they serve. Remember in your own words one size doesn't fit all.</p> <p>Emerging medical research is proving that students do not transmit to adults. Whether they are in a school or home setting. The adults are the ones who transmit to each other. The students should not have to wear masks and maintain 6 ft. Allow adults to implant their own measures to protect them selves keeping kids normalcy in the learning setting.</p> <p>Thank you from a register nurse and mother of two public school students</p>
7/20/2020 20:56:31	John	Lane	USD 233	Olathe	Give us time to prepare. Give us until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 20:56:34	Todd	Maxey		Olathe	Please delay schools from opening before Labor Day. Schools need more time to get plans together and it gives a quarantine period for after the holiday.
7/20/2020 20:56:43	Bill	Roller	My children	Olathe	I strongly disagree with delaying the start of the school year. They need school for so many reasons. I have seen first hand how idle time effects them. They need some normalcy back in their lives.

					<p>I thought Emison Mitchem said it very well.</p> <p>☞ For those of you saying "If essential workers can work, teachers can work, and our kids need to be in school!" I get where you're coming from. I want you to imagine the first day of school.</p> <p>☞ Kids will get on the bus. They will be packed together, because my district (like many) has ruled that it is too expensive and time-consuming to do staggered bussing. They will be excited to see their friends, and they will talk, share items, and do all the things they missed doing on the bus, and this will be great for their emotional health. Eventually some of them will take off their masks, because one or two kids didn't come with one to begin with, and who's scared of this thing anyway?</p> <p>And so, before 10am, you have had your first super-spreader event in the district. No, the kids may not all get sick, but a few of them will. A few of those will die, as we've seen in news reports. They probably won't be your child, so this does not matter to you. It is a sacrifice you were prepared to make.</p> <p>☞ Kids will enter school. If this is done in a staggered manner, we will lose significant instructional time. Kids will sit at their desks, and if they are in a Title I school like mine where most parents can not afford to stay home and support kids during Digital Learning, we will have at least 80% of the population in the classroom. A classroom with truly socially distanced desks can seat about 8 people. Realistically, we will have 25-30 children packed together. Some of them will play with their masks or, if their parents are anti-mask, they will refuse to have those masks on.</p> <p>☞ A teacher will now have to teach in a classroom where they are no longer allowed to have group activities, so vital for young learners, unless they are in a contactless digital format. Hopefully the school will have enough computers for those students without their own devices. Hopefully the teacher will be able to maneuver quickly enough to stop students from Snapchatting their friends, or logging on to any number of non-educational websites, so that they can do their lesson.</p>
7/20/2020 20:56:50	Vicki	Peerson	Support Staff	Kansas City	A teacher will also have to choose between instructing effectively and protecting themselves and the people they may
7/20/2020 20:56:50	Nichole	Wynn		Bel Aire	I support the Governor's delay on opening schools until the virus is under control. I believe the safety of the students and teachers is more important than the timing of school starting. We have to make our decisions on science. I trust you to make the best decisions you can with the evidence available. Thank you for serving our community!
7/20/2020 20:56:58	Sarah	Zink		Larned	We should start school on time and ignore the mask and social distancing mandates.
7/20/2020 20:56:58	Lana	Reinhart	Minneapolis High School	Minneapolis	As a teacher in a 7-12 building, I am very concerned about starting school face-to-face with the rising number of Covid 19 cases in Kansas. Wearing masks will help slow the spread, but I'm afraid teens will forget to socially distance—I've already witnessed this with summer conditioning. There is no way to effectively keep them apart. I am in favor of delaying the start of school in hopes the spread of the virus will get under control. Online learning would be a good option for awhile.
7/20/2020 20:56:59	Brandy	Ochs	USD 457	Garden City	Please allow districts to open when they have planned for the 2020-2021 school year. I feel students belong in school, that is where they grow socially, emotionally, and academically. If you look at the COVID 19 data children 18 and younger are very unlikely to get it and are rarely asymptomatic carriers. Trust our district and county health department to keep kids safe in school. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:57:00	Greg	Robinson	USD	Burrton	This order would only put our school calendar back 2 weeks. This time can easily be made up with a few extra minutes a day. Two weeks is an incubation period and could have a major impact on the positive numbers we are currently looking at. Please allow the numbers to drop!
7/20/2020 20:57:03	Susan	Schurman	SMSD paraprofessional	Kansas City, MO	<p>Grateful for delayed start to post Labor Day, and would prefer simpler solution of online only, with possible exceptions for particular special needs students. School buildings are not set up to keep students distant, and children will not be able to learn well with adults masked and focused on safety rather than teaching and learning.</p> <p>Latest research indicates children are more vulnerable to effects of exposure than was assumed previously, and they also may carry the virus to others.</p> <p>We must reduce the spread to negligible risk before we open school buildings.</p>

7/20/2020 20:57:16	Julie	Patterson	Usd 437	Topeka	Please approve the governors executive order to delay!
7/20/2020 20:57:24	Kristen	Crosbie	MVHS	Lawrence, KS	I hope you will keep in mind teachers as well as students as you decide to reopen. We are more at risk than they are.
7/20/2020 20:57:26	Michelle	Meier		Olathe	I teach 4th grade in the Olathe public school district. I would like the board to support the Governor's Executive order to postpone the start of school. We need time to prepare our schools and procedures to keep ourselves and our students safe.
7/20/2020 20:57:33	Karen	Wondra		Wichita	I do not think this is the time for in person school, the COVID rates just keep going up. It's like a game of roulette. I work in a school and for one will not feel safe. I need my job but it could mean my life. I also think you should for one year only reduce the number of Required school hours. To reduce the stress that is causing, in this uncertain time.
7/20/2020 20:57:33	Victoria	Gibson		Overland Park	I was not in favor of delaying the start of school. My kids' lives have been torn up for months. As long as the schools can open safely and within the guidelines given to them by the CDC and the state BOE, then I feel that the schools should have been allowed to open on time. I feel that families should be allowed to choose if they can have school in person, online, or a hybrid approach, at least in the beginning. I personally am in favor of our family returning to school in person, using masks and social distancing.
7/20/2020 20:57:43	Jeanine	Jantz	Children's mental health	Mulvane	Back to school options should be left to individual schools/districts. One plan can not for schools of 100-300 and over 1000 students. Some counties don't even have any cases or less than 5 cases.
7/20/2020 20:57:46	Stephanie	Lawton	My family	McPherson	Please uphold Governor Kelly's orders. These are common sense measures to keep children and staff as healthy as possible. I'm worried for the safety of my family and community. Please allow schools the time they need to prepare properly for back to school. Thank you.
7/20/2020 20:57:49	Sara	Ruddy		Olathe	As a 1st grade teacher, I completely support the decision of Governor Kelly to delay school until after September 8. This will give school districts time to develop and instill a plan that will keep our students and staff safe. It is absolutely NOT safe to open schools right now, and as someone who works with little kiddos, I can see this virus spreading like wildfire once we are back in school. Thank you for making the decision to keep our students and our staff healthy and safe.
7/20/2020 20:57:53	Jeremy	Kersenbrock	Heartland Christian Sch	Colby, KS	Delaying the start of the year is unnecessary for our rural location and small school. We are tired of the one-size-fits-all dictates from Topeka and demand the opportunity to make the best decision for our school locally.
7/20/2020 20:57:56	Sara	Mochel	Olathe School District	Overland Park	please delay the start of school in order for staff to properly prepare for this unique teaching situation. Also consider fall flu and allergy season. As an Elementary teacher I am very concerned about my safety and the safety of my coworkers and students. I am slated to have 26 students in my 3rd grade classroom and I'm frightened.
7/20/2020 20:57:58	Cheryl	Slupski	Parent of Pratt USD 382	Cunningham KS	The use of masks on grade school children is going to prove to be a huge distraction to the students. I myself am an asthmatic and wearing a mask I mess with my face more simply because I can not breathe. There is no way a child will not play with their mask. The delay of opening schools is understandable, but the Northeast counties can not be used to justify what is being done in the smaller rural counties.
7/20/2020 20:58:19	Sausha	Friesen		Inman	Open schools as scheduled! Not every school district has cases of Covid. Just because large schools need more time to open doesn't mean the small schools need more time. These kids need to be in school in August and most kids are ready to be there!
7/20/2020 20:58:21	Brittany	Hiebert	Goessel USD 411	Newton	I fully support Governor Kelly's executive order to begin the 2020-2021 school year after Labor Day for the safety of our students, staff, and communities. Please push for a safe start to the school year for all districts across the state beginning in September.
7/20/2020 20:58:28	Jessica	DeWild	K-12 Teacher	Lenexa	There is no way to avoid all risk of illness with COVID-19 or any other virus. Our kids need to return to school. The sooner the better.
7/20/2020 20:58:32	Jamelle	Brown	Kansas City, KS Public	Kansas City	With the uprise in cases, why would we risk putting the safety of our students, staff and community at risk? I'm NOT OK with playing Russian roulette with innocent lives by prematurely reopening schools. Please vote to push back the date after Labor Day or make a decision to start everyone with virtual learning.
7/20/2020 20:58:32	Katherine	Roth		Larned	Parents have to work to pay bills, extra daycare expenses or not being able to work because kids aren't in school is putting a strain on our economy. My kids have to go to daycare whether school is open or not so I can work and there aren't enough daycares with full time openings to go around. What is the difference between daycares and school?

7/20/2020 20:58:53	Belinda	Amend		Goodland	I believe it is important to delay school in order to be better prepared to keep everyone as safe as possible.
7/20/2020 20:59:01	Tonya	Lott	Nike Elementary	Garder	Please please open schools for in person!! My 3rd grader is desperate to go to school, to get out of the house and socialize with his peers and learn. If they go back September 9th it will have been 6 months since they have had formal school. It is ridiculous!!! His mental health has suffered greatly from this stay at home order and school being cancelled. I'm worried about my son's health, his mental health, not the fact he could get covid. My daughter has attended daycare through all of this and there have been no problems at all. Two parents have tested positive in the last month, but nothing prior to that. These kids need in person school, not some virtual attempt. How are teachers supposed to bond with their students if school starts virtually? My kindergarten will be zooming with strangers that she has no chance of getting to know and feel comfortable with. Please open schools!!!!
7/20/2020 20:59:05	Debra	Voeltz		Cimarron Kansas	Kids need to be in classrooms, early learning is to important to leave it too on line learning. N
7/20/2020 20:59:13	Chelsea	Robertson		Basehor	They should delay school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 20:59:23	Elizabeth	Langa	Teacher- Kansas City Ka	Lawrence, KS	As a teacher I am worried about my students and my colleagues. I want to go back to the classroom but I do not believe it is safe to do so as cases of Covid19 continue to rise in Kansas. I understand that this is a difficult decision and that the ultimate goal is to get students back to normal. However, I am begging that you support Gov. Kelly's executive order and allow the state and districts to properly prepare for the year. I also understand that this is not a one size fits all solution but in the end, we are all in this together. Kansans have the power to get this situation under control and allow the safe return of students to school. Delaying the beginning of the year puts the responsibility on all Kansas citizens, not our children or vulnerable teachers who would otherwise be making life threatening decisions about returning to school. Send the message that we care about our children and that we all need to have a hand in ensuring our students are educated and safe.  I do not want to lose students, friends, colleagues, or members of our school community to irresponsible situations. I am ready to fight for our students. I am not ready, at 24 years old to die or be permanently disabled. Thank you for you work. We appreciate the seriousness of this decision and understand you can't please everyone or meet the needs of everyone. But please, please put safety first. Best, Elizabeth Langa Teacher, Kansas City Kansas Public School
7/20/2020 20:59:24	Diane	Rothen		Olathe	I believe schools should stay closed until at least Labor Day.
7/20/2020 20:59:28	Leslie	Wheeler	Staff and parent	Olathe -Blue Valley Sch	As a parents and teacher my heart aches for the decisions that we all have to make. However, we have so few answers that we are needing more time to gain knowledge. This order gives us time but also allows the teachers the opportunity to gain knowledge and comfort with a plan. Daily our decisions are altered by new information. But yet one thing remains, companies are not going back to work, they are having zoom meetings. Yet teachers and students will be asked to go into classroom for 8 hours a day with the same group of students. This is not a trip to Walmart or Home Depot or evening the doctors office. You are asking us to put ourselves in positions that no one else in the country is doing. Where else are people staying in a 300 square foot room with 20 to 30 people for 8 hours except for education and childcare. That tells me where we truly value education during a pandemic.
7/20/2020 20:59:41	Bonnie	Stuck		Prairie Village	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order! I feel like it's the responsible, safe thing to do. We must keep students and teachers safe.
7/20/2020 20:59:43	Jamie	Harter	Myself	Olathe	I support Governor Kelly and you, as the Kansas BOE should as well. I've heard arguments that it should be local decisions but in this time of an unprecedented pandemic, the Federal government has failed the country and given the states the entire burden of protecting their citizens. Rather than focusing on politics and undermining the governor, why not work together to support the state and protect our citizens and not give any extremists a reason to not follow the science. We saw how the challenge to Ad Astra went, how state mandated mask orders went and our numbers of cases rise. There are D1 college athletes in Kansas who had Covid and a month later still struggle to breathe and exercise, why would we want to put our teachers and children and lunch room staff and janitors in harm's way if the science does not support it. Spend your time working with the governor on a plan, not wasting time telling your constituents that this was not done correctly. Those things can be addressed later, protect Kansans first.



7/20/2020 20:59:46	Heather	Busch		Cimarron	Kids in Kansas need the safety, security and education that school provides. They need to be back in the classroom sooner than later. The virus is here and will be here for a long time. Virus and weeds are two things that Kansas residents know how they can and will mutate. If you allow this delay to happen then the kids won't be back in the classroom at all again. The kids need every aspect or we will see more depressed kids harming themselves.
7/20/2020 20:59:48	Erin	Simon	Usd 259	Colwich	I'm a special education teacher of students with cognitive impairments and autism as well as a mom to a newborn and toddler and a stepmom to a Renwick student. Our current area is high in numbers for Covid19 and numbers on children are low because they've been kept home. Furthermore, there's not enough knowledge on this virus to make assumptions that it doesn't affect kids or that they aren't carriers (they very much are and I would suggest looking into Israel's school opening to see how that went). Yes, other countries have opened up but they had their numbers controlled, here our numbers are only getting higher. Our kids definitely need to be back in schools but not at the risk of themselves, teachers or their families. Please vote in favor of the executive order to keep kids and teachers safe. Nothing is ever worth the risk of the lives of students or teachers.
7/20/2020 20:59:55	Erin	Henry	KCKPS	Merriam	I do not feel safe returning to teach, I do not feel safe sending my kids who could be become carriers to vulnerable members of our family. I do not believe funding will be adequate to supply what we will need to proceed safely in person.
7/20/2020 20:59:58	Jesus	Salinas	Parent	Andover	3 weeks delay is what teachers need to prepare
7/20/2020 21:00:11	Amy	Hopson		Monument	I don't believe the governor is acting in the best interest of every citizen of Kansas. You as a BOE are more in tune to the needs of children and educators. And above this, every school and school district in Kansas has different needs and demographics. I believe that those we have elected as local school board members have a vested interest in the students of our communities and will do the best job at deciding for our children. Please put the power at the local level. I am afraid that if our governor gets her way here she will continue to push back the start date of schools even in communities that are not affected. As a preschool teacher I do not feel it is appropriate for my students to wear masks in the classroom either. As a parent, I do not want my healthy daughter wearing a mask during the entire school day. As an RN, I believe long-term mask wearing is a breeding ground for bacteria with the warmth and moisture. When I was working in a hospital setting, we were to wear masks for up to 30 minutes and then dispose of them. While this pandemic has made even hospital caregivers not follow protocol, I believe some of the deaths in the medical community could have been avoided if the proper PPE were available for caregivers and masks were not used in the community. Fabric homemade masks are faulty and retail workers are not even wearing them properly. I could teach my students proper wear, but don't believe quality education would occur in the presence of masks. Thank you for giving us a voice!
7/20/2020 21:00:16	Desiree	Campbell		Emporia, KS	I am commenting to encourage the board to pass Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school. I work as a middle school teacher and want to be able to provide the best education and experience I can for my students, whether it is in person or through remote learning. This is just a delay so that we can prepare for our students and communities and keep school a safe and positive environment for our students and staff.
7/20/2020 21:00:17	Anissa	Engel	USD 437	Topeka	I agree with the order! I'm glad we have a governor who is putting the health and safety of our kids and educators first!
7/20/2020 21:00:32	Jonnie	Wright	School	Kansas City Kansas	Please hold off on our school year to help reduce exposure to Covid 19.
7/20/2020 21:00:34	Cathy	McDonald	Olathe Public Schools	Overland Park	The delay of school starting is ABSOLUTELY the right thing to do!! Teachers are frightened; parents are terrified for their children's safety ... and educators need time to truly learn how to prepare and present successful distance learning.  As a grandparent of three young children, I value them participating in their in-person instruction - BUT NOT YET! The data is clear that we need time for the virus to be controlled. With asthmatic children, we cannot take the risk of them being infected.
7/20/2020 21:00:41	Tara	Fowler	USD 500 KCKPS	Kansas City	I teach in Kansas. Live in Missouri. I want nothing more than to see my students in-person... WHEN IT'S SAFE to do so! I also want my own children to get back to in-person schooling... WHEN IT'S SAFE!!! Numbers must go down and stay low with no new cases for consecutive days before that can be considered!

7/20/2020 21:00:47	Michael	Mangino		Olathe, KS	Delaying the school year is foolish, irresponsible, and based upon faulty conclusions and irrational panic. It is an embarrassment to the state and the people we trust to lead.
7/20/2020 21:00:54	Michael	Harris	Kansas Speech Commur	Wichita	Please support the Governor's position and keep schools closed through Labor Day, at minimum, to allow for increased preparation to come into compliance with public health recommendations.
7/20/2020 21:00:54	Pamela	Wyatt	Washington Elementary	Wyandotte	Delay the start of school
7/20/2020 21:00:58	Katie	Olson	USD 227	Jetmore	Please allow local governing boards to do what is best for their students. Our county needs are not the same as Wyandotte County's needs for example, and we should not be treated the same.  As an educator, I understand that students have different needs that can't be addressed the same way, so I do what's best for each of them. I ask you to do what is right and put your faith in the people who elected you. Let local governments make decisions that directly affect their people.
7/20/2020 21:00:58	Cindy	Kulp	My Family	Leonardville, KS	We would like schools to open as originally planned. My son does not do well with online classes.
7/20/2020 21:01:01	Delfina	Martinez	Shawnee Mission	Merriam	Do not open schools until after Labor Day
7/20/2020 21:01:18	Brock	Hartshorn		Topeka	There is no reason to open schools now with cases on the rise. It just raises the possibility of a quarantine and schools closing. The schools will still need to complete the requirements of hours of education for the year. This is easily done with the September start date. It also allows more time to possibly get the virus under better control. We can't risk our older teachers and citizens that will be at risk. Many students would be going home to grandparents that are their sole providers of care and possibly spreading it to them. At this time during this pandemic you can not have the the possible deaths of students teachers parents and grandparents on your hands. Please vote to follow the governor and start school 3 weeks later. Thank you
7/20/2020 21:01:38	Nick	Bartkoski	USD 259'parent	Wichita	With the recent increases in COVID-19 cases in Sedgwick County, I have been anxious about sending my kindergartener to school in a few short weeks. I was surprised and relieved at the Governor's announcement yesterday to delay back to school until September 8th. It is my sincere hope that our community will work together to bring the number of active cases down significantly so we may return to school safely. I urge you to support Governor Kelly's initiative. Our children's and teachers' lives depend on it.
7/20/2020 21:01:52	Ellyn	Mulcahy	None	Riley County	Please delay school in person until it is safe to do so as per public health guidelines and as supported by the CDC and the Governor of Kansas.
7/20/2020 21:01:54	Kristy	Lewis	Parent	Rossville	Please consider opening our schools on the original start date. My soon to be 2nd grader has actually regressed in his reading skills and needs to be back in the classroom. He needs the encouragement from his teacher as well as his parents. I've also noticed an increase in his anxiety being away from school this long. He truly needs the routine back in his life. I have no doubt the school will be making all the sanitation steps to keep everyone as healthy as possible.

7/20/2020 21:01:56	Chris	Hahn	N/A	Lucas	I am writing you tonight to voice concerns over the executive order 20-58. In recent months I have spent the time to educate myself on the growing pandemic that is covid-19. I have also been very vocal on social media platform such as Facebook and different groups within dealing with the mandates giving by our governor. The growing concern among the people and parents is when will this stop. These mandates are not about the safety of our children. Pediatrician across the country have been vocal in saying get the kids back to school. Countries across the world have reopened there schools and performed study's showing that the spread of covid-19 has not increased due to reopening of schools. We cut last year short I had to quit my job to stay home and care for a child who could no longer attend school. Parents across Kansas are ready to get back to life and don't think school policies should be dictated by political mandates. But I don't want to focus on the political side of things. As politics should not dictate the education of our children. Kids across the country are ready to go to school see there friends. Student athletes have trained over the summer waiting the opportunity to play the very sports they love and we as parents love watching. Studies have shown that covid-19 has a very extremely low asymptomatic transfer rate and even a lower child to child rate. They also show that also show that the younger and healthier you are the less likely for serious impact from contracting covid. The elderly and those with pre existing conditions are the ones at risk, not our children. Instead our children are at risk of loosing valuable time with learning both common core education and social interaction skills for later in life. Governor Kelly states the reason for waiting to open schools is to give time to teachers and facilitate members to prep , get need supplies, and I quote " Governor Laura Kelly said. "The additional three weeks will provide schools time to work with their counties to get the necessary mitigation supplies like masks, thermometers, and hand sanitizer while providing local districts time to thoroughly review the curriculum options from the State Board of Education to figure out what strategy is best for their district." this mandate hasn't even been discussed here at your meetings. You haven't even decided if your to inforce this mandate. So why prolong children's education, why prolong the interactions that develop our children for a mandate you haven't even discussed yet. That's putting your cart before the horse. You have the opportunity to show the nation that we as Kansas truly do have the best intentions for our children's education and for our parents. The longer you wait to open schools the more time adults have to wait to find jobs which in turn boosts our economy. The risk of a child dieing or spreading covid is less then that of the flu. I have not ever seen these kinds of actions being taken against the flu. Don't let political agendas stop our children's social and common core education. Let Kansas lead the way for other states to show education is not politics. Thank you for your time. And I truly hope you have the best
7/20/2020 21:02:00	Theresa	Irsik	USD 477	Ingalls	Please follow the governor's mandate and give our schools time to prepare. Otherwise, I feel administrators will feel pressure to start on time without proper planning in place.
7/20/2020 21:02:03	Wayne	Koch	Parent	Home	Start school on time with mo restrictions
7/20/2020 21:02:05	DIANE	LINDQUIST		LENEXA, KS	I am pleading with the Board to vote against the governor's executive order to keep schools closed. My son is a senior this year and I have seen a not so good change in him and his friends this summer. They have no hope for their senior year. No one is giving them hope for their future. No one is answering their questions of when this will end. There is a rise of teenage suicide since the close of school last March. I have a much greater concern for our children's mental health than I do of them getting COVID. If they get COVID, they have a less than 1% chance of having to seek medical attention and less than a 1% chance of it being fatal. If Kansas continues to go down this path of no school for our kids, we have a much greater risk of losing them to suicide. These kids have been put through enough. Please put an end to this and let our kids go back to school.
7/20/2020 21:02:15	Cheryl	Diehl	Wamego High School P	wamego	My oldest daughter recently graduated Wamego High School. To watch her be devastated by not playing her last softball game was awful. As of now we know a little bit more about COVID19. I am a healthcare or essential employee. I have been exposed numerous times and am very fortunate to not have caught this virus. Wamego and the surrounding communities that I work in are rural, yes but have always gone that extra mile or two. Please pleas allow the athletes to practice with precautions as they were this summer. These athletes are held to a different standard and they repect all of the precautions just so they can compete with sports activities and to interact with their friends. Please consider this and Im sure these decisions are very difficult.
7/20/2020 21:02:23	Rachael	Robinson	USD 369	Burrton	Please vote to keep the delay. As teachers we need time to put thing in place to keep evryone safe. We also need to give time for the curve to flatten before putting kids back in the classroom.

7/20/2020 21:02:32	Casey	Grace	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	<p>I support the Governor's decision to delay the start of school. At this juncture, Johnson County's data regarding the spread of COVID does not indicate enough of a slow or plateau. While data is showing that children are less likely to transmit/contract the virus, I feel that much of the data collected on this reflects a time when children were not in large (classroom-sized) groups, or represents countries who have approached and managed the spread of the virus differently.</p> <p>Additionally, while schools will always pull together what is necessary to keep students safe, it seems that much of our typical planning and preparation has been put on hold and staff/administration are now in need of additional time in order to prepare for the school year ahead.</p>
7/20/2020 21:02:34	Susan	McRae	Parent and School Secre	Overland Park	Please vote with Laura Kelly to keep our schools closed until at least Labor Day for the safety of our kids and the safety of the staff in schools. Thank you!
7/20/2020 21:02:48	Nicole	Rushton	Parent	Norton	I would like to see school start with online, few hours a day of zoom Teaching. That way the teachers are still teaching and kids are still seeing classmates. Then slowly start with half the class Monday Tuesday clean Wednesday and the other half Thursday Friday. This will keep our kids learning.
7/20/2020 21:02:54	Anita	Perdue	Retired Teacher (KCK).	Work in KCK, Live in C	<p>I am concerned about schools being re-opened while the COVID virus is NOT under control. I'm a retired teacher who wants to work as a substitute teacher in the schools in the KC area. I live with my 80 year old mother who has many health conditions that put her at a very high risk. We have been following all of the guidelines that include staying home, wearing a mask out in public as well as social distancing. From what I have read, the KC area is a HOT spot for COVID.</p> <p>The worked at Central Middle School in KCK for 30 years. I have a lot of wonderful memories of teaching with some fantastic teachers/staff. The students were amazing. But this school is a breeding ground for germs. Over the years, I've watched as the number of custodians working in the building declined. There were many days that I knew areas were not cleaned very well.(short staff). There is a need for staff/students to be able to wash their hands, the water doesn't get very hot. In fact, most of the faucets in the restrooms/locker rooms only have cold water. The classrooms are not very big BUT class rosters are at an average of 30-40+ students. (Depending on the hour and what subject that is taught). There is NO way to distance students 3 feet, and it is suggested to distance 6 feet.</p> <p>Many classrooms have tables and chairs, not individual desks.</p> <p>When I go to the store I see a lot of empty shelves where cleaning supplies used to be....How do I know that there will be supplies at the school(s) that I will be working in? I don't remember ever seeing closets at school overflowing with cleaning supplies. I used to have to buy a lot of supplies when I taught school but that's not really an option.</p> <p>Many teachers are worried about getting the virus, sharing it with family....I don't want to get sick. I don't want my family sick. I don't want my co-workers and their families sick. I don't want any of my students and their families to get sick.</p> <p>I know this is difficult decision to have to make. But I am asking that you consider delaying the opening of our schools. I hope this will allow schools to be able to purchase the supplies needed for each classroom, make the school buildings safer, determine how students will learn. Allow the schools to plan for either teaching face to face or online learning. Is it safe for all students and staff to return? Is it safe for students to ride the bus?</p> <p>Please consider the School year start to be delayed, then monitor the number of cases that are being reported in the area. There has to be a better time to return. It's not safe now.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/20/2020 21:03:07	Shawnda	Wishart	USD 375	El Dorado KS	I fully support waiting until after Labor Day for schools to open. It gives the districts time to plan for all of the safety measures that need to be implemented as well as teachers to plan how to keep students safe while continuing the quality education kids deserve.
7/20/2020 21:03:13	Courtney	Warden		Hesston	I would like schools to open on site regular time!
7/20/2020 21:03:13	Teresa	Kidd	USD 259	Mulvane	Some districts should wait, some could open as scheduled. Districts need flexibility in making the decision.

7/20/2020 21:03:14	Cheyenne	M		Wamego	My kindergarten team needs time to figure out how we're going to divide classes since Round Up was cancelled, how we're going to replace morning tubs, what to do with our large rectangle tables, divide math manipulatives for individual students, revise our recess and lunch schedule. There is so much that needs changed before school starts and we need time to do so. Yes, we have spent our summer talking and brainstorming, but so much keeps changing. We need to plan all of that while also deciding who will teach online and HOW to teach kindergarten online. The extra time would help with all of this and allow us to set up for what will undoubtedly be a hard year.
7/20/2020 21:03:19	Brandy	Hayes	Teacher	Lawrence	I am a teacher and a parent in the district. We cannot send our kids to schools that are unsafe. Doing so would put thousands of Kansans' lives at risk. Please vote in favor of Governor Kelly's Executive Order.
7/20/2020 21:03:27	April	Easton		Topeka	I want my child to start school in August in person in the school classroom. He deserves to learn in the best environment with great teachers.
7/20/2020 21:03:33	Susan	Barr	Shawnee Mission School	Overland Park	I support the Governor's EO that delays the start of the school year. It will be my 13th year as a Kansas Educator this August. From the time I began working as a teacher, the safety of schools has always been the most important factor. If students do not feel safe at school, they will not learn. I understand the need for students to be around their peers, develop social-emotional skills, participate in activities, etc -- but none of these are more important than the health and safety of our students and staff. Working as a school counselor, I can tell you that anxiety was off the charts pre-covid. I can guarantee you it hasn't gone down since then. Please support the Governor's EO which encourages the safety and health of our students and staff, allowing time for virus cases to decrease and a better start to the school year for all students.
7/20/2020 21:03:33	Angela	Zimmerman	Parent - 5 children	Colby	I am NOT in favor of school starting AFTER Labor Day. Start school on the original scheduled date. These kids need to return to a schedule. They are children, they thrive on schedules. What benefit do we have starting later, missing school days, because if the schools decide to act like the colleges and not allow students back after Thanksgiving due to the 'scare' of getting sick WE WILL NEVER BE IN SCHOOL!!!! It is time to toughen up, your grandparents did! We have a virus, we have the flu bug, we have West Nile, we have, the list goes on. Time to put things into perspective and get on with life and quit using the children as a crutch! And we are REALLY concerned about their health, think of their mental health. Being isolated at home away from friends, not suppose to hug people, there is the risk, mental health risk. it is MY RESPONSIBILITY to take care of our children and keep them healthy, let me do my job, it isn't the states responsibility. I will decide to keep them home from school if I feel they need to be home due to illness. Fear isn't a reason. Let's get back to class and educate our children and allow them to grow in knowledge and social skills and remember to laugh again. PLEASE override the Governor's opinion on starting schools later. Allow each district to decide what is best for their school district. Some may need to start later, but here in Thomas County, for 5 active cases, there isn't a need to postpone the start of school. Thanks.
7/20/2020 21:03:40	Joycelyn	Fasulo	USD 233	Olathe	As a parent of three children that attend Olathe Public Schools and as a middle school teacher for the Olathe Public Schools I urge you to support Governor Kelly's Executive Order to delay the reopening of schools. Here in Johnson County the data is showing that cases are on the rise and it is simply not safe to be indoors in large numbers. Please support Governor Kelly's Executive Order to allow the district administration more time to create a plan and train staff on the mandates. This delay will also allow mask mandates and businesses choosing to roll back reopening to slow the spread and lower the number of infected citizens. Support the decision to allow schools to open SAFELY.
7/20/2020 21:03:44	Heather	Betzen		Wichita	Since families are given the option to homeschool, virtual learning, etc. and receive a similar curriculum to in-person learning, schools need to open up for everyone that is ready for the in-person learning. We are delaying the start without knowing the state of the virus will be any better in September.
7/20/2020 21:03:46	A	Rawalt	Teacher	Olathe	Please please please the community spread of the virus in my area is too high to do in person schools without a specific plan and time to prepare for the new guidelines. Many teachers like me are at high risk to infection and have other family members who are also high risk. I'm a rational person but I'm terrified of getting COVID-19. There needs to be more time with people wearing masks to see if the percent positive number will decrease. Teachers work hard to make sure everyone else is taken care of now it is time for someone to stand up for our safety. Thanks!
7/20/2020 21:03:52	Kaley	Robinson	USD 500	Lawrence, Kansas	Delaying the start of school will give teachers time to prepare how to safely start school.

7/20/2020 21:04:03	Jessica	McGuire	USD 489 Parent	Hays	Please uphold the mandates of the Governor and allow for a delayed start, masks, hand sanitizer, etc. Kids need to be IN school and it's going to be hard to make that happen if we take little to no precautions. Put kids first, not your personal grudge or opinion.
7/20/2020 21:04:11	Jennifer	Sowards		Pratt	Please let school start. The kids need in the school.
7/20/2020 21:04:21	Jennifer	Robinson	Andover public schools	Wichita	I'm a teacher and I am terrified of going back to work in USD 385 with the numbers as high as they are right now. I urge you to support the governor's executive order and keep schools closed until after Labor Day so officials have time to reevaluate the situation before sending everyone back. It is my sincere hope that our community will work together to bring the number of active cases down significantly so we may return to school safely. I urge you to support Governor Kelly's initiative. Our children's and teachers' lives depend on it.
7/20/2020 21:04:25	Julie	McClure	Concerned teacher USD	Lyons	Dear State Board of Education members, The delay of the start of school is a smart idea that should be followed for a number of reasons. First, the districts were JUST presented with the Navigating Change document (1000 pages +) last week. Delaying the start of school would allow district administrators, faculty, and staff to devise a workable plan of action for their district regarding safety precautions for their employees and their students, and subject competencies. Secondly, many districts are just now seeing an uptick in COVID-19 cases in their communities. I live in a rural community and until recently we had been spared the high numbers of COVID. Thirdly, the South Korean study of the age group of children that are most likely to spread COVID is alarming as that 10-19 year old age group is half of a district's population (6th-12th grade.) People compare cruise ships to a Petri dish, the same is true of schools. There is NO way to social distance in our classrooms. Some of us do not have the luxury of a 1:1 student/desk ratio. I had 4 ft. long tables in my classroom, large enough for 4 students to sit around each table. Last year I spent my own money on purchasing "flexible" seating for my 6th grade students (\$250.00.) Not only do I now not have seating for my students, my room is not large enough to keep students 6 ft. apart if all students attend on the same days.  Lastly, as long as the State Board isn't comfortable, or thinks it's unsafe to meet in person is it reasonable to conclude that it would be safe for teachers and students to meet in person? I'm wondering, if you won't meet in person with adult peers, how you would feel being told that you were expected to meet in person with 15-30 students 6 times a day for 45 minutes each time?  I realize that face to face education is best. I would love to be in my classroom if it weren't for COVID, but at what cost? Do we need to have educators contract COVID and possibly suffer from long term effects or possibly die? Or worse yet, have that happen to innocent children before we admit that this virus is not only serious but also has so many unknowns that are associated with it.  On a personal note. I am almost 58 years young, I am a breast cancer survivor after taking chemo and radiation treatment and I am worried about how this virus will affect my health. I have a 3 year old grandson that I want to watch grow up. I have elderly parents that will need looking after eventually. My husband is 10 years my senior and has
7/20/2020 21:04:27	Dianna	Waite	A concerned citizen	67401	I won't insult you by giving you all the evidence why you should support the Governor's EO. Despite what the White House press secretary said, The science must be followed. Put your partisan politics aside and do the adult thing. If we delay school and are wrong about it, we will have missed some days that can be recovered. If we don't delay and a child or teacher dies, how will you live with yourself, knowing you could have stopped it.
7/20/2020 21:04:28	Hillary	Hopkins		Prairie Village	I appreciate the governor making difficult, responsible decisions for the welfare of her constituents. Thank you!
7/20/2020 21:04:30	Cynthia	Alford		Altamont, KS	I'm a teacher and I would like for students to attend school on the date originally set by USD 506 rather than waiting until after Labor Day. The damage Covid has done to the educational and social emotional needs of the students needs to end now. Families and the economy are also suffering as parents cannot return to work because of child care issues. Child abuse reports have gone down significantly. I doubt very seriously this is because abuse is stopping, especially in these stressful times. The costs to the kids of staying out of school are much higher than the benefits. Send us back to school, please!
7/20/2020 21:04:33	Jennifer	Batson		Assaria, KS	I think this is a very SMART idea!!!! We are not through the worst of this situation yet. Putting a group of kids together inside of one building is just going to be a breeding ground for COVID.

7/20/2020 21:04:37	Alisha	Aiken		Prairie Village	Please follow the order from Governor Kelly. It is in the best interest for all students and staff and families to delay the start while local numbers continue to rise.
					Dear State Board of Education members, The delay of the start of school is a smart idea that should be followed for a number of reasons. First, the districts were JUST presented with the Navigating Change document (1000 pages +) last week. Delaying the start of school would allow district administrators, faculty, and staff to devise a workable plan of action for their district regarding safety precautions for their employees and their students, and subject competencies. Secondly, many districts are just now seeing an uptick in COVID-19 cases in their communities. I live in a rural community and until recently we had been spared the high numbers of COVID. Thirdly, the South Korean study of the age group of children that are most likely to spread COVID is alarming as that 10-19 year old age group is half of a district's population (6th-12th grade.) People compare cruise ships to a Petri dish, the same is true of schools. There is NO way to social distance in our classrooms. Some of us do not have the luxury of a 1:1 student/desk ratio. I had 4 ft. long tables in my classroom, large enough for 4 students to sit around each table. Last year I spent my own money on purchasing "flexible" seating for my 6th grade students (\$250.00.) Not only do I now not have seating for my students, my room is not large enough to keep students 6 ft. apart if all students attend on the same days.  Lastly, as long as the State Board isn't comfortable, or thinks it's unsafe to meet in person is it reasonable to conclude that it would be safe for teachers and students to meet in person? I'm wondering, if you won't meet in person with adult peers, how you would feel being told that you were expected to meet in person with 15-30 students 6 times a day for 45 minutes each time?  I realize that face to face education is best. I would love to be in my classroom if it weren't for COVID, but at what cost? Do we need to have educators contract COVID and possibly suffer from long term effects or possibly die? Or worse yet, have that happen to innocent children before we admit that this virus is not only serious but also has so many unknowns that are associated with it.  On a personal note. I am almost 58 years young, I am a breast cancer survivor after taking chemo and radiation treatment and I am worried about how this virus will affect my health. I have a 3 year old grandson that I want to watch grow up. I have elderly parents that will need looking after eventually. My husband is 10 years my senior and has
7/20/2020 21:04:37	Julie	McClure	Concerned teacher USD	Lyons	My boys are 16 and 11 years old. We've had Covid. They are fine physically. Emotionally, they need to be in school with their peers. If people can go out to eat, shop in grocery stores, Walmart, malls, liquor stores, go to nightclubs, why can't our children who have been the healthiest through this pandemic, receive an education and build relationships with their peers. Please consider allowing local school boards to make their own decisions based on the amount of cases in their community and the danger to the students.
7/20/2020 21:04:45	Jana	Strunk	Mothers everywhere	Wamego	Please please please overturn her on anything the State School Board can overturn her on, this should be up to each individual district to set plans up, not the Governor. A mandate was voted against for mask in our town giving control to the school for their decision making! Please please fight for the residents as Governor Kelly does not care for the safety, health and wellbeing of our children!
7/20/2020 21:04:45	Jessica	Henderson	UDS 416	Miami county, Louisbur	This is in support Governor Kelly's delay so that schools have more time to prepare for WHATEVER method of schooling will be safest. As a School Counselor I help build the Master Schedule for our building. I'm puzzled to find space and ways to keep everyone safe in our building. As someone who has access to all class sizes. I feel morally and ethically responsible for all of our 1,863 students. How can I tell parents that their precious children are being kept safe with mitigation practice. When I know its not possible. If we open schools I would like to open our building safely. I wouldn't be able to sleep at night knowing we packed 27-30 kids in a classroom.  I also have an underlying health condition that has added an extra stressors to my life. I'm only in my 30s with a little one year old and I don't want to die.
7/20/2020 21:04:55	Elva	Medina	Education	Olathe, KS	
7/20/2020 21:05:03	Lisa	McFadden		Concordia	For Gov. Kelly's plan of waiting to start after Labor Day.

7/20/2020 21:05:09	Christele	Marsh	Olathe Schools District	SHAWNEE	<p>I think it is a good idea to delay the openings of schools in order to have proper safety standards and for staff to be well trained. Administrators, teachers, parents, and students need to be on the same page with non-negotiable items with no room for interpretation.</p> <p>I also think that districts need to decide and let teachers know by August 10 how the teaching will safely take place so that teachers can prepare and adjust. I think there needs to be a waiver about reducing the number of contact hours as it is not realistic to try and catch up in the situation we are in.</p> <p>TO THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS.</p>
7/20/2020 21:05:22	Bethany	Service	Kansas City Kansas, Pul	Shawnee, KS	<p>I want to thank you in advance for supporting Governor Kelly's Executive Order to delay the opening of schools. She has worked endlessly to keep Kansans safe by consulting with health officials before making any decisions. So I know that when Governor Kelly announced the executive order last week, it was prefaced with research and much consideration.</p> <p>COVID-19 affects many people in many ways. Some just get a case of the sniffles while others end up in the ICU even though they have no underlying health conditions. A favorite fact that people like to throw around is that kids aren't affected as much. While this may be true, according to an article in USA Today they can still spread the disease. (<a href="https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2020/07/17/coronavirus-can-kids-spread-covid-19-spreadquestions-answered/5450062002/">https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2020/07/17/coronavirus-can-kids-spread-covid-19-spreadquestions-answered/5450062002/</a>)</p> <p>Many of our students live with people who are members of the vulnerable population. Whether they are older or have an underlying health condition, these children could potentially spread it to people who could get really sick from the virus. There are many teachers who are a part of this vulnerable population as well. We deserve to work in a safe and healthy environment. We deserve the peace of mind knowing that we don't have to update our wills before the school year starts. We deserve to not have to fear that we are bringing home a ruthless virus to our own families. We deserve the same basic rights as anyone else.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to read my email. I look forward to your approval of Governor Kelly's Executive Order.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Bethany Service Vocal Music Teacher Eisenhower Middle School, USD 500</p>
7/20/2020 21:05:29	Kelly	Williams	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita	<p>I am writing to you to please do what the governor and KDHE recommends and delay the start of school until after Labor Day. Our state is currently one of the hot zones for COVID19 and Wichita has had rising numbers each day. The only way we are going to return to normal is to stay in small groups or stay home, as I've been doing. I am the secretary and was recently diagnosed with COPD so I'm concerned about the many people I come in contact with being carriers of COVID. If we have extra time to implement all the safety procedures, I will feel safe as possible. We also need time to make sure all kids and staff are safe. It's going to take a lot of planning to keep kids in one room and make sure they have supervision at all times. Having the extra time will help administration get things in place. Please keep the safety of our children and teachers and staff first. None of this is political so I hope you listen to the advice of the doctors, scientists, KDHE and delay starting of school.</p>



7/20/2020 21:05:29	Jamie	Florio		Wichita	I highly think we should keep schools closed for the 20-21 school year. No ones health should be put on the line. Especially when we know this virus can effect every single person in the school building. This virus can also be brought home to parents putting the entire family at risk. We also have no idea what health risks the future holds for those infected. The school district that we attend already have classrooms busting at the seams with class sizes, making it impossible to social distance. What happens when one kid gets infected? Does the whole school quarantine for 14 days? What about outside play equipment? Will kids not be allowed to play on it? Playground equipment is used by every single child in an elementary. I just don't know how schools are going to open up and it be physically safe nor mentally healthy?
7/20/2020 21:05:34	Elizabeth	Oxandale	Kansas City Kansas Pub	Overland Park	The normal 5 days that are contractually reserved for teachers at the beginning of the school year are completely insufficient given that the world and education look nothing like the world and schools we all left in March. We MUST provide teachers time to work to prepare with their district and administration for the health, safety and education of our students for whom we so deeply care.
7/20/2020 21:05:35	Robin	Fuksa	My house	Mulvane	Start school no later than the day after Labor day. My kids are NOT online learners. We have 6 kids adopted from the Kansas foster care system. They need their classrooms back.
7/20/2020 21:05:36	Misty	Hansen		Manhattan	With COVID cases rising all the state, and the data being released about children spreading the virus as much as adults, we need to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. Not only for the safety of our children, but the safety of all teachers and staff as well.
7/20/2020 21:05:37	Traci	Johnson	Teacher and parent	Plainville	I feel we need to open schools in August. It is crucial for our children return to school. They have been out so long as it is. I worry about their emotional health as well as their physical health. This waiting and wondering what will happen is agonizing for everyone, including the kids. I teach elementary and the thought of them wearing masks all day is ridiculous. Keeping them focused throughout the day is tough enough without the added distraction of a mask. I know schools will do everything in their power to keep the students and faculty safe. We need to think about the kids and get their education and mental well being back on track.
7/20/2020 21:05:41	Erica	Dryden		Stockton	I am a teacher in NW Kansas. We have cases spiking in the counties north and south of us. I am in support of Governor Kelly's order to delay school until after Labor Day to try to mitigate the spread of COVID-19
7/20/2020 21:05:54	Katie	Lix	none	Osborne, KS	No masks!!! Please don't let the children get caught up in this political mess. Our rural school is small, our county has had only three cases. Please don't use the same rules for our 1A school that you use for 4, 5, even 6 A schools. Praying for normalcy again soon!
7/20/2020 21:06:02	Amber	Brassfield	USD 271	Woodston	I think wearing masks all day is a danger to students. What is the difference in going to public spaces without them. I feel wearing a mask all day is more dangerous than not wearing one. I'm ok with delaying school as long as they have school. I am a single mother of 4 children and it would be impossible for me to even think about home school. I am currently looking for a second job to make ends meet and I know I can not work and home school my children. I think we should just get through this virus like the rest of them. But that is just my personal opinion.
7/20/2020 21:06:03	Joe	Waldron	Usd453	Shawnee	I am a parent of a USD 232 student and a Teacher in USD 453. I ask that you uphold the Governors EO to delay the opening of school until 9/9/20. The delay in the start will allow for the schools to prepare for the unknown challenges that Lay ahead. Teachers and school administration also need time to prepare. It is all of our hopes that the state of Kansas will start to trend downward and no longer be a hot spot for the virus. Thank you for guidance and putting the safety of all stakeholders First.
7/20/2020 21:06:07	Holly	Shriner	Shawnee Mission School	Overland Park	Please delay until September
7/20/2020 21:06:09	Trey	Lockwood	Every small local School	Horton	Comment removed due to profanity
7/20/2020 21:06:13	Ashley	drinnen		Sterling	do not delay! This virus is a joke with a 98.6% survival rate. Nothing should be closed and no masks should be worn!!!!
7/20/2020 21:06:17	Channing	Hawks	Family	Hugoton	I support starting after Labor Day but believe it should be up to each county and their school board and local health officials  I do not support wearing masks as I believe they are a false sense of security and also believe they make people touch their face more than not wearing them.

7/20/2020 21:06:21	Carolyn	Finken-Dove		Olathe, KS	Highest number of new cases today. Younger victims also affected. Long term effects of COVID not known. Medical and public health experts inform the Governors actions. Please approve and support Governor Kelly's Executive Order. She has the safety and best interest of parents, children, teachers and staff in mind.
7/20/2020 21:06:23	Shannon	Russell	N/A	Overland Park	I'm a parent & in support of kids waiting to begin the school year, possibly even later than the Gov's order of Labor Day. I would support school waiting until January, and running until November (every year). I don't think it's safe now to have kids together in small, outdated buildings that can't guarantee enough cleanliness in air ducts with the virus so out of control.
7/20/2020 21:06:30	Marlena	Hunley	My family	St. John	To whom it may concern; Please give the power to "decide" to the counties and individual school districts. Unfortunately, we are not heard out here in rural Kansas. We should not forgo the same precautions as cities. We have not had the exposure, or the number of people in and out of our small town like other large cities. We have had TWO confirmed cases in our entire county and NO deaths, since March. Congratulations on pushing more and more parents into homeschooling. Stop taking away our ability to take care of ourselves, which we do rather well out here. I hope my opinion is read and heard. Enjoy your day and wash your hands.
7/20/2020 21:06:36	Elva	Medina	Education	Olathe, KS	This is in support Governor Kelly's delay so that schools have more time to prepare for WHATEVER method of schooling will be safest. As a School Counselor I help build the Master Schedule for our building. I'm puzzled to find space and ways to keep everyone safe in our building. As someone who has access to all class sizes. I feel morally and ethically responsible for all of our 1,863 students. How can I tell parents that their precious children are being kept safe with mitigation practice. When I know its not possible. If we open schools I would like to open our building safely. I wouldn't be able to sleep at night knowing we packed 27-30 kids in a classroom.  I also have an underlying health condition that has added an extra stressors to my life. I'm only in my 30s with a little one year old and I don't want to die.
7/20/2020 21:06:37	Maryjo	Kerringer	Resident of Overland Pa	10506 W 168th Terrace	We really need to have some form of in person school, even if modified or part time. The online school did not work out well at all. My kids do much better with actual instruction and they both always go for extra help during Timber time when needed. The teachers didn't do much "teaching" during the online period and some teachers were not very responsive to questions. It is important fir them to have structure and social groups to help them learn. Plus the activities at school keep them busy and disciplined so they don't get into trouble. I feel their education will suffer without the person to person interaction. Plus if you look at the stats for JOCO, not a single person under 40 has died. Most teachers are younger and can certainly social distance from kids. Research is showing someone has to be close enough to you in order to transmit the disease and teachers can stay far enough away so there is no transmission . Partial online in order to keep Kids to a minimal would be fine but without some classroom learning in person most kids will suffer the consequences . Our kids get A's but they work really hard for them and my daughter has bad anxiety so without a schedule, I am worried about her mental health. High anxiety levels among kids seem to be common and this has been extra hard on those kids. I feel compromises can be made to keep everyone safe but also continue to educate our kids in the best possible way. I am begging you to please open in person school In some form. Compromises can be made and most parents will do what is necessary .
7/20/2020 21:06:55	Joanna	McAlister	Educator	St. John	For the sake of allowing teachers, support staff, and classified personnel to put the new plan into place & collaborate on, please let the schools remain closed until after Labor Day. It's inevitable that schools will have to work remotely at some point, so give us time now to collaborate and come up with the best lesson plans & collaborations so our students are able to continue to learn, whether in person or remotely.
7/20/2020 21:06:55	Sara	Winter		Pottawatomie	There are 5 active cases and zero hospitalizations in PT county. I feel it's time to open the schools here. Online learning was not adequate for the long run. Our teachers are not prepared to begin a school year with kids they don't know. It was different in the spring when they already had an established classroom.

7/20/2020 21:06:55	Bobbi	Eveland		Wamego	Please veto the governor's executive order. We have many children that are living in nightmares in their homes. Physical and sexual abuse has skyrocketed along with depression and suicide among of children. We need to get back into the classroom. Virtual education is no comparison for in classroom learning. Parents have to work outside the home to provide for their families. As a small business owner I had to take on a second job when our restaurant had to be closed for dine in. We were working so much to make ends meet our young son fell behind. No one cared he was missing several assignments. Our home has always prided ourselves on making education a priority, but it had to fall to the way side when bills had to be paid. Our situation is extremely mild to others, as many children lived in a complete nightmares that they suffered unimaginable trauma. That will never go away. Open schools. Planning for worst case scenarios should have happened in March. This push back in start dates will only open the door to go continuing to push back opening schools,
7/20/2020 21:06:57	Chris	Schremmer		Pittsburg	Please vote to overturn the Governor's order to delay the start of school. Our children need in person instruction, sports, and extra-curricular activities. The risk of the loss of these things far outweighs any risk to them from this virus. 0 deaths under the age of 25 have occurred in Kansas. Please send the decisions for school back to the local school districts to determine how to best implement the plan laid out by the State school board, and let parents decide what is best for their children.
7/20/2020 21:06:54	Glenda	Ruff	Myself	Lenexa	Please don't open schools while it is not safe. If you are meeting via zoom kids shouldn't be in school. If baseball games and car races are limiting the number of people allowed, kids shouldn't have school. If fairs and festivals are cancelled, kids shouldn't be in school. I hope you consider starting when it's safe and still going 181 days. School can last til July if it's safer. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:07:00	Amy	Meng		Manhattan	Thank for taking this comment! I believe we need more time to communicate to need to do our part for the greater good of the community to get our numbers down to keep our kids safe and to listen health experts. My husband is a pediatrician and we have several nurses and doctor friends who are scrambling and do not know what they will do if school does not open, yet I do not have a choice and have to keep my kids at home because I am high risk for Covid. I know many kids and families who are wanting school to return to normal, but it needs to be communicated that we need to do our part, and this is a health crisis, it is not going to be normal. I have a senior this year, and the losses are great. But we have to think of the greater good and the long term effects our actions have and not put your decisions on families. We have to think of the cost and the effects on teachers to flip flop this year. It needs to be based on need, not choice. It needs to be delayed until Labor Day, so that the teachers and schools are prepared. Thank you!
7/20/2020 21:06:58	Colleen	Connor	Parents	Lenexa	I applaud the governor's efforts to push back the school reopening. This will give more time for the mask mandate to work and try to reduce our positivity rate. I have serious concerns for the safety of our students, teachers, and staff at the schools if we open back up while our cases are still climbing. I agree that students need to be in school but we need to listen to science and do it cautiously.
7/20/2020 21:07:03	Tori	Goetz	Parent	Oakley	I would like the authority of when to start school be decided on at the local level. Currently we have no active cases. It makes sense for us to go to school now as eventually we will need these two weeks down the road if our numbers of COVID rise.
7/20/2020 21:07:06	Staci	Petersen		Topeka	Although this has been hard on all of my kids, my oldest is suffering the most. He is 14 years old and has autism. He will be a freshman. He got little to nothing out of online learning in the spring. It is just not feasible for a lot of SPED kids. With these classes being much smaller, it would seem that they could at least have exceptions for these kids that need the special support provided by the educators that have been specifically trained to handle their disabilities. His regression will be bad enough, having had very little structure from March through May. But if this continues I have no idea how long it will take to get him back to where he had been prior.
7/20/2020 21:07:19	Dawn	Irvin		Clearwater	Children 5th and under shouldn't be required to wear the masks they will be more of a distraction than anything. Younger children are proven not to spread the virus or be infected or get seriously I'll like older kids. If you want the masks for faculty and older kids fine, but let the school boards decide what is best for their schools and let the younger kids focus on education not how they can mess with their new mask all day.
7/20/2020 21:07:32	Karen	Ulmer	Paraprofessional	Derby	Please start school I need to get back to work and get paid again. Since paras can't get Unemployment. Plus my kids are so ready to get back to school already. They miss their teachers and their classes
7/20/2020 21:07:33	Brian	Stromgren	Parent	Osage City	The classroom my daughter will be in is small and it will be very difficult for her to maintain 6 feet distancing.

7/20/2020 21:07:39	Kana	Hurt		Wichita	I strongly support delaying the start of school. It is so clear that the cases are increasing now and I am very concern to send my kids to school until we see actual number declines and school can provide safe environment.
7/20/2020 21:07:39	Elanor	Klenda		Marion	Wait to open the schools. Give teachers time to plan and districts time to collect the necessary materials. We need to open schools only when it is safe for everyone!
7/20/2020 21:07:46	Holly	Bradley	Parent in usd 233	Olathe	Please, do the right thing and give schools a chance to get the supplies and ppe needed to help protect teachers, staff and students when and if numbers of cases in our state decline and it is safe for them to be in the classroom.
7/20/2020 21:07:47	Traci	Rhodes	Teacher/Coach in Blue	Overland Park	Please delay until our numbers have drastically gone down and we can safely return to in-person education. This will be my 31st year to teach but I also have many autoimmune factors that now put me at a greater risk. Teaching students is my whole world. I can't wait to see them. Thank you for your consideration.
7/20/2020 21:07:55	Julie	Pickard	Parent and Teacher	Olathe	Please uphold Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school.  I am a parent and teacher in Kansas. I desperately want my kids back in school this year. (I have a senior.) I desperately want to be back with my kindergarteners. (I cannot imagine what virtual kindergarten will be like.) I desperately want schools to open. However, I want us all to be safe. I think Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school is a fabulous way to give ourselves more time to hopefully decrease the number of Covid cases and SAFELY open up our schools so the most children and parents will be comfortable attending. Otherwise, I fear, we will be closing our doors after just a couple of weeks and many unnecessary positive cases.
7/20/2020 21:07:58	Steven	Craft		Tonganoxie	Sending teachers into classrooms is as thoughtless, irresponsible and wrong as sending children right now. Please do not start in-class classes at Kansas schools.
7/20/2020 21:08:36	Shelby	Deozier	Self	Coffeyville	I think school should reopen as normal
7/20/2020 21:08:38	Ryan	Campbell	None	Olathe	Please vote NOT to delay opening schools. Also, please do whatever possible to overturn the mandates that were put in place today. A reasonable approach would be to allow the guidelines be just that and not mandates. Local schools and districts should be able to make the best decisions for their students, teachers, and families, not a single person in Topeka.
7/20/2020 21:08:45	Melissa	Cramer		Ashland Kansas	School needs to start back up and no masks. It is our right to refuse that our kids have to wear a mask. We will move to another state if this happens.
7/20/2020 21:08:48	Achsa	Duncan	No One, but Children	Hugoton Kansas	Get Our Children, Back in School, They are the Important Ones, NOT Lazy Teachers, Good Ones Care!!!
7/20/2020 21:08:50	Brooke	Browning		La Cygne	I feel the recommended delay until Sept 9th is the correct action. This benefits students and staff alike, allowing optimal time for school districts to prepare not only for screening, but response to increasing positivity rates once school resumes.
7/20/2020 21:09:00	Rachel	Campbell	Sedan Elementary	Sedan	Our students need to be back in school. They have already missed valuable education time due to the covid-19 shutdown. Please get them back into the classroom and let our school year go on as planned.
7/20/2020 21:09:04	Angela	Krug		Olathe	Please, for the safety of students and educators, delay the opening of schools until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 21:09:04	Lisa	LaRocque	My family	Cawker City	There is no evidence that COVID 19 is any more dangerous for our kids than the flu. Of course there are exceptions but so is the case with the flu. We have more treatment and knowledge than we did in March. Open schools on time and without requiring masks for those who are healthy. Temperature checks are fine but requiring masks is not healthy and has no benefit to children. Let people decide for their own families.
7/20/2020 21:09:05	Angelica	Stieben	PTA President	Colby	I I believe school should begin in August as usual. I don't think postponing the start will bring any added prevention.
7/20/2020 21:09:07	Jamie	Brusin		Overland Park	Yes the schools should stay closed until after Labor Day and until the number of cases has gone down and stayed that way for a reasonable amount of time. Kids should not be forced to wear a mask in their face for 8 hours a day in a small classroom
7/20/2020 21:09:08	Sherri	Perkins	Parent	Wichita	Return to school on time with out face mask requirements
7/20/2020 21:09:15	Valerie	Chapple		Roeland Park	Preparation is key. With districts just now being able to put plans in place, the front line teachers and staff need time to implement and lesson plan (and creat backup plans) for the coming year.  Please support the Governor's decision to delay school openings. Thank you.

7/20/2020 21:09:19	Joann	Soderlund	Teacher/USD 409	Leavenworth	I'm asking that the 2020/2021 school year start after Labor Day. Please give districts a chance to make plans and gather PPE. Please give the curve time to flatten. Please protect the lives of Kansas children and their teachers.
7/20/2020 21:09:26	Ashlee	Johnson		ANDOVER	Kids should be going back to school and not in masks! I am all for giving parents the option to send their kids to school in masks or keep them home but it should be an option not a mandate. Kids cant wear a mask all day, they are constantly touching it and pulling it down and it loses any kind of medical benefit. Wearing a mask in PE is risking their health especially kids with asthma like mine. Please give parents the option to not have their kids wear masks and to choose to send their kids to school full time, if a parent has a problem with it they can keep their kid home. Parents cannot afford to stay home and teach their kids any longer, this is causing so much stress as they lose pay and benefits. Employers are only going to be understanding for so long and daycare is not affordable for everyone, especially one that can do their online learning with them. Please vote to not enforce the mandate and formulate a plan that puts the kids back in full time with no mask mandate but giving those that are worried the ability to have their child wear a mask if they want and to keep their child home.
7/20/2020 21:09:26	Melissa	Schwindt	Educator / Parent	Valley Center	These kid's need to be in school. Their social/emotional well-being trumps any unreliable covid test! Our data is not reliable. I will be checking into private school if I do not see our schools are doing their part to keep school normal. Teacher's cannot teach in a mask. Students will not focus in a mask. Hand sanitizer every hour is toxic! Let's stop with the political agenda's and get back to life! These kid's are all over and everywhere all summer. Spending nights with friends, playing sports, shopping, daycare, swimming. Open up our schools. Compromise immune system is an excuse. What have the compromised done all these years they were surrounded by influenza, pneumonia, and other viruses and bacteria. If they are so compromised they cannot do their job, just like any other job, they should find another. This is not insensitive, it is LIFE. Our children need normalcy. They need on-site education. No masks, no hand sanitizer, on-site learning, virtual if need be.
7/20/2020 21:09:34	Angie	Ross	USD 437	Topeka	Please do NOT delay the opening.
7/20/2020 21:09:40	Val	Reiss	Wallace County Commi	Weskan	Our county currently has had zero Covid cases. This is a restriction our county does not need currently. When it is needed, our county will adopt it
7/20/2020 21:09:42	Patricia	Myers	Rice County Special Ser	Lyons	I would advocate for a delayed start to the 20-21 school term. Cases are climbing, in the age ranges of young and old, in our small county/community. Hopefully the cases will decrease in order to allow us to open schools with a flattened virus outbreak. Being allowed time to prepare for students and the increased requirements will hopefully allow us to continue flattened virus numbers in our communities.
7/20/2020 21:09:45	Rick	Dirks	Office Solutions, Inc	Medicine Lodge	Three weeks won't do anything, open the schools. You have had all summer to figure it out.
7/20/2020 21:09:53	Steven	Tieszen	My family	Newton	The mandate to require masks affects those who are already disadvantaged unfairly. The governor removes her mask when she makes a speech so that those who are hard of hearing are able to read her lips to assist in understanding. The logic of that applies to children in school especially the younger ones who can not read yet. If you mask all of the students you exclude those who need to see others mouths to assist in understanding. The exclusion does not help these people who are in need. There are those children who have hearing impairments, and there are children who are developmentally delayed that need to see others mouths to learn to speak clearly. If this mandate stands the state is not abiding by the rules for least restrictive environment. The state is in fact hurting those who need help.
7/20/2020 21:09:53	Laura	Croley	Derby USD 260	Derby	kids need school for their mental health. Let the ones who want to stay home stay home and do online. My special needs child gets nothing from virtual school. Daycares are still open. Schools need to open.
7/20/2020 21:09:53	Rocky	Lochhaas	KCKPS	Kansas City	I am a teacher in KCKPS. I implore you to delay the school year until after Labor Day in order to give time for the cases to decline in our area and for administration and teachers to plan and be trained in proper safety measures.
7/20/2020 21:09:54	Natalie	Post	None	Saint George	Being on the front line, being a dental hygienist and also part of the covid testing, I feel and several of the doctors I worked with feel, kids need to get this and develop a natural immunity! Let's not wait until flu season to open up schools and sports! If you are immune compromised take precautions! I have risked my health for 33 years being face to face with patients, if I can work everyone can work! Let's have faith and stop dumbing down our children! Open everything!

7/20/2020 21:09:59	Meliss	Modig	KNEA—Public School	Topeka	Please support this Executive Order. I am a teacher and am so worried about the spread of COVID-19 and it's health effects on students, staff, and their families. My husband is immunocompromised and I worry I will be exposed at school, especially after social distancing so much this summer. The delay will give educators a chance to implement our plans and look over the KSDE recommendations. It is about keeping Kansas safe.
7/20/2020 21:10:10	Elizabeth	Mlotkiewicz	USD259 and my Family	Wichita, KS	Please accept the Executive Order to delay school to give us time with an actual plan. We have spent all summer waiting for guidance. It JUST came out. We need time.
7/20/2020 21:10:11	Eunice	Dokko		Mission	Based on current and projected data, it is not safe to reopen school buildings for face-to-face learning and a delay to the start of the school year will help districts adapt to the guidelines only recently released by the state. Please consider the significant risk to students, families, and school staff if Governor Kelly's executive order is not approved by the board. Thank you for supporting the executive order to delay school start dates!
7/20/2020 21:10:24	Jen	Spilker		Olathe	I support the governor's decision to delay the start of school in order to give schools time to best prepare for in-person and virtual school. Please consider that there are many teachers, staff, and family members who may be more profoundly impacted by students attending in-person school without proper guidelines in place. Thank you
7/20/2020 21:10:33	Cassandra	Ware	Wellsville Middle School	Wellsville	Please do not open schools until after Labor Day. Our positive Covid-19 cases are on the rise. I work as a para, at Baldwin High School, and my daughter attends Wellsville Middle School. I don't want to put either of us at risk, nor do I think opening back up is the right call for our teachers and staff.
7/20/2020 21:10:36	Mark	Congdon	Cair Paravel Latin School	Topeka	Respect the local school boards. They are in place for a reason. Delegate the decisions of opening date and safety precautions to them!
7/20/2020 21:10:51	Colleen	Markman	Havencroft Elementary,	Olathe	In order for our district and teachers to have adequate time to secure resources, materials and teachers to plan procedures, protocols and lessons to meet the mandated safety guidelines, the start date of school needs to be pushed back until after Labor Day
7/20/2020 21:10:52	John	Gray	Children	OVERLAND PARK	I appreciate that there are many differing and sincerely-held views on how to best and most safely educate our children during this challenging time. As a parent of son with special needs, I believe that the continued school closures are taking a greater toll on our kids' emotional and mental well-being than the physical risk that such closures are intended to alleviate. In addition to the educational value of being physically in school, a big part of public education is also the social and interpersonal interactions and opportunities for extra-curricular activities, such as band, choir, sports, etc. To the physical risk that is being cited as the reason for the governor's order, I see no realistic medical end game that justifies the continued closure of school and the required physical separation of children from their teachers and fellow students. A continued delay will simply mean a spike later when things open up. For those that are not comfortable sending their kids to school, a high quality remote learning OPTION should be offered (NOT REQUIRED). I respectfully ask that the board vote against the governor's order and PHYSICALLY OPEN OUR SCHOOLS in August. Thank you for your consideration.
7/20/2020 21:10:59	Taylor	Smith	USD 512	Prairie Village	Today (7/20) Kansas recorded roughly 1,300 new Covid cases, a number that represents the dire situation our communities are in and have faced since March. Prior to Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school, it was unclear whether or not our district (SMSD) was fully prepared to safely open schools in August. Safety must take precedent when it comes to opening schools, as the loss of a student, teacher, administrator, coach, or other school personnel is unacceptable. As a teacher, we did not sign up to go into a battle field, but to create a safe and loving environment where students grow their potential. We simply cannot do that if we don't have the necessary time and supplies to make our schools safe for them. That said, I ask that you place your fears of "government overreach" aside and support Governor Kelly's executive order. After all, liberty is ultimately lost if life is not protected.
7/20/2020 21:11:10	Charlotte	Hall		Hudson	If masks & social distancing really work, then we need to start school on our scheduled August date. Classified employees are counting on this too for their paychecks! They've been unpaid all summer & this is not much warning for them to have planned for an additional 2+ weeks off unpaid.
7/20/2020 21:11:18	Danielle	Schumacher	Parent	Hays	Delay school is fine with me so they can figure out what's going on and how they will do school. The MASK thing is flat out stupid! No kid will be able to focus. I have kids with speech issues, and a boy who thinks its fun to Jack around with thr mask chew on it, put it over his eyes, on his head use it as a sling shot you name it! Total over reach by the govenor

7/20/2020 21:11:35	Ken	McRae	I'm a parent	Overland Park, KS	I am in favor of delaying the start of the school year. New cases of COVID continue to climb and it is reasonable to believe hospitalization rates and deaths will skyrocket in the coming weeks. This delay will allow everyone the opportunity to get more information before deciding if it is safe to resume in person schooling as usual or if adjustments will have to made.
7/20/2020 21:11:36	Patsy	Bastin		Haysville	Delaying schools means there will be less total school time period. Schools will close undoubtedly during flu season and it makes no sense to close in late summer- districts have had 6 months to prepare and 3 additional weeks is ridiculous. Get these kids back in school- you are harming them by not!
7/20/2020 21:11:42	Rochelle	Cannon		Shawnee	I think schools should be online only for the first semester.
7/20/2020 21:11:50	Karrie	Hammeke	Parents/Students	Great Bend	The deadly risk for children is so low that they are more likely to die on their drive to school then from this virus. Don't fall for the fear-mongering. Look at the data. And please consider their mental and social health as well when you make this decision - they are just as important. Thanks for your time.
7/20/2020 21:12:04	Kayla	Tottress	High School Student in	Kansas City	I have asthma which is a underlying health condition. My school is hosting 1000+ students when the max size is 750. Having students compacted in such a small space will increase covid cases. There is no absolute way to stop the spread by gathering at school again, you dont know how students or who students interact with outside of the building. Online Learning is your best bet. Students will not willingly wear a mask all day long, they just wont. Someone will argue their freedom whether to wear a mask or not. Someone will cough on some as a joke but it could mean life or death. There are too many variables to open back up the buildings. My school, or my district, is not the cleanest. We regularly run out of soap, tissue, and we dont even have paper towels. This should be more than enough evidence, so I rest my case.
7/20/2020 21:12:12	Melissa	Bush	I am a parent and a sub	Wichita	We should definitely wait until after Labor Day. We should really take our cues from other big cities and close for the semester.
7/20/2020 21:12:15	Ashley	Miles		Overbrook KS	We support delaying school.
7/20/2020 21:12:22	Jesyka	Stifter	Prairie View	Parker	I believe schools should open with safety precautions in mind. I have a 2nd grader and 7th grader and they both need to be in school. I also am a teachers aide and believe the students I see on a regular basis need to be in school. Their academics and social/emotional needs need to be met. Both my children struggled with "isolation" from their peers/teachers. Online schooling for middle school was awful and I'm hopeful we never have to travel that road again. I understand the seriousness of the virus but we are not teaching our children anything by keeping them home.
7/20/2020 21:12:25	Kara	Chapman		Manhattan	Please support the Governor's EO. It will allow more time for schools to plan and hopefully allow the virus cases to decline. There is not enough testing available to quickly quarantine and contact trace, at least not in Riley County. Being in school at all costs doesn't help kids mental health. Nothing will be traditional about in person teaching and learning this fall. A few weeks delay won't hurt any of us. Thank you for considering this EO order.
7/20/2020 21:12:34	Kristin	Allan	USD290	Ottawa	Please return students to schools. Resume all classes, activities and sports. Allow local boards to determine what is best for their community and how to keep their students and staff safe. I believe that students are suffering by a delay in their educational process, not only academically but emotionally.
7/20/2020 21:12:46	Kyla	Knapp		Sterling	With all due respect, schools need to open on time! This time of "social distancing" has been hard on children and parents alike. My husband and I have been working the entire shutdown, without a work at home option. It has been such a burden and expense finding childcare for young, school age children, not to mention the guilt of feeling responsible for our children falling behind due to limited home school time due to being "essential." They need to be in school!

7/20/2020 21:12:47	Laura	Colon	parent/educator	Overland Park	<p>Please support Gov. Kelly's move to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. The additional 3 weeks will give the staff time to prepare for the multiple senerios they will face in the coming school year. This will also allow time for COVID19 cases to come down, so our children and staff will be safer.</p> <p>Kansas children will NOT be behind their peers nation wide, as the entire nation is facing the same problem. Many states do not start until after Labor Day anyway, and our students have always preformed well against those states. I see no reason why a delay of 3 weeks would change that.</p> <p>Our teachers already hold many hats but one of them should not be "front line" worker. While my children's teachers love them, they should not be asked to put their life (and the life of their loved ones) on the line to this invisible enemy. I understand there are concerns beyond education that need to be considered (access to technology for distance learning, meals for at-risk children, etc) but, right now, everyone's health should come first.</p>
7/20/2020 21:12:51	Jessica	Pecenka		Spring Hill	<p>Please open the schools. Students need in person learning. Many pediatricians, healthcare organizations and professionals have said that the benefit outweighs the risk. By not allowing students to go to school you are putting them at risk for more consequences. The delay of school opening is not for the students. It is for the faculty. If masks actually work as some studies have shown, faculty can wear a mask to mitigate exposure. It is important to put process in place but it is just as important to get students back in the classroom to prevent further learning delays and social issues. If parents are concerned, there any many wonderful homeschool programs. Any thoughtful, forward thinking school should have been discussing plans and determining different learning solutions in the classroom since school was let out in March. Thank you for thinking of what is best for our children.</p>
7/20/2020 21:12:56	DeLynn	Farson		Abilene	<p>Will delaying school really make a difference in stopping the spread of COVID??? This virus will be around for a long time, why keep delaying stuff. School is extremely important for the kids.</p>
7/20/2020 21:12:56	Laura	Hoobler	USD 259	Wichita	<p>Please, let the numbers go back down before we head back into the schools. As a parent and a specials teacher there are so many potential contacts that could result in infection. It's 3 weeks, please, Gov. Kelly has the best of intentions.</p>
7/20/2020 21:12:58	Ashley	Clark		Emporia	<p>As an educator, I support Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school. Given the increasing number of active cases throughout the state, we need a solid plan to address so many new challenges going into this school year. While I realize the need for students to be back in the buildings, I don't feel schools should be opened at the risk of the health a d safety of all of those required to make a school properly function.</p>
7/20/2020 21:13:01	Lisa	Renz	USD 489 teacher	Hays	<p>Please delay our start. Cases are in the increase in our community and those all around us. Allow us the time to safely open.</p>
7/20/2020 21:13:06	Madison	Handy	KCKPS USD 500	Kansas City	<p>We should go back to school after labor day with masks and sanitation measures in place. Virtual learning should be an option as well as in person classes.</p>
7/20/2020 21:13:07	Megan	Anthony	USD 500	Overland Park	<p>Please uphold both of the Governor's EO's (delay and then mask requirements once F2F school starts) for the heath and wellbeing of all students, staff members, and families.</p>
7/20/2020 21:13:16	Patricia	Perez Bellew	Olathe Public Schools	Kansas City	<p>As an SLP in Olathe I would like to ask that Laura Kelly's executive order be followed and children be safe in schools by either delaying the start of the school year and/or following all distancing and mask rules</p>
7/20/2020 21:13:14	Catherine	Ryan	I'm a Parent in usd469	Lansing	<p>School buildings need to stay closed until covid-19 numbers go down. People need to be safe in schools. In Lansing there is no availability to have social distancing with going back full time. Hybrid &amp; remote learning are the safer options and need to be mandatory. Also contact hours with the students need to be mandatory and have a plan for all teachers/staff to meet the needs of the students.</p>
7/20/2020 21:13:17	Gina	Galat		Olathe	<p>I do not feel that it is safe to send children back to school yet.</p>
7/20/2020 21:13:19	Amy	Goertz		67235	<p>I have 5 kids in school, and would like to see school start on time in August.</p>
7/20/2020 21:13:29	Taylor	Nading	School Speech-language	Manhattan	<p>A delay in the start of school will help us professionals that require close proximity (due to the various disabilities we work with) to come up with the best possible solutions to working closely with students, whether that be a virtual set up or eventual in-person set-up. Thank you for taking public comments on this topic. I also appreciate how hard everyone is working to come up with as best of a game plan to keep everyone safe.</p>



7/20/2020 21:13:34	Stephanie	Manley	Myself	Lawrence	Please uphold the EO and postpone school until Covid19 decreases. Please give schools much needed time to plan, get PPE etc. You must put the Health and safety of Kansans first. If it's not safe enough for your board to meet in person, for ppl to meet for sports gatherings etc its definitely not safe for children to gather in schools! Thank you for your service.
7/20/2020 21:13:39	Stuart	Griffiths	My kids. They go to US	Riley	I hope that you all vote on the side of caution and affirm holding off school for several more weeks so that we can get a great start but a start that is relative to these unrepresented times. I would like to think we could take politics out of the equation and just leave the kids, teachers and all staff in the decision. Thanks for your careful thought out decision.
7/20/2020 21:13:39	Rebecca	Knapp	Parents	Olathe	Please, please, please uphold the governor's mandate. It is not safe to send the kids back yet and the schools have not released their plans to parents to decide whether or not they are comfortable sending their kids to school in person. Please do what's right and give them a bit more time.
7/20/2020 21:13:48	Rachel	Ebert	Elementary Teacher and	Lansing	A delay in opening schools can only benefit our students and at this point. With only weeks remaining and no solid answers or plans in place, school boards are left scrambling to put detailed documents together in order to be prepared for school openings in whatever fashion. As a teacher, I still have no answers to all of the questions I have, so cannot begin to plan yet. As a parent, I have no solid answers as to what options are being offered for my children for the upcoming school year. What I do know is that Covid numbers in our area are rapidly increasing and it is the job of community leaders to keep children safe. Scrambling to put things together and hoping it will work is not the way to safely send children to school. Data is all is that is talked about in school systems, so let's look at the current data and listen to the medical experts here. School calendars can be adjusted and student contact hours still met. The safety of students, teachers, staff, and ultimately the community is what is most important.
7/20/2020 21:13:49	Cassie	Phye	USD 382	Pratt	please keep our kids safe! No school before September 8th!
7/20/2020 21:13:53	Stephanie	Fawcett		Eudora	Please send our children back to school in person on August 13 as originally planned. While our district did the best they could under the circumstances, online learning was less than satisfactory, and the lack of structure and socialization is detrimental to our children's health. We have a lot to make up for due to the last quarter of last school year being online and we need to get them back in the classrooms where they can learn.
7/20/2020 21:13:57	Michelle	Motsinger	Auburn Washburn NEA	Burlingame, but I teach	Please give us time to plan and prepare our return to school by delaying the school start date until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 21:14:00	Michelle	Graham	Kansas City Kansas Pub	Kansas City	For the safety of all, school needs to be delayed for at least 9 weeks. The trauma of dying students and teachers would be unbearable.
7/20/2020 21:14:02	Brian	Stromgren	Teacher	Osage City	As a member of our Back to School Task Force, I am well aware of the Navigating Change document. Our district is having difficulty obtaining hand sanitizer to fill the sanitizing stations. The extra lunchroom tables will not arrive prior to our August 14 start date. Teachers and administrators need additional time to plan for the unknown.
7/20/2020 21:14:06	Connie	Evans	Teachers	Lansing	Stay closed until after Labor Day
7/20/2020 21:14:16	Trista	Williams	John Diemer Elementary	Overland Park	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's decision for a late start so our schools can be prepared and our teachers can be fully trained to put practices in place.
7/20/2020 21:14:18	Jenny	Molina		Plainville	I believe school should start on time this year. Students are already behind from the end of last year. Personally my kids have said multiple times they didn't learn anything with distance learning because they were just trying to get the work completed and done so they didn't have to worry about it.
7/20/2020 21:14:26	Marta	Silva	Olathe Schools	Lenexa	As an educator and a mother of a 13-year old in the OSD I would like to express my support for governor Kelly's executive order to postpone the reopening of our school until September to lower the number of current infections and prepare for the different scenarios we will for sure encounter when we return to school. Please protect our communities in these uncertain times.
7/20/2020 21:14:27	Shauna	Churchman	Teacher USD 323	St. George, KS	Give local school boards full control. All districts should NOT be treated the same!
7/20/2020 21:14:32	Kelli	Thompson		Olathe	I think the delay is important. With the school year so closely approaching, it will provide schools time to prepare for the safety guidelines. Also, as mask mandates are just beginning, the CDC says 4-8 weeks of mask wearing will drastically help. Starting after Labor Day will give the mandate more time to show improvements. The delay is only about 14 school days for my district. This is not a detrimental amount of time.
7/20/2020 21:14:37	Yerrie	Morris		Olathe	Stayed closed until after Labor Day! Then start virtual!!

7/20/2020 21:14:46	Lorna	Ford	No organization	Jetmore	Please follow the Governor's EO and open schools after Labor Day. This gives schools time to put together a well thought out plan that will work, not one we hope will work. Hope is not a plan!
7/20/2020 21:14:48	Andrea	Carr	District 500 Early Child	Shawnee KS	I live in the Shawnee Mission school district but work in the Kansas City Kansas Public Schools (Dist. 500). I work with pre-k students in a special education collaboration classroom. I am highly concerned for the health and safety of the students and staff I work with. The ability to "social distance" is hardly applicable to the age range and developmental capabilities of my students. Many require hand-over-hand instruction, adult proximity and other modifications that require less than 6 feet to use. Until we can guarantee that every student can safely return to school without needing to be 6 feet apart and not being able to touch our students to help them successfully participate in school; we need to implement on-line platforms. These platforms were helpful and created a safe way for students to participate and engage with their peers and teachers in March through the end of the year. Parents also participated and were very involved.  Please consider the health and safety of all students and staff- including those who work in early childhood. It is not possible to properly teach 2, 3, 4 and 5 year olds without being in close proximity.
7/20/2020 21:14:57	William	Beck		Chanute	Open schools at the normal time
7/20/2020 21:15:01	Charleen	Stessman	Public schools	Topeka	Please delay the start of school till after Labor Day to give schools time to consider how to open safely.
7/20/2020 21:15:04	Sarah	Rudman		Palco	I am in favor of opening schools as usual, without informing the executive order that Governor Kelly just placed, masking kids 5 and older. I think it is an order that will potentially lead to more deficits among our children. How are the kindergarteners going to be able to study and learn phonics when their teachers mouth is covered. How about the 1st graders learning sight words and annunciation? I fear heat exhaustion when they go out and play. I fear more germs getting to their face with a mask on than without a mask. I am a nurse and I touch my face more now than I did at the beginning of March before I was told to wear a mask for a 12 hour shift. I appreciate your document sent out prior to the Governor postponing school, advising certain things pertaining to school. I, however, feel very strongly against masking the children. My children to go a small school, their class sizes are small and I don't see wearing a mask as a necessary recommendation. Thank you for your consideration and I pray for all of you and your families during this trying time.
7/20/2020 21:15:08	Kathy	Goetsch	USD475	Junction City	I am a 2nd grade teacher and I love my job and even more than that, I love the students and adults that I get to interact with on a daily basis. With that being said, I believe that it is NOT safe to bring students and adults back into a school. I understand that parents need to go back to work and they want their kiddos to get the socialization they absolutely need, but what they don't understand is that coming back in the middle of a pandemic that is getting worse not better, will not result in the socialization they think will happen. Instead the children will be kept 6 feet away from each other and their heartbroken teachers who can't tie their shoe for them or hug them when their feelings are hurt. I love my students and cannot wait to be able to teach them again and be able to do things the way they should be done, but now is not that time. Thank you for thinking about all of the teachers and students and putting their safety first and postponing the opening of schools until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 21:15:12	Natalie	Gladstone		Goddard	Not a good decision. There have been many daycares and camps open without problems. Sports without problems. 40,000 kids at the YMCA youth area and no problems. Open our schools on time. Especially for parents that both work.
7/20/2020 21:15:14	Timothy	Hamm		Ottawa, KS	The order to keep the schools closed is in the best interest and safety of the children and adults in our state. This is my adamant plea to ask you to accept the governor's recommendations.
7/20/2020 21:15:19	Samantha	Cheek		Eudora	This is ridiculous! There is no way you can expect children at that age to wear a mask practically 7 hours a day! You don't want social gatherings of more than 10 yet you want to put 20 or more students in a classroom together! If school is not done online I will home school my child!

7/20/2020 21:15:26	Traci	Mayberry	constituent	Basehor	With many family members and friends that are educators, their health and that of everyone who would be inside a school building, is of paramount importance to me. I implore the Kansas State Board of Education to comply with Governor Kelly's EO to delay the opening of schools until after Labor Day (Sept. 9). This delay would have minimal negative effect on schools and allow districts to more effectively prepare for the possible in-person classes at that point. Politics should NOT have any part in this decision. It is a PUBLIC HEALTH issue and the KSBOE will be held accountable for every illness or, even worse, death that occurs as a result of allowing thousands of people into enclosed buildings where social distancing will be impossible, masks will be played with more than not, hygiene will not be guaranteed and teachers will be asked to manage a pandemic instead of educate students. Returning to school may eventually work for some communities, but the larger cities are currently experiencing dramatic infection increases. Pay attention to the SCIENCE and MEDICAL EXPERTS. Put politics aside and do the responsible thing and allow the governor to lead this state. If she's mistaken, it's on her. If she's correct, we ALL benefit.
7/20/2020 21:15:37	Brian	McDanel	Mill Valley High School	Shawnee	I hope the state school board votes this executive order down and schools begin on time. Administrators have been working on this for months. The plans are in place. We don't need a few more weeks. Let each district implement their own plan. Education is a local endeavor. Blanket edicts for such a diverse set of districts shortchanges and disempowers the local people elected to make decisions for their communities.
7/20/2020 21:15:42	Jeanette	Stromgren	Parent	Osage City	Please delay the start of the school year until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 21:15:58	Samantha	Abel		Spring Hill	Delay schools- support Kelly!!!! Give schools a fighting chance.
7/20/2020 21:16:12	Jessica	Steinbarger		Andover	I have wrestled with whether returning to school is the right thing for students or not. On one hand, you have students not in school and potentially missing out on a few educational opportunities. On the other hand, you have students in school who will potentially be exposed to a virus, along with the adults around them. The question I have continually asked myself is, "What is going to be more traumatic? Students missing out on some instructional time, or students losing an educator / friend / family member because we returned to school too quickly?" In my mind, it will be far more traumatic for a student to lose someone they love. We can always catch students up on what they miss (in fact, as educators, we do it all the time anyway!). What we cannot do, is take away the pain from our students when they lose someone around them. What we cannot do, is ask them to learn while they are grieving. What we cannot do, is tell them that their lives and the lives of those around them are not important by not doing absolutely everything in our power to protect them. PLEASE. Delay the start of school so that we can make effective plans to protect our students. Thank you for your time and for what you do.
7/20/2020 21:16:17	Anne	Rogers		Plainville	-A Fourth Grade Teacher I think you should let schools start when they are suppose to and sports too. These kids need to be in school and not at home. NO MASK
7/20/2020 21:16:18	Mandy	Ballenger	None I'm a parent and n	Wamego	I think the best option is to delay the school year until after Labor Day. I have a compromised immune system and I am being put at risk because parents will send kids to school that my have Covid and not have symptoms. And I don't care what people say, there is no way to keep track of all the kids wearing masks or making sure they wash their hands. And there is no way to keep the students 6 feet apart. It will be best to delay school for the heath and safety of students, teachers, and family members!!
7/20/2020 21:16:25	Aaron	Parr	DOD civilian	Buhler	Yes I believe that school should be delayed until after Labor Day for the safety and concern of the students and teachers. Even if that means school doesn't end until sometime in June.
7/20/2020 21:16:26	Deb	McManus	Teacher for USD 437	Topeka	I agree with Governor Kelly. I think we need the time to prepare for the kiddos to start school.
7/20/2020 21:16:29	Shelby	Bruckerhoff	Parent of school children	Wamego	To try to forcibly continue to deny my children their right to a free and appropriate public education after already taking valuable months away is a gross misuse of power! Students have already missed months of valuable instruction, social skills, and social emotional development. I BEG you to vote down this mandate as well as the mandate requiring masks and forced hand sanitizer every hour! I am fighting for my children's right to their educational in the least possible restrictive environment, which does NOT include a mask, but I also feel that I have to speak up against the government trying to make blanket laws telling me how to best parent my children! These mandates need to be stopped before more rights are taken away from us! Please vote to protect our constitutional rights!!

7/20/2020 21:16:32	Michelle	Schaal		Olathe	As of 7/15/2020 more children have died in the US this year of Influenza (ages 0-24 = 284 deaths) than from COVID 19 (ages 0-24 = 179) There have been approximately 30 million positive Influenza reported versus 3.6 million COVID 19 cases. (Reports from the CDC) I feel strongly that our children need to return back to a normal school year. The continuation of delaying the school year will adversely effect our children mentally. Children need & crave peer interaction. They also need structure that a normal school year provides. Please let our kids be kids & begin & maintain a normal school year. Thank you
7/20/2020 21:16:35	Zach	Brown	South East of Saline	Assaria	We talked tonight with our kids about the governor saying they will have to wear masks, we have 3 kids ages 11, 9, 7. 7 year old was in tears because she hates wearing a mask just in the time we are at a store. They were excited to go back to school now they are just fearing it, not because of covid, because they are dont want to wear masks. Please get rid of this requirement.
7/20/2020 21:16:37	Lisa	Gamber	Kansas	Hutchinson	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day, this will save lives!
7/20/2020 21:16:41	Elizabeth	Peuser		Stilwell	We are in a time of so many unknowns, however, it seems as many think they know all of the answers. I will not claim to be one of them. What I do know is that we are not out of the woods with this pandemic. I personally know more individuals that have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last three weeks than I did the previous twelve weeks. Some of these have been hospitalized and some have been children. I support the executive order to delay the start of school in Kansas. It is important to use these next six weeks to reduce the number of COVID 19 cases in Kansas and allow the schools to get the proper equipment to safely return to school. Please think about the children, their parents, their grandparents and the school staff, their families, etc. Each and every one of these individuals deserves the best that can be provided for their safety.
7/20/2020 21:16:55	Disha	Gaba		Overland Park	Safety of kids comes first and foremost. I support delaying the 20-21 K-12 School Year and providing virtual options for kids learning
7/20/2020 21:16:57	Beth	Gonzalez		Ottawa	Please vote to delay schools reopening/ face to face learning.
7/20/2020 21:17:01	Wendy	Isle	My children	Coffeyville	Please do not delay until after Labor Day. People will have more time to vacation and spreading around more. If parents want to wait then let them take the remote learning option so the ones who support onsite learning can get this school year going and students back into a learning routine. Thank you for the opportunity to express our families opinion.
7/20/2020 21:17:06	Chase	Winters	Self	Mound Valley (USD 50)	As a healthcare worker seeing things first hand and the effects that COVID-19 can have on the lives of all those it affects. I support the executive order to postpone the start of school later than usual and the higher restrictions on masks and cleaning. However, if you are going to start school again, I suggest extending all breaks and giving people a quarantine period so they can see their families during Christmas break. I personally know of some people who have immune compromised family members that they will not be able to see until next summer due to the risk they would be putting them at. It is highly possible that schools will become hotspots for COVID and it will set our country back. We have more cases currently than when we started and I think that all people in charge should take a step back and see what effects the politicization of this virus is doing to the citizens of Kansas. We should be working to eradicate the virus. Putting more restrictions in place should be a top priority. You should also consider doing this year strictly online of mostly online to protect the teachers. Teachers are not babysitters and should not be an innocent pawn in this that does not have an active day in what happens. Leadership needs to open their ears and listen to how this virus will affect teachers. You should protect your staff, not put them at risk. It is 100% possible to do all learning online this year until the virus passes. Also, sports should not be a top priority. It seems like that's all the leadership cares about. Please reprioritize.
7/20/2020 21:17:07	Lindsay	Bench		Wichita	As a parent, and a teacher's wife, please, please support the governor's order. I am deeply concerned for my husband's safety. His resources are already stretched to the limit in his work. Please give his district time to gather their resources, to make back up plans, and to make back up plans for the back up plans.
7/20/2020 21:17:09	Kristi	Jacobs		El Dorado	Please delay school reopening. It does not seem safe right now for the kids to all be back together. My husband and I work full time and my son needs to be around his peers but our kids aren't guinea pigs and it needs to be safe for them to go back. Until Kansas gets its numbers down please keep them home.

7/20/2020 21:17:16	Debbie	Miller		Olathe	The schools need to reopen on schedule. The student's academic, social & mental health needs depend on getting back in the classroom with a routine as normal as possible. If the governor is going to "mandate" temperature checks then she also needs to be able to fund them & realize the amount of lost instructional time it will take.
7/20/2020 21:17:18	Kathleen	Varberg		Leawood	I would like to voice my support of the executive order. As a 1st grade teacher I cannot imagine returning to the classroom at this time when we are continuing to see spikes in our coronavirus cases. We know that distance learning is nowhere near as effective or equitable, but that is the only form of instruction that would be safe for all involved at this time. We need more time to get Covid cases under control and districts need more than two weeks to finalize, communicate, and train staff on plans to return safely, given that the state's recommendations were released only a week ago.
7/20/2020 21:17:23	Pam	Fish	Olathe school district pa	Olathe	Please delay the start of schools until at least after Labor Day. With rising COVID-19 cases, it is not safe to send students back to school. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:17:24	Krista	Neifert	USD 443	Dodge City	I think it will be nice for teachers to have that extra time to plan for all of the changes. I am very nervous about going back to school. I think that kids, even with instruction, are not going to follow all the protocols all the time. Sicknesses are always sweeping through the school.
7/20/2020 21:17:28	Abigail	Matulka	Blue Valley Schools	Olathe	Please keep schools CLOSED until after Labor Day. Common sense must play a role. Covid cases are rising in record numbers. Virtual learning is an option while we stay out of school for a short period of time. If we have this option, why can't we take advantage of it? I don't feel comfortable being surrounded by hundreds of students each day and then going home to my family. My dad has cancer and faces many health issues as a result. I cannot see my dad if I return to work. I also have a four month old baby. We don't know how Covid affects infants.
7/20/2020 21:17:32	Bhusan	Chand		Overland Park	Yes, I support the current delay. However, we must look at starting a well structured Virtual program soon.
7/20/2020 21:17:37	Madalyn	McNally	Teacher	Kansas City	As a teacher with a few years of experience, I fully support the delay of beginning in person instruction. I have had class sizes of 37 students before, and I do not foresee the likelihood of consistently successfully monitoring large class sizes to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff. I am personally not comfortable returning to in person instruction when the amount of COVID-19 cases is continuing to increase daily.
7/20/2020 21:17:41	Alison	Evans	My children	Lenexa	Please vote to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. This gives our schools a chance to keep our kids safe.
7/20/2020 21:17:53	Gail	Whitley	Elementary school	Jamestown	I would like to see in building classes to begin August 11th as it was scheduled. If we do wait until after Labor Day to begin in class learning then I'd like to say I do not want to start with virtual. I'd rather wait and skip some of the breaks to get in our days.
7/20/2020 21:17:53	Lori	Clayton		Ottawa	I want the schools to remain closed. If my grandson gets the sickness, he could give it to me unknowingly. Accepting the governor's order is in the best interest of all citizens of Kansas.
7/20/2020 21:17:58	jennifer	brooks	parent of 5, K-12	abilene	Please allow the children to learn in person ASAP. What is to be gained from a 4 week delay? The virus won't magically disappear. I trust the American Academy of Pediatrics who have stated that children cause minimal spread. What is really going on here?
7/20/2020 21:18:01	Rebecca	Brewer		Olathe	I don't think delaying school 3 weeks is going to make any difference. Rip the bandaid and move on.
7/20/2020 21:18:01	Amy	Hyken-Lande	Self (Mental health ther	Overland Park	Propose splitting up the student body (a.m./p.m. sessions) for core classes (option of zooming actual class). Friday can be virtual for electives. Distancing, masks, hand sanitizer stations.
7/20/2020 21:18:05	Laura	Mermis		Lenexa	I do not believe that we should delay opening schools until Labor Day. Students are ready to get back to school and normal life. Masks and hand sanitizer should be sufficient. Thank you for your consideration.
7/20/2020 21:18:10	Karen	Siebert	My family	Prairie Village	Please follow the Governor's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day, and to require masks.
7/20/2020 21:18:17	Gretchen	Farrell	My family	Olathe	Please do not punish our children. The data shows that under 70 in Johnson County has a death rate lower than influenza. We haven't cancelled life for other viruses. Let families choose what is right for their family. Freedom of choice is all we are asking for. If masks are needed, that is fine. Let these kids live!

7/20/2020 21:18:18	David	Moore	USD259	Sedgwick	I believe that schools should delay opening to help protect students and staff. With the number of students/staff in school buildings, it would be nearly impossible to create an environment that keeps people safe and healthy. There are also the issues of what happens when students and or staff get exposed to Covid-19 in the school environment and the impact that will have, such as required time away, contact tracing, and pay(for staff). Another evaluation should be done, after the delayed start, before in person school would resume to ensure that COVID-19 cases are trending down consistently.
7/20/2020 21:18:24	Ronda	Huber		Paola	I would like to see this passed. It gives schools time to properly prepare and gives us time to try to flatten the curve again.
7/20/2020 21:18:26	Kate	Steeves	Parent of three students	Wamego	Schools should stay closed until AFTER Labor Day! Please consider the health and wellness of students and teachers.
7/20/2020 21:18:28	Linda	Graff	My family of educators	Overland Park	The decision to open schools after Labor Day is important. It will provide additional time to weigh public input and the possibility of putting front-line teachers, paras, administrators, custodial staff, food services, nurses, bus drivers, clerical staff, etc. in harm's way during an uncontrolled pandemic. Children's education is important, opening the economy is important, saving jobs, too. However, the lack of control of this Coronavirus jeopardizes the safety of every adult involved in the process of in-school education at this time much more so than younger children. Does Kansas meet the CDC standards for opening? Fourteen days of downward trend of cases? Let's go back to the model originally posted to assure everyone there is control of this virus before opening schools. Until control can be proven, school opening should be delayed past Labor Day, if not for the entire semester or control of the virus is accomplished.
7/20/2020 21:18:31	Daren	Krier	None	Wichita	Please overrule the Governor's order to delay school. This decision should be left to each individual school district based on the current pandemic environment their district is facing. The decision should not be a state ruling, but a local decision by people closer to the situation in their community.
7/20/2020 21:18:35	Vanessa	Marks		Stafford	Comment removed due to profanity
7/20/2020 21:18:37	Laura	Delargy		Olathe	Please consider starting school on time on August 12th. I feel we need to get the children back in school for some type of normalcy and also for positive mental health.
7/20/2020 21:18:44	Kayla	Harrity		Olathe	Delaying the start of schools as long as possible is the right thing to do and I support it 100%. We should have at minimum a two week downward trend in new positive cases before considering any attempt at face to face instruction. I understand that there are many negative consequences to delaying the start of school and it is not an easy decision, but we have to keep the health and safety of our children at the top of our priorities.
7/20/2020 21:18:45	D	Clayton		Ottawa	Schools should be closed. It is best for kids.

					I am a self-contained special education teacher. I work mainly with elementary students who have an autism diagnosis. My students struggle keeping a sticker on their shirt - let alone a mask on their face. I once had a student rip the glasses off one of my paras because she usually wore contacts and he did not like that she had something on her face. My students need structure and routine. Online learning is not possible for my students. It was absolutely heartbreaking to try to work with them online - and to see them and their parents have meltdowns because they wanted and needed to be in school with their peers. As much as I want to be in the classroom with my students - I want us to be safe and healthy. This January I had THREE positive cases of the flu in my classroom (of 8 students) because parents gave their child tylenol in the morning so they could come to school without a fever. I do work with students who have weakened immune systems. If parents continue to send their children to school with minor illnesses, how do I know they will keep them home if they have COVID or have been exposed to COVID. I want to be back in the classroom. I NEED to be back in the classroom... we're going on 5 months of being out of the classroom. However, with that being said when we go back, I want to make sure the correct procedures are in place. I will have a senior in high school this year in my household. He already missed JR prom and track season. He missed out on welding and lifeguard training - something he was very passionate about. I cannot see him also miss out on football, wrestling, homecoming, and prom his senior year because we rushed back to school and had to close down again. 3 weeks is not going to make a huge difference academically, but it will make a huge difference to teachers and school districts to have more time to prepare and train in order to keep our facilities clean and safe. We need to focus more on mental health and physical health. This has been an extremely traumatic experience for a lot of students and parents. Please, just let us have the extra 3 weeks to prepare. Accept Governor Kelley's order for schools to start AFTER labor day.
7/20/2020 21:18:46	Neeley	Walgren		Haysville	
7/20/2020 21:18:50	Barb	Moody	Classroom teacher	Topeka	Please support Gov. Kelly's delay the start of school until it is safe for teachers and students to be face to face.
7/20/2020 21:18:50	Maggie	Matteson	USD 305	Salina	As a para educator and a student in TAP program getting back to work inside a classroom is important finically and for my education.
7/20/2020 21:18:53	Caroline (Laine)	Waldron	USD 232	Shawnee	As a high school senior in the USD 232 district, I ask that you please consider the health of the teachers and students as we jump into such an uncertain time with the beginning of school. The schools need more than the time they have now to gather the supplies needed and nail down a strong plan to move forward with. Delaying the start to after Labor Day would satisfy those needs and would make my peers and I more comfortable going into our last year of high school due to the additional safety measures taken. We want to be protected and thought of as well as the teachers and staff in every level school around the country. Please put health first and realize that delaying the start of school would be the safest option.
7/20/2020 21:18:57	Brad	Smith		Gardner	This is LUDICROUS. Has the governor worn a mask for any extended time? Has anyone noticed how difficult it is to even speak with a mask on? What about children who wear glasses? They will suffer all day long with fogged up glasses not being able to see the board or their work. Stop the insanity. Quit living in fear. Drop the mandates all around. If people want to live in fear and torture themselves with masks, fine. But don't force others who are level headed and not screaming the sky is falling like Chicken Little to do the same.
7/20/2020 21:18:59	Deidre	McNamee		Plainville	Open our schools and give us the option to follow the mask mandate.
7/20/2020 21:19:01	Nicolas	Carr		Topeka	I think this is right choice. We are worse off now than in March so sending students into a confined area will be disastrous.
7/20/2020 21:19:03	Susan	Reazin	elementary teacher and	Lyons, KS	Schools should be delayed to give staff appropriate time to adjust to the guidelines set by KSDE Navigation Change document.
7/20/2020 21:19:10	Brittany	Brenner		Overland Park	If my job won't even have 12 professional adults meet in a single room for 45 minutes (and that's with masks and social distancing), why the heck would I want my kid to be in what will probably be a worse situation?? They'll have more people and probably all kinds of issues keeping masks on and social distancing respected (and anyone who believes who believes otherwise has completely forgotten what it was like to be a kid). Not to mention I'm immune suppressed and what germs will he bring home to me... keep our kids safe! A 2 week delay is absolutely nothing compared to sick or dead kids.

7/20/2020 21:19:14	Jessica	Rush		Colby	Please allow our kids to go back to school. They need to be in school! Also, please allow them to have extracurricular activities. They learn so many life lessons from them. It also gives them motivation and ambition to do well in school! I am a working mom and see how much all my kids need the interaction and structure. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:19:16	Priscilla	McShane	Usd259	Wichita	Please abide by the order to delay school. Starting after Labor Day will be better for our students and staff in the long run. Teachers need the extra time to prepare for whatever this school year may bring.
7/20/2020 21:19:16	Faith	Bilyeu		Shawnee	Kids need to be in school and play sports. Mental health is just as important as physical health! Thank you
7/20/2020 21:19:24	Tina	Summers		Overland Park	Please keep the governor's order as she issued it.
7/20/2020 21:19:32	Brianna	Wolf		Hill City	Kids NEED to get back to school. My kids have been out of school an entire month longer than other kids because we went on their first vacation. Upon returning, we were quarantined. On the last day of quarantine, school was canceled. If they are out of school for the entire month of August, they will have been out for SIX MONTHS! The amount of education lost that I cannot give them while my husband and I work full time (also necessary to provide for our family) is heart wrenching. Every year kids lose a little bit over the summer. This summer, though, the kids are losing a LOT.  Kids have to be in school. Kids need to learn. They need to grow socially. They need the STRUCTURE that school brings. We can't find daycare so we have kids staying home alone. That's not structure. That's unsafe.  There are Kids that are home not getting fed. Kids are home getting abused. School is their safe place and right now they don't have that. We can't keep waiting. We need to start. The kids need the schools.
7/20/2020 21:19:33	Jeannette	Bryant	None	Lawrence	Please follow Gov Kelly's opening schools plan. Better yet, wait until October. Our children and teachers and staff deserve to be treated with the respect and the SAFETY they deserve.
7/20/2020 21:19:42	Misty	Poe	Teachers	Holton	Vote against the state mandate. Give local government the power to decide what is best for them. Delaying the opening of school is probably wise for larger school districts. However, small districts with few cases in their county could open with very low risk. Give the choice to the local governments.
7/20/2020 21:19:59	Ben	Rivers		Wichita	First, thank you. This has not been what you thought you were signing up for, I bet. Hopefully you have a lot of well thought out responses to read, so I'll try to keep mine short. Please vote to start after Labor Day, so that our school communities have time to implement "Navigating Change." Schools are flexible and can pivot, but that time will allow them to fully realize the best way forward for their communities under "Navigation Change." Also, the numbers have to come down. Wichita is too close to capacity to handle the unknowns that will come as kids go back to school. And Wichita is a hospital hub for a lot of the surrounding area.
7/20/2020 21:20:06	Bobbi	Koreen		Topeka	Do not delay the school year!!!
7/20/2020 21:20:13	Laura	Huffman		Kansas City	I support the governor's order to delay school opening until after Labor Day. I have 2 elementary school students and I am not comfortable with them returning to school in a few weeks due to the Covid-19 virus spreading too fast. I am happy to keep them home an extra 3 weeks to give my school district extra time to prepare for the school year. Please vote in favor of the order.
7/20/2020 21:20:18	Kelly	Roberts	Family & teacher	Shawnee	With the rapid increase in covid cases, our staff currently does not have the provisions or safety training necessary to return to in person school before Labor Day. We have all been poring over the 1000+ document on guidance for reopening, but no one knew exactly where we would stand in August regarding cases locally. Our district spent money to procure a better online platform and some safety gear. However, we are not ready to see kids safely in just a couple of weeks. Teachers have been working all summer, as have our districts, but I think you can agree this had been a constantly evolving situation. We request that you approve the Governor's order to delay the start until Labor Day.
7/20/2020 21:20:22	Carrie	Fisher	Gardner Edgerton Public	Gardner	Allow schools to open!! Please!!! There is NO reason to have a state wide exec order keeping schools closed. The kids need to be in school.
7/20/2020 21:20:20	Ashley	Swanson-Hoye		Kansas City	With the continued rising cases of COVID-19 in Missouri I feel, as a parent to and entering kindergartener, that schools should delay opening. In addition, more support should be given to districts so they can facilitate strong online programs. The fewer children at school can help reduce the spread of COVID-19.



7/20/2020 21:20:24	Angela	Moore	USD 383	Manhattan, KS	<p>We teachers desperately need this time in order to be ready for the dizzying array of possible teaching situations. This year is more like going to battle than going back to school. It is frightening, stressful, exhausting and anxiety ridden. Most of us have not stopped working even though we are not on contract. We feel overwhelmed. Our entire district's elementary staff needs to be trained in the online software we will be using because none of us have ever used CANVAS before and didn't in March because our district hadn't decided then what online platform we were to be using. Also in March did not have the technology to roll out online. We did paper packets. As it currently stands we will receive training at the beginning of August with an August 6 start date. At that time we would have to be prepared to teach fully online, fully at school and possibly a hybrid depending on what happens with the COVID rates in Riley County. The speed and complexity of back to school is already causing teachers to melt down. The additional pressure from the national level adds salt and stress to the wound.</p> <p>We carry the love we have for our students and families but also the burden of responsibility we have to keep all safe and kids learning to the best of our abilities. The reality is we spent the whole summer trying to get ready for a million possibilities in a changing, turbulent, politicized crazy nation and pandemic. Districts are struggling, leaders are struggling. There are no good answers. We are having to be prepared for online, in school, half in, half out, and any number of things. We are having to write wills, prepare for the worst, figure out if anyone will buy us thermometers, learning to use online software we have never heard of, wondering how are spouses are going to fare if we end up on quarantine every other week. Wondering if we get COVID if our medical expenses are even covered, wondering what happens if there are no subs, worrying about being good teachers, worrying about parents, students, everything.</p> <p>I teach with good, strong hearted people and we are all falling down lately and cracking with stress. It is a lot, and as hard as this is, it is for the best so we can do our jobs well and keep our own families and loved ones safe (we hope). Please support Governor Kelly's suggestion to start school after Labor Day. We need it. We desperately need it. We want to teach with excellence and in safety. We need time to do this. This is a year like no other. I pray we can all take a deep breath, think creatively, get outside the box and get through this safely.</p>
7/20/2020 21:20:36	Courtney	Stone	USD 233	Olathe	Please vote yes to delay the start of school so we , as teachers, can have time to create virtual lesson plans to ensure education can continue at the level children deserve! This also allows for time for the percent of positive cases of Covid 19 to decrease.
7/20/2020 21:20:45	Brooke	Morrison	elementary school	Baldwin city	our kids need a 'normal' school year, in person for the full year, and the younger kids (elementary school) without masks. Kids have a very low transmission rate and should not put our faculty at any increase risk.
7/20/2020 21:20:48	Bailey	Thode	USD 259	Wichita	I do not support the Governor's executive order to delay the opening of schools. Our job as educators is to do what is best for students. I do not believe it is in the best interest of students to delay the start of school. They mental and physical health is suffering from not being in school. Our students with disabilities are not receiving adequate services, if any services at all. Many students live in home we're good is scarce or there is some of abuse happening. Many students need the consistency and security of school.
7/20/2020 21:20:51	Heidi	Weis		Mission	Please support Governor Kelly's exec order and delay school start until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 21:20:55	Kimberlee	Gastineau	n/a	Olathe	Any delay will be a challenge, but safety first. It would be amazing if we could look at getting as much packed in before Thanksgiving as we can, then shut it down after Thanksgiving the way the colleges are, since we will be barreling into flu season.
7/20/2020 21:20:59	Ashley	Voelker		Palmer, KS	This should be based upon county by county and district by district. You should not shut down every school district because of the number of growing cases throughout heavily populated areas. We are in rural Kansas where we have had one confirmed case and the governor wants to delay us opening with restrictions. No no no no.
7/20/2020 21:21:01	Alissa	Williams	Parent	Cimarron	Open schools and no masks for the elementary kids

7/20/2020 21:21:02	Peter	Vanderhorst		Kansas City Kansas	<p>If it legitimately helps us reopen in-person to postpone opening until after Labor Day, then great. Children and staff will not have their educational, relational, emotional, or other needs adequately met by extended distance learning.</p> <p>While it is true that Covid-19 is a serious illness, it is also true that very few young people, especially at the elementary level, are contracting or transmitting the disease. Scientists believe this illness will be with us for the foreseeable future. We cannot shut down interminably.</p> <p>What's more, we are teaching young people to live in constant fear, instead of helping them understand that there is an element of risk in nearly all of life. Safety has become a god and we can't guarantee it. But we can help kids learn and grow, and the best way to do that is in person.</p> <p>Thanks for your service.</p>
7/20/2020 21:21:06	Jaimie	Hobbs	Teacher	Kinsley	<p>Schools should remain closed until after Labor Day.</p> <p>Please leave the school decisions up to each district based on their needs. Our county has only had two cases. I have a child going into 1st grade and another child in pre-school. These are such vital years in their development. My kids do not have IEP's and do very well in school. The transition to online learning this spring was hard for them. They didn't understand why they couldn't go to school and see their classmates and friends. Keeping their attention in online learning was nearly impossible. I have no doubt our school district did the very best with the situation at hand, but with my own children it was all review. There was no new material presented to them. It was all things they had learned. I don't see any benefit at all to delaying their school by 2-3 weeks.</p> <p>My 6 year old recently asked me how many "weeks" she had been out of school and when I replied "16 weeks" her eyes got huge and she said "why can't people just cover their mouth when they cough and stay home if they're sick". A 6 year old understands it. With our "distance learning" in the spring, I was providing licensed daycare to 6 students total, not including the other 5 children in my care. Talk about a lot on a persons plate. The parents of these kids were essential workers (I myself included, who works part-time at our local hospital). How is being in a daycare any different from school? In a daycare more toys go into children's mouths, they touch each other's things, drink from each other's cups. We stepped up our hand washing and covering our mouths when they cough and we have had 0 cases.</p> <p>This fall I am enrolled at the community college in the nursing program. I have worked for the last year to finish up my pre-reqs to be able to apply. My husband and I carefully planned out our budget so we could make sure we could juggle me working part-time, attending school and still having our youngest child in daycare while the older two attend school. As working parents, trying to better the lives for us and our children, we will not be financially able to pay for 3 children full time in daycare. This would be a huge set back as I have sold my daycare and taken a job only part-time.</p> <p>It would be one thing if it was just a 2 week delay, but in my personal opinion and others I've talked to, this is just a step for the governor to again delay more time once we approach Labor Day.</p> <p>Please do what is best for the children in our state and community for not only their education, but also their mental health and allow them to start school on time. The impact on their lives already missing this much in person learning is</p>
7/20/2020 21:21:10	Gabby	Roach	Daycare owner, health c	St. John	
7/20/2020 21:21:10	Jason	Parker		Vassar	I feel the order needs to be accepted to give the schools time to prepare for the new guidelines.
7/20/2020 21:21:22	Amos	Bazil		Topeka	Our students (my 4 children included) need in person education. Pushing the school start date or mask mandates with no end in sight, tangible targets or end dates is not a plan. Please open schools and educate Kansas children
7/20/2020 21:21:23	Chris	Krug	Myself	Olathe	It is absolutely in the best interest and most prudent decision to abide by the executive order and delay school opening. I implore the board to demonstrate their awareness and respect for our students and teachers.
7/20/2020 21:21:28	Vera	Daniels	USD 469 Lansing Midd	Lansing	Please vote to follow EO 20-58. Teachers need time to prepare for a school year unlike any they have ever had before. If we want to be able to offer our students the best possible education this year, we need time to prepare well as we have never had to deal with anything like this before. Please remember that this is a pandemic causing the problems and it has nothing to do with politics. Thank you for doing the right thing.
7/20/2020 21:21:29	Katherine	Herrenbruck	My elementary aged chi	Overland Park	Please uphold Governor Kelly's order stating kids won't go back until after Labor Day. This will be the deciding factor for our family along with masks being mandatory!!!

7/20/2020 21:21:39	Brandi	Y.		McPherson County	Please, for the mental health of our children, keep schools OPEN. Parents and children should be able to choose to school traditionally or online via their home. Please....
7/20/2020 21:21:41	Krysten	Hearron		Overland Park	As a Senior in high school I have already missed a very influential portion of my junior year which meant losing a lot of guidance for beginning a new step into college. Losing the last quarter of my junior year was something that I will not be able to get back, and not starting off my senior year on time will only lead to more stress for my class. Delaying school means extending it farther into our summer, which is the time we will be using to prepare for our arrival to our next step in life whatever that may mean. As someone who suffers from chronic asthma and other pulmonary issues, I cannot find a justifiable reason to continue with this order. If you must send us with masks that we will do it. But considering this disease is droplet spread and not airborne, if we have masks as previously ordered there would be even more lack of reason to send us to school. Just like every other disease to plague the US in current times it will most likely be around for a long time coming, and holding us back from social interaction at this point in time would be more for a political show than for the so called safety of the people being affected.
7/20/2020 21:21:53	Stacie	Palmisano	USD 233	Louisburg	Please vote yes, this virus is too dangerous and not worth the risk. My family, my students will bear risk.
7/20/2020 21:21:59	Laura	Kramer	parent	EDGERTON	Follow the governor's order; she is following the recommendations of scientists and medical professionals, and has the best interests of children, teachers, families, and communities at the forefront of her executive order. Thank you in advance for using your common sense to keep Kansans safe by upholding postponing school start dates until after Labor Day at the earliest.
7/20/2020 21:21:59	Anica	Henderson	America	Los Angeles	Education plays an important role in fostering individual well-being and self-fulfillment, maintaining social stability, and securing the future of a nation. No great civilization in the history of humanity has taken education lightly. <a href="https://www.theepochtimes.com/chapter-twelve-sabotaging-education-part-i_2636144.html">https://www.theepochtimes.com/chapter-twelve-sabotaging-education-part-i_2636144.html</a>
7/20/2020 21:22:12	Erin	Torres	Kansas City Kansas Pub	Blue Springs	As much as I am ready to get back into the school year and see all of my students again. I am in agreement with Governor Kelly's executive order to postpone the start of schools to give school districts the opportunity to better prepare for students and staff coming back into buildings where social distancing may be impossible in areas like classrooms.  I am a specials teacher, meaning that in the course of one weeks time I will see all 500 plus students at my school. I worry that I will be the carrier between classes. If our district requires specials teachers to travel from room to room I will potentially become a carrier spreading COVID from one grade level to the next. As the art teacher I would be bringing supplies that would need to be used and shared by all 500 students in the building through the course of a weeks time. I think giving Wyandotte county's numbers an opportunity to go down before we put students back into schools would be beneficial to the community.
7/20/2020 21:22:14	Mandi	Bega		Wichita	I'm a para with a high risk child. I don't want to have to decide between providing for my family and keeping my child safe. It's not just about the children; it's about the teachers, the paras, the secretaries, etc. We all know parents will give medicine to reduce fever and send their students to school. All it takes is one. Remote learning is the best option. The numbers are the numbers and we have to look at them. We can't assume that they are being altered and we can't make this political. ONE sick child can expose an entire school. It's not fair to put school staff lives on the line just so parents can go back to work. This is NOT the problem of school staff. This is a worldwide pandemic and we must treat it like that. In person classes are not safe and waiting until a couple days after Labor Day is not going to change that fact. People are gonna participate in one last hurrah and September will not flatten our curve. Plan ahead and make the right decision for our kids and school staff!!!!

7/20/2020 21:22:16	Page	Anderson	Mill Valley High School	Shawnee	Hello, thank you for taking the time to send out this survey and for reading over the replies. This upcoming school year marks my 6th year in education. I am an English teacher at Mill Valley High School. Since March, like many, our lives have been turned upside down. We have a 19 month old at home. Working from home with her was next to impossible. My husband, who works for an insurance company in KCMO, is also working from home and still is. As challenging as online teaching was, there was one positive, my family was SAFE. This upcoming school year and the situations and conversations surrounding it have caused me immense amounts of anxiety. The thought of going to a single building with 1300+ students and 100+ staff members is debilitating. I honestly do not want to go back - at least not at this time. Laura Kelly's decision to postpone the school year was a wonderful decision, it gives our district more time to plan. However, I believe we need to switch to an online-only format until at least January. Cases are still on the rise and people are dying. Absolutely NO STUDENT OR TEACHER should face that possibility. I miss my students and I am willing to what I can to help them, but I also need to keep my family safe. I hope everyone making these important decisions considers these statements when deciding on the fate of the 20-21 school year. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:22:27	Emily	Wederski	Colby Public & Private	Colby	It is in the best interest of our children to start school on time and to NOT delay it any further. Delaying only hinders their future.  We also disagree with K-12 wearing masks. Take their temps at the door and let them in. However even taking temperatures isn't the solution. Some people run lower body temps than 'average' while some run higher body temps than 'average' and that's just their genetic makeup.
7/20/2020 21:22:28	Terri	Stein	Olathe School District	Lenexa	As a highly committed educator, I 100% support the delay of school until after Labor Day. This will allow a little more time to see if COVID cases will begin to decline once again. If not, I support virtual learning. Not only is there concern for students, but many live with extended family or grandparents. I also share concern with many colleagues over the safety of staff. Any death is another too many and the long term effects of the virus are still unknown. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:22:30	Katy	Flentie	Teacher	Winona	Please be closed until after Labor Day. We have county fair this week. The likelihood of an increase of cases will extend into the start of our school year. Teachers also need time to prep for the additional precautions and create a smart and well thought process.
7/20/2020 21:22:35	Steve	McManus	Husband of a teacher	Topeka	We need to do what the governor put in her executive order. She does not need politicians to undermine her when she's just doing what is best for our safety.
7/20/2020 21:22:47	Chad	Schuetz		Kechi	I am a parent of 3 students in the Valley Center school District, my wife works in the Derby district and I'm an educator in El Dorado. With the recent guidance approved, having additional time to develop local plans would be welcome. With the majority of school staff coming back on contract in August, having the opportunity to fully develop and train staff on plans would seem best practice.
7/20/2020 21:22:51	Kelsey	Reynolds		Lenexa	I think all Kansas schools need to wait to open until after Labor Day at the earliest.
7/20/2020 21:22:51	Alisha	Holyfield	Lansing USD 469	Leavenworth	I support the Executive Order 2058. I agree that delaying the 20-21 school year will allow school building administrators, teachers, and staff to plan effectively for students safe return to the classroom as well as time to make sure protective measures are in place.
7/20/2020 21:22:55	Amber	Sonnenberg	Teacher	Garden City	Let districts decide what is best for their community. We are not having a spike here in Garden. Also delaying the 1st day will push us closer to beginning of flu season and with current regulations (temp check) could keep kids out of class. Sooner we get started the more time students can be trained on the online expectations in case they get quarantined.

7/20/2020 21:22:57	Dr. Annie	Hoekman		Abilene	I believe in the safety of all constituents! But this is not a one size fits all situation. If a district needs the time to implement or gain control over the spread, then they should have the right to open when they deem safe. But other areas are low infections, small schools, or maybe even ready to implement and open. Please leave it up to local school boards and counties. I do not understand the rationale or common sense of this eo. You have kids from primarily the same towns/counties who have not been out much mandated to start late, but will allow colleges and universities to open, most early, with kids coming from all over the states and other countries with no mandate to start late. School is a lot more than academics and assessments. A vaccine may do no good if antibodies are not being held in bodies that have tested positive. We have to get back to some normalcy and routine, even if the routines are new, for all families!
7/20/2020 21:23:03	Jennifer	Imhoff		Kansas City	Delay the opening of school or commit to online learning for the first semester and then make decisions for our children based on more COVID-19 information from our health officials. If children are our future, it's our responsibility to see to it that their future is the best.
7/20/2020 21:23:03	Angie	Malik		Ottawa	I don't agree with postponing or in-person opening the schools at all. They should start on time VIRTUALLY. It's not what everyone wants, but it's what everyone needs to do right now. Postponing them for a few weeks isn't going to fix anything or change the outcome, it will just happen later. The same way the numbers are now climbing and weren't in March. Money should be spent on broadband and getting internet access to every student, rather than cleaning supplies and masks. Too much time will be wasted in the school day disinfecting, hand washing, breaks, etc. If a student tests positive in the school...does the whole school shutdown for 2 weeks? Then after two weeks out, then two weeks back, another student or teacher tests positive...does the school shut down for two weeks again??? It couldn't just be a class, it would be every student and faculty... they all use the same bathroom facilities, lockerroom, gym, cafeteria, and school buses. Virtual is answer this year, there's no other way.
7/20/2020 21:23:14	Tanya	Rees	Blue valley school distru	Leawood	In person School should not be delayed past labor day
7/20/2020 21:23:16	Carrie	Brungardt		Goodland Kansas	Remember last years flu? It was a bad one. And it's being said the coronavirus is going to be worse in fall and winter. Although I believe school is very important for a child's stability as well as a safe place for many, we shouldn't put teachers or children in danger. As much as I want the two I'm raising, in school learning, I also don't want anyone to jeopardize a life. Adults or children. I think it's hard enough for teachers to teach...and now, having to deal with the virus as well. The safety precautions will be relentless. I want kids back in school for their sanity as well as my own. But, I'm definitely ok if they don't open. Prayers!!
7/20/2020 21:23:18	Garrett	Higgins	USD 331	Kingman	First off I would like to say that I am a teacher and not a doctor. Therefore I have no claim to know what is best for the health of the public. I do know that kids need school, teachers need school and I myself included need school. However, I don't know that they need school to start in the middle of August. The delay of school puts a major stressor on a lot of parents as to how to handle their kids while they have to go to work. I myself do not have that worry but I understand the concern. With that being said (and me not being a doctor) if the health of any Kansan is compromised due to returning to school then I don't know why we would. I want nothing but the best for everyone during this time. But I also do not want to compromise the people of my community. I realize this is something that affects my career and possibly my salary as an educator. I don't know what's best and I truly put my trust in all of you that are in the positions to make the correct decisions. I know it will feel like there is no correct decision no matter what is decided due to the hostility of the public outcry, I however am one resident that will support whatever decision is made. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:23:21	Aly	Millert		Lenexa, KS	Please Delay the start of schools
7/20/2020 21:23:21	Megan	Carrier	USD 500	Kansas City, Kansas	It is not safe to go back right now. I want more than anything to teach my kids and hug them but now is not the time. We need to see a drastic change in cases. I teach Kindergarten and those little are not going to follow the necessary guidelines. I'm going to be teaching more hygiene than academics. Please, please wait until the time is right.
7/20/2020 21:23:39	Shaaron	Beye		Cherryvale	Please delay the start of the 20/21 school year. My husband is a custodian at the K-6 grade level. I have a compromised immune system as I have several life threatening illnesses. Delaying the year will help the administration get the necessary things it needs to help have a successful start of the year. Hopefully by starting school after Labor Day Kansas will see a decline in the number of positive COVID cases. Thank you!

7/20/2020 21:23:49	Megan	Campbell		Merriam	Please support the Governor's order. It just makes good sense. Three weeks is not a huge sacrifice if it means kids, teachers and families are safer when school does start.
7/20/2020 21:23:51	Tasha	Lara	Mother of a student	Havensville	Please listen to the Health Officials and do as the Governor recommends. Education can be taught a few weeks later if that means that the schools can be better prepared for COVID.
7/20/2020 21:23:56	Kelly	Stuck		Olathe	We are not prepared to keep students, staff and our community safe at this time. More time is needed to put safety measures in place.
7/20/2020 21:24:07	Jonathan	Dansel	Comment removed due	Sharon Springs	Comment removed due to profanity
7/20/2020 21:24:08	Rick	Perkins		Wichita	<p>Please reconsider mandatory masks for 5th grade to K. These teachers are going to have enough to do without constantly having to remind kids about masks.</p> <p>Many of these kids have been running in packs all summer already and have exposed each other daily, making there own collective if you will.</p> <p>Keeping in mind not all counties and districts have thd same problems and require local board solutions. That's why we have local boards right.</p> <p>Consider the pressure you put on daycare systems and providers with your decisions. In addition the pressure you put on working families with your decisions.</p> <p>Thanks.</p>
7/20/2020 21:24:08	Emma	Worley		Olathe	I believe this executive order should be upheld. Schools need more time to prepare their staff and Kansas needs more time to get their COVID cases under control. Schools are severely under prepared for what your asking if us. As a teacher I still don't know our schools plans and am expected to prepare everything with less than a month's notice. If I'm expected to be in a classroom I need time to make sure it is safe and ready to teach a group of children safely.
7/20/2020 21:24:07	Abbie	Emmons	n/a	Shawnee	Please support the delay in schools opening. I am sad because I do think kids do better in school, however I don't think it's currently safe for teachers or students. the COVID numbers in Kansas are alarming. I do think the state re-opened too early (back in May). I was so proud when Gov. Kelly issues stay at home orders in mid-March because I think that played a big role in us not becoming hot spots. We need to keep our teachers (and students) safe. It's not worth risking anyone's health. My husband and I both work and it's stressful to have to figure out how we'll manage, but I'd much rather figure out how to manage a delay in school than a sick family. Quite frankly, peoples reasons for wanting kids to be in school aren't strong enough for me. We can parent our own children and figure out a slight inconvenience until Kansas (all of it - not just JoCo) gets COVID under control. I teared up watching Gov. Kelly's announcement last week because I'm relieved we don't have to worry about schools re-opening yet. I will figure out how to work and have a kid at home a bit longer and appreciate our governors concern for health.
7/20/2020 21:24:38	Brenda	Gladfelter	USD437 employee	Topeka	Support delay until Sept. or until incidence is at an acceptable level
7/20/2020 21:24:45	Kelly	Wornall		Lenexa	The kids need to be in school. My fear is our governor will continue to push a start date. Kansas is not a one size fits all state. Options for learning need to be made and the governor needs to follow the direction of the BOE and medical advisors other than Dr Norman.

					<p>Opening schools shouldn't even be on the table right now. It simply is not safe. If we open right now, the way conditions stand, we WILL see a surge in cases and we WILL lose people. Teachers, staff members, students and family members of each will get sick and many will die. I understand the desire to return to normal, but normal isn't even a possibility right now.</p> <p>A return to school will mean the loss of proven, effective teacher practices and strategies as we attempt to enforce masking (because we all know how difficult it will be to ensure our students remain masked all day long) and social distancing (because we as educators know, having worked in these buildings, there isn't enough space, classrooms or staffing to adequately provide social distancing).</p> <p>Our schools are experiencing unprecedented overcrowding due to decades of underfunding and teacher shortages. These issues won't go away simply because we want to live in a fantasy world where normal is possible. In fact, "normal" has been inadequate for public education for a very long time. Teachers manage more responsibilities with less resources and inadequate salaries every single year and we're expected to do so with smiles on our faces.</p> <p>And now, we're expected to make do in a pandemic in unsafe environments, which, okay, we've all worked in those moldy classrooms in poorly ventilated schools with crumbling foundations, so a safe environment hasn't exactly been a part of our reality for a long time, but now we're talking an unsafe environment whose ultimate consequence could be death, and it's just not okay.</p> <p>We teachers have put up with a lot for a very long time. We accept the imposed guilt and the responsibility and we get to work every year with a can-do attitude, but we're now expected to not only risk our lives in doing so, but the lives of our students, our family members and their family members.</p> <p>In my case, I'm at-risk, as are my parents and my nephew. Going back to work will effectively end my ability to see them for the foreseeable future. It's unacceptable. Schools need to remain closed.</p>
7/20/2020 21:24:46	Amy	Culey		Kansas City	
7/20/2020 21:24:54	Amber	Neaderhiser		Parnell	Keep schools closed-SAVE LIVES.
7/20/2020 21:24:56	Jennifer	Forrest	Blue Valley Schools	Olathe	I'm a teacher and a parent in the Blue Valley School District. I support Governor Kelly's decision to delay going into schools until after Labor Day. We need to get our Covid numbers under control. I am a diabetic and do not want to be inside with a bunch of 4th graders not wearing masks. This is why I also support wearing masks inside the schools. I'm not comfortable putting my health at risk and feel safer if we all wear masks. It's a pain but it's a sacrifice we all need to make
7/20/2020 21:24:57	Lori	Allen	USD 500	Shawnee	Bring teachers back at normal schedule time per their contracts. Delay students starting until after labor day. Allow each district to decide on teaching format (in person, hybrid, remote) based on current virus trend for their area.
7/20/2020 21:24:59	Christy	Svoboda	Usd230	Louisburg is	Please keep schools closed till numbers go down. Online schooling please.
7/20/2020 21:25:04	Amy	Voelker	Preferred Pediatrics	Olathe	I support the Governor's mandate to delay the start of schools. As our numbers of positive COVID tests continue to rise from community spread it becomes less and less safe for our kids to gather in schools. We need more time to get spread under control, ramp up our ability to test kids rapidly and to implement the new guidelines for safety in schools. We need the State BOE to uphold the mandate statewide. Otherwise some districts will force schools open, increase community spread and jeopardize all chances for other districts to open.
7/20/2020 21:25:09	Stephanie	DeMaree	USD 500	KCK	<p>Please allow us more time to plan a thorough and purposeful plan, especially because our community has such a high amount of cases. I worry for my colleagues, my students, and my family. We did not sign up for this and it's unfair to allow the same people who called us superheroes not more than months ago, to now hold us responsible for the economy. It's not our jobs to risk our lives so that people can keep working.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

7/20/2020 21:25:11	Darcy	Weaver		Olathe	I want my teachers to feel prepared and safe. This entire pandemic has been everyone looking out for themselves, not looking out for their fellow human. And not allowing our teachers the time to get into their classrooms and adjust is just disrespectful. These educators already are so giving of their extra time and give money when they don't have it. This isn't a joke, this virus. And everyone took it seriously in March and April. But now, it doesn't suit them. It's selfish. The virus isn't real...tell that to the 85 sets of parents in Texas dealing with little ones all having it. Or the campers in Missouri. Please listen to the science. Our governor is doing all she can to protect us. Please don't stop her just to for politics.
7/20/2020 21:25:21	Elizabeth	Rogers	USD 500	Kansas City Kansas	I agree with delaying the start date, to allow staff, teachers, And social emotional department plan and properly prepare on welcoming back our students. We also need time to learn how we are going to implement these new procedures. This is a trying time for everyone, and we all want our kids to have the best education. But let's not let the fear of our kids are not learning if they are not receiving face to face services. Just because a building is closed does not mean the kids are not learning online. I feel the delay is the best, as we still don't have enough information on how this virus effects kids. We need more time to plan accordingly to ensure everyone's safety, mentally, physically and emotionally.
7/20/2020 21:25:30	Travi	Robinson		Olathe	Please accept the Governors order. As a parent of a medically fragile child and an employee of the school district, I will not only be leaving a vacant position that my district will inevitably struggle to fill in a timely manner (because let be honest, there's not a big market to go into a Covid exposure guaranteed environment right now), I will be pulling my child from school. I simply cannot justify the risk this would subject my family to. I haven't seen my elderly parents since March. By sending my child and myself back into a building with over 600 people, I don't know the next time my daughter would be able to see her grandparents. She is their only grandchild. The state of Kansas is simply not ready to take on this dangerous and irresponsible endeavor and anyone who decides we are will most certainly have blood on their hands soon enough. Teachers are stressed, parents are stressed and being in a classroom with no physical contact allowed and masked for 8 hours a day isn't an environment conducive to quality education. Kansas can do better. Please, do the right thing. We only have one chance at this. Is rushing it really worth the potential risk? One death is one too many.
7/20/2020 21:25:31	Tiffany	Shields	My family	Overland Park	Thank you for considering our family/community safety. As much as we want the kids back to on campus school, it's not the responsible thing to do with the current surge in cases. Maybe we could have the freshman-Senior graduating credits reduced to 16--4 coresx4 years. We could go ahead and let the kids start virtual classes and then transition to in-person when cases are under control.
7/20/2020 21:25:36	Derek	Dillinger	Self	Stevens county	No reason for a delay, implement the safety standard and move on
7/20/2020 21:25:36	Erin	Fenley	Mother of K-12 children	Overland Park	If delaying the start of school until after Labor Day will ensure more safety for teachers, kids and administration I think the time allowed could be used very valuable. I am a healthcare worker and I feel at minimal risk in a hospital working with Covid positive patients or pending covid patients due to the safety measures the system takes and the training we have had. If the delay of school is pushed further back due to increased cases and in hopes the virus will decrease or I don't believe that is effective for our youth to thrive in this world/economy. I think all aspects need to be considered; safety, general health and mental health. As a healthcare worker I don't have the option to not go to work due to the potential risks. While I imagine more planning of safety measures need to be instilled and more training of teachers, substitutes, nursing, custodial services. Viable virtual options need to created or done through established systems. I believe schools should open before or after Labor Day, not without careful planning to minimize risks but open to allow kids the opportunity for on-site learning.
7/20/2020 21:25:38	Steven	Millert		Lenexa	Delay school starting until cases come down
7/20/2020 21:25:38	Sandy	Schadegg	Usd 102	Cimarron	Please follow the Executive Order and keep schools closed until after Labor Day. Thank you



7/20/2020 21:25:44	Karin	Clemmer	Parent	Salina	Children need to be back in school on time. They will have been out 6 months by Sept. They are going to spend a minimum of nine weeks trying to catch up on the classes/information they didn't learn last spring. Also when would they make up the weeks they'd be missing by starting a month late? These kids need the structure, routine, face-to-face learning that school provides. My son needs sports and the socialization that school provides. I fear the anxiety disorders and mental health issues that are being created in our children by promoting the fear, the OCD cleaning, and the masks. Regarding the mask mandate: the research is too inconsistent to make it worth the frustration. Teachers need to focus on educating, not masks. And really, let's be honest, our district has said they will provide one mask/gaiter per student- is that one mask going to have the saliva/snot/bacteria washed out of it every evening? The kids will be getting sick/spreading germs just from wearing a used/dirty mask.
7/20/2020 21:26:01	Shawna	Dutton		Lansing	My child needs to be back in school. She needs to be around people, not just those with whom she lives! She has been participating in sports all Summer with no incidents!
7/20/2020 21:26:04	Dawn	Sholtz	USD 473	Chapman	We need to get these kids back to school. Our children deserve a solid Education. They have already fallen behind. We need our leaders to be child focused. Options for the immune deficiency yes. But we need to get back to Educating. Safe yes. Perfect not possible. We are raising children to have limited choices for their futures by not providing the timely Education. If you plan to delay school then the amount of hours required will have to be changed. My children deserve a full education.
7/20/2020 21:26:05	Kim	Fink	Concerned Parent	Abilene, KS	Ask the true professionals, the ones in the trenches, what they think. Every teacher I've spoken to wants the extra time to plan how they are going to best teach our children, and go it safely. Let's trust them to do their job and get out of their way without micromanaging them.
7/20/2020 21:26:09	Laura	Wiltanger	Olathe School District-te	Olathe	Please uphold the governor's order postponing school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 21:26:10	Linda	Riedel	Retired Educator	Kansas City	School should be delayed until after Labor Day so that planning and safety are laid out to benefit teachers, students and parent. There is a lot on the line.
7/20/2020 21:26:15	Tina	DiMarzo		Larned	I work front-line in this whole COVID pandemic. I have 3 boys ages 5, 8, and 11. This is my youngest first year of full day school. There is no way he will keep a mask on. We went on an airplane just last week and it was a struggle for ALL my boys. I don't want him to hate school when it is just all starting for him. He needs social interaction and friends to play with. My 8 year old has autism. It's already a daily struggle with school WITHOUT all the extra now being put in place. He needs to be able to attend school normally. Learn to communicate and interact with peers. Changing everything is really going to mess with all the kids with special needs. My 11 year old - this is his FIRST year of middle school. He stated if they are going to make them wear masks and stay 6 feet apart and have all this stuff in place he would rather be homeschooled. I am truly hoping you open school. NORMALLY without all the extra precautions. I want my kids to be able to attend public school. The virus is never going to just disappear. It's like the flu. The flu kills thousands of people too. I think just the standard precautions of covering your cough, washing your hands, sneezing into a napkin is enough.  I am at the point of having to make the hardest decision ever. If the kids are going to have to wear masks, social distance, not have a normal everyday life, I will have to homeschool. This is breaking our kids down mentally! I pray you make the right choice for everyone involved. You have a lot on your shoulders right now.  Thank you, Tina
7/20/2020 21:26:28	Kelli	Cox	Parent	Olathe	Please accept Governor Kelly's recommendation. I have close relationships with many educators and school leadership on the Olathe school district that openly tell me they are not ready to open school in any capacity on schedule. As a parent, this give me zero confidence in sending my children back to school at this time. The school needs direction on how to prepare and turn adequate time to prepare. They haven't even opened enrollment yet, it continues to be delayed as they cant articulate what we are enrolling for. I desperately want my kids in school and to play school sports this fall. But I also think my kids deserve the best possible experience. Thank you for listening.
7/20/2020 21:26:29	Nora	Gibson	USD 383	Manhattan	I am a teacher and a parent. I feel it is very important to push the start date back to after Labor Day for many reasons. The main reason is this will keep schools from having to rush to get materials ordered and in place. And to revise their plans. It also Gives teachers extra time to rearrange classrooms and learn a digital format. I am also hoping with the delay it will give time to flatten the curve.

7/20/2020 21:26:30	Kaci	Crooks		Madison	A delay to the start of school is the right choice. Please don't force our teachers, staff and students into a situation that you know is unsafe.
7/20/2020 21:26:31	Melissa	Hewlett		Wichita	I feel like we need to consider the students and teachers and their health instead of worrying about not being in class. We all know there will be parents sending their kids to school sick. We can't afford that right now. We either wait to open now or close down in several months when the virus effects more than we care to see...
7/20/2020 21:26:33	Lisa	Duncan	USD 437 Teacher	Topeka	Please approve Gov. Kelly's executive order and delay the start of school until after Labor Day. Do not throw us teachers and our children into such an unsafe environment. All schools should start virtually until it is safer anyways.
7/20/2020 21:26:39	Jessica	Vaughn	Parent	Colby, KS	I do not support delaying the start of the school year
7/20/2020 21:26:42	Shea	Finley	Sacred Heart School	Colby	School needs to begin, without masks being mandatory!
7/20/2020 21:26:45	Kimberly	Caminos		Overland Park	I support delaying the beginning of the school year.
7/20/2020 21:26:48	Amanda	Stewart	Turner USD 202	Edwardsville, KS	I am a fifth grade teacher who does not feel comfortable going back to the classroom while Covid cases continue to rise. I think we are rushing this to help working families, however it will be impossible to adhere to social distancing guidelines. We are talking about children here. They are going to refuse directions. They will misuse masks. The virus will make its way into the buildings. Some will get very sick. Some will die. We are going to have an unprecedented need for substitute teachers, and our sub pools are already very shallow. We can't split classes to cover for these classes without teachers. I see huge problems in our future if we open up now. Please be responsible and wait for Phase 4 to reopen.
7/20/2020 21:26:51	Chelli	Cranmer	USD 385	Andover	Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day. I actually started to feel like it would be possible to start school with students in the building if we pushed the start date back so we could prepare and get the PPE and procedures in place. Don't make this a political decision.
7/20/2020 21:27:09	Danny	Driskill		Haysville	I don't see how it's even up for debate. Overall public health outweighs returning to school.
7/20/2020 21:27:11	Amy	Brownlee	Spring Hill Middle Scho	Olathe, KS 66062	Please uphold the delay to start school until after Labor Day! There is always SO MUCH to do to prepare for a new school year on a normal year, but this year we NEED extra time to open safely. My district is already making plans for staff to use this time to train for new protocols and to better prepare for possible hybrid learning scenarios.
7/20/2020 21:27:14	Anna	Kauss		Gardner, Topeka	Delaying opening is the best option in order to keep students and staff safe. They have family they come home to and it's the easiest way to continue spreading the virus.
7/20/2020 21:27:17	Jessica	Young		Tribune	I don't think schools should be delayed. I do think it should be up to individual counties/school boards to decide.
7/20/2020 21:27:23	Kara	Schridde		Great Bend	As a staff member in the school system I would like the opening of schools to be delayed in order to allow for more time to prepare for the safety of the students. As a parent of elementary age children I would like the opening to be delayed to allow more time to make a decision on whether to enroll my own children for in person or virtual learning. At this point, I am not comfortable with sending them to in person learning. I am also not comfortable having to go back to work in the schools and being exposed to so many students. Even if I choose to keep my own children home for virtual learning, I still worry about the risk of of bringing the virus home to them because I am forced to go back to work as a school staff member.
7/20/2020 21:27:26	Patty	Rogenmoser	Kansas school children	Topeka	Open schools on time! The governor's order is a travesty!
7/20/2020 21:27:36	Kaci	Crooks		Madison	A delay to the start of school is the right choice. Please don't force our teachers, staff and students into a situation that you know is unsafe.

					<p>This year I will kick off my 19th year as a third grade teacher in the Blue Valley School District. There is nothing better than Back To School time. The excitement of getting our classrooms ready and meeting our students for the first time is usually in the air this time of year. However, this year there is a very different feeling. Teachers and staff members are feeling anxious, nervous, scared, worried, and torn. We so desperately want to be in our classrooms with our students engaging them in meaningful learning experiences, but we don't feel prepared to do that YET! My district provides me with four professional development days before my students are supposed to walk through the doors to begin the year. On a typical year I can barely get prepared in those four days. How in the world will we be prepared this year? I am asking that you join with Governor Laura Kelly and postpone the beginning of the school year until after Labor Day, so schools can prepare for an amazing year ahead. I understand districts have started preparing, but teachers and staff members haven't even been informed of these plans. We need more than four days to learn how to put these plans into action.</p> <p>Not only am I teacher, but I'm also a mom of two elementary aged boys. Like most parents, I want them to experience the fun and excitement that we know happens within the walls of their elementary building. I just don't see how that can be done at this time in a safe way. Their classrooms are too small to allow for social distancing. My 6th grader will have 29 students in his class this year. How can they safely social distance with such a huge class size and a small classroom space? If their desks will even have room in the classroom, they will have to sit in their seats all day as many officials have talked about staff members moving to them instead of kids moving about. Kids haven't sat in one spot for longer than 30 minutes for 5 months. How will we expect them to do that for 7 hours a day?</p> <p>We don't need to race to the start line. We need to make sure we do it right. Extra time will help us get it right!</p>
7/20/2020 21:27:36	Erika	Haas		Overland Park	
7/20/2020 21:27:43	Diane	Meyers		Shawnee	Children should NOT go back to school until it is actually safe to do so. We should at least wait until guidelines are met for opening states as previously issued by the CDC. That means TWO weeks with no new COVID cases. We do not have the testing and contact tracing capabilities do otherwise. We should not be risking the lives of our children, teachers, staff and families of all.
7/20/2020 21:27:48	Cole	Ballard		Cimarron	How is covid-19 going to look or be any different the end of August compared to right after Labor Day? What then is the point for the delay???? Kids need to be in school at a minimum for their mental wellbeing. In addition, what is best for one district is not necessarily what is best for the next. Leave it as a local decision. Vote this ridiculous Executive Order down.
7/20/2020 21:27:49	Andrea	Heinen	None/ parent	Topeka	I would like schools to open if there is a way to safely do so. Middle school students could stay in the same room and have teachers rotate. Lunches should be done in classrooms. PE should be outside as much as possible. Masks should be mandatory for all.
7/20/2020 21:27:51	Chris	Donelan	Me	Colby	Do not delay let the parents decide what they will do with there kids
7/20/2020 21:27:53	Noelle	Sliva	I am an elementary educ	Olathe	I ask you to vote yes and stand with Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school. As an elementary educator AND as a parent of an elementary student, I feel like the delay is absolutely necessary in order for planning and precautions to be put into the place to protect the health and lives of both students AND school staff. Without adequate time to secure safety materials/supplies, and thoughtfully plan out safety measures, I will not feel safe returning. We need time to be adequately trained to ensure that online learning will be high quality, as our students deserve the very best. I am also hopeful that the delay will also give time for the masking mandate to start to bend the curve. Please vote yes.
7/20/2020 21:27:54	Amy	Schmidt	USD 373	Newton	I am very thankful for the EO as our community spread is over 10% in our county. I think it is the safest move in terms of health for our entire community, not just the students and staff. We need to get this under control before we begin large gatherings as a school day would present.
7/20/2020 21:27:55	Mary	Enderud		udall	I would be interested in starting school up, maybe a hybrid plan that works for everyone involved.

7/20/2020 21:28:18	Teresa	Murray	Teachers	Olathe	As a teacher I do not feel prepared to return to school. Maybe our district is more prepared than I think but know nothing. Please don't play with our lives or the lives of our students and all the families lives. The numbers are higher than when we closed school in the first place. I'm ready to go back but it needs to be safely. I don't feel safe.
7/20/2020 21:28:20	Jeremy	Riggs	n/a	Olathe	Caution is needed. Please comply with the EO and delay school starts. Teachers and admin need more time to ready and prepare, and we need to get the virus better under control. Teachers and students' lives should not be put at risk.
7/20/2020 21:28:25	Hannah	Weller		Wichita	Please delay the start of school. Cases are on the rise and it is not safe for students and staff to be confined in a school for multiple hours each day. It's best to do a statewide mandate so that everyone is on the same page and our whole state is doing the same thing. Thank you for doing the only right thing. Delaying school will keep kids and teachers safe!
7/20/2020 21:28:32	Susan	Cruzan	Parent	Overland Park	I think this is so much safer for all to delay or start virtual learning!!!
7/20/2020 21:28:34	Gerry	Smith		Wichita	Please wait to start school until after labor day
7/20/2020 21:28:34	Hannah	Plank		Baxter Springs, KS	If you take into account when schools closed in March, to after Labor Day, it would mean kids would have been out of school for almost 6 months. 6 months. For many kids, that's 6 months without loving/trusting adults, routine, resources and regular meals. Also, look at the recent findings from Children's Mercy KC. Based on data compiled from all over the world, virus isn't transmitted among kids nearly as much as adults. look at the article. It's not the only one from reputable sources to say so.
7/20/2020 21:28:40	Melissa	Potter	Shawnee Mission School	Lenexa	We need to have rapid testing available for our teachers and students, we need to make sure our schools have PPE for staff, sanitizing materials and a plan in place for when teachers and students get sick. Substitutes are already in short supply-how do we make sure classrooms are covered when a teacher gets sick? School districts need this extra time to prepare to educate in a pandemic.
7/20/2020 21:28:48	Sara	Farrar	St Thomas Aquinas High	Overland Park	Please vote to open in person classes for our schools K-12. I am a teacher and mother of three in the Archdiocese of KCK. We need our kids in school. Mentally and socially our kids need to be with their peers. This is causing depression and anxiety among so many kids. Our Missouri neighbors are all going to school. Some of them live in Kansas and attend Missouri schools. Seems messed up. It is. Please help get our kids back in school ASAP
7/20/2020 21:29:01	Janette	Foster		Olathe	Please make a decision quickly so working parents can plan in the event there will be no in person school. I really hope that at least a hybrid/part time in person option is offered. Also I work with children with special needs who cannot learn remotely. Please consider an in person option for those children who cannot afford to lose a year of services.
7/20/2020 21:29:10	Antoinette	Vigil		Lansing	I do feel that schools should not open until after January. This will allow the residents to comply with the mask rule and hopefully the positive cases to go down. As a parent and School employee, I don't feel comfortable with allowing my children to go to school
7/20/2020 21:29:22	Tiffany	Smith	USD233	Olathe	Please consider delaying the opening of our schools. This is a pandemic and should be considered as one, not a political issue. I'm scared for the safety of my family, especially my children. We have worked so hard these past months to limit our exposure to this virus and opening schools now could take all those efforts away.  Along with being a mother, I am also an educator. As an educator I'm afraid of the lack of communication and training we have been given during this time away from school for what school structure could look like this year. This extra time could be used to prepare staff members so we are aware of the options given to parents and how it will impact us as educators so we are able to be the best we can be in this new situation for our students.  Please consider doing what is necessary to help the students and children of this great state. Take a stand and do what I right for the betterment of the entire state. Keep us, educators, students and Kansas families safe and healthy. Honor the Governors educated decision to delay the opening of schools.

7/20/2020 21:29:27	Kathy	Jones	USD 402 Augusta Publi	Halstead	<p>Please accept the Executive Orders given by Governor Kelly.</p> <p>As an educator who has been part of the Navigating Change process, schools need time to best prepare for face to face, hybrid, and remote learning.</p> <p>As an educator with autoimmune issues, I am concerned for my students, my colleagues, and myself. What good am I as an educator if I cannot do my job? I understand the findings from the American Academy of Pediatrics, but also know research on children under age 12 is changing almost daily. When I became a teacher, I took an oath, en loco parentis. I do not care to endanger any of my 400+ students.</p>
7/20/2020 21:29:47	Sally	Dennis	Retired teacher and gran	Overland Park	I fully support 20-58. Schools need to delay the start of school with the hope that our virus numbers go down and the schools can obtain the necessary material to begin face to face interactions.
7/20/2020 21:29:53	Renee	Neff	SMSD/Student	Lenexa	Please give this State time to recover from this outbreak. Your most vulnerable student's are counting on you to protect them from this virus. You can't protect them from much in this world, but you can try to keep them and the teacher's safe. That's the only way you can help save lives!
7/20/2020 21:30:08	Betty	Wheeler	Myself	Thayer	Let school districts decide for their own community schools. I'm a teacher. I've been stuck in my house for 5 months because of this "horrible" virus and I literally only personally know 1 person who has had it. I can't teach effectively with a mask and most students can't effectively learn online. Enough.
7/20/2020 21:30:10	Michelle	Vink		Ottawa	Our kids need to be in school!!!! This is not helping them, but hurting them!!
7/20/2020 21:30:11	Dr. Christopher	Smith, EdD		Wichita	School opening needs to be delayed until after Labor Day to give opportunity for districts to plan to implement the executive order signed by Gov. Kelly regarding safety precaution requirements. This will also allow for the recent influx of newly identified positive patients to seek quarantine and medical care and prevent further uncontrolled community spread. It is a win-win for schools and communities.
7/20/2020 21:30:12	LeAnn	Walters		Lenexa	I request that schools start sooner than Labor Day. I worry about the safety of some of our at risk students should we continue to delay in person instruction.
7/20/2020 21:30:12	LeAnn	Carlton		De Soto	Please do not open schools until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 21:30:19	S	Leeds		Olathe	As a Kansas school district employee the extra time to ensure the safety of students and staff would be greatly appreciated. I do believe students need to be back in the classroom as long as it is safe to do so. Once all PPE is in place, teachers and staff trained on protocol then bring our beloved students back. We miss them! There are still so many unanswered questions, so many unknowns and things seem to change daily. A few more weeks to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff is worth the wait. Thank you!
7/20/2020 21:30:21	Leah	Bowers	USD 405	Lyons	I STRONGLY agree for the EO to be passed, delaying school until September 9th. Not only do we not know the long term affects of Covid-19, we have also seen a tremendous rise in cases since we first released school. The precedent was set in the spring when school in a physical setting was released and we went virtual. The additional weeks of prep and keeping an eye on numbers of cases will allow for more educated responses to the copious ways that schools will need to adjust. It is likely that the short delay will not even be enough.

7/20/2020 21:30:24	Kristen	McCullough	My children	Olathe	<p>It is well known that Johnson County, Kansas is a hot spot for COVID cases right now. It is also well known that our teachers, administration, and other faculty are not prepared, nor equipped to clean and teach in the buildings.</p> <p>As a para in an Olathe middle school, I'm not sure I am prepared to go back nor am I prepared to have four of my five children entering the public school systems that are ill equipped to guarantee our safety (within reason). Even if I don't have anyone in my immediate family that is at high risk, my fifth child will be staying with her grandma and grandpa who are both at risk, not only because of their age group, but also because of their health. May not sound like much but me, myself, I will have over a hundred contacts during a school day. Multiply that by four because of my four children in other schools who are going to all come back home with my fifth child and pass around whatever they've picked up who will, in turn, take that and pass it on to her grandparents.</p> <p>Do kids need to go back to school? Absolutely! Should they be going back right now? In the midst of an upswing in cases? Absolutely not! Please give our schools and teachers more time to prepare for what school will look like when we do return.</p> <p>I know that whatever choice you make, you're going to catch flack from the opposing side. I believe that whatever choice you make, you're making with the best interest of all involved in mind.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/20/2020 21:30:25	Suzanne	Dewey	Olathe Public Schools	Shawnee	I support postponing in-person classes in areas that continue to have significant cases of Covid-19. I feel that schools are not able to successfully implement social distancing and other sanitary practices necessary to protect the students and staff.
7/20/2020 21:30:25	Crystal	Mason	KCK Public Schools	Kansas City Kansas	At this point we have waited so long to begin planning that if we were to start and had any type of virtual choice in August nothing will be ready and our kids will not be receiving quality instruction.
7/20/2020 21:30:26	Jody	Smith	Osawatomie public scho	Osawatomie	<p>I understand the risks but my kids are depressed due to not having activities, they have already fallen behind due to loss of 7 weeks of classroom time. I don't want them to fall further behind or lose interest in school period. Our small community hasn't been bothered by as many cases, as well as other smaller communities across the state. I believe it should be up the the parents on whether they want in class or online but school needs to start on time. These smaller schools have the ability to still be safe and have good practices in place. My poor kiddos went from sports everyday to literally nothing overnight due to someone else's fear! We cannot out run death, we will go when it's our time and if that means my kids get to go to school, participate in their activities and be happy then we will risk it! We are a very active family but the restrictions are causing mental health issues which is already a nightmare in this society so please give us our sense of normalcy back!</p>
7/20/2020 21:30:33	Tera	Jensen-Battese	Parent	Overland Park - Olathe	<p>Kids need to get back to school now. I have a middle schooler and a grandchild in elementary school. I see signs of boredom, inactivity (due to limited places open to go), social awkwardness and even depression/frustration. My middle schooler loves school but has a hard time with online learning as there is no motivation, no interaction and if there is a question, the answer is delayed on waiting for email response. There is not enough evidence to support kids staying home. How are they going to keep up at current grade level when not in school? Also hard to be part of a band when there are no members with you. These kids love school and I feel they are being held back and punished for an issue they have very little risk of getting or spreading. Our future generation is at risk of no independent future.</p>
7/20/2020 21:30:38	Lauri	Martínez	USD 501	Topeka	I support the governor. I think she makes a wise choice. I feel safer with her leadership. I believe that as long as there is a threat, school should not be in person and should continue with distance learning.
7/20/2020 21:30:38	Laura	Girard	Parent of incoming 6th	Olathe	Please support governor's proposal and show unity in our state. If school starts before districts are prepared it is a lose-lose situation.

7/20/2020 21:30:39	Rachel	Villareale		Bel Aire, KS	As a teacher and spouse of a school employee, I would like to see the State BOE support and adopt EO 20-58. I realize some board members want to put the onus on the local school boards to make the decision on when to start school. Gov. Kelly has utilized the top-tier people she has at her disposal (Commissioner of Education, various scientists, other industry leaders) and has arrived at this decision; she is uniquely suited to have access to so much information. If she has decided that this is the best route for our schools, I would hope the Board would trust the work she and her team have done to make this recommendation. Regardless of the COVID situation in all districts, teachers and all school staff need time to prepare to use the Navigating Change document released by Commissioner Watson last week, to gather necessary materials to open successfully (hand sanitizer, PPE, thermometers, masks, etc), and to be prepared to implement new protocols for a variety of situations. We know students need the social elements of school, but we also know that if we cannot meet the bottom-tier needs of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs (notably safety needs), our students will not be able to learn to their best abilities, or at all. I know the discussion has included lots of references to data supporting that students are not likely to catch or carry COVID, but there is new information coming now that says otherwise. The adults in school buildings also do not operate in their own vacuums; we interact by necessity with other staff, and in many situations co-teach, so there is plenty of opportunity to spread there as well. Not opening as scheduled puts a hardship on many, but there are ways those in power can assist those people without opening schools. Thank you for your consideration of my thoughts, and for your service to both our profession and our state.
7/20/2020 21:30:42	Sarah	Salem		Ellinwood	I am strongly against the mask mandate in school and I am against the delay of school opening. This is just another virus, don't ruin our children over it.
7/20/2020 21:30:46	Becky	Campbell	Parent	Mulvane	I 100% support delaying the start of the school year. It will give districts time to finalize plans. I wholeheartedly believe parents and teachers are pretty evenly divided. Let the teachers who do not want to be in person stay home and teach virtual classes to the students whose parents do not want to send them back. Let the ones who do want to teach in person, or do not want to teach virtually go back to their classrooms to teach the students who need in-person instruction...for whatever reason.
7/20/2020 21:30:52	Monica	Apollo		Gardner KS	I am a physician assistant and mother of 2. My son 3 1/2 yo got into the peer model preschool program and my daughter 6 will be in 1st grade. As a healthcare provider I do feel school should be pushed back to start at a later date. We need to get numbers down before I would allow my children into before school programs/ bussing to school and into a classroom. We need to keep staff and children safe and let that be our number priority. I stand behind the Governor Kelly.
7/20/2020 21:30:53	Dawn	Conners	Individual	Olathe	Please don't delay school! Me and millions of others have safely worked thls whole time, and a lot of us without gloves/masks or bathing in hand sanitizer. I love my teachers and what they do but the drama of "we're not ready, it's not safe!" has gone on too long. My child and hundreds of others are ready to go back to school and there are medical experts that agree. Stop delaying the inevitable! For the vulnerable in our schools, please stay home and protect yourself. The rest of you sitting in fear while kids suffer, and you collecting a pay check, should be ashamed of yourself and possibly consider a new career. Remember "We're in this together" so get out there and work with our children - TOGETHER!
7/20/2020 21:31:01	Adena	Thiesen		Wichita	Please uphold Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school. As a teacher and a mom, I am very nervous about the consequences of ignoring the science and placing politics above safety. I believe delaying the start of school will give the mask ordinances time to help slow the spread so that when we open we will be less likely to spread it at school. I also, as a teacher, would love the gift of time to plan and prepare for this unprecedented year. We need time to ensure the best and safest environment for students to return to. I believe this needs to happen state wide because it is only a matter of time for the virus to spread to smaller counties. Also, as our hospitals in Wichita are nearing capacity, there will be nowhere for smaller communities to send their most severe cases. Please do the right thing.

7/20/2020 21:31:02	Kiley	Moody		Wamego	I've been helping with physical activity opportunities for kids aged kindergarten to seniors in high school. They've been wearing masks since early July while working out and have complied and done great! Kids are willing to do whatever is asked so that they can play and be around their friends. I think school should be in session. For some children school is their safe place and is their only opportunity to end the cycle they are in. Also, we are living in our new normal. There is no guarantee this virus is going away and even if a vaccine is created, more than likely most people will not receive the vaccine. There is no discussion about this. Most everything I read will state...has been cancelled until there is a vaccine. What is the long term plan? We can't all stay in our homes! The young people are being affected by all of these decisions the most and don't have a voice. I urge you all to think about the young people. Thank you!
7/20/2020 21:31:05	Susan	Yates	Teacher	Ottawa	I am in favor of delaying the start of school. Our cases are on the rise, and there is so much we don't know about this virus. I will be in contact with 120 elementary students per day, and that scares me. My chances of contracting Covid through one of my students is high due to the number of kids I would be around per day. Additionally, if I was the one that infected a student which led to hospitalization or even death for them I could not forgive myself.  Additionally, I don't want to increase my chances of bringing the virus home to my son who is compromised with asthma and lungs that don't function at full capacity or my husband who own and operates a dairy farm with his father who is extremely compromised.  Let's play it safe and give it more time to learn a little more about this virus before putting everyone at risk.
7/20/2020 21:31:05	Wichita	Teacher		Wichita	Please, for the love of all that is good in the world, uphold the Governor's order. In-person school should not start until AT LEAST September 9th for the entire state. Individual districts with higher COVID numbers should then have the option to extend that start date later if needed. And, once schools do re-open, they must open to VIRTUAL ONLY learning until we have gone 14 consecutive days with no newly reported cases. That is the ONLY way to keep our students, staff, and families safe. Not following these common sense guidelines could lead to a serious teacher shortage - due to teachers stepping away from the profession, or quarantine and/or hospitalization from being exposed. We want to be there for our students, but in order to do that, we must be kept alive and healthy. Even police working-dogs are given the protection, and training, they need to do their jobs safely when they are issued bullet-proof vests.
7/20/2020 21:31:08	Adam	Clark	USD 500 Educators	Kansas City	Wyandotte county's Covid-19 numbers are the worst in the state and our state's numbers are one of the worst in the country. We should be starting back as remote/virtually only. Class sizes do not allow for social distancing. Please vote yes on the Executive Order.
7/20/2020 21:31:13	Lynne	Umscheid	Usd 383. Lee elementary	Wamego/Manhattan	Please protect our educators, students and citizens. Please support Gov. Kelly
7/20/2020 21:31:19	Allison	Mangold	Olathe School District	Olathe	Olathe School District most definitely needs the delay to better prepare for the school year. Because our district school board has not been able to give a definitive answer as to how we will be teaching this school year I feel we need the delay and then a decision by our board...allowing the time extension to better prepare for that decision and how it will be implemented
7/20/2020 21:31:26	Nicole	Chapple	Olathe	Olathe	Please delay the start of school - this is a scary situation for our students, teachers, administrators, and all staff. Show your support and care for those who would be, quite literally, putting their health & lives on the line. Thank you for your consideration.



7/20/2020 21:31:35	Stephanie	Wescott	USD 373 Teacher	Wichita	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>Please support for Governor Kelly's latest order regarding delaying schools until Labor Day. I am a concerned 3rd grade teacher and I 10000% support her decision. We need more time to get our school prepared for a safe student return. Our virus infection rate also needs time to decline. Without this extra time, I am afraid for what would happen. It is not safe to go back to school right now. Her decision allows educators more time to put things in place that will make everyone feel more safe. Our school district just received the guidelines and is working on a plan to keep everyone safe, but it include building and purchasing things we just don't have enough time for. This order gives us that necessary time. I also support the mask mandate and temperature checks. I know many other teachers stand by her decision as well. Please take that under consideration when you are voting this week and please support our governors order. She is just trying to keep our students, teachers and communities safe. Isn't that what we all want?</p>
7/20/2020 21:31:36	Ashley	Oliver	Cheney Teachers Associ	Cheney	<p>Please overturn Gov. Kelly mandates, we have only 1 case and want to get kids in school soon before we have to go to a different model. Going to school in June is not feasible for our small farm community and the kids will need to work on the farms in June. I want it safe but we are not Wichita, etc. not the whole state is in the same boat as other cities. If you decide to NOT overturn it then I ask that you change the recommendation for school days and hours that are required. We are losing 21 school days by starting after Labor Day. The kids miss us and we miss them. Plus the kids are already all together and we are doing ok! Please again over turn her decision to get us in school now! Waiting until after Labor Day will only keep people going to the lake, large gatherings and parties.</p>
7/20/2020 21:31:37	Julie	Christlieb	Olathe West	Olathe	<p>Wait until after labor day</p>
7/20/2020 21:31:43	Mary Beth	Brown	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	<p>The coronavirus counts in Kansas continue to rise. Please give schools the chance to be safe places for students and teachers, uphold the governor's decision to postpone the opening of schools until after Labor Day.</p>
7/20/2020 21:31:46	Michelle	Peterson		Abilene	<p>Open the schools. The numbers of positive cases are low. If we are allowed to have summer sports all summer then we should be allowed to attend schools. As a coach and a teacher, it is important to get these kids back into a routine. Kids need the food programs and even the simple safety of school because many home lives are not good! If masks are the answer, then let's wear them. However, delaying school is only going to let kids fall farther behind.</p>
7/20/2020 21:31:53	Faith	Scott	Brougham Elementary-U	Olathe	<p>I am a Counselor at Brougham Elementary in Olathe, Kansas. I have been in education for 22 years. I am also the mother of a 14 year old who is preparing to enter 9th grade, her first year of high school. Please, please allow us the additional time to adequately prepare for our students. We need the opportunity for our staff to unite, organize, and prepare. We desperately want to be together with our staff and students again. However, we are also very concerned that we will have all the precautions in place so we can all be as safe as possible. I want my daughter's teachers to be prepared and ready. As a counselor, I go back on Wednesday. I am fully aware of the social-emotional implications, which is why I believe it is critical we also consider the emotional health of all those involved.</p>
7/20/2020 21:31:57	Susan	Ellsworth	Parent	Overland Park	<p>Our state trends are moving in the wrong direction. Even areas that don't have much spread are likely to see activity soon. Until community spread comes down we cannot even think about putting our community together for onsite learning. Being unified in this decision from the top-down will not only protect our citizens but will also have the nation take notice that Kansas is not messing around, and we expect the entire country to work together to beat back community spread and get the virus under control.</p>

7/20/2020 21:32:00	Patricia	Betzold		Wichita	<p>This should be left up to the school districts, there are many counties in the state that have very few positive cases and it is unfair to hold them back because of other counties that have more cases. Those schools also likely struggle from a funding perspective and keeping them on course would be the best way to go. Not sending kids back to school is also going to widen the gap between wealthier and poorer children. Wealthy people can send their children to private schools, but the poorer community does not have this option. The same principle applies to wealthier families that don't have two working parents, one can stay home and keep a child on track but if both are working the child will have no one to work with them at home. Lastly, this honestly makes no sense, my husband and I both work, we've sent our children to daycare since the shut down started, also to summer camps and they've both played baseball. We've had no issues. I don't understand what the difference is between having a bunch of kids at school together and having a bunch of kids at camp or daycare together. If we keep kids out of school it's going to put the majority of the burden on mothers who already struggle with a gender gap at work most likely. There are already virtual schools in place for children who's parents don't want their kids to attend. But I really need my 2nd grader who struggles with reading to be in school. He needs a better chance to catch up to his peers and he needs to see his friends. Please give the schools and parents the choice. If you want to slow down the spread close the Bars...the majority of cases at this point are coming from younger adults who spend more time socializing.</p>
7/20/2020 21:32:03	Ami	Kenney		Olathe, KS	<p>Please don't make parents rush to make this choice for their children. Schools need time to come up with valid plans, we need time to look at the numbers of vivid cases, parents need time to make the best decisions for their children. Please delay opening of schools for the safety of our children.</p>
7/20/2020 21:32:19	Kimberly	Campbell	Family / parent	Olathe	<p>Districts throughout the state have invested significant time in preparing multiple learning options for families this fall and reviewing the previously distributed KSBOE guidelines. Our own elementary school building principal was one day away from communicating the options and guidelines to us until the governor issued her mandate delaying school last week.</p> <p>Working families, single parent families, families of students who receive services through the school simply MUST have the option to send their students to in-person school this August. If families are receiving an option for virtual learning, the in-person school option for an August start must be offered. Our kids have been out of a structured, proactive learning environment since the first week in March. The compounding issue at stake is truly their education. Teachers already tell us that the first 5-6 weeks of school are largely review. If schools do not start until mid-September, students will not even begin to learn new material until late October. Again, they have been out of a structured learning environment since March!</p> <p>At a minimum, please consider adopting the governor's mandate as guidance. Consider allowing independent public school districts throughout the state to start as late as September 9 with no penalty. Districts who are ready to go can (and should) start as soon as possible. Health and safety are being taken into account when a CHOICE is given to families and to teachers. However, when this choice is taken away or delayed, you are asking families throughout the state to make impossible financial decisions.</p> <p>The governor's September 9 mandate is a unilateral decision disproportionately affecting certain Kansas counties that have not had high case counts and are not experiencing a current increase in cases. Case counts are not the only data point that should be referenced when looking at reopening schools in August. The entire picture, including how COVID affects certain age ranges of public school age children, must be referenced. If you have not seen this thoughtful analysis by a California based epidemiologist, please review:  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/tracy.hoeg/posts/10219475853940261?__tn__=K-R">https://www.facebook.com/tracy.hoeg/posts/10219475853940261?__tn__=K-R</a></p> <p>Please open our schools in August. Please make a commitment to help our kids return to learning. People still have</p>

7/20/2020 21:32:25	Hamie	Waggoner	USD 220	Ashland, Ks	As an RN and a Mom of a junior and a 3rd grader I feel for their emotional well being these kids NEED to be back in school! Three weeks is NOT going to make any difference with spread of the virus but I am worried it will affect these kids after losing the last 9 weeks of school last school year. Also masks for these kids is a WAY BIGGER infection control risk than no mask!! It is hard enough for medical personnel to use them correctly much less a 3rd grader! They will constantly be messing with them or putting on somebody else's mask which directly exposes them to anything and everything the other may or may not have! Thank you for your consideration.
7/20/2020 21:32:32	Ashley	Pineau		Leavenworth	Please vote yes to support the delay. District 1 saw almost triple the new cases from Friday to Monday (12 to 33) this is alarming! We cannot in good faith send our children back into a building when we can't even go to the grocery store without a mask. Please keep our children safe.
7/20/2020 21:32:32	Kari	Semrad	Goddard USD 265	Goddard	I believe masks should be considered for 2nd grade and above, but please move forward with in-person school and fall sports! Consider an opt out if a teacher is high risk, but please give students needed structure to create some level of a new normal. Trust districts to make their own right decisions. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:32:34	Leah	Reilly	Social worker in school	Resides in Kearney, Mo	I believe delaying school in order to allow covid cases to decrease is in the best interest of staff, students, and families. I personally have a 3 month baby at home and am so scared to bring covid home to him. Other staff and students family's also have high risk individuals in their home, or high risk themselves. I do believe students need to be in school, in person, but this needs to occur in a SAFE environment. Schools need time to collect proper sanitation- currently we have been given baby wipes to sanitize- and time to figure out how to safely implement proper protocol to combat COVID. The delay would also give the county time to see if the cases decrease. I do not want to put my life at risk, my babies life at risk, my students lives at risk, or my peers lives at risk because we opened too quickly without the proper safety measures in place.
7/20/2020 21:32:34	Aimee	Reed	Olathe school district pa	Olathe	Please allow students to attend in person school after Labor Day. Not only is a good education a part of their development, but learning social skills with their peers in equally important. Would not be interested in online learning... it was a joke this spring. No accountability. No learning. Lacked that interpersonal attention that an in person teacher can provide. Thanks!
7/20/2020 21:32:35	Laura	Ross	PTO	Gardner	Please do not continue to delay school opening. 23k reported COVID cases in our state (there are likely more that we're not tested/reported) and only 307 deaths. Not worth putting our children's education on hold. I have 5 children KDG, 3rd, 7th, 8th & 10th. They need their friends, sports, dance, activities and most importantly their classes! My high schooler is now depressed because of all of this. She was bawling after Watching the news today.
7/20/2020 21:32:40	Shelby	Burnett	Usd464	Basehor	I feel that school should start Sept. 9 or later due to the rise in cases of Covid19. Within Leavenworth county cases are steadily rising for community contact. Until we get community contact under control schools cannot open safely. For the health of students, staff and additional employees school should take these rise in cases into consideration when planning for the 2020-2021 school year.
7/20/2020 21:32:49	Amber	S	Usd259	Sedgwick	I think it should be delayed. As some of us have kids that aren't healthy at all. Such as auto immune kids, cancer kids. Chronic illness.
7/20/2020 21:32:52	Lynda	Alderman	USD 290. VP Board of	Ottawa, KS	When Governor Kelly announced last week that she was going to sign an executive order to move back the start date for school to after Labor Day one could almost hear a collective sigh of relief from all around the state. This was a wise move on her part. It gives school districts time to adequately plan and train for what type of instruction they choose to deliver when school does start. Please support the governor in this decision.

7/20/2020 21:33:02	Michelle	Newland		Wichita	I was very relieved to hear schools had another month to get things in place. I have two school-age children and I am a teacher. I was very concerned by my district's first plan in which elementary schools go back with no reductions in class sizes and no guarantee students would wear masks. My own girls have not been to a store or to a restaurant since the beginning of March. This is asking them to be in larger groups than they've been in for months. Also, Sedgwick county is also showing a sharp rise in cases and we are almost at capacity for hospitalizations. My students ride buses to school and these buses go to three separate schools. How long till one student on a bus is positive and three schools have to shut down for quarantine? That is a lot of back-and-forth disruption for students if we go in and out of quarantine frequently. I also don't have a sink in my classroom so I'll need a lot of additional supplies. When I closed my classroom for the summer I was asked to give up my surplus of cleaning supplies and hand sanitizers to those that needed it immediately. Now those are hard to come by and I was worried about them being available to me. For me and my family, there was more questions than answers about how we would be kept safe and I felt a clock ticking down till we all had to be back. I was getting very anxious and hearing the governor say that she would be giving us more time to figure things out was an answer to my prayers. Please uphold the delay to give everyone time to figure out specifics.
7/20/2020 21:33:09	Thomas	Mead	My family	Wichita	Delay school opening until cases level out and new cases are on a decline.
7/20/2020 21:33:11	Rebecca	Stanley	Myself	Kansas City	We should not be in school. It is not safe for our students, teachers and staff members. In my opinion, school should be closed until the number of Covid cases is significantly decreased. The governor is making the right call.
7/20/2020 21:33:13	Jean	Johnson		Milford	Please vote to uphold Governor Kelly's Executive Order for schools to delay opening until after Labor Day. The number of positive cases is climbing rapidly in the state and we need to keep our students and staff safe.
7/20/2020 21:33:13	Kelly	Smith	self	Hays	Delaying the opening of school is the right decision! Virus cases in Kansas continue to grow, and we don't know enough about the trajectory to say with certainty it's safe for our kids to be confined together. If our kids stay safe, they have the rest of their lives to catch up on what might fall behind in this year. But losing friends, losing family members, suffering potential long-term health effects - this is the kind of damage that can't be fixed.
7/20/2020 21:33:17	Dawn	Westfahl		Sylvia	I feel like delaying school or going online is perfectly fine. I absolutely disagree with children being required to wear masks. I feel like it would be used more as a toy than protection.
7/20/2020 21:33:20	R	H		Baxter springs	Kids need to go back to school, not only for education Purposes but mental and social purposes. So many of the kids depend on the schools for food and as a safe place.
7/20/2020 21:33:26	Kim	Baldwin	Parent	Valley Center	Delaying now will save lives. Why are we even considering returning now with numbers higher than they were when we left in March? Delay start, then slowly phase back in like we did with businesses opening back up.
7/20/2020 21:33:28	D.	Green	Homeowner	Pratt	Open schools before labor day
7/20/2020 21:33:34	Jennifer	Lightcap		Olathe	The kids need to be in school... the mental risk to these kids severely outweighs the risk of the virus. Life is full of risks and this isn't different. Drugs, crime, suicide and other mental health issues will rise and is way more dangerous than the virus. Safety precautions in place a must including masks, hand washing, health screenings but put the kids back in school.
7/20/2020 21:33:40	Trisha	Parker		Shawnee	Please delay the start of the school year or go with online instruction. With rising cases it is not safe for students (and their families), teachers, and staff to return. Teachers shouldn't have to choose between the jobs and their health.

7/20/2020 21:33:53	Micah	Arnett	Parent	Pittsburg but attend Fro	No easy answers to any of this. I have 6 kids (11th, 8th, 6th, 3rd, 1st, Pre-k). I want schools to be in session and safe. I'm okay with delaying school. I just don't understand why sports. Kids have been conditioning and having open gyms successfully all summer. I think having desks instead of tables. Not sharing supplies. Limiting classroom movement. It can all be done safely. I don't think it is fair for teachers to be responsible for teaching in person and online. Too hard. They would be "on call" at all hours. I do not think our district is equipped to go totally online. It was a great effort last spring but teaching new curriculum and information- I don't think they are ready. Will teachers be in their rooms or teaching from home? All of these things are at school. Policies for when someone rests positive?? I think so much of this could've already been decided. We had since March. We knew the virus wasn't going away. Yes we have active cases in our county but hospital is not overrun or out of beds. It just doesn't make sense to me to be completely remote. With 6 kids and working 2 jobs I will honestly say I have no idea how I will manage it. It's my opinion that schools are essential. Kids need structure. A schedule. Social interaction and learning from a teacher. (I was a PE teacher for 12 years) but it's an overwhelming challenge to be responsible for teaching all 6. Sports. I don't want my daughter to miss more. Her team won first round of state basketball to have or ripped away 10 minutes after we won in overtime. That was a reaction. Not a well thought through decision. There was plenty of room to social distance there. That was not a good call. Then losing the spring softball season when we were returning state champions. I understand sports aren't the end all be all, but they are so important. If it makes sense to switch the fall and spring season let's do it and plan it so these kids have a chance without losing it all again. My daughter is being recruited and needs this. I feel like we pushed back the start date to announce that we won't be starting in person. All the unknowns are the hard part. Parents need time to plan. I have a child on an iep. Actually 2 of them. We all know some kids will not be able to do school. No internet. No supervision. Our kids are at risk when they are not at school. I appreciate all the hard work and hard decisions.
7/20/2020 21:33:56	Amanda	lynch		McFarland	No schools need to open and it needs to be normal. Making students wear masks is only going to be a distraction make the adults wear them. Students are not at risk at all and have been proven that they do not transmit the virus either. There is no reason to keep schools closed or make students wear masks
7/20/2020 21:33:57	Alyse	Skaggs	USD 469	Lansing	I do not feel safe with school operating as normal. Until COVID-19 numbers go down in Kansas and Kansas City, MO, I personally would like school to be online.
7/20/2020 21:34:00	Erika	Toomey	Cair Paravel Latin Scho	Topeka, KS	Our family wants school to start on time in August in person.
7/20/2020 21:34:08	Julie	Whitehead	Bus driver at prairie vie	Lacygne	I believe we should go back to school as scheduled August 13. I also believe if we are taking temps perhaps they should be done as children are getting on the bus, that way if they do have a fever we aren't hauling them to school with the other passengers and they are able to go back home right then. I have no problem taking temps and documenting on my route and keeping others safe. I also don't believe drivers should be wearing masks with buses with no AC. What's going to happen when a driver passes out from the heat/mask and can't breathe properly while transporting the children?
7/20/2020 21:34:08	Annette	Bright	USD 500	Overland Park	There hasn't been enough time to plan what we're going to do. First we need to wait for the powers that be to make a decision so we even know how to plan. I taught 22 kids in my room last year, two with very specific medical needs that would make Covid a likely death sentence for them. I need some assurance that stuffing kids into a poorly ventilated room isn't going to cause any of us in that room to become ill, permanently damaged, or dead, and so far, I haven't heard anything that makes me believe there is a sensible plan in place to keep us safe. We need time and we need a plan, both of which are in short supply. Please vote to delay the opening of schools until we have those things.
7/20/2020 21:34:09	Heather	Hargitt	Quinter public school U	Quinter	I'm very disappointed in the delay of the school year. My county has had 2 cases of Covid-19 both recovered and doing fine. My children's mental and physical health have been severely affected by the shut down of public school. My children missed out on milestones we will never be able to make up. They have missed their friends, their teachers and the structure of a regular school day. Please don't harm our children even further by delaying the start of the school year.
7/20/2020 21:34:17	Diane	Quinn	Teacher	Lenexa	The kids need to be in school both academically and socially. Please open our schools up.
7/20/2020 21:34:22	Denis	Stanley	Myself	Kansas City	School should not be in session. It is unsafe. Our kids should be doing online learning.

7/20/2020 21:34:24	Deann	Atkinson		Kansas City	Please keep the Labor Day School order. We opened up the city too early and opening schools up too early will endanger our children, teachers and other family members.
7/20/2020 21:34:26	Judy	Merfeld	Teachers	Leavenworth	I have a niece that is a teacher in your state. She has an autoimmune disease. Please consider keeping schools closed until it's safe. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:34:29	Nathan	Troyer	Concerned parents and t	Lansing	I am a parent of a student and a teacher in USD 453. I ask that you uphold the Governors EO to delay the opening of school until 9/9/20. The delay in the start will allow for the schools to prepare for the unknown challenges that Lay ahead. Teachers and school administration also need time to prepare. It is all of our hopes that the state of Kansas will start to trend downward and no longer be a hot spot for the virus. Thank you for guidance and putting the safety of all stakeholders First.
7/20/2020 21:34:29	Stacy	Parker		Olathe	We are all for school not starting until after Labor Day!
7/20/2020 21:34:32	Megan	Hoban	Parent	Leawood	Our kids need to go to school. This is not a political game.
7/20/2020 21:34:34	Sue	Clay	Citizen	Wichita	Please do not allow students and teachers to attend regular classes until covid is under control. Meeting virtually is obvious the format you have chosen for your meetings. So do not allow students and teachers any less safety than you are utilizing yourselves. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:34:40	Ashley	Prettyman	Personal	Overland Park	The children need and want to be in class together. Many of them are playing outside together in their neighborhoods or being babysat by the same sitter, together. Many go to church together and wear masks. Many have sleepovers at friends house or go on vacation with a friend. Many go to target with a mask, or for a haircut with a mask. I'm asking you to delay school longer than it's already been out. They can go to school with all wearing masks, or 6 and up, whatever age you choose. Parents are making tough choices and leaving underage kids at home because they have had to return to work. Maybe many people are back at work in society and wearing a mask, I feel the same should be asked of teachers.
7/20/2020 21:34:43	Leslie	Noon		Wichita	The school opening delay until after Labor Day will save lives.
7/20/2020 21:34:45	Lisa	Gray	USD259	Wichita	I agree with the order to delay the opening of schools
7/20/2020 21:34:57	Emily	Bond		Overland Park	Please support Governor Kelly's order to delay school openings in light of the coronavirus pandemic. We take doctors' advice when we're sick with any other disease, and this time should be no different. Physicians are clear in their recommendations to delay the opening of schools to avoid a rise in Covid cases and deaths. Please protect your constituents and the children of Kansas by supporting Governor Kelly's order to delay school openings.
7/20/2020 21:35:00	Chris	Eskam	Usd 102	Cimarron	We need school and sports to start now!
7/20/2020 21:35:03	Carol	Stone	Myself	Columbus	No reason to delay school  These kids need structure and socialization. As for the mask, it is harmful to your health. We have had bad flu seasons and no masks were ever warn. You will have more lung problems if masks are required. Children will not keep their hands off thier face and masks. You are training them to be sheep Follow the leader whether right or wrong. In this case it is wrong
7/20/2020 21:35:13	Nicole	Gawer	Parent and school social	Overland park	Uphold the order. Kids under 10 may be less likely to get /give CoVid but teachers and staff are very at risk. Let the effects of the mask order kick in so numbers are going down before school starts. The most prevalent negative feedback from the spring was that there wasn't quality /continuity in teaching Have staff come back so they can plan prior but with no kids until after Labor Day. That time will allow districts and staff to provide higher quality remote learning when school does start. That time will also allow districts to have better plans for when teachers do get sick. Provide funding so extra staff can be hired to facilitate temperature taking, hand washing, plan and lunch time for teachers when kids do come back to buildings.
7/20/2020 21:35:15	Abbey	Lax	Usd 500	Wyandotte	Students should start late and distance learn aka online learn. I have had covid and know many who have or had it. It spreads easily and a school would be the perfect hotspot.
7/20/2020 21:35:26	Melissa	W	Clearwater Creek Eleme	Olathe	I feel if you're questioning the safety of staff and students in any way then it is better to keep the schools closed until the spread of this awful disease slows and the curve is flattened. Let's keep everyone safe and stay home!

7/20/2020 21:35:33	Laura	Strecker	Holy Cross Elementary	Hutchinson	I support Governor Kelly's decision to postpone the start of school. As teachers we need time to make the adjustments needed to keep students and adults safe. We need time to plan what school will look like and even where the classrooms will be. What does lunch look like? Recess. Arrival dismissal etc. We need time to look at the document KSDE put out last week to properly plan. I want to be back in the classroom and I want my students there with me. However if we don't get this right I am afraid we won't be there for the long haul. Please allow us the time to properly plan and prepare. Nothing is more important than the safety of our students and the adults that work with them. Please know we have been meeting and discussing all of this throughout the summer but no final decisions could be made until we had the KSDE document, (which is 1,000 pages) the plan from our diocese and any other pertinent information. Thank you
7/20/2020 21:35:34	Debbie	Konomos	Myself	Kansas City	Schools should be closed until Covid cases go down. It is not safe.
7/20/2020 21:35:34	Paul	Receniello		Lee Summit	Don't reopen the schools
7/20/2020 21:35:37	Lindi	Cox		Wichita/Goddard Attend	I work in Wichita and have a child in Goddard. I believe the Governor's Order needs to be implemented. Taking a couple of extra weeks to better prepare and for the COVID case numbers to hopefully fall will only help all involved. Students will benefit from a safer and better organized educational experience and teachers/schools/districts will have adequate time to train on new protocols and prepare the classrooms for a year unlike anything we've ever seen.
7/20/2020 21:35:38	Nicholas	Peterson		Abilene	It is very important to get kids back in school as soon as possible. Delaying the start of school will only make kids fall farther behind. Make them wear masks and social distance when possible.
7/20/2020 21:35:41	Gabe	McGuire	Hays High School	Hays	I believe that for this school year that online school should be heavily pushed or even required. Going to school and attempting to social distance would be nearly impossible with the already too small classrooms and hallways.
7/20/2020 21:35:45	Megan	Lewis	N/a	Wichita	Yes! Delay! I was just tested for COVID today and it's scary! I hate to think about how many teachers and students will have to be tested, not to mention, show up positive. I am a single parent but WILL figure it out. I'd rather figure it out then my children get sick!
7/20/2020 21:35:45	Alicia	Misse	Parent	Olathe	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order 58 to delay the opening of school so school districts can prepare for the safe arrival of students
7/20/2020 21:35:51	Emily	Coleman	Myself	Springhill	Open up schools on time, no restrictions
7/20/2020 21:35:57	Shelby	Lewis	Teachers	Kansas City, KS	Please uphold the executive order to delay the opening of schools until September 9th. Teacher and student lives depend on a well-thought-out, comprehensive, and above all, SAFE plan to resume the school year. If it was not safe for us to be in-person in March, it is not safe for us now.
7/20/2020 21:35:58	Leah	Finn	Shawnee Mission School	Overland Park	Children need to be IN school and IN person learning! Please consider starting August 17th for the emotional, mental and social well being of our kids of all ages!!!
7/20/2020 21:36:03	Kathy	Goetsch	USD475	Junction City	I am a 2nd grade teacher and I love my job and even more than that, I love the students and adults that I get to interact with on a daily basis. With that being said, I believe that it is NOT safe to bring students and adults back into a school. I understand that parents need to go back to work and they want their kiddos to get the socialization they absolutely need, but what they don't understand is that coming back in the middle of a pandemic that is getting worse not better, will not result in the socialization they think will happen. Instead the children will be kept 6 feet away from each other and their heartbroken teachers who can't tie their shoe for them or hug them when their feelings are hurt. I love my students and cannot wait to be able to teach them again and be able to do things the way they should be done, but now is not that time. Thank you for thinking about all of the teachers and students and putting their safety first and postponing the opening of schools until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 21:36:04	Meagan	Emerick	My children	Olathe	Please vote for our children to return to school at the previously scheduled time, without masks, and in the classroom. This is ridiculous. The number from Johnson County do not support what the governor has chosen to do, school age children are not getting Covid at a high rate, and we have no deaths in children. Open our schools! Our children need their normal education immediately!
7/20/2020 21:36:07	Kristi	Jacobs		Cherryvale	I agree with the governor 100%. I feel as though the lives of our students, teachers, and staff should be the upmost concern. The school is not separate from the community, the decisions made will impact the community outside the school grounds. I do understand there are single working parents, I used to be one, there are ways to work out of the home now. I think we need to modify the school year for everyone's safety.
7/20/2020 21:36:11	Chris	Dixon		Tribune	Open the schools up! Let parents and teachers make choices.

7/20/2020 21:36:17	Dana	Schamberger	Parent	Leawood	Please uphold the governor's mandate to delay the school start in KS. I live in Johnson County and am very worried about my kids starting in a few weeks. It is not safe with the rise in cases we have right now. Please don't rush and risk the safety of the students and teachers. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:36:24	Cathy	VanDeventer	Retired teacher and parent	Wichita ks	Numbers are going up in Sedgwick county about 1,000 a week. Teachers students and teachers families deserve to fill safe. Your job is to keep them safe. We only get one shot at this. Please do it right PLEASE
7/20/2020 21:36:34	Ruthanne	Arace	KCKPS	Kansas City	I would love to start the year as normal but there is no safe way to make this happen. My classroom is not big enough to separate 20+ students all day. I teach first grade and I can even begin how to keep them wearing masks and staying apart from their friends.  As for washing hands every hour that is an impossible feat. At my school we have five classrooms sharing two bathrooms with six sinks. While trying to do this with social distancing i can't even imagine how that would work.  Please take these things into consideration when you make your decision. Please protect the students and school employees of Kansas because there is no way to be in school safely and follow the CDC guidelines.
7/20/2020 21:36:40	Jennifer	Forbes	Parent and teacher in US	Garfield	As a parent, I am afraid to allow my 7 and 9 year old to attend school in person. As a teacher, I am afraid to go back to school. Please do not have us start school before Labor Day. My mother and mother in law are both immunocompromised. My elderly mother will be living with us throughout the fall and winter. I am very concerned about my children or myself bringing COVID home to her. I also am concerned, after seeing the recent Children's Mercy's COVID webinar, that half of children with COVID do not have a cough or a fever. How will we teachers know/suspect and refer to the school nurse which children may be ill, if they can have COVID without a cough or fever? Maybe there are lots more children with it, but they are just not being tested, because they don't seem to have any symptoms.
7/20/2020 21:36:41	Missy	Leavitt	my kids	colby	Homeschooling as long as masks are mandated
7/20/2020 21:36:51	Lisa	Bennett	Usd 210	Hugoton	I don't think that this executive order is a one size fit all. Our town and school size is small therefore should be able to mandate it with local government.
7/20/2020 21:36:58	Jeremy	McGuire		Hays	This will be better for the students and staff. That's what it should be about, not politics. I fully support the delayed start of school.
7/20/2020 21:37:10	L. B.	Fogt	Olathe North- Teacher/	Overland Park	It is crystal clear we cannot return to school at all this semester. Possibly not this spring. There are kids that NEED to be in school (for special resources or because they do not have food/ a safe place to be). We should focus on those kids. As a teacher, I think we could possibly operate safely at 25%. Not calling the semester now is wasting time figuring out how we can accomplish teaching while minimizing disparities between students. I'm sure this is not the popular choice because it will cause a great deal of people a great deal of inconvenience. But it's the right thing to do. We're all suffering through this. We're going to have to work as a team, go above and beyond, and do more than was previously expected of us. Drastic changes need to happen to make this remotely successful. I don't plan on sending my 3 elementary kids to school. I hope I don't have to return if I can teach remotely or in my classroom without students present. We don't know the long term affects if this disease. We know it scars lung tissue and things like smoking that scar lung tissue cause lung cancer. In-person school is not a risk I'm willing to take because schools are too crowded and there is not a safe plan to make that work. Send kids back that need to be there. Everyone else should be home. WE NEED TO GET CREATIVE NOW... not August or September.
7/20/2020 21:37:18	Amy	Crumrine	Andover Middle School	Andover	Please open school as scheduled August 18th
7/20/2020 21:37:19	Terri	Lemos		Wichita	I ask you to think of the safety of the staff and students at all schools. Maintaining the order is of the utmost importance to allow districts to prepare for a safe start to school. It will also give districts time to share with everyone what they are doing to keep people safe. This will lower the anxiety of families and educators allowing for a more successful learning experience. As leaders, please take a stand and keep everyone safe.
7/20/2020 21:37:24	Angie	Konda		Colwich, KS	I think we need to send our kids back to school while taking safety precautions as soon as possible. Please overturn Gov. Kelly's executive order and allow schools to reopen when they were originally scheduled.
7/20/2020 21:37:36	Alyssa	Gerrity	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	Please open our schools on time. Our kids need to be in school.
7/20/2020 21:37:46	Streif	Jenifer	USD 263	Mulvane	Comment removed due to profanity



7/20/2020 21:37:50	Jennifer	Berutti		Overland Park	I am a parent of school-age children, and a public school teacher in Kansas. I want to be with my students at school and my children want to learn with their friends. HOWEVER, until we can do so in a way that protects the health and safety of ALL, in-person school isn't the best option. Please allow the school districts of Kansas time to make proper preparations for a safe return to learning for ALL. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:37:54	Anthony	Swartz		Overland Park	The kids should be back in school without masks. The data is clear that the death rate declining. The risk to teachers and students is so minimal. You are much more likely to get killed driving to school than by the virus.
7/20/2020 21:38:01	Kristina	Hill		Salina	it's unreasonable to expect a 6yr old to wear a mask for 8 hours without it getting touched, food on it, lost, dirty, played with etc.
7/20/2020 21:38:03	Katie	Mangelsdorf	My family	Lenexa	Please listen to Governor Kelly. She is using data and science to address this crisis. This is a public health issue, not a political issue. If the Board is meeting virtually due to Covid 19, then why would they vote to put children back in classrooms? K-12 needs to stay virtual until this crisis is addressed appropriately and there have been no new cases for 14 days. It is much more dangerous now than it was in Spring. Keep our kids home, keep our teachers and staff safe.
7/20/2020 21:38:08	Brooke	Buchanan-Jackson		Overland Park	Why would you open schools now when this pandemic is out of control? I fear for my child! Then there are the teachers, bus drivers, custodial, all staff. It's not going to do any harm to delay to see where we are with the pandemic. It's insanity to start now. My child is afraid to go to school because of everything. This isn't about politics, it about life and death. You go back now, it's death for so many. Please choose the lives of all involved with school.
7/20/2020 21:38:12	Danielle	Lutz	USD 349	Stafford	I'm fine with delaying the school year
7/20/2020 21:38:15	Stacy	Ahlich	Blue valley parent	Overland park	Please support the Governor's delay of the start of school. There are too many unknowns with this disease and we can not play Russian Roulette with our kids, teachers, parents. Several companies in the area have delayed employees returning until January and these are adults who can social distance. My Son's school has tables, you can't social distance with those. You can't control your bubble as every expert says we should when you put a bunch of kids in a school. Every doctor says no mass gatherings, that is school. It is not safe. I want my two kids at school, but only when cases are declining. That is what Europe did. We should have all virtual in the counties with rising cases. We closed schools and kids were kept home, we can't know how/if they can spread, they have been home and unexposed. Don't make us parents make an impossible decision. Do the right thing, delay the start of school and when September 9th comes if cases are not going down have everyone do virtual school. That is the only safe option.
7/20/2020 21:38:16	Brian	Page	Parents	Olathe	I support waiting until after Labor Day to get school started. I also feel very passionate that we MUST start then and that all extra curricular activities get started with safety procedures that health professionals feel are necessary. Our kids need to get back to school, their activities, their sports, their friends and their teachers.
7/20/2020 21:38:19	Jill	Kline		Topeka, Kansas.	Keep our kids safe and protected. Keep schools closed until after Labor Day, and the virus numbers start dropping.
7/20/2020 21:38:28	Jennifer	Smith		Kingman ks usd 331	I feel it should be virtual classes again. My kids and I are asthmatic. Myself being severe. This covid 19 and the unknown scares me. I can't risk my life or my children's life. My children would be devastated if they brought it home, they would blame themselves if it killed me. I would feel the same if sending them to school, they get sick and something happens to them. I couldnt live with myself.
7/20/2020 21:38:30	Stacy	Dean	Mill Valley high school	Shawnee	Hello! The upcoming year is my daughter's senior year. I would like the district to do everything possible to make it a safe and positive experience. I think that delaying the start of school will help blunt the spread of the virus as well as give the schools more time to prepare. Also, I work in healthcare. I think the opening can be successful if proper precautions are taken. You might think about partnering with a local hospital for recommendations. Thanks!
7/20/2020 21:38:38	Angela	Wilcox		Parker	From a parent standpoint, it would be nice to start school sometime in August so the kids can get back into school and get started in case there's another shutdown. As a teacher, it would be nice to start school after Labor Day or even the end of August so we can learn how to teach in the middle of a pandemic, get prepared for remote learning if it comes to that, and have some extra time to plan and prepare for students. I am so conflicted but I know our KSBE will make the best decision and I want to say thank you for looking out for teachers, students, and Kansas Education.

7/20/2020 21:38:38	Sarah	Westbury		Wichita	Please, please, please approve the Governor's executive order. As a teacher in an extremely low ses school, I can't help but wonder: what if the reason students/children have not been contracting this virus is because we have mandated their social distancing via school shutdown?If you know anything at all about an elementary classroom, you know that mandatory masks and/or social distancing are simply impossible. We are grossly understaffed and custodians are few and far between when they decide to show up. Therefore the mandatory sanitation that is supposed to take place, well forgive me if I don't believe it will happen. I have no evidence to show otherwise. I'm lucky if my trash is emptied every day. The floors are never swept and the bathrooms are atrocious. Ultimately, we will never know if we overreacted, but we will absolutely know if we did not react appropriately. No child or teacher should lose their life because the community is worried about the economy. For a profession that creates all other professions, we sure are not valued. Give our districts time to fully gather the ppe needed. 3 weeks may not even be enough but it's far better than starting im August. Please, approve the order!!
7/20/2020 21:38:47	Andrew	Lindeman		Topeka	It is unfortunate to see that the covid "pandemic" has been subjected to such political maneuvering as evidenced today by Governor Kelly's orders. For someone who has proclaimed education to be a top priority (and lied about school finances from a campaign promise) it is disheartening to see that education is being taken away from young minds. Online learning is NOT an option. I recognize this order does not prompt online learning - yet. Delaying the start of school does not provide additional time to understand the impacts of this virus on our kids, teachers and staff. Clearly the "experts" cannot agree and do not have the ability to isolate and study cases of the virus in a controlled environment. It could be years before we know the specifics of the virus and how it impacts kids. At this point the virus appears to be less deadly than the seasonal flu and schools do not typically shut down for that and IF that happens the decisions are made at a local level. If Gardner has 25% of their kids out for school it wouldn't make sense for Colby to close. Delaying school for 3 weeks is not a decision to be made at the state level, period.
7/20/2020 21:38:49	Margaret	Purdue	USD 489	HAYS	I am in favor of the Executive Order 20-58 and delaying the school year. I am advocating for the delay of the start of the school year for a few reasons. 1. I believe this will give administration time to make the best possible decision for their communities while keeping students and teachers safe. 2. I believe this will give communities time to see how the virus is progressing, and if there are changes that need to be made to how school runs this year. 3. This will personally provide me with some peace of mind knowing that I will have more time to prepare for the decision that is made on what school will look like this year. 4. Most pressing on my mind, I am 28 weeks pregnant. My pregnancy shouldn't be threatened by a completely preventable escalation of occupational risk. The precedent has been set for moving school both by date and to a virtual mode, and Kansas educators are more than capable of the added challenges that may present themselves. By delaying the beginning of the year, the most informed decision can be made not only for the health of my current student, but for the health of my unborn child and family.
7/20/2020 21:38:52	Jonann	Ellner	Educators	Olathe	Please honor Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of Schools. Schools are not prepared.
7/20/2020 21:38:53	Amy	Hunter		Leawood	Please open the schools. Our kids need to get back in the schools and they don't need to be going late in June if we start later. We need to get back on a normal schedule
7/20/2020 21:38:54	Shannon	Olson	USD 259 - teacher. USD	Newton	Please follow Gov. Kelly's executive order and approve the delay. Please also provide a community spread matrix that lets districts know when they need to hold school virtually and when we can return to in-person classes based on the community spread in their county AND the availability of testing with rapid turnaround for results. None of the masking and distancing will prevent COVID from tearing through our schools if there is rampant community spread. Thank you for your consideration.

7/20/2020 21:39:03	Amy	Hamilton	Parent	Leawood	We have had ample time to prepare for both online or in person learning. Our kids can safely go to school. If you use actual science based data to make your decisions you would see that. We have plenty of parents that allow their children to go to school every year unvaccinated against the flu, yet they have no issues sending them to school. The seasonal flu still has a greater mortality. We need our kids to go to school. This political mess has got to stop. This is about educating our kids! Let's be better than this! This is not a risk to our children. Let's go!
7/20/2020 21:39:30	Kathy	Stenzel	My family	Hays KS	Please operate schools as normal. Kids need the normalcy in their lives. Children cannot be left at home alone socially isolated. The months they have been are already affecting them. Please give them something to look forward to. Don't make the cure worse than the problem. Start school as usual.
7/20/2020 21:39:31	Kim	Hanrahan	Saint Thomas Aquinas	Overland Park	Please let kids attend school with Covid precautions in place
7/20/2020 21:39:54	Antonio	Manley	Lawrence	Lawrence	Are you personally willing to visit a classroom of young children the first week of school or substitute teach for all the teachers who will quit? Teachers can't teach from the grave. I listen to doctors and science, both say it's not safe! Please don't make a deadly mistake you won't be able to fix.
7/20/2020 21:39:56	Ashley	Dumler	Elementary Education T	Wakefield	Dear KSBE, I am extremely concerned about the governor's orders today. She has obviously never been a kindergarten teacher. Can you imagine Kindergarteners wearing masks 7 hours a day? The filth? The chewing on them? The sheer germs from trying to get them to wear them after they've chewed on them? I don't know what can be done about this mandate but I beg you to reconsider. If I have to wear a mask all day, I will reluctantly do so, but I will do it. My kiddos do not need to do this and I truly believe the additional germs will truly outweigh the benefit to wearing a mask. As an educator and a parent, I am highly against keeping our schools closed till Labor Day. I truly believe our children need the stability of school and the mental effects will most definitely outweigh the virus effects. Please consider the toll this is taking on families. Families, especially in this area, are working. They're essential. They need school to be essential too. Our children are literally having their childhood removed from them. My son will never be 7 again and he's essentially lost the entire year of being 7. How long do we continue to take away their childhood? There are many dangers in the world that have a much higher fatality rate and we take those risks daily. As a teacher and a parent, I'm willing to look at the data and assume the risk. I believe others are too. Please consider this when casting your vote.
7/20/2020 21:40:05	Jerri	Loewer		Burden, KS	The local school districts are the only ones that can truly decide when they are ready to reopen. (Not some magical date chosen by the governor. ) If the local school district makes the determination that they have the protocols and supplies in place, they should be allowed to open at that time. If they are ready, what does delaying the opening actually accomplish?
7/20/2020 21:40:08	Kellen	Levien		Olathe	Comment removed due to profanity
7/20/2020 21:40:18	Nicole	Espinosa	Usd 259	Valley Center	With the increase in cases in the state of Kansas, it is in the best interest to protect our children and staff from spreading and contracting the COVID 19 virus. Please consider delaying in person school sessions and a very slow and gradual phase in process to keep everyone safe. With so many students and staff members that have underlying health issues, it is in the best interest to delay in person school until the cases have shown a steady rate of decreasing numbers.
7/20/2020 21:40:19	Heidi	Timmons	Bonner Springs Edwards	Bonner Springs	I support Governor Kelly's EO to delay the start of school until after Labor Day and wholeheartedly encourage our state BOE to support it as well. This is a health and safety issue, not a political issue. As a parent and teacher, we are faced with the decision to have me return to work to be exposed to 350+ students each week (elementary music), have our kids return to middle school and elementary school or to have me quit my beloved teaching job to keep my kids home to online school. A two week delay does not solve all of the tremendous health and safety concerns we are faced with, but it does give our state a chance to bring our number of cases down by social distancing and masking and it gives our districts additional time to train on the Navigating Change documents and develop plans to implement current health and safety measures. Please consider supporting this delay to allow our staff, students, and families a chance to get school off to the safest start we can. Thank you!

7/20/2020 21:40:20	Gretchen	Downey	My household	Overland Park	<p>Please take the time the Governor has delayed to listen to the parents and teachers who are extremely concerned for their child's safety as well as the staff with in the school district. There needs to be a solid plan. There needs to be proper protective gear for both students and teachers. If it makes more sense to do remote learning with reduced class sizes for those parents who feel comfortable it seems doable. There is no reason to put the health and well being of district staff as well as student health in jeopardy. Unfortunately, the current environment has allowed for people to disregard the advice of health professionals and the CDC. I irk these irresponsible actions are case numbers have us all in the position to make a potentially life threatening or altering decision. Our kids have been the most sheltered from this virus and unfortunately just because they get it and recover does not mean there will not be lasting damage to their health.</p> <p>Please take the time to make an educated, health conscious decision. It may not be the popular one but please make it the right one.</p>
7/20/2020 21:40:30	Megan	Beckley		Abilene	<p>Please wait to open schools so it gives them more time to plan and give proper training to teachers and staff with all the safety and new guidelines they will need to implement.</p>
7/20/2020 21:40:31	Spencer	McGlothlin		Cherryvale/Coffeyville	<p>I think they should push the school back to past labor day but also forgive the hours needed. Without forgiving the hours teachers really can't prepare and get paid because of existing contracts with schools.</p>
7/20/2020 21:40:31	Nicole	Sears		Shawnee	<p>You have had since March to figure out options for the school year, and consult with online schools to figure out how to do online learning well. (Not like it was last semester.) If you feel it's unsafe to return to school in person, then start online school until you feel it's safe. Delaying school solves nothing and helps no one. Children really need to be back in the classroom ASAP. Kids want it. The work force relies on it.</p>
7/20/2020 21:40:44	Michele	Berens		Tampa	<p>I teach second grade at Hillsboro Elementary School and I fully support Governor Kelly's recommendation to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. This would give our staff time to formulate plans not only for the logistics of students returning to our buildings, but also for teaching virtually if needed. We realize virtual learning will look much different than this spring, so time to collaborate with our peers is critical. I urge you to uphold the Governor's E. O. 20-58 to delay the start of school. Thank you!</p>
7/20/2020 21:40:48	Kiley	Groom	Wichita Public Schools	Leon	<p>Please consider delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. As a teacher entering my 16th year of teaching, so many changes is simply overwhelming and the extra time to get the health of our city in better control while having time to digest and plan for whatever the coming months may bring us could be invaluable. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
7/20/2020 21:41:05	Katie	S	Blue Valley	Overland Park	<p>Do NOT mandate masks for elementary students &amp; do NOT delay the start of the school year.</p>
7/20/2020 21:41:11	Emily	Davies		Hiawatha	<p>I support the delay in opening schools. I think this extra time will be crucial for school districts to effectively implement the mandates of today's executive order. I believe it will also give parents more time to prepare for whatever changes their school district may have in terms of schedule.</p> <p>Our superintendent said last week that our district does not yet have plans for bussing or good service. It seems to me that districts have a lot to figure out, and to train their staff on. Extra time will allow these details to be decided so that once kids are back in school, we can avoid outbreaks and hopefully keep schools open.</p>
7/20/2020 21:41:11	Julie	Goetz		Salina	<p>I would like school to start as originally scheduled in the middle of August. If wait until Labor Day, kids will be out of school for 6 consecutive months! My children are ready and wanting school and sports to begin as originally planned in mid-August. Being back at school is critical for their brain development, social development AND physical well being by participating in sports. I believe school districts are, or will be by mid-August, ready to have classes resume. They've been putting together plans for weeks of various scenarios to open back up and provide education to students. Offering students/parents the choice of online or in-person allows parents to make the decision they believe to be in the best unrest of their children and family, but education and extracurricular activities NEED to begin mid- August.</p>
7/20/2020 21:41:16	Kristina	Burton	USD 500	Kansas City	<p>Please delay school until after Labor Day so numbers can go down and teachers can have more time to mentally and emotionally prepare</p>
7/20/2020 21:41:24	Jennifer	Hertel		Shawnee	<p>The virus cases are still on the rise. Protect teachers and students with online learning. Not allowing those who chose to learn online if allowed, to be in extracurricular activities promotes people to rush to school instead of being careful and enjoying an activity with less people or less exposure time</p>

7/20/2020 21:41:28	Deyna	Smith	Teacher USD 353 / Pare	Derby	Delaying school until after Labor Day allows schools and teachers to make efficient plans to move forward into the 2020-2021 school year. Guidance has just been given from the state in the last few days and the local districts and BOE need to have time to put these suggestions into a workable plan to fit the needs of their community and students.
7/20/2020 21:41:29	Jen	Treaster		Hutchinson	Start school as planned, wear masks, social distance students. This is going to be around long term until a vaccine is created & this, along with peoples lives will continue to be pushed back over & over.
7/20/2020 21:41:32	Melanie	Pohlenz		3025 SW Mulvane	No to late start
7/20/2020 21:41:36	Benjamin	Forte	Myself a concerned citiz	Wichita	I'm highly appreciative that the school year has been delayed, because putting kids back into the classroom will increase the spread of COVID-19 & put the well being of every family & Teacher's loved ones at risk by being back in the classroom
7/20/2020 21:41:39	Ashley	Bennett	USD 232 Mill Valley Hi	Shawnee	Uphold the mandate to delay.
7/20/2020 21:41:47	Misti	Grady	Parent if 3 children in O	Olathe	Do not open schools before Labor Day. Also, I'm fine if they are all virtual this year. We don't need more COVID cases from schools opening up. I want to keep my kids home and safe.
7/20/2020 21:41:51	Sharon	Bertolio	Southeast Kansas Educa	Pittsburg	Please uphold Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school. School staff and students deserve to be safe. The delay will allow schools to develop effective plans to address the steps needed to maintain all of the necessary precautions as well as to plan for the best way to ensure uninterrupted education should another school closure be required. The delay can easily be made up with a slight adjustment of the length of the school day. As an educator, the first thing I learned is that we must be flexible. We must remember that education is a fluid process and it's not helpful to maintain the rigid thought that we must start in August because we always start in August. If we start later and nothing bad happens, what harm has been done? None. If we start early and we're wrong, it's too late.
7/20/2020 21:41:53	Chris	Mann	Self	Lawrence	Follow Governor's Orders
7/20/2020 21:41:56	Amber	Kling		Olathe	Kids need to get back to school! Parents need to work, kids need structure, and socialization! Delaying the start of school will be a huge detriment to our children and their future! The negatives associated with going back to school do not outweigh the negatives parents will face trying to teach their children at home. Parents could lose their jobs trying to come up with alternative care for their children waiting for school to start. I would rather see my kids wear masks daily then continue to delay their education, their sports, and their friendships. COVID has taken far too much from this country. Do not let it take our children's education!
7/20/2020 21:42:01	Abby	Younts	USD 262- Valley Center	Valley Center	It is not safe to open schools right now. PLEASE consider the health and safety of not only the kids, but the TEACHERS AND STAFF that will be with them for 7 hours a day 5 days a week. I want more than anything to go back to my classroom, but not if it means leaving my husband and widower and my children without a mom. Or if I were to be an asymptomatic carrier and bring Covid home to my family or my immune compromised parents. It's not safe and the responsible thing to do is DELAY!
7/20/2020 21:42:15	Crystal	Drake	Myself	Milton, Ks	I'd rather know for sure my children are safe. Rather than send them to school too early and not give the school board enough time to be certain all kids and teachers are safe.
7/20/2020 21:42:17	Camille	Leonard		Iola	I feel that schools need to re-open. Children need to be in the classroom. Remote learning is not a reasonable expectation for parents or students, especially those working parents. Kids can't be expected to receive the education they deserve sitting in front of a computer 7 hours/day. They need the interaction with their teachers and peers for their mental and social well-being. Children also need to be able to participate in extra-curricular activities.
7/20/2020 21:42:19	Shellie	Ellis	My family	Leawood	Please uphold the executive order. Besides creating unnecessary additional chaos in reversing the order, delaying school start is a prudent thing to do. Despite 3+ months to prepare, school districts have not adequately planned nor notified parents of plans to protect the public or meet children's needs. Peer school districts across the country have identified ways to depopulate buildings and meet educational requirements, while prioritizing social emotional needs. Kansas has stuck its head in the sand. Please use this reprieve to retain the only positive thing left about Kansas.

7/20/2020 21:42:20	Jessica	Pratt		Overland Park	Do not delay school. Our children have already missed out on so much valuable education and socialization. The numbers are not going to change (unless perhaps someone actually takes a look at how they arrive at these numbers), so let those of us that feel safe sending our children to school, send them back. If parents want to keep their kids home, then let them. Please do not delay this any longer, it's just an excuse to force all of our kids online. I have 3 elementary school kids and a preschooler, both my husband and I work full time, and I know I am not alone in this situation. How do you expect kids to learn at home when there is no one there to teach them? Kids need to get back to the real world, they need to go back to physical school. Delaying until after Labor Day, will turn into delaying until after Halloween , then thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years, where does it end? Our kids are already going to be behind states that never closed , do we want them further behind? NO! Also I don't know if the mask issue is up for debate, but you cannot expect teachers to be mask police, children to wear them 8 hours a day. What about kids with glasses, or asthma, or speech issues, soft spoken kids, hard of hearing? They will all fall behind as a byproduct because so many of their needs will be ignored "for safety". Let children's immune systems do what God designed them to do! Who knows maybe children being in school is the key to herd immunity. Please vote this down and tell Gov Kelly that she does not hold unilateral power, show her that you are educators and know what is better for Kansas children. Plus Kansas is a vastly different population across the state , your telling me your going to allow her to treat children in Coffeyville the same as kids in Shawnee Mission or Blue Valley? That's obserd! Please vote no and send our kids back to school as scheduled
7/20/2020 21:42:36	Diana	phillips	320	Pottawatomic	Please allow districts the time to adequately prepare to keep everyone safe. Delay the start of school until after Labor Day. Admin teams are working tirelessly to work out all the details to allow face to face, remote learning and a hybrid model. It is a challenging time and this should not be a political issue. We want schools open, we just want time to prepare properly for this new method of instruction while we keep everyone safe. Thank you. I am a current educator of almost 18 years as well as a parent of both a middle school student and high school student.
7/20/2020 21:42:50	Angela	Bunger	USD 383	Manhattan, KS	I am asking you to please uphold the governors decision for schools in Kansas not to start until after Labor Day. It is imperative for educators to have the time needed to train and prepare to be effective both in an in person, virtual or hybrid setting. It is also imperative that we give our school districts time to put the proper Safety protocols in place as mandated by Gov Kelly. As an educator and a parent of two school-age children, I want nothing more than to be back at school with my students and for my children to be back in their activities. However, I do not believe risking my life or the life or my fellow educators and staff should take a back seat for our desire to return to normal. Now more than ever, our health and safety should take a priority not just for schools, but for our community. Please chose to uphold Gov Kelly's mandate and not turn this back on districts as you are putting school boards in an awful position. As an elected official in a time of great uncertainty, we look to this board not to take the easy way out, but to stand behind our governor. In doing so, you allow districts to set plans in motion to move forward. If you pass the buck, the waiting game continues for teachers with uncertainty, anxiety and feeling that our lives meant so little to you, as educators would then wait for local board decisions.  Governor Kelly has proved herself once again as a strong leader for our state and made the difficult decision by allowing school staff this time to prepare and also to better reflect on the safety of our community. So many times in education, we are not seen as professionals. Our budgets are cut, we are asked to do more with less, and leaders at the national level continue to show their lack of support for public education in their decisions. Please show educators in our state you value our need to plan and prepare in these unprecedented times and most of all, that you value our health and safety.  Thank you for being an advocate for us and upholding the decision that Governor Kelly has made to protect educators, students, and our communities in Kansas.  I will be watching your upcoming meeting with great interest. I am certain that if it is unsafe for this board to meet in person, then surely you will also extend that same level of concern and safety to the public educators and students across KS and uphold Gov Kelly's decision.

7/20/2020 21:42:57	Brooke	Gibson		Shawnee	Please support opening schools after Labor Day. My two kids are suffering emotionally. Online school was not productive and led to increased stress for both my children and myself. My kids have two parents who work full time. We cannot in any way be an effective full time teacher as well. I am a pediatric nurse. The American Academy of Pediatrics support kids going back to school. Kids have not shown to be huge vectors as they are with influenza. I am in full agreeable with schools from the Missouri side who have provided families with a choice. Online or in person school. I think this is reasonable and gives each family a measure of voice in the matter.
7/20/2020 21:43:00	Molly	Mosher	USD 475	Chapman	I appreciate schools starting later - after Labor Day. As a low incidence special education teacher - my students' families need to have as much time as possible to determine if in building classes are best for them this year. Rushing into coming back into the building is a very risky thing to do for students and teas here!
7/20/2020 21:43:14	Susan	MINICH	kckps	kansas city	My children are terrified to return to school in person at this time. They have a hard time keeping masks on long enough to grocery shopping or even a doctors appointment. My 6 year old will constantly say mom i can't breath. I am an educator for special needs. These students are very vulnerable and fragile. They can't keep masks on either. I believe online learning should be informed until there is atleast 2 weeks of no new cases. Just allowing athletics in the last few weeks, there have been several cases among students. Passing periods will not be able to obey social distancing...have you been in a high school lately? Please keep in mind not only the children but family and staff as well. I live with my sister who has no immune system in orser to take care of her toom we are risking many lives. Please think of safety first!
7/20/2020 21:43:19	Alyson	Voth	Parent	Cheney	Please allow kids to start school in classrooms according to their normal start dates per their district. The CDC has recommended all students return to school. Let the districts make accommodations to allow kids to succeed. The state of Kansas has flattened the curve!
7/20/2020 21:43:20	Johanna	Sorenson	Catholic grade school/ a	Leawood	Start school ON TIME!! Do what is right! Life has to move forward. Children are panicked and restless. They need stability! Take control of this. A child's mental stability and happiness is so important Right now! Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:43:26	Amy	Edmondson		Overland Paek	please approve the delay of in person classes for the state of KS.
7/20/2020 21:43:35	Mendi	Sommerla	Children in Shawnee Mi	Overland Park	I want the school year delayed to ensure that schools have a chance to get supplies, and a way to support children through virtual learning. The cases in Johnson County are on the rise, again. The number being high would only keep going up because kids are in school.  The district hasn't given us any details of how they will deal with Covid-19 being in a school or classroom, or how they plan on supporting special needs kids virtually.  How will you control parents sending their kids to school with all the symptoms of COVID-19 and not having a fever? How will prevent kids from taking their masks off throughout the day? How will teachers teach virtually for those that have special needs? Once this informs is provided to us, I would feel more comfortable with my kids attending in person classes.  My kids hate wearing masks and I can't imagine them wearing them for 8 hours straight.
7/20/2020 21:43:36	Niccole	Jasper	Parent of student and a t	Olathe	I believe we need to reopen school in phases, offering virtual school until October, then offering a hybrid school where parents can choose to send their children or continue virtually, then a return to school after the first of the year for everyone.

					As a nurse who has been working throughout the pandemic I am fully aware of how potentially dangerous this virus can be. With that being said, I do think that schools, teachers, and staff can work together and formulate plans on how to keep our children safe. Delaying the start of school to begin after a holiday weekend makes no sense from an infection control/prevention stand point. Our state has proven time and time that people will have mass gatherings on holiday weekends. I would rather see us start school "on time" and put measures in place to prevent/slow the spread of this virus. Honestly, I fear that if we wait to start until after Labor Day weekend, the governor will be standing in front of the podium announcing yet another delay due to being aware of mass gatherings on that weekend. If we are having classes within school buildings, the delay makes no sense. While I appreciate that it may give teachers more time to prepare for the new guidelines, all the teachers I know can put together wonderful plans in no time. That's part of their magic. Teachers are unsung heroes who are capable of so much more than they're credited for. Put some safety measures in place and get these kids in class! Thank you all for taking the time to hear the voices of Kansans.
7/20/2020 21:43:37	Darcy	Moody		Pomona	
7/20/2020 21:43:38	Hanna	Townley	USD 298	Lincoln	I feel that delaying school will not help anything, but will hold Covid around longer which will delay school even longer.
7/20/2020 21:43:39	Rochelle	Kohlmeier		Garnett	Please delay the opening of schools until after Labor Day. Allow the schools to develop plans that will allow time to prepare, plan and train for all of the new factors we will be facing.
7/20/2020 21:43:40	Madelaine	Harvey		Wichita, Kansas	Please delay school. I would not be opposed to having online class work for at least the first nine weeks
7/20/2020 21:43:59	Angie	Kemmerer	Self	Fort Scott	This is a very difficult time to be in education. As a teacher, I miss my students. As a parent with an 8th grader and an 11th grader in public schools I worry about our ability to keep them and all their loved ones safe. They want to be back in school. They want to see their friends. They want a sense of normalcy. But we have often talked about the differences between wants and needs. We need a safe plan for school reentry. We need alternative learning options until everyone can be safe. We need to do the best we can with what we know. Needs have to come before wants.
7/20/2020 21:44:03	Breckan	Shrimplin		Garden City	This shouldn't even be a question. We are accumulating cases much more rapidly than we were when schools were closed in March. People are still reluctant to carry out the proven mitigation strategies, we have no clue what the long term effects will be on those who contract this disease, let alone how many children will die as a result of returning to school before we have proven treatments or vaccines. Please make these decisions based on science and best practices, not politics.
7/20/2020 21:44:03	amber	garrett		Shawnee	Elementary school students need to be IN schools! they do not learn from online classes. they do not need to spend MORE time in front of screens. Working parents cannot provide the oversight young children need during the day and oversee their virtual education. I will enroll my students in a private center or daycare that offers elementary education as they are starting to do because my child doesn't learn from strangers they've never met before and putting off the start of school after many have been out of school since march just means it will continue to harder on students and teachers. Education is essential. Bars and restaurants are not.
7/20/2020 21:44:04	Samantha	Hill	USD 231	Gardner, Kansas	I believe that delaying the start of school will just keep pushing everything back. Kinds NEED school. My daughter NEEDS that structure and guidance outside of her parents and family. With all the rules that will be put in place, will delaying the start of school REALLY help? Let our kids get back to learning in school. Also, for us, remote learning did NOT go well in our household.
7/20/2020 21:44:07	Amanda	Focke	My children in USD 316	Rexford	I'm all for the late start, but please don't make our kids have to wear mask. There is not positive way for our children to learn while dealing with a mask for 8 hours. I have one who has vision disorders, there is no way she will be able to learn anything with a mask. And my littles will be the same way. I have a 5th, 3rd, Kindergartener, and a preschooler. Please put our children's sanity in line along with all those teachers who will have to deal with kiddos and mask all day, while trying to teach them the state requirements.
7/20/2020 21:44:17	Sheree	Reece	Parent and coach	Overland Park	Please let the kids go to school. Please let the kids play (especially) outdoor sports. If they get the virus it's typically mild and they are unlikely to get it outdoors. They've been through so much the past 5 months. Please give them some normalcy. Sports are healthy mentally, physically, and emotionally. Schools around the world have been resuming and yet we are looking at postponing.



7/20/2020 21:44:19	Crystal	Tryon		Spring Hill	Please re-open schools, with precautions such as temperature checks and masks in place. Children need engaged learning and socialization. Parents are not teachers. Mental health should also be considered. 6+ months of solitude is not good for our children's mental health.
7/20/2020 21:44:33	Ritney	Sutton	NA	Olathe	Please re-open schools as normal and allow masks to be OPTIONAL!!!
7/20/2020 21:44:40	Jacob	Stutzman		Emporia	Please approve the governor's order. Districts, buildings, and parents need the additional time the adequately plan for safety.
7/20/2020 21:44:59	Mattie	Chitwood		Conway springs	Decision should be up to each district not one decision for whole state. Each school is in a different position and should be allowed to make decisions based on what's best for them.
7/20/2020 21:44:59	Amy	Weishaar		Lawrence	Please uphold Executive Order 20-58. To delay the start of school will give school districts, teachers, and staff needed time to better prepare for and feel more confident about on-site and remote learning. Let's support our educators who have been heroes throughout this pandemic. Let's prepare the best and safest learning environments we can for our students, teachers, and staff.
7/20/2020 21:45:03	Sarah	Plese	USD 500/teacher, Shaw	Prairie Village, KS	Delay start of schools to protect staff and students.
7/20/2020 21:45:05	Miriam	Horton	Concerned parent	Garden City	I urge all board members to leave reopening plans in the hands of the local districts. If they follow your well thought processes they will not be at the whims of the govenor. In study of the science following observation in other countries Ireland/Norway transmission in schools is minimal or non existent if care is taken. The governor of our state is not currently following the will of the people, please do not follow her lead.
7/20/2020 21:45:10	Daw	Riggs	Teachers/Parent	Garden City	Please do not open schools before Sept. 9th-I do not feel it is safe for my daughter or myself. Educators need assurance they will be protected and provided adequate PPE that won't come out of our own pockets.
7/20/2020 21:45:18	Travisray	Salyers	Santa Fe Trail HS	Overbrook	Accept the governors executive orders to delay school.
7/20/2020 21:45:20	Scott	Fluke	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	<p>I am writing to request that you vote in support of Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the opening of Kansas schools until after Labor Day.</p> <p>I wish this measure were not necessary, but the data clearly shows that it is. When we respect social distancing measures and wear masks, we keep ourselves and our community safe. Unfortunately, cases in the state are rising. In fact, in my area cases are rising at a rate of approximately 7 times the rate they were when schools were first closed in March. The data suggests that opening schools too soon will inevitably lead to outbreaks and quickly closing down again.</p> <p>I am a psychologist in our school system, and I confront he realities of trauma and mental health on a daily basis. Staying home is hard, but we must protect our students from the repeated trauma of deaths in the school community. If we open too soon, staff and parents will die. I cannot tell you how many parents and teachers will die, but the data suggests it will be far more than one.</p> <p>You are in a powerful position to prevent some of this needless death. Please protect Kansas teachers and families by voting to support Governor Kelly's executive order. Teachers will be watching, and will remember your decision when it is again time to vote for our representation. This is a vote educators will remember.</p>
7/20/2020 21:45:24	Donnie	Palmer	Teacher for USD 501	Topeka	Please vote no to that mandate to delay schools. Every district that is located in a hot spot for cases is starting online with school. We should be allowed to start online schooling sooner rather than later. We are probably going to end up online for most of the Fall Semester. It's so important for the mental health of our children to start school in August. Not every county and district is the same. Please return control to each local school board and local health department. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:45:29	Jennifer	Fisher	USD 234	Fort Scott	Open schools up on time. If mask are suppose to be the fix it all, then why is there a problem getting the schools opened up. Wear a mask. The parents should have the choice and the choice should be if you are comfortable sending your child to school let them and if not allow online as an option. The Covid isn't going any where, you have to live around it like any other virus and it will take every parent, teacher and staff to make it a safe and clean environment. Open schools up on time! Thank you!

					I feel that each school district should have control over their start dates. If you need to wait for a week or so or if you need to do virtual, then that's what your district should do. But, if you want to start as scheduled, your district should have that choice. Each district has a different situation and they should be able to address those situations individually. Those that do not feel their students should be in the school building, yet, should choose that. But what about a voice for those of us that want our students back in school? Each side should be able to adjust their plans according to their needs. The Navigation plan has options for all of these scenarios. We need to get our students back in class. We need to keep control in the local districts as it is designed. Please, let the local districts have their control. We are all concerned for students' safety and each school will do what is best for their students. We always have.
7/20/2020 21:45:31	Nadine	Hope	Cunningham High Scho	Cunningham	
7/20/2020 21:45:39	April	Gardner		Wichita	I agree with the mask mandate and delaying of the schools to prepare.
7/20/2020 21:45:43	Deb	Meehan	Olathe schools	Lenexa	Delay please!!
7/20/2020 21:45:52	Laurie	Reed	My grandchildren	Shawnee	Comment removed due to profanity
7/20/2020 21:45:53	Laura	Heintzman		Ottawa	I strongly support waiting to start school until September. It is important to take the time to plan well. The safety of our teacher and children should be the top priority
7/20/2020 21:45:57	Jessica	Wilson	USD 312 Haven	Maize	As a Kansas educator, I would like to express my support of the executive order to delay the start of school until September. The extra time will better allow for teachers and staff across the state to prepare for what will be the 2020-2021 school year. Teachers are resilient in nature and will be ready no matter the outcome, but the extra time would be great to prepare for some of the unexpected scenarios that this school year is bound to bring during this time of pandemic. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:45:58	Kristen	Birch		Maple hill	I personally think they should start in Aug. There is no reason to wait until after Sept. People will be exposing themselves to others over labor so you aren't helping the matter any. Some kids need the one on one attention like mine. They have a learning disability like dyslexia and online learning did not work for us. The teachers will do their best to keep the kids safe. I worry more about it not starting and what will happen to the kids. they will be depressed and upset.
7/20/2020 21:45:59	Ashley	Long	USD 305 Teacher and p	Assaria	The start of school should NOT be delayed. Students need to be back in school and are ready for some consistency that school provides. Please allow individual districts to make the decision on their own if they are ready to open their doors to students.
7/20/2020 21:45:59	Brian	Quick	I am a teacher, represent	Shawnee	Please uphold the governor's order. Districts should not start until we either have a vaccine (a long shot this year to have one and see it distributed widely), or until cases have dropped for 2 straight weeks (four would be ideal because the incubation period is two weeks). Perhaps some counties could go back earlier or stay in session, but the health of everyone in a school, from students to staff, should be put above all else. We can make remote learning work. Not one person should have to choose between their child's health and an education. Not one person should have to decide between their own health and a paycheck.

7/20/2020 21:46:01	Amber	Cooleyp		Olathe	<p>It is deeply disturbing to me to see that it seems only education employees advocating for schools to remain closed have a voice. The ones who are ready and willing to get back to work and provide for their students are having their voice stifled! I've talked to educators across the state and it seems to be the consensus they cannot openly advocate for reopening all the while the ones who want to stay closed have been using their school and personals social media accounts to shame people, to post ridiculous memes accusing those who want schools open of wanting to "slaughter" them for the economy and bully anyone who dare disagree. I can't for the life of me understand how this became political, our children deserve better!!</p> <p>There are hundreds, maybe thousands of children in my community alone who haven't felt safe since March 12. They are desperately waiting the news of whether they will get to go back to school soon or not because that is the only part of their life that is good. I understand there are challenges, but acting like we cannot reopen schools until this virus is gone is just simply more dangerous for those children than the virus itself. Their lives may depend on being able to get back to school! I know there are school staff that have legitimate health concerns, I would be happy to step in and sub to help fill whatever void there is because of that.</p> <p>I am willing to accept whatever risks their may be to help provide some stability for the kids who are suffering because I was on of those children growing up. I didn't have a safe home most days, my parents were drug addicts, I was abused and neglected and ended up in foster care. I can imagine what a lot of those kids are living through right now because I have lived through it myself and it breaks my heart. I am 42 years old, but I remember it like it was yesterday, those memories do not go away and they never fade. Only by the Grace of God was I able to overcome and I am thankful I am a survivor. Not everyone is or will be as lucky as I have been.</p>
7/20/2020 21:46:03	Carla	Stukenholtz		Dodge City	<p>Please consider allowing schools to reopen on a district by district basis. Some of us have flattened the curve and aren't seeing an increase in numbers. Why treat all districts the same, when they aren't? If numbers increase after schools open then let's address that district by district, school by school and class by class instead of freezing all activities and education. Kids need to get back into class and their activities.</p>
7/20/2020 21:46:11	Amy	McGuire	parent and community n	Cunningham, KS	<p>We have fewer than 200 students K-12. Our teachers know each and every one of those students. WE DO LIFE TOGETHER. We are FAMILY. Our situation is NOT THE SAME as Wichita or Olathe or Dodge City, even. PLEASE consider giving control to individual districts. One size does NOT fit all where covid is concerned. Thank you for your time!</p>
7/20/2020 21:46:12	Carrie	Lough	Parent	Wellington	<p>Thank you for taking the time to read our comments. In our small community the coronavirus seems to suddenly be running rampant. We have jumped from 3 cases to 72 and counting in a matter of two weeks. This is with no school. Those numbers are going to skyrocket if we open up schools too quickly. While children aren't particularly susceptible to this virus, my fear is they will unknowingly spread it to their families, grandparents, and staff members. I don't feel it is right to use our children and teachers as a science experiment for covid and just wait to see what may happen. Doctors don't even know the long term effects from this virus yet. Furthermore, we all know there will still be those parents that give their children fever reducers and STILL send their children to school sick. We also know that most kids even the older ones do not social distance well or wear masks appropriately. While I like everyone else is more than ready to get my kids back in the classroom, it's not worth risking my teacher friends lives, my children's lives, or my parents lives when we have other viable options. While online school might not be the first choice, it is the safest choice we have right now. At the very least, let the governor do her job and let's see if our numbers start to go down to a more acceptable limit. Kansas should not be this bad off and expect normalcy. We need to let the administration have time to come up with plans and not rush into this. What's wrong with starting off online and watching the situation play out. If things go well THEN integrate back into the classroom, but don't risk our children's and our educator's lives!</p>
7/20/2020 21:46:32	Katelin	Saunders	KCKPS	Johnson	<p>Please follow the governors orders to delay the start of school in order to put the health and safety of all students and staff first.</p>
7/20/2020 21:46:34	Marsha	Vogrin		Lenexa	<p>I am a mom with a son at MPE and a son at PRT. They need to go back to school in person. The death rate for children is extremely low for Covid cases. It will do more harm than good by online schooling. Give Us a choice. Give our children a chance. Those that don't feel comfortable can keep their kids at home.</p>

7/20/2020 21:46:42	Gail	Snowbarger	Parent and staff member	Olathe	<p>I support delaying students until after Labor Day and delaying STAFF the same respective number of days or as many as possible. I also believe we have had enough “out of the norm” in the past six months to last a life time :) so I also support district calendars being allowed to finish at their typical time, meaning flexibility in completing mandated contact hours with students (example: extended school day, shortened breaks)</p> <p>Taking into consideration the varying needs of the districts across the state of Kansas, I also support allowing districts either the choice to begin as schedule or to delay until after Labor Day. Another variation of this might be to delay the start of the school year state wide and allow districts in areas with little to no outbreak to write a variance to begin as regularly scheduled.</p> <p>I desire to see the state of Kansas work together for the good of students and educators. I would be so terribly disappointed to see our amazing students and hardworking staff pay the price for Democrats and Republicans jockeying for power. Please be the wonderful Kansans that I know you are! Show the world how to cooperate, instead of how to compete and fight.</p>
7/20/2020 21:47:00	D’Arcy	Meng		Garden City	<p>Since March, my out going, funny loving, social, straight “A” student’s mental health has been in total jeopardy. She cries, worries, and feels worthless. My daughter and I have determined that getting Covid 19 and being quarantined for a few weeks would be healthier than missing anymore days of school and activities. Kids need social interaction, activities, sports etc...sitting at home day after day and looking at their phones is not helping! Get them back in school!!!!</p>
7/20/2020 21:47:03	Gabe	McGuire	Hays High School	Hays	<p>I believe that for this school year that online school should be heavily pushed or even required. Going to school and attempting to social distance would be nearly impossible with the already too small classrooms and hallways.</p>
7/20/2020 21:47:04	Sara	Schmidt	Teacher and Parent USD	Atwood	<p>I beg and plead that you vote against Governor Kelly’s executive order to delay school until after Labor Day. This decision should be left up to each individual district and one person should not be allowed to make that decision for the entire state. What works for larger districts might not for smaller ones and vice versa. This is not a one size fits all. We are not all in the same boat. As a parent and teacher I fell like I should be able to decide if I get to send my children to school in person. I do not feel threatened by COVID-19 both as an educator and a parent. Please vote no on Wednesday so we can make our own decisions that we feel is best for our families, community and schools!!</p>
7/20/2020 21:47:08	Shaquela	C.		Wichita	<p>I have a newborn and a husband with an underlying condition. I will not send my children to school (whom all are in elementary). Even if they open back up and require kids to go back instead of delaying like they should I will not send them until this calms and our numbers decline</p>
7/20/2020 21:47:12	Emily	Rose	Citizen of Topeka	Topeka	<p>I think it is wise to wait and open schools when the infection rate is lowered and it is more safe to do so. What happens when a staff member or student tests positive for covid? Shut down and then restart? Then another positive case...shut down and restart? We are in much deeper as far as cases go than when school was cancelled in March. I personally don’t think opening schools right now is the wise thing to do.</p>
7/20/2020 21:47:12	Amanda	Mogoi		Wichita	<p>My husband and I are nurse practitioners. My husband works in the emergency room at two local hospital seeing Covid cases every single day. I run a primary care clinic with a high risk population. We both believe that delaying schools until after Labor Day is an appropriate option. I appreciate Governor Kelly’s insight and care that she has taken with this issue. I have a second grader, first grader, and a two-year-old. I will not be sending my children back to school with masks are not required.</p>
7/20/2020 21:47:14	Lynn	Kasten	Weskan School	Sharon Spgs	<p>We need to open our school. Students need to be in school for so many reasons: social, security, meals, and to gain what they lost at the end of last year. Most all students learn more by face to face instruction. Have you ever taught art to grade school students through a computer screen? It is VERY difficult and nearly impossible because all families do NOT have supplies needed. My understanding is that as long as we practice good hygiene there should be lower threat of contamination to others. Our kids need to start school at our regular date in August. Plus, there is NO cases in our county and very few (if any) in our surrounding counties. Please do NOT make a decision where one rule for every school-each district is unique.</p>

7/20/2020 21:47:16	Todd	Roberts	parent	Goddard	I am absolutely for delaying school if it will provide time for teachers and districts to get things prepared for a hybrid model that will be going on this year. It also allows for teachers to get training and understand best practices for keeping students safe.
7/20/2020 21:47:30	Jean	Mears	USD 500 KC KS	Overland Park	Teacher students and families are not safe with an August reopening. Please delay
7/20/2020 21:47:32	Vicki	Kohl		Olathe	I urge you to SUPPORT the governor's EO to delay the opening of schools. School staffs have not had the time to fully review your "Navigating" publication, nor have they been able to plan much of anything yet because the conditions have been a moving target. Were they planning for online school, in-person school, a hybrid? Should they plan so that at a moment's notice they can move from in-person to online? Do schools have the supplies they need to assure hygienic safety and social distancing. The science says that children 10 & older can transmit the virus as readily as adults. The way most schools are now, it will be impossible for classes to socially distance. If the state were to adopt mask-wearing now, there would be a chance that the positive cases could get to within a reasonable margin. There are many variables to work out, and starting schools by August 14 does not give schools a fighting chance to do the job reasonably well. They need more time. Let's not play politics with the lives of our children and teachers.
7/20/2020 21:47:39	Kellie	Katz		Edwards	School should stay closed till after Labor Day, then become hybrid if we need to return to the classrooms! If masks need to be worn, I believe online should be the answer!
7/20/2020 21:47:39	Crystal	Wise		Gardner	Our kids need to be in school
7/20/2020 21:47:40	Kalisha	Suarez		Salina,KS	I believe we should delay the 2020-2021 school year until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 21:47:41	Angela	McKenna		Andover	Please let school begin when scheduled. Districts have already worked for weeks to have a plan in place and are ready to begin the year. The data does not support postponing school and our children's mental and emotional well being is as important and their physical well being.
7/20/2020 21:48:01	Vickie	Greene		Gardner	My kids need to go back to school for their mental well being.
7/20/2020 21:48:08	Jessie	Fluke	Olathe Schools	Olathe	Please vote to support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school until early September. COVID does not care what political party we support. It is here and it is spreading rapidly whether we like it or not. The only way to prevent our community from needing another shut down is to decrease the spread. Data from around the country and around the world indicates that we are only a few weeks from being out of control.  Schools are small and cramped. Social distancing will not work in those settings. The virus will spread to students and to families. Please prevent this and prevent another shut down by voting in favor of the executive order.
7/20/2020 21:48:18	Darren	Doll	Self	Wichita	As shared with my state BOE rep, though in a more brief comment. I support delaying school reopening until after Labor Day. Data /statistics speaks for itself and it's a mere few additional weeks. We need to see the trends decline and with the recent uptick here in late June/early July, delaying will be invaluable and possibly life saving, not only for kids, but for teachers and many others that can be infected from school related community spread.

7/20/2020 21:48:35	virginia	macha	Supporter of our Teachers	lola	First I appreciate all the hard work this Board made in the effort to open our schools. Months of work after the sudden closing of our schools should never be over shadowed by an executive order. This Board was elected by the Voters on your ability to know what is best for Education in Kansas and that trust we have placed in you to lead has more than once in the last 4 months been circumvented. I have spent much time on the ground listening to the one word that is repeated most often. Normal...Parents, Teachers, High School Students want some kind of return to Normal, even if it is modified. They want to start school like normal, they want to figure it out, and they are exhausted by the scare tactics being used by Government officials. They have little faith in what they hear about COVID19, they have less use for all the numbers being paraded out each day. We are all frightened sure, but when every Governor order is a one size fits all, even when it comes to our schools, the governor is clearly out of touch. No matter the school district, large or small, each comes with their problems that will never be identical. Just like individual instruction, each District has a duty to use a best fit approach that reflects a comfort level among all concerned. This distraction of the Governor issuing a directive that circumvents your authority as a Board will undermine the credibility of any future decisions or actions you make. It is unfortunate that you have been placed in this position and be assured you will be the person left holding the proverbial bag. Tomorrow will take leadership, but the end decision should be start school on time. It is your duty.
7/20/2020 21:48:45	Ann	Metcalfe		Minneapolis	Please vote to delay the opening of schools! Already with all of the indecision, teachers have even less time to prepare for so many unknowns and so many new requirements. There are still so many liability questions that remain unanswered and cases are still on the rise. It is inevitable that the virus will penetrate schools so it is critical that all stakeholders know exactly what the plan is for every situation. This is not currently the case. I'm afraid that if it's left to my local school board, they will push to open immediately because of the pressure of a few loud voices, when teachers have had very little time to plan and prepare to meet the new safety guidelines AND be prepared to move to an equitable and effective online platform, as we all know is inevitable. Parents are already nervous about their children being exposed, let's give the school staff a chance to do it right!
7/20/2020 21:48:50	Frannie	Miller	Parent of Junior High and	Lyons	Colleges are moving up the start time to be done before flu season. I think we should just start and try to do the best management we can and get as much time as we can in the classroom. This is important to the mental health of our children. I don't understand why the hybrid model is not the first choice as they would get some in classroom instruction, have learning at home and limit the amount of contact with other students.
7/20/2020 21:48:52	Tashina	Sorensen-Adams	Parent	Hutchinson	Here is my point of view on all this. We the people where is the we it's I want this and I want that. So here goes I'm all for some good old hand washing if your trying to keep germs down. Hand sanitizer is for if you can't get to water to wash your hands. Then you wash your hands when you get around a sink. Also please explain to me how kids aren't going to get sick from all the hand sanitizer they have on there hands. Mask, mask, mask that is sure a hot topic right now. I'm going to say that no kids shouldn't have to wear them because they are going to mess with them, not keep them on. We the people need to stand up for this so I'm doing that. You want me to wear a mask fine I'll stay home and not go out but you are taking away from our children what they need and want. Do you honestly think kids are going to stay 6ft apart? Do you think kids are going to keep mask on? Do you think that any kid needs to have them on? I'm mean we don't even know how it effects them. Kids need to be normal and if you make them wear mask guess what they will get sick but it wont be from covid 19. It shouldn't be up to the govner to say they need to wear them. I don't want my children wearing a mask to school and I don't want to have to remote teach them either because the whole reason we are opening schools is so we can have kids in them. Really what is the point if your going to send our children to jail. Not school jail. No mask
7/20/2020 21:48:53	Chris	Fluke	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	Please support Governor Kelly and delay the opening of schools to September 9th. It will give us time to prepare a safe plan for all students and staff. Almost everyone I've spoken to on the Olathe School District staff agrees we need time to prepare.
7/20/2020 21:49:09	Meg	Kaemmer		Overland park	I am concerned this is just the first step before the school year gets cancelled completely. My children are already struggling with the amount of education they have lost over the last 5 months. I work full time and have to hire a sitter to stay with them. They do absolutely nothing but watch tv or watch an iPad. This is so detrimental not to be socializing or learning. I told my daughter yesterday school is delayed and she cried. She doesn't want to stay in this house anymore and misses the interaction with her friends.
7/20/2020 21:49:17	Lindsay	Siebert	Parent	Manhattan	Covid numbers are rising. Why would we send our kids back to group settings and expose them and us.

					<p>Please pass the EO to delay the start of school until September 8.</p> <p>My husband and I are both teachers and we have our own children.</p> <p>Having these extra weeks will give time to prepare and hopefully have new cases drop.</p>
7/20/2020 21:49:13	Kristin	Neufeld	USD 373	Newton	Please delay the start of school.
7/20/2020 21:49:29	Debbie	Stramel	Wallace County Public S	Winona	Living in a county that has less than a handful of cases and my children going to school in a county that has had zero cases of Covid, I feel we should not be a cookie cutter one size fits all decision in the Governor's response to starting school late. Schools like ours would benefit from starting school on time. I also believe we have shown our own responsibility without our counties following a mask order and continue to defy the state increase so why should we not be allowed to make good decisions for our kids in school and sports. Areas that are being highly hit are understandably delaying but most of the west side of the state is not in that scenario. My children have been to livestock shows with over 500 people in attendance as well as camps with over 300 attending and managed to stay healthy. I feel they can manage school in this same manner and we should have the right to choose our course. It feels as though all our independence is being stripped away one issue at a time with no end in sight. Thankyou for listening.
7/20/2020 21:49:36	Therese	Cook		Colby	Our children NEED to be back in school. There is research out there that proves children are not an "at risk" population. Please allow each reach to make their own determinations and regulations on return to school. The demographic makeup is not equal in the entirety of the state. The rural regions look very different with class sizes than the urban regions.
7/20/2020 21:49:37	John	Hudson	Homeowner	Overland Park	Start in-class school on time. Use recommended safety procedures, and weigh child suicides, loss of academic development, lack of school-provided meals to children in need, lack of child supervision and care, etc against the unlikely chance of children contracting the deadly COVID-19
7/20/2020 21:49:51	Christina	VanCleave	Parent	Edwardsville	Kids in the Life skill classroom needs school to be in person not virtual. I am okay with fewer days of school. I know there are no perfect solutions and safety is important but we have more knowledge. I think the governor is just buying time and schools are going to be canceled. Parents need time to prepare because they have to work. I want all teachers to be safe!! But please the ones who are still going out and posting their vacations and gatherings makes me question. Please do not cut us off and have us do virtual.
7/20/2020 21:49:53	Cheryl	Sonnenberg	My Family	Garden City	Open the schools on time no restrictions. Get over it, it is not goi g to kill you.
7/20/2020 21:49:45	Mandy	Bive	Usd 270	Plainville	Let the kids go to school when school is to start. Dont make them wait. They've already endured enough with how the school year ended. They NEED to be in school with teachers and their peers and have the chance to have a normal life that they havent had in the last 5 months. Let the kids play sports and have other activities, they've already been playing summer rec sports as well as starting school sports practices.
7/20/2020 21:50:03	Amber	Paddock		Pierceville	I don't believe 3 weeks will change many things. I believe kids need to be in school. I dont think they need masks if you are taking temps daily? They ate going to become a distraction and something else for kids to get in trouble with.
7/20/2020 21:50:05	Donna	Niles		Maize	I support the executive order, although I know it will be difficult for staff to implement and enforce mask wearing. I'm willing to supply masks for my child and contribute hand sanitizer to the school.
7/20/2020 21:50:36	Gail	Dunbar	Retired superintendent	Lebo	I support the governor's plan to delay opening of schools. Schools need time with instructional staff to prepare for an entirely new instructional environment. I have four grandchildren in public schools and they will not attend in person until it is safe. A student in their school district has a positive test and has participated in summer conditioning which has now ended. How can we have in -person class with rising numbers like we are seeing?
7/20/2020 21:50:41	Shasta	Whisler	Parent	Valley Center	I don't think it's the smartest idea however I know my children are more than ready to get their lives back to normal.

7/20/2020 21:50:45	Wayne	Krause	#HelpUsPlayKansas	Olathe	<p>First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas.</p> <p>Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote on the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</li> <li>2) No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</li> </ol> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>I am one of the over 6,200 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay.</p> <p>We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know that you have our support.</p>
7/20/2020 21:50:48	Kelly	Buckley		Lyons	It is a lose lose decision I realize but one more perspective is a single parent teacher who has to leave her kids home who are supposedly old enough at 9 and 14 but not for 8 hours a day for 5 days a week for three weeks because we have to go back to school but they don't. They are too old for child care but shouldn't have to stay home so long and prepare their own meals etc. Just another perspective.
7/20/2020 21:50:50	Linda	Tilton	Myself— a parent	Scott City	Please let local school boards decide when their school can open. Local boards can make the best decisions for their students. Schools (& activities) need to get started sooner than later. Children need school, sports and extracurricular activities.
7/20/2020 21:50:52	Kelly	Elias	Parent of school age kid	Gardner	I agree that our districts and teachers need time to successfully prepare for whatever school looks like - be it in person or online. I would rather wait until August to know that my kids were getting a well planned and thought out education.
7/20/2020 21:50:54	Andrea	Raaf	School district	Madison	Waiting to start school is one more loss for our children. Odds are decent that we will have to do some closures as we get closer to cold/flu season. Getting them back in a classroom on time to get their minds working is pertinent. As this virus seems to effect children mildly on the medical side, the other lasting effects I believe we will be learning about for years, unfortunately.
7/20/2020 21:50:58	Paul	Kemp		Garden City	Please allow this executive order to go through. I think delaying start is important for schools to prepare for the start of school. This is a pandemic and our schools need to be prepared to make sure all stay safe. 3 week delay isn't going to be a huge issue if our schools can stay in session.
7/20/2020 21:51:01	Bridget	Brown		Assaria	The governor should not be allowed to delay school in this manner. School districts need to be able to decide for themselves with their own set of factors on the situation.
7/20/2020 21:51:04	Darcy	Couse	Parent at USD 299 Sylva	Lucas	Let the schools decide if they are ready to have kids back and then parents in that district can decide if they want kids to go back or not. Not all districts are the same and should not be treated the same.



7/20/2020 21:51:36	Talia	Baker		Bonner Springs and KC	PLEASE support Governor Kelly's order to delay school opening. This will give everyone time to lower the numbers, and better plan for the safety of all those involved in schooling. Students, teachers, staff and all their families!! Do what is best for all, not the few.
7/20/2020 21:51:42	Debbie	Walburn	None	Lawrence	I am writing to strongly urge you to support Gov. Kelly and mandate EO 20-58. As a school district employee who has 2 family members that also work for schools and 2 grandchildren in public school, I feel that a later start for schools is needed. We cannot expect the schools to be ready to safely open and have staff trained by a mid-August opening. PPE's and other safety equipment needs to be ordered. Many of these items are in short supply. Protocols and procedures need time to be formed and staff trained on them. Please think about the health and safety of our children and staff - not politics.
7/20/2020 21:51:45	Debbie	Messerly	Concerned grandparent	Olathe Kansas	I am a firm believer in following the science. We should not expose our children, teachers and administrators to the dangers of the Covid virus. Perhaps online learning would be advantageous. Is it true that children can't register for school until they are current with all of their vaccinations? Why would we expose them to a life threatening virus such as the Covid? Children can easily succumb to peer pressure. Their maturity level isn't ready for the rules to stay safe during a pandemic.! I think waiting until after Labor Day is advisable.
7/20/2020 21:51:46	Krid	Shirley	School Librarian	Ottawa	I appreciate delaying the school year. I travel to three elementaries and I am very, very concerned about the health and safety of our students and staff. I think this will give us more time to acquire much needed disinfecting equipment. I need time as well too work with my staff on getting the library and the books ready. I also will be working on implementing social distancing in the library while trying to teach and conduct classes. I also need this time to make plans in the event that we need to work virtually. Please continue to support the delay in opening our schools.
7/20/2020 21:52:03	David	Henderson	My family!	Potwin	Quit wasting taxpayer money on a hoax. Kids need to go to school and it be just like it was. No masks and no Plexiglas. No sanitizer every hour. Your just trying to scare them, control them and make their immune system weaker. Your socialist vs isn't going to be tolerated.
7/20/2020 21:52:04	Abby	Geist		Olathe	I would like the school board to vote in support of Gov. Kelly's order to delay schools opening until after Labor Day. Our community is struggling with COVID cases on the rise! Our schools would benefit greatly from more time to prepare safety measures and make decisions about in-person vs online.
7/20/2020 21:52:16	Danielle	Hall		Ashland	I want to wait til at least Labor Day weekend to send my kids back to school hopefully the numbers will start slowing down.
7/20/2020 21:52:16	Cassie	Brumage		Manhattan	I support the executive order to delay the start of school to after Labor Day 2020.  The state needs to time to bring down new case numbers down. District need time to come up with solid plans. Teachers need the time to prepare.
7/20/2020 21:52:17	Jason	Sims		Eskridge	Yes, please keep schools closed till after Labor Day, if not longer. Maybe stay closed 2 weeks after Labor Day. All activities that were suppose to happen in July are happening Labor Day weekend. This weekend is also the "last" weekend of the summer & so many people get together. Please keep our children safe. As a parent of 2, I am seriously considering virtual learning. Opening schools back up really scares me. Schools are a germ factory & seeing how fast the flu & strep throat can spread through a school..imagine this virus. After attending a funeral 20 family members got the virus. It spreads quickly & we are going to have a mess on our hands once all schools open their doors. I hope hospitals are ready for beds to be full with kids & teachers.
7/20/2020 21:52:28	Shana	Sowles	Parent	Olathe	Open up schools. Where will this end? I will be taking me fifth grader out of school at this point, and possibly my two high schoolers. I am amazed what the governor said this afternoon, in response to a question about taking temperatures daily at high schools prior to students entering the building. A few short years ago, the fears were about school shootings. So all entrances but a select few were closed "for the students' safety." But now, they will open all the doors "for the children's safety". School shootings have taken more students lives than Covid. I am just at a loss for words. What about any of this makes sense? My family of 5 has been out and about since may 21st. My teen daughter has been working on the restaurant business throughout Covid, averaging 26 hours a week. We don't wear masks. We are smart about washing our hands, etc. We have been to big box stores many times since the shut down. We have been fine! I believe this is because we allowed our immune system to protect us. We didn't hole up and destroy our immune system. Don't do the same for the kids!

7/20/2020 21:52:29	David	Cromer	Self	Topeka	Schools need to open on time. Teachers are essential workers. They can wear masks if they want to. Parents need to get to work and to do that, the majority of parents need their kid in school. Schools provide many essential services. If you do not then it is political aka, anti-Trump, liberal politics. If you do not open schools, then I expect schools to be shut down too for the flu virus EACH year from now on.
7/20/2020 21:52:38	Erin	Dowell		Mulvane	I get that everyone wants kids to be safe but first extending summer to after labor day is not gonna change much but requiring all students to wear masks all day at school wont work for most kids. I have one kid that would do ok with online learning but I have 2 that have to go back to in class school they cant do online learning.
7/20/2020 21:52:41	Angela	Hahn		Stockton	In regards to the facts at hand it is fairly reasonable to believe the coronavirus has a low impact on children and appears to not spread easily through that particular population. In fact influenza appears to be more deadly to children then the coronavirus yet we allow it to run rampant through schools without closing them down when high percentages of children are infected. It is my belief that the schools should be opened at the earliest possible date especially in the rural areas where the active Covid case rates are very low. I know that our district in particular has been preparing since March for how to handle this re-opening. I have full faith in our faculty and staff that they have a good plan that is workable and they should be allowed to present that plan at the very minimum to the Board of Education to allow our school which is lower in population than those in the cities to return to normal classes. I'm sure the most difficult task is to avoid transmission of the illness to those in the population who may be more at risk Including older teachers and staff but i'm sure there are solutions including the possibility of teachers remoting in to a classroom. This can keep teachers safe while allowing kids to be back in their semi-normal environment. As a healthcare professional and EMS volunteer I have personally witnessed the effects that the panic about Covid is causing including delayed treatment, missed diagnosis, depression and loneliness in our populations. In fact in our community the shut down has been much more dangerous to our citizens than the illness itself. I believe wholeheartedly that the negative effects of these closures on our children are far worse than the risks of re-opening schools at this time. If there are parents who are concerned about their children being in school there are multiple free online educational options, As well as, I'm sure, remote learning options from the school.
7/20/2020 21:52:37	Michael	Parsons	None	St marys	The coronavirus numbers in kansas are to high to put kids back in school right now but I am not a doctor. I am a parent of a high school freshman that needs to be with her teachers and her classmates. Let the doctors tell us when it is safe to return to school and leave the political bs out of it.
7/20/2020 21:52:45	Michelle	Sanders	USD 259	Wichita	Please keep our teachers and staff safe by delaying the reopening of schools until September. My children do not want to be at school without their teachers and friends in a healthy environment.
7/20/2020 21:52:45	Veda	Hogue		Haysville	I do not think the statistics warrant our kids wearing masks all day. And this choice should be left to the parents. I have a 2nd grader and 7th grader.  Below would be my compromise, though I am 100% for not having them wear them at all.  For grade school, I do not believe they should be required to wear the masks all day. In my job we do not wear masks around each other as working together is similar to living together (I work in a building with about 30 co-workers). The classroom is the same. Once in their class rooms they should be allowed to remove the masks. And hand sanitizing should only be used when leaving and arriving to the classroom.  For middle to high school maybe once they are seated they can remove the masks. But during passing periods they wear them and hand sanitize when arriving and leaving class rooms.
7/20/2020 21:52:47	Diane	Egger	None	Independence	Post Labor Day opening makes sense.
7/20/2020 21:52:50	Crystal	Crank		El Dorado	Please delay the start of the school year to after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 21:53:11	Cindy	Laub		Wichita	Please don't delay past Sept 8th. Social distancing when possible, masks all the time, and hand sanitizer every hour are precautions that will slow the spread of the virus. We cannot eradicate those disease....all we can do is slow the spread. WE CAN DO THAT AND ALLOW KIDS BACK IN SCHOOL!

7/20/2020 21:53:20	Tammy	Hutcheson	Hutcheson Hacienda	Garden City	If starting school after Labor Day allows for a normal experience for our K-12 students, this is great AS LONG AS districts are required to wrap up by Memorial Day. If there is not going to be an opportunity for some normalcy and/or the school year to be wrapped up prior to Memorial Day, let's just get started. Districts should have been working on a plan for months.
7/20/2020 21:53:24	Julie	Westmacott	Retired Kinder teacher/g	Olathe	Reopen after Labor Day? - YES. Schools should not reopen until it is safe for everyone. Masks are not enough and would be a nightmare to manage for young ones. Schools need more money for PPE, ventilation systems, plexiglass, and more staff. Schools are not prepared to open safely and BTW the pandemic is still raging. No one is expendable. Some students and staff are very vulnerable. Officials have had since March to prepare and it appears nothing has been done. Not safe- September is not long enough.
7/20/2020 21:53:24	Lauren	Carver	USD 204	Kansas City	I hope the delay to the start of school will pass so our students and teachers will have a free me weeks of safety. Hopefully more people will take this seriously and take the appropriate measures for the common good so we can return. I don't feel like children should be the ginea pigs of reopening even if it is inconvenient for some.
7/20/2020 21:53:30	Kendra	Taylor	Parent	Kck	Consider our children, teachers and staff and not your political party. It is not safe for our kids to go back to school.
7/20/2020 21:53:32	Shane	isle		Coffeyville	open schools up on schedule in August.
7/20/2020 21:53:34	Sara	Brockman		Clay Center	I would like Gov. Kelly's mandate upheld to reopen schools after Labor Day so we can get the case numbers down.
7/20/2020 21:53:45	Kathryn	Thiessen		Ottawa, KS	I do not want to delay the start of school because students have been out for too long. The students need to be making some sort of connection with their teachers to move in the right direction. I do not want to have students (K-5) wearing masks. It will be a huge distraction in the classroom setting. I think that it should be up to the parents discretion.
7/20/2020 21:53:45	Janet	Benninga		Manhattan	I have four grandchildren in the Kansas school system and I fear for their safety by going back to school at this time with the COVID virus going up. By delaying the start of classes schools will have more time to better prepare. My grandchildren are in Johnson county where numbers keep going up. Please consider delaying school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 21:54:00	Amanda	Gonzalez		Kansas City	Delay start
7/20/2020 21:54:01	Lisa	Sullivan		Kansas City, KS	I cannot imagine anything more irresponsible at this point in time than reopening schools for in-person classes. We cannot go to the grocery store or worship in our churches without masks and a minimum of 6ft between us. It is ludicrous to think that students can ride buses, sit in classrooms, and interact with each other, their teachers, and essential school personnel without putting all stakeholders at risk of illness or even death.
7/20/2020 21:54:01	Marissa	Miller	Private school	Independence	How are grade schooler going to have to wear a mask all day and learn. I feel like if I send my child to school I am jeopardizing his education
7/20/2020 21:54:03	Melissa	Hart	Parent	Olathe	Yes! Please, and Thank You! Protect our children and keep doing what you're doing, Gov. Kelly. We support you.
7/20/2020 21:54:24	Sheen	Brogan		Atwood	Let every school board, district decide. In Atwood we currently do have any cases. No way Masks can be worn by kids under 12 all day long in school.
7/20/2020 21:54:30	Kristin	Rodell	USD 266	Wichita	My daughter is immunocompromised due to cancer treatments. There is a possibility that I will not be able to return to my current position and will need to teach virtually. Not only will the late start allow for time to flatten the curve of the virus and save lives, it will also allow educators like myself to prepare for and become acquainted with a complete change of curriculum and standards.  I urge you to support the governor's plan. Thank you.

7/20/2020 21:54:38	Nick	Gillock		Overland Park	I am a public school teacher in Olathe. I teach middle school choir to around 150 students a day. I have spent months pouring over research into the potential health risks that accompany singing as the country deals with a rampant pandemic. I've spent so much time designing plans A, B, and C for what a potential start of the school year will bring. There is no scenario in which I am not ready to give my best to my students and provide them with the most fruitful education possible. I am fully in favor of Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the beginning of the 2020-21 academic year. This is a common sense measure to help our schools adequately prepare for what will be an inevitably messy time. We can not in good conscience open the schools without taking concrete steps to insure the safety of the students, their families, and each school's staff. Schools need masks, hand sanitizer, and ample cleaning supplies. They need time in their buildings during contract time to properly configure their classrooms and leaning spaces to maximize the available area. They need the time design COVID-19-specific student behavior policies and draft a plan for implementation. This is just what is need to ensure we can begin a school year. Equally frightening is the inevitable substitute teacher shortage, the potential mass gatherings around high school athletics, the vague answers being given in relation to sick leave, and the lack of a coherent plan surrounding what will happen when that first positive test eventually rolls in. The outcome of contracting COVID-19 is not a binary; you do not simply recover or die. Those who survive can, in addition to passing the virus on to more vulnerable populations, suffer long term health consequences that are not as headline-worthy. As a teacher who loves each and every one of his students and cannot wait for normal life to return, I firmly support Governor Kelly and those who are striving to ensure we have as safe a return to school as possible.
7/20/2020 21:54:47	Rachel	Mawhirter		Great Bend, Kansas	I don't feel that there is any value in delaying school by a week or two, if the reason is to somehow flatten the curve. Because it's just delaying the inevitable. If we wait until Corona has died down, they'll never get back to school and these kids need structure and normalcy. My boys are in 1st and 4th grades and it is impossible to teach them at home in any qualitative way. Resuming a normal school year, even if it means wearing masks and modifying the schedule some, is better than avoiding the school building all together. I see no reason to delay school because the COVID-19 situation probably won't be any better in September than it is in August, and the benefits to these kids mental and emotional health far outweigh the physical risks.
7/20/2020 21:54:57	Katie	Geisendorf		Hiawatha	A definitive plan needs to be put in place ASAP for teachers and parents whatever it may be. It is understood that things may change as the year progresses. Our kids need a game plan too, they have had so much change and disruption this year they need some sort of stability to prepare for and look forward to.
7/20/2020 21:54:56	Gary	Ostmeyer	USD 315	Colby	I support Executive Order 20-58. Educators need that time to prepare and Kansas needs that time for mask wearing to lower the spread of Covid 19.
7/20/2020 21:54:58	Angie	Bell	USD 500 KCK School II	I teach in Kansas City K	My own children and my students deserve to be safe. Wyandotte county has a large number of positive cases and I don't want to risk bringing it home to my own children and our tiny town. Many of my students would come to school, even if positive, because their families can not take off work. Please vote yes on the governor's mandate and protect the families that voted you into office.
7/20/2020 21:55:00	Mike	Fluke	Johnson County Commu	Olathe	I believe it is safer for the students to delay the start of school. Covid numbers are still on the rise. Please keep our kids safe.

7/20/2020 21:55:06	Bobbi	Westmoreland		Hutchinson/Nickerson	<p>First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas.</p> <p>Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</li> <li>•No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</li> </ul> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>I am one of the over 6,200 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay.</p> <p>We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know that you have our support.</p>
7/20/2020 21:55:10	Chris	Soto	Community Member	Salina	I'm voting for the school board to delay school to start until after Labor Day. Our recent numbers have increased rapidly and I believe unfair to place our students and teachers at risk. My wife works in an elementary school. We have a newborn baby and a toddler with respiratory issues. I'm very concerned about their safety. Please make the hard call and delay school.
7/20/2020 21:55:10	Margaret	Beddall		Leavenworth	Please support Executive Order 20-58 (Delaying the 20-21 K-12 School Year) for the sake of our students and their families, educators and building staff, and our communities. The recommended delay will allow time to accurately assess COVID-19's spread or decline, to secure PPE for all schools, for each school in our state to have adequate time to make plans for their particular school, and for all schools to continue planning for future contingencies in the event that online teaching becomes necessary during the school year.
7/20/2020 21:55:12	Annie	Braun	Garden City	Garden City	Open schools on time but with precautions such as mandatory masks, half capacity, hand sanitizer, etc.
7/20/2020 21:55:12	Brandy	Ybarra		Andover	Please delay the start of school to protect the staff and students of Andover and Wichita!
7/20/2020 21:55:25	Rob	McCally		Ottawa	Delaying school 3 weeks in order to prevent COVID 19 numbers from increasing among school aged students and education personnel is necessary. There is no reason to intentionally put groups of people in jeopardy of risking their health when preventative measures can be used. This time also allows school districts to structure their resources and professional development in order to better meet the needs of in-class instruction, online or hybrid educational platforms throughout the following school year.
7/20/2020 21:55:27	Joanna	Bjerum	Newton High School	Newton, KS	Please uphold Gov Kelly's Executive Order. There is no feasible way that we can keep students and staff safe in the current upswing of positives in our area. Our area does not function as a bubble and other people are interacting with each other regardless of district with which they reside. Please follow the Governor's brave leadership and help us slow this spread. I am the mother of two elementary school children and married to an essential worker. I do not want to live with the fact that I could have exposed someone at school or that my children and myself could be exposed there.

7/20/2020 21:55:26	Betsy	Bellinger	USD 259	Wichita	I support the delay of the school year and EO 20-58. Please listen to health experts first and foremost before anyone else. Safety should be the number one concern for our students and staff. We are counting on you to make wise decisions based on science, health, and safety. Please allow time for local initiatives to work and numbers to come down and for the schools to have more time to implement safety measures. My classroom is way over capacity regardless of any social distancing with no windows. I am very concerned that this environment goes against all CDC recommendations.
7/20/2020 21:55:37	Morgan	King	Myself	Lindsborg	Delay school to help teachers get a plan, and hopefully the spikes will go down.
7/20/2020 21:55:37	Shelby	Bowen-Warren		Wamego	Do not delay schools opening.
7/20/2020 21:55:39	Jackie	Schafer		Little River	Start schools; our kids deserve an education. My child has been out of school way to and needs to return! How do you think children 5 and above are going feel about wearing a mask all day? They will be playing with their masks all day long and not get any learning done. I think each district should have their right to decide what's they think is best for their kids.
7/20/2020 21:55:41	Jennifer	Sutherlin, BSN, N	Individual	Overland Park	In my opinion, it is not safe to open schools to any in-person learning at this time. Cases in younger demographics continue to rise and there is simply not enough evidence to keep our children safe. On the contrary, multiple countries have attempted School reopening, only to see outbreaks that have resulted in further shut downs. All while uncertainty in staffing and supply chain for PPE and testing supplies continue. I say this as a household with 2 parents working full time. While this will definitely present a challenge for working parents, I definitely prefer this to the risk of reopening.
7/20/2020 21:55:43	Todd	Thacker	Olathe Public Schools	Overland Park	Please do the safe thing for students, teachers, staff and all of their families. Delay in person school by at least a month or two until the virus can be contained. Too many people have not taken it seriously this summer and the number of positive results will only continue to rise if we return to in person classes too early.
7/20/2020 21:55:45	Lisa	Kilmer		Wichita	I support delaying the 20-21 school year.
7/20/2020 21:55:48	Laura	Fasl	Olathe Northwest high s	Lenexa	School should absolutely open as planned on August 14. This virus is going no where and we have to learn to live with it! It has a 99.8% recovery rate with 78% of deaths occurring from Covid age 65 & over. ZERO deaths under age 25. The detriment not going to school will have on our kids has the potential to be devastating. Chances are the schools will close down during winter months so let them be "normal" at the start of school. This decision will cause more harm to our children than COVID-19 will. The idea of the early school dismissal in the Spring, the subsequent lockdown, closure of businesses, wrecking of our economy and wearing of masks was all designed to flatten the curve so that our hospital systems were not overwhelmed. It was NEVER designed to get rid of the coronavirus. NEVER. Is delaying school and cancelling sports and camps going to get rid of the coronavirus? No, it's still going to be there after Labor Day. And if the number of positive cases is not hovering around zero, Governor Kelly is going to delay school further. It's ridiculous.
7/20/2020 21:55:50	Pamela	Palermo	Shawnee Mission Schoo	Shawnee	I do not think schools can open safely until the number of COVID cases are low and declining steadily for at least 14 days. I feel like delaying the start of school is the least we can do to allow the schools that can open an opportunity to prepare to do so safely.
7/20/2020 21:56:05	Sandy	Clark	None	Cherryvale KS	With so many in Southeast Kansas denying the seriousness of the virus our numbers are climbing rapidly. Our children should be kept safe as a priority for them and communities. Please extend opening schools until at least after Labor Day to give achools a chance to get sanitizer stations ready and give the teachers a chance to make sure they are not carriers of COVID.
7/20/2020 21:56:12	Lynne	Schreiner		Kingman	Get kids back in to school! Do not delay any longer, please. Their mental health is of the utmost importance. And please let them play sports.
7/20/2020 21:56:13	Andy	pauls		Wichita	Please do not make a state wide sweeping decision like this. Allow individual schools to decide what is best for their area. Those closest to the students are in the best position to make the decision.
7/20/2020 21:56:16	Molly	Weiss		Benton	My son was highly exposed to covid (15 hours in close proximity to the next day positive person). He was not wearing a mask at the time of exposure, and did not get ill; nor did he pass on the virus to anyone in his family. Children deserve an education and they deserve their childhood. They are not at risk not do they pose a risk to society. Please consider the risks of delay... more abuse and neglect of at risk children, education gaps continue to increase, less funding to schools, and more.

					<p>I would suggest starting the school year in a remote format that can transition to a blended learning format once it is deemed safer for all parties involved (students, teachers &amp; families).</p> <p>This is actually different than the way I felt a few weeks ago when my district questionnaire came out. Things have absolutely changed in such a short time. I believe this is due to more people out and about doing things. This mirrors what would happen with an in-school experience. With the marked increase in confirmed positive cases around the Leavenworth county region, I feel it would be unwise to engage in on site schooling until there is a steady decrease and minimal cases are again the norm. For a stretch, there was a streak where cases were reported at 0-2/report. Personally, I would like to see numbers approach that infection rate again (not the 14-17 cases/report that we are seeing now). More cases = more opportunities for spread. I watched the Lansing school board meeting Monday evening and it was stated that social distancing will not be possible to the extent that the CDC recommends. Combined with likely improper mask use, questionable hygiene that is inherent with children of all ages, and extensive hours in school buildings, I think we would be setting ourselves up for a potential outbreak. I believe we must first get the virus "under control" (reducing the community spread as much as possible) and then resume more in-person/building interactions. We are all yearning to get back to normal, but to rush back without community responsibility and CDC recommended complete precautions in place would put us in a worse position in the long run. Students will get sick. Teachers &amp; staff will get sick. There would be much more reactive education happening vs. taking our time and easing back in methodically and deliberately. (As an example, the Ft Leavenworth SAMS class on post started a few weeks ago. There have already been a few instructors who have tested positive. What does this look like in a K-12 school district with classes coming in and out of quarantine?)</p> <p>Kindergarten has proven to be a bad health year for every one of my boys. For all 3, their first year of full time school was one of many colds and viruses. This past year was no different. My child was enrolled in 5 day pre-K and he had many illnesses. These bugs were also brought home to me and as such, I was ill for a lot of the year. There is no reason in my mind to think that this virus would be any different. Kids will pass this around and adults in their lives will be infected. Even if it holds true that kids won't get as sick, the adults they come in contact with do not have that luxury. I don't see how we can in good conscience rush into full time in-person schooling knowing that transmission will occur</p>
7/20/2020 21:56:18	Erin	Cecil		Lansing	
7/20/2020 21:56:26	Stephanie	Walsh	Aurora Public Schools	AURORA	Yes until we have no new cases and going down.
7/20/2020 21:56:30	Jennifer	Stipetich	Part time teacher	Liberty	Please wait until after Labor Day to open school. In fact wait till our state has this infection rate down
7/20/2020 21:56:42	Elaine	Robinson	School	Kansas	Delay school year online learning only
7/20/2020 21:56:47	Tracie	Wright	Olathe School District	Olathe	With Covid cases at an all time high and continuing to rise in Kansas, it seems irresponsible to even consider opening schools at this time. The current data shows a drastic jump in the number of children are testing positive and this is without even being in a school setting. We cannot risk the safety and health of students and staff with this virus being so wide spread in our community. Once we can flatten the curve, it would be appropriate to consider reopening schools, but not until that happens. Teachers want to be back in the classroom! We miss our students, but we should not be expected to return until it is proven safe. If numbers continue to increase, virtual learning is the best option to ensure everyone's safety. Please allow Governor Kelly's executive order to keep schools closed until at least Labor Day to pass. Our state, students, and staff need more time!
7/20/2020 21:56:48	Tyller	Torrez		Topeka	If our children cannot go to school, I don't want any school. I cannot realistically home school 4 children while raising 2 babies. This also now presents a child care issue because both parents work. What about single moms? Where will the children go? Their dad and I work around corona virus every shift at work. None of us have been sick. Sanitize and clean, but don't delay.
7/20/2020 21:57:11	Crystal	Martinez	Usd 457	Garden city	I would prefer schools to be delayed in the opening process.
7/20/2020 21:57:21	Justine	Hadley		Atwood	I think the decision on when to begin and what precautions to take should be left to the district to decide. Here is rural northwest Kansas we don't have the same challenges of larger districts.
7/20/2020 21:57:26	Samantha	Roberts		Manhattan,KS	As a teacher I would really appreciate the extra time to work with the teachers in my district to come up with contingencies as well as ensure we can all operate the technology we will be expected to use throughout the year. At this point, my district hasn't given any answers regarding assignments, class schedules, etc, which has become very worrisome in this climate where I feel like I need to plan for everything. I just can't do anything until decisions are made and I'm running out of time.

7/20/2020 21:57:31	Sara	Roberts		Winfield	Hi, I am a stay at home mom of 5! A 7th, 5th, and 1st grader. I have a 4th kid, who is suppose to start pre school. I am fine with starting school after labor day. My 7th grader, mentally needs to go back to school, my 5th grader has dyslexia, dyscalculia, and needs to have his IEP needs met! However I am against students wearing masks. It will cause a huge distraction!! You cannot expect little kids to wear a mask all day. Especially ones with sensory disorders, or autistic kids, who do not do good with change. My husband is a police officer and has worked through this pandemic. With good hygiene and covering the mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing, will help. This virus has a high recovery rate, no different then the flu. I appreciate your time and know this is not an easy decision. Thank you
7/20/2020 21:57:41	Britnee	McKinney		Colby	What does delaying the school year do? It just lets us all have the opportunity to keep traveling and invite more risk to exposure before the start of the year. Also, we would start closer to the colder months so the virus would just be getting ready for the second wave. It would be better to just get started on time so that students and teachers could get set up with possible online schooling in case schools were to shut down again. During April and May, lots of my peers posted photos and videos of get-togethers. Teenagers will get together anyway! As far as the length of the year, what was the plan with this? Was the school year going to be cut short, or was the whole year going to be shifted? It seems like this plan wasn't even thought through! Governor Kelly's decisions have proved many things about her character, including the fact that she is selfish and power-hungry. Through many of the decisions she has made for the state of Kansas, she has attempted to take freedoms from citizens. There are some communities, like Colby, that aren't even close to the amount of cases or population as places like Topeka.
7/20/2020 21:57:49	Linda	Schukman	Self	Leavenworth	Please refer to medical and scientific information as you make your decision. I thank you all for serving on the board, especially during this very tough time. I urge you to support Gov Kelly's order, so we can have a small chance to get the virus under control, and school districts can have adequate time to prepare.
7/20/2020 21:57:49	Trisha	Smith	USD 239	Minneapolis	Out kids should be IN SCHOOL! They should be IN SPORTS! They should get to be kids! I am a nurse and the Deputy Director at our health department. Our local schools district spent a great deal of time planning for the best way to keep our children safe while keeping their lives as normal as possible! Governor Kelly is WAY OUT IF LINE!
7/20/2020 21:57:51	Teresa	Hall	Relative of a staff memb	KC	My daughter teaches and has a 4 month old child. Not only would she need to make sure her students were safe at all times, she would also have the worry about contracting covid and taking it home to her family. Please delay reopening of schools.
7/20/2020 21:57:51	Julie	Samuels	Pre K - 12	Osawatomic	The idea of having time to prepare for school is a gift. We asked educators to change how they teach in a matter of hours and they did an outstanding job. We have learned so much about the process. Now, we need time with our teachers to reflect, pivot and fully understand Navigating Change: Kansas' Guide to Learning and School Safety Operations. By allowing districts to work with their staff prior to students arriving for school would be beneficial for all to ensure we are providing the best learning environment for our students and families.
7/20/2020 21:57:55	Cyndi	Haines	Parent	Topeka	Why don't you let the families and teachers choose between going to school or the online option? I think decisions like this hurt our kids and put them in way more danger than this virus ever will. Already hurting families are being made to find childcare or leave their kids at home. How are people going to afford to arrange for child care? How are these kids going to catch up? How will they be fed when they rely on meals? How will their mental and physical health be affected by these decisions to close and delay our schools? I simply don't understand. The facts surrounding this virus do not justify delaying or closing our schools. Please, give us the choice!
7/20/2020 21:57:55	Beth	Schlesener	USD475	Hope	I support the governor's decision to delay schooling and I hope the school board votes to uphold her decision. Please put the safety of teachers, Staff,, and students before your political bias.



7/20/2020 21:57:59	Sara	Kopper	Parent and employee of	Newton	Please support the delay to give our schools and teachers time to develop rigorous, engaging and safe options for education that include a hybrid model for the health of everyone. Three more weeks will be doable for kids' emotional health and can make a huge difference in the educational experience this year. Teachers being less anxious and more prepared will help our kids return with less anxiety and give them engaging lessons. With case counts rising, more time to prepare can help make education meaningful and safe for all.
7/20/2020 21:58:01	Kellie	Allison	Democrat	Sedan	I'm against opening back up fully unless there are stricked safety safety rules set in place to keep staff and children safe. As a para professional I'm worried about social distancing. Especially with children who love hugging everybody. I also believe it should be required to wear a mask.
7/20/2020 21:58:03	Carissa	Hearn		Stafford	K
7/20/2020 21:58:11	Carrie	Allen	Parent	Fort Scott	I am not in favor of delaying the start of KS schools. Each district can decide when they are comfortable starting the school year. For those in areas with higher percentage of cases they may decide to start later, but other schools in areas with lower percent of cases should not be delayed. All schools should have resources or solutions in place for remote learning, whether it is because school is delayed, individuals are at risk or in the event that a student does become ill.
7/20/2020 21:58:15	Amanda	Ridder	Myself	Manhattan	I truly believe the smart thing to do is to wait to open schools until after Labor Day. 1. We can see what happens with the numbers & how other states fair opening schools. 2. This gives districts more time to put precautions in place to make sure we are not rushing back into schools without proper PPE and protocols in place. I live in Riley county. May 31 we had 66 cases of Covid. Today we have 398. That's an outstanding rate of growth in number of active cases that's not going to improve when the college students return to our community. Our teachers, students and their families deserve for the board to wait and see what happens with the numbers and to give districts more time to prepare. Please approve the governor's order. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:58:16	Pearl	Rassette	Mom of child, teacher in	Garden City	Delaying will help us have a safer start to the year. Kids were already practicing here and they aren't social distancing and many not wearing masks. Please follow the executive order.
7/20/2020 21:58:17	Abbi	Smith	MI grade school	Medicine Lodge	This is NOT a one size fit all. We have little to NO case in our county and we DO NOT need to make our kids wear a mask or start school any later. You had multiple teachers put together guidelines to us to follow. They spent hours upon hours working on that, and we have implemented their guideline. Why have them spend so much time on it to throw it out. Why can't each district decide what's best off your guidelines. This is not a ONE SIZE FIT ALL. Stop taking our rights away and please let us do what's best for us.
7/20/2020 21:58:19	Kim	Wantschik	Parent of 3 kids with IE	Olathe	I support delaying the start of the school year for the safety of children and teachers and our community.
7/20/2020 21:58:25	Melissa	Gener		Overland Park	I'm a physician, mom of 4, and the wife of a high school teacher. My husband's School is not currently prepared for students to return in August. There are no additional precautions in place. We visited the school over the weekend to see what had been done and there were no changes from last year in March. He class rosters are full (24 student) and social distancing will be impossible in his classroom. We have already chosen to do virtual school for our own children to protect them. My husband doesn't currently have the luxury of choosing to keep himself safe. If you allow schools to start in Mid August as originally planned, he will be exposed to 125 additional people everyday (and that doesn't include exposure to teachers and staff, that's just his students) with little, if any additional protection. The schools need more time to prepare. Please give them that time.
7/20/2020 21:58:30	Jeremy	Demuth	USD 382	Pratt	I'm not for delaying our kids education, so my vote is against this executive order. We had already established our model for returning to safe educational standards proposed by KSDE. Our children's future relies solely on returning to quality education in the classroom. Science shows kids are not the main concern for this virus, but they are the ones getting punished more than those who should be on heightened distancing for their health safety.
7/20/2020 21:58:32	Wei	Lu		Overland Park	Could school open at middle of August as originally scheduled but flexible teaching methods are provided? If COVID-19 case is still rising, school can start with online class. When COVID-19 case is reduced, school can be adjusted to in-person class at any time. The online class means the students meet the teacher online at the same schedule as regular school hours. Meeting students online once or twice a week may not be an option. Thank you!
7/20/2020 21:58:39	April	Kemper	Parent	Pratt	Do not delay. Get these kids in school

7/20/2020 21:58:39	Audra	Levis	None	Salina	Classroom management, especially in the lower grades is super challenging. Adding the mandatory mask will make it impossible. Teachers were already maxed out! What percentage of the Kansas population passed away over the last 16 weeks? How does that compare with the percentage of last year or years before looking at the same time frame? Is there an increased difference and if so is it enough to justify the great cost in liberties Kansans have experience over the last 16 weeks?
7/20/2020 21:58:47	Sheri	Heron		Wichita	There are government agencies and businesses not yet open in Wichita because it isn't safe. Why are we considering it safe to open schools? I want assurance that social distancing will be possible in every classroom. Covid is temporary, and health and safety should be the priority
7/20/2020 21:59:00	Katherine	Houlehan		Leawood	I fully support the delay in starting school—for the Safety of students and staff alike.
7/20/2020 21:59:04	Debbie	Moody	KSSDB	Wichita	Please delay the beginning of the school year
7/20/2020 21:59:09	Daniel	Beyer		Wichita	I'm a school bus driver for the 259 district. I support the delay of school amidst this pandemic. We can't take chances with the lives of our kids. We need to wait until we are at a point where we can guarantee our students safety. If we rush into this we could very well damage the health and lives of students and teachers alike. I'm not trying to underplay the importance of school. But it's better to wait then to open up and get everyone sick and have to shut down again.
7/20/2020 21:59:25	Kelly	Dewey	parent	McDonald/Atwood ( Ra	We are a rural community (1-A school) with no cases. Please leave it up to local school boards and officials. It shouldn't be a one-size fits all solution. The kids have been together and again we are a small school. They need to be in school!
7/20/2020 21:59:26	Lynda	Downing		Bucklin	Please postpone opening. Our school district needs more time to prepare.
7/20/2020 21:59:30	Michele	Wolff		Wichita	PLEASE delay school opening. It's not safe yet.
7/20/2020 21:59:33	Takara	Brownridge		Junction City	I agree with school starting after labor day but I feel that e-learning would be best until second semester. I do and I know there are many other ways to be exposed to COVID. There are people saying that as teachers we should be preparing a will. I'm 25. Is being in school really worth it? Asking for myself, parents, students, anybody really who will be in a school.
7/20/2020 21:59:35	Dawn	James		Buhler	I agree that Reno County is not ready for students to attend school. School should be considered when COVID cases are leveling out, PPE is secured, and testing is widespread. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to our children!
7/20/2020 21:59:37	Arlene	Clark	Personal	Topeka	I think it should be left up to the county kids need to go back to school if leaving it up county isn't an option then you should send kids back as soon as possible I was a former teacher if kids wait much longer they are loosing valuable learning
7/20/2020 21:59:41	C	Russell	Kansas Teacher	Lawrence (teach in a dif	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order. Being a teacher in a fairly wealthy district, I still went the entire year last year without my hand sanitizer dispenser being filled because they only has enough to fill classroom teachers instead of SPED teacher's rooms. I think time and money will be needed for teachers to be safe going back without having to spend our first several paychecks on cleaning supplies and protective equipment, let alone prep for 3 different potential service models that we may have to move in and out of throughout the year.
7/20/2020 21:59:49	Amanda	Cousins	Paraprofessional at king	Kingman	Let school happen like normal. No masks no distance. We can't live in fear of something that has had less impact than H1N1 where people still lived life normally
7/20/2020 21:59:50	Rhiannon	Minster		Overland park	I am very happy the school year was postponed. I want my sister to have a great senior year, and most of the important events are in the spring. If delays, or even online schooling, will keep everyone safe for a good reopening in the spring then I'm happy.

7/20/2020 21:59:50	Anna	Hamilton		Leawood	I am a rising junior at Blue Valley North High School. Throughout the governor's press conference regarding her executive orders, she claims that she cannot, in good conscience, open schools in mid August this year. On the contrary, how can the Board of Education, in good conscience, make the decision to continue jeopardizing the education of Kansas students. The decision to eliminate, in essence, an entire month from the school year would have significant implications on the amount of material that students are able to learn in the academic year. I am a student with a rigorous schedule, filled with 6 AP classes out of my 7 class schedule. Each of my classes are so content heavy, that missing even a week of those classes means missing a piece of it that we cannot get back, due to the tight schedule we must keep in order to get through all of our content before the AP exams in early May. I feel that with online learning last quarter, I have missed a fourth of each of my classes, as there is no way to replicate the in-classroom experience from home. It is crucial that we students go back to school this fall, not only for the educational aspect of our lives, but for our mental health. There are certain relationships that exist within the school setting that do not necessarily exist outside of it. The extension of our time away from school will most certainly be met with an onslaught of mental health issues within our teens, and sadly, the continuing rise of teen suicide rates, as students will not be able to access their school's mental health resources in the same way outside of school. I beg you to consider the students and how much we NEED school in our lives and send us back to school, with the necessary precautions to keep us and our school staff safe. Thank you.
7/20/2020 21:59:54	Diana	Beitz		Topeka	As a teacher who is considered high-risk, please seriously consider postponing the start of school. I do not want to be collateral damage.
7/20/2020 21:59:55	Staci	Montgomery	I am a public school edu	Almena	This is NOT a Partisan ISSUE! It is a SAFETY issue! Please follow through on Gov. Kelly's order to wait to open. We are just now seeing how the virus is attacking our rural areas. We need the time to prepare our schools, our rural health care, and our students for proper protocol. Schools will struggle to have masks, hand sanitizer, etc. by the regular scheduled date. Waiting will ease the stress of those basic needs.  Will we know right away if following this is the mandate is the right decision? Probably not. But if we open too soon, we will find out very quickly if you've made the wrong decision. Err on the side of caution, please.
7/20/2020 21:59:57	Devan	Collins		Shawnee	It's not safe for children to return to school. Nor is it just the children that need to be considered in the return to school, the hundreds of adults that make a school operate are also at risk. If we closed schools in March out of caution, it's utterly ridiculous to imagine opening schools in-person when the country and state are still breaking records for daily case increases. Teachers are not responsible for child care and should not be put at risk so other adults may return to work. I am not a babysitter willing to risk my life and contract this plague. I am an educator who would like to see her students when it's safe and we're all still alive. We can't teach when we're dead.
7/20/2020 22:00:04	Kelly	Jenkinson	Student	Dighton	Open schools normally & on time.
7/20/2020 22:00:11	Taylor	Rodriguez	Usd 231 and usd 290	Gardner	Please open schools!
7/20/2020 22:00:12	Erica	Massman	Parent	Leawood	I trust Kansas Public Health officials and agree with following the science to protect students and teachers. Delaying the start of the school year is the right thing to do.
7/20/2020 22:00:23	Kimberly	Martin		Overland Park	I am a school nurse in JOCO and parent of a senior at SMS. We can not open until our cases have decreased consistently for 2 weeks or we will be shutting schools constantly and will have no teachers able to work due to quarantines. It is not feasible to check the temperatures of 600 to 2400 staff and students daily upon entry. This will take all day and will risk people congregating in close quarters at entrances and there is no good evidence that is effective. Only 40% of adults develop fevers and fewer kids do. People are contagious 2 to 3 days before symptoms start. It will also be hard to maintain distancing in classrooms. Mandatory masking and hand sanitizer every hour is feasible and once our numbers allow for in person learning these should be done. Please support the executive order so we have extra time to see if our cases can drop below the gating criteria so that we can have at least a blended opening when we start.

7/20/2020 22:00:29	Ryan	Kirchoff	None	Garden City	This is absurd. There is absolutely ZERO data that shows kids are at risk. They have a better chance of being struck by lightning than becoming seriously ill from this. Its time to listen to the data, and stop hiding. Kids are needed for herd immunity. School is a necessity. The 6 weeks of online schooling to end last year was a complete and total waste. My kids (9 & 7) were not challenged, missed their teachers and friends, and got absolutely nothing out of that. They will have been out of school for nearly 6 months on Labor Day. Please let counties decide whats best for our kids. Not some political hack in Topeka.
7/20/2020 22:00:39	Lynann	Hageman	Teachers and parents	Cunningham	Start school at regular time. Temperature check before school and at noon. Teachers wear mask if they want.
7/20/2020 22:00:44	Corey	Dunlap		Kinsley	As a teacher in a small, western KS district, what is beneficial for us may be different than what may be beneficial for urban areas and larger districts. Please consider allowing districts to decide for themselves when is appropriate to open their doors. Many schools and districts are ready now!
7/20/2020 22:00:48	Bobbi	Westmoreland		Hutchinson/Nickerson	<p>Hello, I am writing you as the mother of 2 school aged children &amp; wife of a Para/Coach. I stay home with my special needs child, so my husband is our only source of income. If you accept the order, PLEASE ensure that it includes provisions for Classified staff to still somehow get paid. Being a 9 month employee that isn't salaried, they aren't eligible for unemployment benefits. Classified staff/Paraprofessionals are essential to the schools, but if they are all forced to find other jobs, there will be no support staff available for when schools do open! Teachers are already paid for the year, so they are content with having extra time to plan, etc. We are currently living off of his coaching stipends which sounds like that could be getting pulled from us at any moment, too. It's also not fair to the seniors who are potentially being forced to forfeit their sports/extracurriculars which ultimately could cost them scholarships, etc. Most of all, the special education students are not being thought about at all. They are struggling the most here. What about the kids who don't have the best home life? Please reject the order. Let the districts go through with starting school as already planned. Parents can choose to do virtual distance learning option if they don't feel comfortable. Have waivers for sports participation if necessary.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p>Bobbi Westmoreland 620-262-5422 Dhmmama@icloud.com</p>
7/20/2020 22:00:55	Kathy	Bigelow	Parent	Shawnee	I support the executive order to delay the start of school and require masks and hand sanitizer.
7/20/2020 22:00:58	Kim	Sramek		Atwood	Yes to delaying- no to masks for the younger kids
7/20/2020 22:00:59	Brenda	Schwing		Wichita	I think the local school districts should have the power to make their own decisions about how schools will operate based on the conditions in their area. There is a wide range of how areas are affected by COVID and school decisions should not be a "one size fits all" approach. Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 22:01:01	Robin	Reed	USD 332	Cunningham	Our small district has much different needs than the larger districts in Kansas. Please let these decisions be left up to the individual districts with assistance from local health departments.
7/20/2020 22:01:08	Megan	Duerksen	USD 411 - teacher	Goessel	I felt so relieved when the governor announced this as I have put off planning for this fall given all the unknowns. I think this lets districts know it's okay to start late, to give extra time and attention to safety. I would also hope that this gives the virus time to slow down too. Maybe this could increase the chances of meeting on-site!
7/20/2020 22:01:09	Dina	Parent	Teacher	Weir	I am fully supportive of Gov. Kelly's delayed school starting date. I believe this is in best interests of safety for students and staff. Districts just received the Navigating Change document last week!! This time is needed to make buildings safe, and allow teachers to plan multiple models of instruction., so that we can start school in person and stay that way.
7/20/2020 22:01:10	Elizabeth	Stang		Salina	I am in favor of masks in schools.
7/20/2020 22:01:15	Jennette	Rogers	Parent of 3 children who	Cunningham	Please allow my children to start school in August. They desperately need this. Online did not work for them and my oldest was depressed. I voted for Kelly as our governor because I thought she was for supporting schools and quality education. I am sad to see her not supporting education. This mandate isn't but what is best for my children. We live in a small school. Please let our school board decide what is best for our community. Give us a chance please. At the very least, compromise and think of just letting 6-12 go back to school. Then bring the younger ones in later. The older ones really need each other.

7/20/2020 22:01:15	Michelle	Schulze	Lebo High School	Melvern	Please delay the opening of schools. We are in the middle of an outbreak, and schools need more time to prepare. Starting school will be dangerous for all students, especially for my daughter who has asthma.
7/20/2020 22:01:16	Jason	Nichols		El Dorado	You do what you think is best. I want kids to go to school and I want sports (I am a teacher and coach), but I also know these are difficult decisions to be made. Do what you think is best.
7/20/2020 22:01:26	jill	stuart	olathe kansas	olathe	The decision should be local - up to the districts/counties, NOT STATE WIDE
7/20/2020 22:01:26	Kaitlin	Duboise		Hutchinson	Please delay opening schools! Our children and teachers deserve The extra time to decide if they shod return to school. Ks is a red zone.
7/20/2020 22:01:27	Sara	Passan	Parent	Prairie Village	Done
7/20/2020 22:01:30	Benjamin	Hohly	Myself	Overland Park	I believe the governor's orders are valid. The infection rates are too high to expect a safe return to in person instruction. I am a teacher and don't feel comfortable with an immediate return to school.
7/20/2020 22:01:31	Rosanne	Woolf	-	Cheney	PLEASE, let the children carry on their lives. Let them go back to being students, learners. They are hungry for a stable schedule. Adults are not thinking of the little ones. They are not carriers, they are being punished for adults who are living in Fear!
7/20/2020 22:01:32	Erin	Dugan Michaud	None	Salina	Please vote in support of giving schools the extra time to prepare. We are living in unprecedented times and all stressed and anxious about what will happen in our future. I appreciate all the effort that you have put forth into safeguarding the future generation. Please help the schools to also continue safeguarding our future by giving them some much needed time to prepare and order/receive the necessary safety equipment and sanitizing materials.
7/20/2020 22:01:45	Jake	Thimesch	USD 259 Southeast Hig	Wichita	I think delaying until after Labor Day is a good move. My wife is also a teacher. My son is about to be in fourth grade, and our other children attend daycare at the same school that I teach in. We need the number of new transmissions down before we go back because my family doesn't have an option. We're going to be in schools and most likely exposed to the virus. My city is a hot spot, and my zip code has seen an uptick as well. We need things to be as safe as possible.
7/20/2020 22:01:51	Adam	Cohen	Parent	SHawnee	I support the executive order delaying the start of school and requiring masks and hand sanitizer
7/20/2020 22:01:55	Dallis	Rogers		Olathe	I have an only child going in to 2nd grade and my spouse and I both work. In fact my wife works for the school district. My son needs to be at school for his social and emotional well being. During the lockdown he changed significantly. During most of the day he sat by himself as I am an essential worker outside of the home and she was on zoom meetings all day. I noticed signs of depression and withdrawal. His progress we made educationally during last year is gone. He will be behind when he goes back without a doubt. I am asking you to consider the studies of covid 19 that show that not only do children rarely contract the disease but also almost never transmit it to adults. Furthermore only 26 children under the age of 15 have died from the disease and all were immunocompromised. Nearly 150 have died from influenza. The cure cannot be worse than the disease and I believe we have reached that threshold. Please take the advice of nearly every pediatrician and get these kids back to school! Thank you!
7/20/2020 22:01:56	Jessica	Gould		Osawatomic	Please allow districts to make their own decisions. A rural school and a larger district cannot possibly be compared. Also, many kids have already safely been participating in summer sports such as travel ball and wrestling. Not to mention the large number of students statewide that have been attending (safely) summer conditioning programs. If a parent doesn't feel safe sending their child after reviewing the districts safety plan then they should choose another option for their family such as virtual or homeschool. Every child is different but I can tell you there are so many that need school for their safe space.
7/20/2020 22:01:57	Jennifer	Howerton		Overland Park	100% support the EO delaying the start of school. I cannot fathom, with the rise of cases, why we would not give our kids every chance to have as normal a school year as possible: delay start and PRAY that Kansans distance/wear masks, so we can keep each other safe.
7/20/2020 22:01:59	Hunter	King		Hutchinson	Keep schools closed
7/20/2020 22:02:07	George	Francis	Self	Olathe	Do not send our children back to school until it is safe. That would be following the CDC Guidelines and metrics for reopening. Keep the children home as long as necessary. And don't forget about the teachers and staff. They will be exposed also.

7/20/2020 22:02:14	Amanda	Cartwright	Piper middle school teacher	Basehor	<p>As a teacher and a parent I believe it is best to provide schools the time (and money) to implement the wonderful plan you provided us last week. This extra 3 weeks could help see if cases in counties most effective level off/ decrease and provide teachers the ability to best prepare for the year ahead and receive training needed to implement new policies.</p> <p>As a teacher my fear is not being comfortable with new requirements before returning to school and then not performing these to fidelity. Many schools are purchasing new programs that staff need trained on, or are moving to competency based learning. The extra time before starting school will help teachers gain confidence in these items and the new building requirements pertaining to cleaning and disinfecting.</p> <p>All teachers want to return to their classroom and students. But we also believe that returning to school is not worth a single life being lost because of a quick return to normal. This year will not be normal and the safety of our children is always at the front of teachers mind.</p> <p>Politics aside, ask yourself what is best for the students? Would I want my child, grandchild, or other family members in school buildings exposed to a virus we don't truly know the long term affects of, or have good data on how it affects children.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
7/20/2020 22:02:17	Jennifer	Storey	USD 500- Lowell Brune	Mission	As a kindergarten teacher with a compromised immune system due to an autoimmune disease, I am terrified to return to school in person. I understand the importance of children being instructed in person, especially with teaching such a young age group of students; however if I get sick there is a VERY GOOD chance of me being hospitalized and possibly not recovering. This isn't coming from me, this is coming from my specialist who oversees my disease. I am a dedicated, caring, loving, talented educator. Please treat me as such and delay the school year to increase the likelihood of me staying healthy and being able to educate these young minds for many years to come. Thank you.
7/20/2020 22:02:17	Nicole	Thieme		Pratt	I believe delaying the start of in person school is the best option. I believe Laura Kelly has the peoples best interest in mind. My kids will be homeschooled this year and will not be guinea pigs.
7/20/2020 22:02:27	Linda	Dold	Olathe elementary para	Overland Park	School should start in September. Teachers need time to prepare for all the expectations the current circumstances are requiring.
7/20/2020 22:02:27	Ann	Garrison	USD 306	Salina	Do not delay school
7/20/2020 22:02:33	Heather	King	Concerned parent and te	Fort Scott	You have got to keep them closed until we get this under control. My 18 year old son got it from being around a positive person in doors for less than four days. It is not going to be good to get them together in a classroom until we figure this out.
7/20/2020 22:02:39	Matt	Olson	Parent	Hays	Keep schools closed and give us back our tax money. We will show you how much better private citizens are than government.
7/20/2020 22:02:42	Mac	Atha		Bel Aire	<p>Keep teachers, staff &amp; students SAFE. State requires vaccinations to be in schools, but this highly communicable virus does not...yet. Please make the right choices for our teachers, staff &amp; students. Without healthy teachers to teach the children, who will? Especially specials teachers. They will see the WHOLE school, if they get sick, the whole school will have been infected. Or they will pass the virus from room to room.</p> <p>A solution, have specials do live streams so that students can interact and ask questions. Students need specials to have something fun to look forward too.</p> <p>I realize there isn't a "right" answer, but the health and safety should be paramount.</p> <p>Thank you for all your hard choices. We know it's not easy. - In prayer...</p>
7/20/2020 22:02:46	Matt	Olson	Parent	Hays	Keep schools closed and give us back our tax money. We will show you how much better private citizens are than government.

7/20/2020 22:03:04	Dorie	Falcon	USD 305	Salina	I want to have the schools open and have the kids come to face to face classes. We can try the masks, distancing as much as possible, and the sanitizing. Let's see what happens! The kids are playing together at each other's houses.
					<p>I'm writing to voice my opinion on the upcoming school year. I'm in favor of opening as scheduled. I know that perhaps the governor doesn't agree but in our community we do not have a huge spike in Covid-19 cases. These kids we are delaying from entering the schools are falling more and more behind. Let's face it most of us parents aren't equipped with the knowledge we would need to teach our children at home. We made the last nine weeks of last school year work but It was not helpful for the children. With seven kids I can tell you that our kids learned very little of anything. You have some excellent teachers but not all of them are tech savvy. And let's talk about zoom meetings and elementary school kids, it consists of about five minutes of instruction and 45 minutes of redirecting the students. It didn't work. Now, add in the fact that most parents that were home are now working again. They need the income but if they weren't much help to their students before it's only going to get worse.</p> <p>Older kids need the structure of being with their classmates and teachers. I know we want them to be responsible, but if a student doesn't want to participate in a classroom setting they most certainly won't participate in zoom meetings. The fight that ensues to get them to the meetings only distances them further from learning the content the teacher sets before them.</p> <p>Rather than only offering criticism and complaints and in the spirit of compromise, I offer a possible solution. Now we don't know how sports will play out this year, but what if we lengthened the school days to be able to have Friday's off? That would give Friday's to janitorial staff to clean and disinfect. It would also give teachers time to work on online options should we get to a point that might have to be implemented. Should we have to go online again it needs to be more uniform. Information needs to be easy to access for parents of every student. As parents we need to know, even with our older kids, what they are supposed to be doing. During a typical school year the teachers are able to monitor and encourage kids to get stuff done. Online does not foster that. It becomes the parents job and some students don't share what they are supposed to be doing.</p> <p>If we delay the kids going into actual school we are only hurting their educations and making the jobs of the teachers More difficult to get them back on track. In our community, we have already been going on vacations and having large gatherings. Our covid numbers have not spiked. The governors solutions do not apply to every community including ours. Covid is not going away any time soon. We have to do our best to move forward and protect not only our health but also the minds and livelihoods of our students' futures.</p>
7/20/2020 22:03:40	Tyler	Kough		Scott City	
7/20/2020 22:03:42	Rachel	Cook	Blue Valley School Dist	Olathe	Please delay school in person to allow schools the required materials to keep our teachers, students, and staff safe. Students are able to spread this virus and it's not worth putting even 1% of the population in harms way.
7/20/2020 22:03:44	Jo	Skidmore		Goddard	Please vote to have schools start after Labor Day. Please help keep students and teachers safe after all the ways we have tried to stay safe all summer. Social Distancing will work and needs to be priority when we return. Thank you
7/20/2020 22:03:44	Beth	Oller, MD	Solomon Valley Family	Stockton	I believe it is in the best interest of public health and the safety of students and employees to delay opening unless and until it can be proven we have a significant downward trend. I think that planning at least the first quarter online is most feasible.

7/20/2020 22:03:49	Crista	Strong	My children, my school,	Bel Aire	<p>The choice is simple. Either we are free in America or you are going to take our freedom away and shut down schools, BUT make us keep paying for them. Talk about taxation without representation. My children attend private school so I pay for public schools, yet receive no benefit from it. So are we free or not? I mean, are we still free if we are not protesting? Because we know they are free from mandates or consequences. So are the rest of us still free and truly represented by those we elect to speak for us?</p> <p>If people are scared and want online the online option has been available for over a decade already. It is called K-12 online. If people want to send their kids to school let them. If they do not want to put a filthy germ soaked mask on them they should not have to. We are free to choose in this country and this state how we want to live. You are forcing all of us to live the way only some of us want to. I should not be controlled by someone else's fear. Do your job and represent your constituents. We do not all want to keep our kids home or not teach. I want to get together and actually educate the kids I teach.</p> <p>The powers that be have been dishonest and misleading with data and we have NO faith in them or their information. Many of us are smart enough to notice they only post positive cases without listing the numbers of hospitalizations or deaths. We are not all unable to realize the manipulation. People choose everyday to make many choices that affect their health in negative ways, but we do not take everyone else's freedom away as a result. The chances of a child dying in a car wreck on the way to school are higher than a child getting and dying from COVID. Stop taking away our options.</p> <p>It was useless to limit our draconian governor's powers if you weren't going to actually stand up for what the majority of the people want.</p> <p>Kelly wants to wait until after Labor Day to start school so that people will get together for the holiday right before school starts. Then we may get an uptick of cases within the first couple weeks and she can blame it on schools and shut down the world again. By then kids will have been out of school for 6 months. Some of these kids will never recover. For many of them they have not had a safe place to go or a good warm meal or a hug and intellectual</p>
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7/20/2020 22:04:02	Jim	Turner		Scott City	<p>It is absurd to throw a blanket policy over every district in the state. I believe local districts and communities are smart enough to do what is best for their people.</p> <p>We have had 160+ kids, 7th-12th grade, in 5 groups, going through our summer workouts in a weight room. We have stayed under the prescribed number, no mask, and do not have a single case. We clean the equipment after each group. I have had 4 kids text me the morning of, not feeling well. They were all checked and received negative results for COVID before returning. We have kids traveling throughout Kansas, and neighboring states for family events and athletic competitions. Still, not a single case.</p> <p>I am not saying the virus isn't real, but if we don't live in fear of influenza, and every other harmful thing in the world, why are we of this. I would venture to say more high school kids die from car accidents, than from this virus. Is the Governor going to make an executive order taking the keys away from all teenage drivers? Yes, I realize the virus can impact others, but so can a teenage driver. If the on-line health department's statistics are correct, there hasn't been a school age child die of this yet.</p> <p>The latest science shows that children are not at a high risk. Why are they still being punished? I hope that some common sense is used, to allow community's to make their own decisions. Parents would always still have the option to homeschool their children if they don't feel that it is safe.</p> <p>Finally, by the Governor's plan, as I read it, kids are going to be allowed to continue being active and competing throughout the state, then on August 10, it all stops for 3 weeks, then Shazam, all our problems are fixed! The schools don't need three weeks to figure out how they are going to handle the kids coming back. What has every administrator been doing the last 4-5 months since she cancelled school. Our Superintendent &amp; administrators have been consumed with this exact thing since a March.</p>
7/20/2020 22:04:11	Sarah	Lilly	Blue Valley Schools	Olathe	I strongly believe that school should be offered in a virtual setting until this virus is under control. I am a young teacher with no underlying medical conditions and yet still do not feel comfortable being in a close contact environment jeopardizing the health of so many people I love and care about. Think of how traumatic it would be to send your child to school and have one of their teachers get sick and potentially die! I can't imagine the social emotional toll that would take on a child. It is hard to even mention that happening, but that is the reality children will face if schools are reopened. Please keep everyone safe. Please keep schools closed. Please require online learning for all.
7/20/2020 22:04:27	Tonya	Pearson		Wellsville	Please don't delay our kids' school year.
7/20/2020 22:04:45	Amber	Glover	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	As a teacher and parent I am not comfortable returning to school until this virus is under control. I cannot guarantee the safety of my students and fear for the health of my family. Please do not let our children and staff die.
7/20/2020 22:04:49	Cindy	Houtwed	I am a teacher	Cunningham	As a prek teacher, I am ready to go back to school! I am not in favor of masks for the grade school students. They will be a distraction to learning. If this means taking temps as walk into school fine. I personally saw students struggle with the virtual learning, including my grandkids. Some kids never even got on. I tried several ways to get a hold these students. Please do not put masks on grade school students and do not cancel school! Thank you
7/20/2020 22:04:54	Arlette	McIff		Olathe	I do not have school aged children, but am a K-5 Title 1 teacher. I'm not desirous to put anyone in danger, yet it seems that students being out of school for 5 months is enough. With the CDC warning that things will probably get much worse starting in Oct., it seems delaying the start of school makes it more likely that we really won't have students in school much at all. It seems like masks are our best option.
7/20/2020 22:05:14	Lesley	Brown	Parent	Shawnee -USD 232	For staff and student health/safety, schools should be remote and not held in person until covid case numbers are declining. With increasing numbers, on-site is not safe at this time and should be considered only once numbers are declining. Masks, social distancing, hand washing, and other safety procedures are an absolute must. Youth sports especially for indoor or close contact are not safe at this time.

7/20/2020 22:05:18	Kaitlyn	Bumgarner	Teacher at WPS	Wichita	I am a teacher in the Wichita school district, my husband also teaches in this district. As a teacher that is in the high risk category due to the fact after several years of fighting infertility my husband and I are finally pregnant with our first miracle baby, I am extremely nervous about going back to in person. Teaching special education I fully understand the importance of in person learning. However I also understand the importance of life. Life for students, teachers, staff, and families kids will be bringing germs home to. How can you put a price on someone's life by going back to soon? Our district is already under funded and we don't get the supplies we need as is. So I have little faith that we will get the proper supplies needed to keep ourselves, students, and families safe. And if so it definitely won't happen as quick as a couple weeks, when we are supposed to go back. In my opinion if you want us going back every teacher should be provided an n95 mask at zero cost to them. Supplies need to be given without out of pocket money spent by teachers, that we already spend hundreds of our own dollars a year getting stuff the district won't provide us. If you are going to treat us like front line workers, like nurses and doctors, then we should be provided the same safety gear they are. No kid wants the emotional burden knowing they brought germs to school that killed their friends and teachers. This will have much more of an emotional tole then taking some more time off or distance. Please don't make this political but think about the kids, adults, families and their safety. Think about the emotional toll it will take to watch friends, coworkers, and teachers die. Think about the safety of all! Think about our communities and the businesses. Think about what you are asking of us! In a setting where we can't control or maintain the safety measures taken in most places. Give the state and district time to make a good, safe plan and have time to implement it before staff and students start showing up. Stand up for physical and emotional health of the Kansas people, not just short term but long term!! Help us to have a long, strong, impactful life!! The classroom is full of our future leaders don't cut that opportunity short for them! Please follow the order and give us more time to prepare for a safe return for ALL!!
7/20/2020 22:05:22	Debora	Zachgo	Usd 298	Lincoln	As a local school board member I think we need this extra time to prepare for opening school in the safest way possible for students and faculty. The extra time will allow us the ability to aquire extra supplies and change the school day around to allow for smaller class sizes and plan ways to distance staff and students. I do not want students and faculty to be forces to wear mask in the classroom. We need time to modify the way we are doing things to limit the need for masks. I have concerns that requiring mask will cause families to keep their students at home. And for some families at home learning was a struggle. If we take a little extra time to plan and organize things better we can offer a safe opportunity for students to learn. Please do not require masks, recommend them for those that feel they need to wear them but do require them. In our community we have only had 5 positive cases and 4 have recovered. In communities were it is wide spread I understand the need for masks, allow local districts to make the mask decision based on local health recommendations.
7/20/2020 22:05:27	Melissa	Gansen	Holy Trinity	Olathe	Please consider the needs of our children to be in school. We need our kids to return to in person classes for their mental health and to not fall behind in their education.
7/20/2020 22:05:27	Maria	Montano		Garden City	I would rather wait until after Labor day to see if our cases go down. I'd rather keep my kids safe.
7/20/2020 22:05:31	Amber	Zwierzychowski	SCKSEC / Chaparral Hi	Kingman	Our local board of education members have their hands tied by political and financial pressures. They, and many other districts are in panic mode. Our local BOE will not have a plan until 2 1/2 weeks before school starts.  Please support the governor's mandate to postpone school reopening in order to give the local health departments, schools, and teaching staff time to adequately prepare for the school year and its unique challenges.
7/20/2020 22:05:37	Kelli	Calhoon	Self	Shawnee, KS	Please approve the Governor's order to delay schools until after Labor Day. Our students deserve to have schools opening with adequate and appropriate PPE for them and for the educators and staff at each school. Our educators, admin and staff deserve to be protected and to have adequate time to develop a plan to have socially distanced in-person, hybrid, or virtual learning. An adequate program cannot be developed and implemented in two weeks. Please give our educators the time they need to provide our students a well-thought out and good experience with their schooling during a difficult time. Please don't add to the stress for our kids during these unprecedented times by making them enter a school that isn't adequately prepared.
7/20/2020 22:05:38	Nikole	Liles	Piper USD 203	Kansas City	Approve the delay to allow the schools time to make the safest decisions
7/20/2020 22:05:41	Amanda	McDonnell		Overland Park	Do NOT delay school

7/20/2020 22:05:49	Robert	Nowlin	Kansas City Kansas Pub	Kansas City, Kansas	Waiting a few weeks to start school would give us an opportunity to meet as a staff and plan. As a SPED teacher, it would give me and opportunity to go through my case load and design individualized plans for each student providing that the district has a reopening plan announced.
7/20/2020 22:05:55	Amy	Martin	Teacher	Easton	As a teacher we always need and want more time to get our lesson plans done, collaborate with our teachers, etc... Now I'm asking for TIME to prepare for this upcoming year. I need time to figure out my classroom procedures, I need time to collaborate with my co-teachers to figure out the best ways to instruct, I need to figure out how to manage restroom breaks, lunch, and hallway procedures. We always need more time, but this is TIME that will not be wasted and can benefit everyone in the end!!
7/20/2020 22:05:55	Amy	Higdon		Kansas City, KS	Opening schools to in person learning is a recipe for disaster!
7/20/2020 22:06:03	Susan	Marshall	Fort Riley Middle School	Manhattan	Please uphold Governor Kelly's delayed school starting mandate for the safety of both students and teachers. The extra time will allow districts more time to implement KSDE's recommendations and for the virus rate to slow down. Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 22:06:04	Gerardo	Perez		Wichita	I agree for the safety of our students and staff, including teachers, bus drivers, and any other person who contributes to our students education.
7/20/2020 22:06:05	Christina	Krause	Mother	Enterprise	The schools need to reopen and all classes and activities resume as usual.
7/20/2020 22:06:06	Jentri	Hahn		Tribune	I do not think it will make a difference/prevent disease spread if we delay the start of school. The harm of children not starting school and activities in August will far outweigh any positives that might come out of delaying until September. Kids need school and social interaction ASAP!
7/20/2020 22:06:06	Amanda	Gritzke		Overland Park	Please delay school starting
7/20/2020 22:06:11	Aimee	Kozushko	Parent	Derby	Delay school opening. Follow order
7/20/2020 22:06:12	Sarah	Crumrine	Parent of 3 Kansas students	Sedgwick	Local schools and health departments should be given control. Masks and social distancing and temp checks will be impossible and likely damaging for kids. Each district should have a remote option and also an in person option. I fear for the teenagers' mental health if they are not back with activities and school this fall. I am also a teacher. I'm ready to be back in my classroom. If we need masks to start the year, that's fine. But there needs to be an end in sight. When cases are down, health departments can lessen the restrictions. Social distancing isn't how humans interact and it can't be enforced in schools. This latest mandate has gone too far. I am heartbroken for the kids.
7/20/2020 22:06:17	Janr	Luthi	Parent	Madison	I support delaying the opening of school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 22:06:19	Christina	Krause	Mother	Enterprise	The schools need to reopen and all classes and activities resume as usual.
7/20/2020 22:06:42	Jessica	Wilson	Teacher at USD 310 Fair	Turon, KS	Our kids need to be back in school!
7/20/2020 22:06:48	Melissa	Taylor	Parent	Lawrence	Delay start of school until September. Social distancing should be happening in the classroom even when masks are worn.
7/20/2020 22:06:48	Shannon	Kaiser	Parent	Hoxie	Send our kids back to school as normal and on time
7/20/2020 22:07:03	Sheila	Demoret		Dodge City	I am a school teacher and I urge the state BOE to open schools up on time. My school district is a low income district and many of our children have been and continue to be separated from a safe support system. Our schools provide more than just education for our students. I fear that we are doing our students a grave disservice. I urge you to advocate for our children and leaving politics out of the decision making.

					<p>Please Submit Comments to The Kansas State Board of Education prior to 4:30 PM Tomorrow. The Board meets to vote on Governor Kelly's Mandate to delay School and Athletics until After Labor day @ 10 AM This Wednesday 7/22/2020</p> <p>Suggested Comment to submit:</p> <p>First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas.</p> <p>Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</li> <li>•No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</li> </ul> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p>
7/20/2020 22:07:10	Rob	Johnson	Teacher	Pittsburg	
7/20/2020 22:07:15	Lynn	Just	Hillsboro High School	Marion	Please delay school! Districts and teachers need the time to plan how to return safely.
7/20/2020 22:07:23	Tricia	Tadlock		Gardner	I have a incoming Freshman who is on a iep needs extra help with school. I have another Child with ADD that learns and does so much better in a classroom setting. All 4 of my children need the social aspect. Being out of school since March .This is getting ridiculous. My children choose not to do the home based learning cause all the teachers said its not required. So they did not take it seriously.
7/20/2020 22:07:33	Rhonda	Guess	Tax payer	Kansas City, Kansas	College needs to be delayed as well
7/20/2020 22:07:41	Suzanna	Paneno		Hays	Start after labor day. Do not require masks for 5th and under!!!!
7/20/2020 22:07:44	Amy	Hofer		Olathe	Please allow kids to participate in sports/extracurricular activities as planned. If classrooms need more time to prepare, to open in the safest way possible, then in person classes can begin after Labor Day... as long as classes actually do resume at that time. Kids need to be IN SCHOOL.
7/20/2020 22:07:46	Elisa	Mendoza		JC	keep schools close until after labor day please
7/20/2020 22:07:47	paul	schmidt		overland park	thank you
7/20/2020 22:07:50	Joy	Brown	USD232	Kansas City	I am a special education teacher. Though I miss my kids more than I can express, we are ABSOLUTELY NOT ready to go back to in person instruction! Our cases are rising statewide. Patients are contracting the virus at a younger age. This is not a political issue, it's medical! Why is the BOE, whose very institution relies on evidence and data for instructional decisions, choosing to ignore the evidence this time? Which of you are willing to roll up your sleeves and risk your life on a daily basis? Until every local School board is willing and able to 1. Hold open meetings in person and 2. Spend 40+ hours per week in a classroom with nothing more than sanitizer and a cloth mask, this shouldn't even be a discussion or decision to be made. NEVER in my career have I felt this devalued, and more importantly, never have I feared for the safety of my students and colleagues as I do now. How many kids and staff have to die before the BOE decides to do the right thing? I implore you to follow Gov. Kelly's example and do the right thing. Please. Kids' and teachers' lives are at stake.

7/20/2020 22:07:52	Danita	Price	USD 290	Ottawa	As an educator and a parent of an elementary, middle school, and high school student I URGE you to stand with our Governor and delay the school year! Although I believe in local control, at a time like this we need our leader to step in because Kansans are not taking this pandemic seriously. Yes, the death rate is low, but how do you explain that to that low percentage parent that lost their loved one which could be a principal, teacher, para, custodian, bus driver, food service, or student?!! When I was growing up we started the school year after Labor Day and with numbers spiking in so many communities it makes sense to wait instead of throwing our school staff and students into the unknown! Leave out politics, keep our schools SAFE!
7/20/2020 22:07:55	Megan	Greenway		Wichita	My son will be starting kindergarten this year and I fully support postponing the start of school until after Labor Day. If the BOE decides to override Governor Kelly's potential executive order and force schools to start at the usual time, we will be keeping him home to learn virtually until a later date when we feel it's safe to have in-person class. I really want him to have a somewhat traditional start to school, so in-person class is preferred. We will not send him to school however during a COVID surge. Thank you for your consideration.
7/20/2020 22:07:58	Kristie	King		Westmoreland	I support starting school at a later date and allowing schools additional time to obtain items necessary to ensure school can be conducted safely. With that being said, I absolutely want my children back in school this fall. I also want them to make-up the academic loss they suffered this past spring. Thank you for your attention to this matter.
7/20/2020 22:08:16	Tammy	Rowlett	my child	wichita	thank you governor for caring
7/20/2020 22:08:17	Samantha	Kessler	Kessler household- stud	Towanda	I would like children to return to school on time in my area, but also know that not all districts are the same. I believe each district is fully capable of making a decision to best fit its individual community. If there is an option to allow districts to choose when to start school, between August 12 and September 9, that is the option I prefer. I also ask that the mask not be mandatory. Students/staff/parents can decide what to do for their families. Elementary students will spend more time being taught/learning how to wear a mask than they will learning academics/curriculum, which is not why they go to school. Masks do not prevent the spread, but they do provide a false sense of security. I witness too many adults using "improper" mask hygiene to believe that students can use them in a manner that is effective.
7/20/2020 22:08:21	Allison	Edgar		Topeka	We have been closed since March 5th. Kids need to get back to real learning (crisis school was not learning) we need to stop using our kids as political poker chips and let the districts (who have been preparing all summer) to do what they have prepared. Stop messing up thousands of people's plan that they spend days and weeks doing! Let each district decide what's best for them!
7/20/2020 22:08:29	Shelly	Haya	6th grade teacher at USI	Maple Hill	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. I feel that this is in the best interest of both students and staff. Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 22:08:34	Tiffany	VanSickle		Olathe	I absolutely do not feel like Kansas should be treated as a whole where education is concerned. Since the Olathe School District has already been preparing for at least some online learning, I feel that they should still be able start on 8/13-14. Even if we need to do the first couple of weeks online, the kids need to be back "in" school! I really feel like the decision should be given to each district and how ready they feel!
7/20/2020 22:08:34	Nakeisha	Franklin	Parent	Kansas City	Thank you! Please accept the Govenors executive order to delay the start of school for the kids and staffs safety
7/20/2020 22:08:41	Nancy	Henderson	USD 259	Wichita	COVID cases are too high to safely attend schools at this time. In-person school should be delayed until we flatten the curve. As a teacher in a high poverty school, I know the safety guidelines will not be followed because it is impossible given our facilities. I'm not confident our district leaders will make the best decision and will succumb to the pressure to go back too soon. It is a recipe for disaster.

					The Governor is going to far with her school agendas. These kids dont need to wear a mask, sports and school don't need to be delayed. Let's get these kids back in school and get everything back to normal. Once everything goes back to normal this will eventually disappear. The virus is there but with the survival rate being so high this leads to a political stunt for the Democrats! Let's get back to living life and quit being in fear. We all know after November 3rd that this will all be over.
7/20/2020 22:08:43	Matt	Engroff	The one that truly cares	Columbus	Sincerely, Matt Engroff
7/20/2020 22:08:48	Rebekah	Consiglio		Olathe	I worry about the safety and health of our students and staff. Please approve Governor Kelly's executive order.
7/20/2020 22:08:55	Andrew	Long		Lenexa	Please keep schools closed for the foreseeable future and go virtual to keep children, families,teachers and staff safe!
7/20/2020 22:08:57	Meghann	Miller		Gardner	Comment removed due to profanity
7/20/2020 22:09:02	Stacy	Brunner	Kckps-teacher	Overland park	Time and funding is needed to make all the adjustments to classrooms needed and to train staff on new procedures. Also - I'm very worried about the spread of Covid. I feel we will teach for 2 weeks then quarantine for 2 weeks . How many students/staff/extended family are we putting at risk in order to have kids in the classroom. Yes the classroom is best-but this is a difficult time and sometimes you need to take a step back in order to go forward.
7/20/2020 22:09:06	Emily	Meireis	USD 310	Langdon	I don't think there is a clear cut answer, but keeping kids and staff safe should be the number one priority.
7/20/2020 22:09:10	Jennifer	Wintermote	None	North Newton	While my daughter is only 3 and not yet in public school, both of my parents are educators in USD 260 and my father has several health conditions that place him at high risk for COVID-19 complications. Please approve the governor's EO and allow their school district to adequately prepare to protect the health of all students, faculty, and staff in our great state—my daughter deserves a happy childhood with her beloved Grammie & Opa. Everyone who enters our school buildings Should take home new knowledge, friendships, and knowledge of a job well done—not virus that could alter their life or the lives of a family member forever.
7/20/2020 22:09:21	Michelle	McHugh	Mother of two olathe sch	Overland Park	I am all for a safe start back to school but I agree with Governor Kelly. My children will not be in school until she deems it is safe. After Labor day and not before should kids and teachers be back in school.
7/20/2020 22:09:27	Casie	Luedke		Lyons	The consequences of the children not going back to school far outweigh the possible risk they may face in school due to COVID. Students education has already suffered due to the end of last year and everyone being online. We must not continue to allow students education to suffer due to something that isn't even as deadly as the flu.
7/20/2020 22:09:33	Shana	Palla	Parent and educator	Overland Park	Please delay the start of school. It will give us 3 more weeks to see what is happening nationally to schools that start earlier. Learn from others. See what is working and what isn't.
7/20/2020 22:09:38	Christie	Williams	Olathe 233	Olathe	Please protect our students and teachers and listen to the data.
7/20/2020 22:09:38	Josie	HEROLD	parent of school aged ch	Olathe	Get the kids back to school, in the safest way possible. Whether limiting number of kids, staggering days or passing periods. Implement more handwriting, social distancing, temperature monitoring.
7/20/2020 22:09:47	Kelsi	Randolph		Cimarron	As a parent I am comfortable with school starting in August like originally planned.
7/20/2020 22:09:52	Kathryn	McAllister		Macksville, KS	Please make these mandatory orders up to each school district to enforce. All districts are different and should not be treated the same. As a teacher and a parent, I want students to return the the classrooms to have face to face instruction, but do not feel it's necessary for masks to be mandatory, nor do we need to delay extra curricular activities and/or the start date of school. We can't keep shutting everything off. Let the kids play!
7/20/2020 22:09:58	Veronica	Lilly		Salina	We shut down schools in March when Covid numbers were way lower than now. So why is it safe to open if the numbers continue to increase? Are the schools going to have the capabilities to properly clean the masks the kids are wearing and touching all day? Will the janitorial staff be properly trained on how to clean in these situations? I'm sure there are different protocols on how and when to clean many different surfaces. Temperature checks need to be done when entering a school bus each morning. Not upon arrival at school. Kids that are transported other ways (ie parents), should then have their temperature checked upon entering the building. I believe it should required to have extra janitorial staff and school nurses on site for this year. In case those staff members become sick. I fear if those staff members are out because of sickness, will more follow because of less cleaning and less medical attention happening.

7/20/2020 22:10:03	Elizabeth	Tincknell		Cherryvale	Please support Governor Kelly's plans if you choose to reopen schools in person at all. Kansas was in fairly good shape until the legislature forced her to release decisions to the politics of local counties. It should not be a political decision. It is public health.
7/20/2020 22:10:09	Ashli	Smith	Public School Educator	Lawrence	Our district, teachers and staff, need to time to create a comprehensive plan and allow time for planning, preparation and training before returning to the classroom safely. Please vote in agreement with Gov. Kelly, and keep KS students' return delayed until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 22:10:10	Tara	Durr	Teacher and parent	Norwich	Keep regular start dates. Have kids wash hands often, sanitize often, Wear masks, use common sense. Continue activities and athletics as planned.
7/20/2020 22:10:10	Tonya	Beyer		Wichita	Schools should open after Labor day as scheduled, with those who can school from home doing so, allowing those who really need to be in on site classes because of economic or other family situations to do so with less risk/ more ease of social distancing.
7/20/2020 22:10:13	Anna	Fredericks	KCKPS	Kansas City	I do not feel it's safe to return to school in a couple of weeks. It will not be possible to follow CDC guidelines and many lives would be at stake.
7/20/2020 22:10:16	Jennifer	Buie	parent & teacher in publ	Wichita	Schools need time to process all of this. Trying to rush to get everything done seems CRAZY. I am not going to find out when or in what mode I'll be teaching until literally days before our school is supposed to be opening it's doors. I don't understand the logic in this from my districts perspective. I appreciate the governor's delay. It allows school districts to not rush into the school year.
7/20/2020 22:10:17	Hector	Morillo	public	Garden City	If Walmart has stayed open throughout all of this, schools should be open. As far as schools needing time to adjust to any changes to protocols, one day should take care of it all. The arbitrary decisions on what could or could not operate during this fiasco is all over the map. The mortality rate of this virus (if figures are true) is less than the flu.
7/20/2020 22:10:19	Jennifer	Gray		Assaria	I disagree with delaying schools. Why did we wait all summer without starting to make a plan. We don't delay schools for the flu. And why a state mandate. Shouldn't different districts have the final say? Especially smaller districts like Southeast of Saline? I just don't understand why we are waiting until a month before school starts to start making rash decisions.
7/20/2020 22:10:19	Linda	Steele	Tribune Greeley County	Tribune	Let our local school board members make decisions about OUR school!
7/20/2020 22:10:28	Rosanne	Price		Meade	Do NOT approve the executive order. Let the decisions be made locally. One size does NOT fit all.
7/20/2020 22:10:29	Jayci	Smitherman		Haviland	I would vot NOT to delay the start of school, at least for rural western Kansas.
7/20/2020 22:10:31	Melanie	Folkerts		Hays	Please delay the 20-21 K-12 School Year for the safety and health of our students and teachers.
7/20/2020 22:10:46	Amanda	Martin	Parent of 6	Goodland	We have no active cases, and under 10 total in our county. Start school as usual. Please let local school boards, administrators and health officials make the call
7/20/2020 22:10:49	Sherelle	Simmons	NA	Olathe	We need reopen when there is a viable plan that has been presented to teachers and parents.
7/20/2020 22:10:58	Shannon	McDonough		Mission	Please allow parents options for their children, especially working parents that are unable to work from home and will not be able oversee virtual school activities for elementary aged students.
7/20/2020 22:11:04	Ashley	Rankin		Louisburg	Please vote to keep all of Gov Kelly's mandates up to individual districts.
7/20/2020 22:11:07	Tressa	Beezley		Girard	Please start school on time and do not delay the school year.
7/20/2020 22:11:08	Ruth	Hansen		Lawrence	I agree with Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school.
7/20/2020 22:11:16	Abigail	Tullos		Wichita	Pass the order to allow staff to better prepare and numbers to decline. Schedule a vote quickly.
7/20/2020 22:11:17	Sahra	Go	Desoto School District	Overland Park	As an educator, affirm Gov Kelly's decision. We are not ready. Protect students and staff. Staff is not willing or wanting to go back under these conditions.
7/20/2020 22:11:17	Tamara	Roberts	USD 333	Concordia	Make schools follow a certain criteria. For example, if local health dept still show increases in cases, require them to go online. If they are showing no new cases for a certain time frame, let them teach face to face. If they have any new cases pop up, do a hybrid or back to online. Our families, kids, and teachers got pretty darn good and were in a groove with online by the end of the year. It wasn't ideal but it worked. I am worried about Quarantine procedures if a student of mine tests positive. If we continue procedures that we were to follow all summer, that would potentially include 100 students and teachers to Quarantine. Then what happens? Lack of substitutes is a huge issue in our district as well. With all this being said, not all communities fit the criteria of being in danger of contracting the virus and if they have to follow the same rules for attending later than planned, it isn't what is best for kids!

7/20/2020 22:11:27	Edith	Middleton		Overland Park	Delay
7/20/2020 22:11:27	Jessica	Kannady	USD 352	Goodland	Start in Aug. please
7/20/2020 22:11:28	Hayley	Barnes		Hays	Open the schools with NO MASK mandate. The choice should be optional. My children have stayed healthy and I will not jeopardize their immune system due to the governor and her mandates. She will have them all more sick by flu season due to no immune system. Open school on time! Our children need the socialization and structure with their education. I do not want Laura Kelly stepping in
7/20/2020 22:11:31	Jessica	Kannady	USD 352	Goodland	Start in Aug. please
7/20/2020 22:11:34	Ashley	Chiddix	Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools	Basehor/Kansas City	<p>I feel very strongly that a slight delay in reopening schools for the upcoming school year is a necessary move, specifically for schools who are going to have to adapt to an entirely different way of thinking and approaching instruction this year. Not only will we be required to do all of the typical “first day of school” planning, but we will now be mandated to adhere to very strict guidelines that will certainly challenge us in ways we never thought possible. We are not asking for several more months. Rather, we are asking for a few extra weeks in order to be able to train and rewire our brains for the betterment of our students. Furthermore, I truly believe that with the current rise in Covid-19 cases (more abundant in other counties), it is essential to the safety of not only our students and high-risk staff but their many family members who will undoubtedly be exposed to a potential deadly virus. By allowing Kansas a few weeks extra to prepare, we can hopefully bring those numbers down even more in an attempt to truly “flatten the curve”.</p> <p>Please strongly consider approving Governor Kelly’s EO, as the future of our students and teachers alike truly depend on it.</p> <p>Thank you kindly for your consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely, A dedicated music teacher who really just wants to get back to doing what she loves best - making beautiful music with her beloved K-5 kiddos</p>
7/20/2020 22:11:36	Leah	McPeak		Hiawatha	Please uphold the governor's order. It is right for Kansas and will keep our kids safe. It will be difficult for the local school boards to uphold her order if you vote against it.
7/20/2020 22:11:49	Leah	Towle		Lawrence	I fully support the decision to delay the school year. It is the safest choice for our teachers, kids, and their families. It is okay to sacrifice a perfect school year to keep Kansans alive.
7/20/2020 22:11:54	Michael	Cossmann		Jetmore	This virus is something we need to learn to live with and I do not mean by living in a bubble. What may be needed for some does not necessarily need done for others. You all can't possibly know what is best for everyone. This issue needs to be dealt with at the local level. The state board of education needs to make sure that this issue stays in the hands of the local school districts not the one size fits all approach that is being forced upon all of us.
7/20/2020 22:11:56	Andrea	Shepard		Kansas City, KS	I am a teacher and my mother has terminal cancer. If I start school before the numbers reduce drastically, and risk exposure to Covid, I will be unable to go see my mother. I am terrified that she will die without me being able to see her or be with her. I love and miss my students and know it would be best for them to be in school as scheduled, but this is a recipe for disaster and heartbreak. I am in favor of the after Labor Day delay.
7/20/2020 22:11:59	Marlin	Heger	Individual	Hugoton, Kansas	No Delay.
7/20/2020 22:12:04	Lee	Sappingfield	Senior in Kansas HS.	Lenexa	Look at the death rate in Kansas of people under 20. As a Ks HS teacher I want my school administrators to use their discretion to protect us and let us teach. Stop letting a liberal state governor push an political agenda that shames us into fear.
7/20/2020 22:12:08	Robin	Stock	Special Education Teacher	Wichita	Please vote to support Governor Kelly’s executive order to protect our communities. The numbers across the state of COVID 19 are staggering and we must as a state to get this down before we can open the schools. We must make this difficult decision to protect children, staff members and everyone’s extended families. Please protect Kansas!
7/20/2020 22:12:09	Whitney	Davis	USD 482	Dighton	Our children need to be in classroom school. They need teachers, routine, learning, structure, and social interaction. We may have to do something things different and be creative but they need to be back into school! Please allow our Rural district to go back into the classroom in August.



					<p>Hello, I am a parent living in the Goddard school district. I implore you to VOTE NO on Governor Kelly's executive order and open schools as scheduled and on time.</p> <p>The science clearly shows kids suffer more from being out of school than they do from this virus. Our kids' future is being sacrificed in the name of teacher safety and by Governor Kelly's partisan politics when all other essential employees are going to work. Teachers should be no different. Teachers are ESSENTIAL to our kids future just as much as police officers, firefighters, grocery store workers, etc. are to the functions of our society.</p> <p>Keeping our kids out of school will have long and lasting detrimental effects well beyond this virus. Our kids deserve better and deserve to get back to school and preparing for their future. I plead with you to do all you can to insure schools open ON TIME and with a five day a week option. Our kids deserve this, they have sacrificed enough!</p>
7/20/2020 22:12:09	Maury	Kerschen		Wichita, Goddard Schoo	
7/20/2020 22:12:18	Melissa	Meier	Golden Plains Highscho	Selden	do virtual school
7/20/2020 22:12:21	Liz	felich		baschor	yes
7/20/2020 22:12:21	Lindsay	Croft		Olathe	Please vote yes to approve the Governor's executive order. With the rising Covid numbers, it's not safe for staff and students to be in school.
7/20/2020 22:12:21	Rebecca	Davis		KCK (Piper district)	I support delayed school year starting after Labor Day
7/20/2020 22:12:25	Lorena	Carrillo	Parent	Dodge City	I don't feel safe sending my child to school yet. I am torn because my child has a learning disability and the remote learning did not work for us. My son is at the high school. If kids could alternate going to school - year round - maybe this will lessen the number of bodies present in a room at one time. I have another child at one of the middle schools and again I am afraid there are way too many bodies in a room/hallway/class. My middle school child was a premature 2 lbs 11 oz boy, while he was fairly healthy, he is my miracle baby. I don't want to place his life in this kind of jeopardy. We are not ready.
7/20/2020 22:12:27	Benjamin	Coffelt	Myself and my family	Osawatomie ks	Please cancel in session school for the 20 21 year. Make the call now so teachers can effectively plan a remote learning plan so that the year can move forward smoothly instead of saying in session and then realizing after there is a huge explosion of coronavirus and then switch gears after teachers and students are infected.
7/20/2020 22:12:29	Jill	Albers	Teacher	Cheney	Let us open, in person, when we planned to. Our district has zero positive covid tests. It should be on a district by district basis not state wide.
7/20/2020 22:12:30	Anjanita	mendenhall	iola school	iola	Comment removed due to profanity
7/20/2020 22:12:31	Ingrid	Ricke	USD 332	Cunningham	Open schools and do away with mandatory masks!
7/20/2020 22:13:01	Andrew	Turner	Self	Overland Park	I have a high school senior and would rather one of her final lessons be that adults and political leaders respect science and public health over the false idolatry of money.
7/20/2020 22:13:12	Thomas	Derstein	USD 422	Greensburg	I am a high school math teacher. Please support Governor Kelly's EO pushing school back. Cases are on the rise and Kansans need a unified plan to address the upcoming school year. Our failure as a state has been not having a unified approach to combating COVID-19. Additionally, a late start lowers the possibility of hybrid or virtual instruction, both of which negatively impact our disadvantaged students at a disproportionate rate. So again, please support the EO on Wednesday for the health of our students, teacher, and families. Thank you.
7/20/2020 22:13:16	jeremy	sutton	Parent	Wichita	To the state board of education...I think your approach and preliminary decision to disprove the governor idea on the status of school this year is ridiculous. There is no reason to give the authority to each district and school as to when to open back up. Allowing ALL school the additional time to ensure all students are safe as possible is the important fact here....you are not looking at the best interest of the students as a whole and need to approve both bills the govern has places before you. The political games that are being played with not only our safety but not the safety of our children is unbelievable
7/20/2020 22:13:16	Amanda	Stoltenberg	Oakley USD 274	Oakley KS Logan Count	Let it start regular with no masks

7/20/2020 22:13:18	Jonathan	Gerrity	Lawrence Public School	Olathe	Please do not let the politics of either political party influence your decision. Please consider nonpartisan scientific knowledge about COVID-19, as little as may exist currently, and the safety and holistic wellbeing of Kansas's children and their families before any other considerations. I have heard from fellow graduate students who teach secondary special education how difficult e-learning often is, with video games and other distractions plaguing zoom sessions. I am extremely worried that even greater than the fear of COVID-19 directly harming the physical health of children is the fear of the impact of many months of lost or severely limited education for our students. It is simply disastrous. For many students, there may be a desperate need for the safety and provision meeting in their school building affords. I believe there should also be broad exemption for any who may fear to be at risk of significant symptoms of COVID-19. There should be zero consequences for teachers, staff, or students that may need to or believe they need to stay home. However, many students desperately need to go to school. I do not claim to know the best way forward, and I trust that KSDE will make a wise choice based on science and the needs of our students and their families - a choice that balances all of the aforementioned concerns.
7/20/2020 22:13:23	Kristin	Watkins		Jackson Heights area	Children should not resume in person classes until they can be held as normal. Under the current circumstances, regardless of what protections are in place or not in place, schools will be an environment full of constant, toxic stress and worry. What happens to a kid who lives in the reptilian part of his brain all day, every day? What will happen when someone inevitably contracts this virus either at school or in a kid's family? What happens when someone gets sick and dies and the kid feels responsible? Where I live everyone knows everyone and they know their parents and grandparents, etc. And yes where I live is full of mask hating republicans and they raise junior republicans who already walk around all day calling the teachers "dirty liberals." One of our board members (who I suspect has dementia) made an anti-mask battle cry at a public forum for our school. She told parents that "immunity is earned" and "it's in god's hands" and "we could all die tomorrow". Then she said our school was going to win the award for most immunity. That insane diatribe was met with cheers and applause by the parents! They are apparently okay with risking the lives of their children to win some fictional award. At any rate, I brought my kids into the world and it's my job to care for them (and not the job of the public school system to provide daycare) so I am keeping them home with me for their own good. For the sake of humanity I would recommend everyone else do the same.
7/20/2020 22:13:30	Brigitte	Nelson	USD 239	Delphos	Local stakeholders need to decide. It should not be a one size fits all answer. Decisions should be made by local school and health boards.
7/20/2020 22:13:41	Jonathan	Foote		Wichita	The opening of the school year should be delayed until resources can be allocated to meet the logistical needs of having students safely in school and to be compliant with CDC recommendations. Online school should be supported. Funding should be taken from other budgetary fields and the implementation of a wealth tax on people in the state who earn more than \$100,000 a year. The needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few, and wealth should be redistributed to keep lower class citizens passive and quarantined
7/20/2020 22:13:44	Casey	Carter		Emporia	I am urging the State Board of Education to uphold Governor Kelly's EO. As elected officials, it is your responsibility to vote based on your constituents, not your own political opinions.
7/20/2020 22:13:47	Krystal	Hilscher		Olathe	No mask mandates for kids in schools!
7/20/2020 22:13:53	John	Adams	None	Valley Center	Please open up school. It will do much more harm than good to keep school closed and to not have sports. The science does not back up the need to close down, delay, or do a hybrid. Kids need to be in school.
7/20/2020 22:13:55	Linda	Morgan		Goddard	Please keep teachers and staff safe, delay until at least after Labor Day!
7/20/2020 22:13:56	Lisa	Simmons		Valley center	Ok with delaying 2 weeks if it helps administrators plan for the year
7/20/2020 22:13:58	R	Raylene Hinz Penner		Topeka	Please do not overturn the Governor's proposed school opening date.
7/20/2020 22:14:12	Ken	Wright		Cunningham	Our kids need to be back in classes at school. They need the interaction with teachers and peers they have been out too long already. School needs to start on time not waiting until after Labor Day. I understand some adjustments need to be made but delaying the start or not letting them in their schools is not the adjustments needed.
7/20/2020 22:14:24	Bridget	McGuire		Olathe	The governor has the best interests of students and educators in mind, unlike the extreme right GOP legislators. The extra time gives our schools the ability to be prepared to open up safely for our students return, which should be the goal. If you rush this, like you did opening the state, we will never get out of the hole that the legislature has created!
7/20/2020 22:14:38	Matthew	Sims	Colby public schools	Colby	Allow local school district to decide start times and not the one size fits all approach.

7/20/2020 22:14:57	Natalie and Dav	Brown	Blue Valley School Dist	Leawood, Kansas	Due to the facts that the number of COVID-19 cases continue to rise with a large percentage of cases in our teens, schools need time to prepare buildings and staff with safely regulations, and parents have yet to receive the school plan options from districts to make the best decision for their families, it is necessary to delay the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 22:15:03	Ryan	Murphy	USD 237	Smith Center	I prefer to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. i prefer this on a normal summer even without COVID. Labor Day is just like the official end of summer. but allow sports to begin practice sooner.
7/20/2020 22:15:04	Timi	Howard	Usd 290	Pomona Kansas	I want everyone to be safe. So open when it is safe.
7/20/2020 22:15:05	Angela	Ringler		Sylvan Grove	We have one active case in our county, let local health agency and local school board make the decisions.
7/20/2020 22:15:17	Sheila	Walton		McFarland	Please delay school start.
7/20/2020 22:15:31	Chelsea	Guatavson		Assaria	Let's get kids back in the classroom ASAP.
7/20/2020 22:15:40	Elizabeth	Anderson	Public schools	Lenexa	My 5-year-old grandson is currently battling Covid, which he contracted from his pre-school teacher. His primary symptom was hives, but he has been ill about 10 days with various other maladies and 2 hospital visits. Parents think they want normal school, but that cannot happen this year because of the danger of contamination. No groups, no creative lessons, no socialization because of contamination. Absences are another thorny issue. If she were teaching, my daughter would have used all of her sick days. If she contracts it next, she would be receiving deducts. This disease has too many unknowns, including long-term negative effects. Attending school 1-1 should not occur unless Covid cases are down to single digits at least. Starting after Labor Day has many benefits: lessons can be prepared for delivery (hopefully online), Covid could be gotten under control, and supplies to sanitize could be organized.
7/20/2020 22:15:42	Kaitlin	Willcutt		Wichita	Delay school until at least September
7/20/2020 22:15:55	Carrie	Barth	I am a parent of two high	Baldwin City	I think these types of decisions need to be based on a district by district basis. I have two high school teenage daughters. Both want school to start prior to Labor Day. Both want school in person. And both want sports to start on schedule. If we have a high number of infections at some point and the severity of illness is high, then decisions to make changes at that time should happen. My kids have been playing sports since the first of June with zero issues. Kids across the world are going to school in person. Kids across the world are going to daycare. At this time I am not seeing a reason kids shouldn't start on schedule.  None of us signed up for any of this, but we all are continuing on with life and careers and figuring things out as we go. The lack of education that my kids received in the spring was frightening, frustrating, and I am very concerned about the level of education they will receive in the future if they do not have school in person. My kids spent hours every day in the spring and did not get the same level of support from their school.
7/20/2020 22:15:57	Rosemary	Lesser	None	Wichita	I do not agree with delaying the start of school as a requirement for all schools, districts, locations. If there is to be a delay it should be handled at the local level (one size does not fit all). The local districts and private schools know what is needed for their students. Thank you.
7/20/2020 22:16:04	Karen	Eichorst		Olathe	I support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school and ask that the Board vote to approve the order.  There can be no "normal" as the school year begins, regardless of what parents desire for their children. The social aspects of school that so many crave cannot occur in the current situation. If schools cannot properly prepare then there will be spread of the disease. That is simple science.
7/20/2020 22:16:06	Amber	Groeling		Topeka	Please stand up for the health of the students and staff you serve and vote to support Governor Kelly's executive order.  I really believe the science points to getting kids back into classroom. Research is trending kids are not passing the virus on as adults. Kids thrive in the classroom, not online. I think it should definitely be up to each district to decide.

7/20/2020 22:16:06	Tracy	Brewer		Osawatomie	I believe this is needed to give the school districts extra time to get safety measures in place and get information on how to proceed to families so everyone is on the same page so the students can attend school which is greatly needed. Not only do the schools need time but also school bus drivers and personnel they need guidance on how to seat students and such, if they have to skip seats to transport students then the schools need to address that also because some bigger cities will have to find extra transportation. As for Osawatomie I'm sure they would have to adjust school times to accommodate those adjustments. All kids need to be in school but it has to be safe for them because some students school is the only place they feel loved.
7/20/2020 22:16:06	Joseph	Weber		Wichita	Actually enforce the wearing of masks and delay. We will not know how many it will save but we will certainly be able to count the deaths from going back while cases are rising faster than ever. We do not want Wichita, Sedgwick County, or Kansas to be the next Florida or New Jersey. Three extra weeks will allow us to see how reopening is going and to hopefully actually flatten our steep upward curve.
7/20/2020 22:16:07	John	Olson	Olathe Public Schools	Overland Park	I like it—there is still hope that it could calm down but it looks as though we may be starting virtually.
7/20/2020 22:16:12	Amber	Dillard		Olathe	I feel that children's social/emotional issues are going to get worse if the kids don't get back to school and stop being isolated. I agree with giving each family the choice of in person or online BUT I feel that it should start on time just like it normally would.
7/20/2020 22:16:14	Travis	Rink	Goddard	Goddard	Please keep politics out of this decision and follow guidance from medical professionals along with Governor Kelly. As an educator, husband, and father, the safety of all those I work with and live with are an utmost priority. You have a difficult decision just as we do in our district to redesign what education and learning looks like. This additional time that is consistent will allow teachers and those in our school community to make necessary changes and adapt to the results of a new way of providing education. Thank you for all you do.
7/20/2020 22:16:40	Sam	D		Macksville	We need to shut Kelly and her ridiculous mandates down. Do research, masks and all these restrictions are going to mentally and physically destroy our kids. She has been sacrificing kids since March, it is time it comes to an end. It has never been about our health. This virus and everything else is a political scam that has done nothing but destroy America. I'm not saying the virus isn't real, but if you look at the entire picture you can easily see how skewed all the numbers and such are. Stand up and fight for our American rights and freedoms before they are gone.
7/20/2020 22:16:31	Elizabeth	Nordberg		Wichita	Please open schools before Labor Day. The health and mental well being of so many children is at stake right now. It is far greater than the danger posted by Covid-19.
7/20/2020 22:16:50	Kendra	Fowler	Teacher	Newton	I support the decision to delay school. It gives teachers a chance to plan for the changes, gives additional time to see if our numbers go down.
7/20/2020 22:16:52	Kristin	Shuck	USD 500	Shawnee	Opening schools as it stands does not afford safety for our children. Teachers need time to learn new procedures. Children need to have a chance at "normal," meaning they won't be starting and stopping because of COVID-19 cases in their buildings.
7/20/2020 22:16:57	Susan	Fath	Wichita Public schools	Wichita	Covid cases are on the rise. Not safe for our children or our teachers/school employees. Once a child or employee gets sick with the virus will schools Quarantine for 14 days will school shut down? Will just that classroom or people closely involved with that child or employee have to quarantine? Too many "what ifs". Class sizes need to be limited. Masks, sanitizing stations in classrooms and hallways, temperature checks when students and staff report along with visitors. It's discouraging to see a template that will be sent to families that is already written for staff or students who may get sick with covid and pass away. (Something that was seen from an out of state district) virtual learning may be best to do At this point until vaccine is found.
7/20/2020 22:17:03	Sheila	Eccles		Labette county	Why start these schools so late. Besides you start so late now the students will have to go longer. This is not fair to the students. You took them out early they couldn't finish the school year. This has gone way to far. Its time to get these kids back to a normal day for them. They have suffered enough. Lets get these schools started and get the year started like it suppose to and get it over with the same day its suppose to dismiss. The students shouldn't have to suffer because adults are running scared and being sheep.

7/20/2020 22:17:05	Kelley	Waddell		Louisburg	Governor Kelly- There are many decisions you make that i support. However, your mask mandate in schools is not one. As a professional social worker, advocate for abused and neglected children, and mom, I cannot support this decision. Our children are being punished, not protected. ZERO children have died in Kansas. ZERO. They are being used as a political tool and it's disgusting. People will get sick. And that's ok. Our ICU's are not overloaded, our hospitals are not at capacity. That was what we were preventing, right? Let individual communities determine what works best for them. Do not mandate our state based on a couple of 'hot spots.' Trust your voters. Trust Kansas.
7/20/2020 22:17:07	Sara	Coffman		Olathe	Delay is okay, but PLEASE OPEN.
7/20/2020 22:17:15	Nathan	Purdue	USD 489	Hays	Please make the decision to support the governor's decision to delay the start of school. We have precedent that our teachers can overcome; our students can as well. This virus presents a present and preventable risk, and time to coordinate for administrators and faculty is essential. A normal opening necessarily removes that careful planning time.
7/20/2020 22:17:17	Mira	Mullen	Educators	Wichita	I agree with waiting until after Labor Day. We are doing this for the safety of children and staff. Good call on waiting to open schools!
7/20/2020 22:17:27	Michele	Kleineweber		Eudora	Three weeks is more than reasonable considering the possible consequences. This gives us a window to observe what happens in communities that rush to send their kids back to school. I'm so sick of the hand wringing over this, most of the parents I know who vehemently oppose the delay are freaking out about sports, incredibly selfish. While I agree, most kids will make it through this relatively unscathed, I'm not ready to roll the dice with my son's life, hoping he won't be one of the small percentage who get really sick. By the time our children would show symptoms, parents are already infected, parent's colleagues, grandparents. It's 3 weeks, c'mon.
7/20/2020 22:17:30	Karri	Kuhls	USD 233	Overland Park	OPEN THE SCHOOLS! I have been a public school educator for 28 years. It has been INCREASINGLY more and more important for students to have CONSTANT mental health services on a daily basis. Kids need teachers, counselors, administrators working along side them assisting them in all aspects of their lives. More and more kids are slipping into a deeper level of depression because they don't have access to these services anymore. Let parents send kids to school if they want to and let them keep them at home too if that is their choice as well. If kids aren't allowed back, there will be more and more kids left unattended at home. For the sake of the kids... OPEN THE SCHOOLS!
7/20/2020 22:17:33	Jackie	Euler	USD 469	Lansing	Please don't make this a political issue. Let our superintendent have the extra time to make sure that teachers, students, and other staff members are safe when they return to school. It is a difference of 3 weeks. I don't care if I have to work into the middle of June if I know that I will be safe returning back to school. As of now, the numbers in Leavenworth County are rising each day. Schools closed down in March with less cases. I feel more anxious and nervous to be teaching inside the classroom now than I did in March. Please do what is right and support the Governor's executive order.  Thank you, Jackie Euler
7/20/2020 22:17:47	Dale	Kirmer		topeka KS	Schools need to start on time in August with classrooms and sports. Camps, summer baseball, and other activities have been going on for 2 months without incident. As a nation, we are wasting time that our children can not get back in learning, growing and excelling. Quit the scare tactics and proceed with healthy actions.
7/20/2020 22:17:52	Travis	Dillard		Olathe	open schools normally
7/20/2020 22:17:52	Jennifer	Prekopa	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita	I am in favor of the order as well as anything else that keeps our students, parents, and staff safe and keeps this virus from spreading.
7/20/2020 22:17:53	Melissa	Barnett	Public School	Dodge City	As an educator of Kindergarten students, I do not feel comfortable entering the classroom with the numbers rocketing right now. There is no way I can expect a 5 year old to keep distance from their classmates and keep a mask on for 6.5 hours a day! I also feel that Districts are going to need time to sort out the details of not only curriculum but health and safety of thousands of students and educators. This is many lives being impacted if schools open in August.

7/20/2020 22:17:57	Gail	Hofstetter	former teacher currently	Hill City	I agree with the delay until after Labor Day. We have had several cases in our county in the last two weeks. Until then we were at zero. I think it would be better to delay than start and then have to stop. To be honest, the people that I have seen be the most vocal on social media about getting school started are families with students that are good athletes and they want their kids playing sports and parents that want to get their babysitting bill to go away when school starts. The teachers could go ahead and start at the time their school was scheduled to start. Teachers are going to need the extra time to get ready to teach or make adjustments in their rooms and find ways they can make social distancing work in their classroom. In our district, it would only be twelve student contact days if the delay happens.
7/20/2020 22:17:59	Sara	Vancil		Lawrence	It is imperative that the Board of Education do the right thing and allow Governor Kelly's order to stand. All this is doing is giving us more TIME. More time for school districts to plan on how to do this RIGHT. More time for all Kansans to do their part to reduce the spread. More time for teachers to learn how to adapt to the new online teaching environment. Let's be the bellwether for the rest of the nation and do the smart thing. Please when you vote, vote on the side of public health, not politics.
7/20/2020 22:18:07	Kelly	Emmons	High school kids	BERRYTON	My kids need to go to school. They are bored and restless. They miss their friends and being on a team. If we can keep grocery store workers and restaurants and hair salons safe, we can keep schools safe. There are so many more dangers to kids NOT being in school than there are to them going to school. Start school on time. Be safe. Trust the local school districts to do the job. Mandating a one size fits all approach to the whole state is ridiculous. There are some districts that have no cases. Let the hot spots delay, if they choose. Leave the others alone. To all the kids who have been working hard all summer to stay safe, going to school camps and workouts without incident, don't slam the door in their faces.
7/20/2020 22:18:15	Anna	Cannon	Lyons USD 405	Lyons	I'm a middle school counselor and I'm asking you to go along with the governor in delaying the start of the school year until after Labor Day. With the increasing COVID-19 cases in Kansas I'm fearing the risk you will put people in by not follow this guideline. In my building alone, I have two adults going through cancer, one who has recovered from cancer, two diabetic and two new parents to brand new unvaccinated babies. This is only a fraction of who or what you could be putting at risk in my district, town, and county. Please stand with many teachers and students considering science and health in your decision making. Thank you for your time. Respectfully, -Anna Cannon
7/20/2020 22:18:18	Kayla	Wombacher	Rawlins Co	Atwood	As a teacher I feel we need the extra time to prepare for all of the requirements of us to bring kids back safely, after Labor Day. I do feel activities should continue for the betterment of our students. They need their sports, music, drama, etc. we as teachers need the time to prepare and get organized with all we have to do each day to keep our students and ourselves safe. I am 53 and see over 200 kids a day in 2 buildings. We need time to figure out how to do all of this safely! Thank you!
7/20/2020 22:18:18	Teresa	Edgar		Overland Park	As a parent of school age children and a teacher myself, I support Governor Kelly's delay of the start to the school year. With Covid cases continuing to rise, in person classes pose too great a risk to our staff and students. Even with the mask mandate, we all know it will be impossible to enforce reliably, so not offering as much protection as some may think. A return to in person learning would be too great a risk were we to return before cases in our area are declining. Thank you for carefully considering the safety of all involved!
7/20/2020 22:18:20	Carol	Edmisten	Edmisten home	Wichita	I work in USD 265. Our children NEED to be in school. It is ridiculous to think we can prevent people from getting sick. We didnt prevent people from getting sick when we were shut down. They are padding the numbers. PLEASE OPEN THE SCHOOLS!!! If people dont feel safe then let them to do online learning! Why wouldn't that work.
7/20/2020 22:18:23	Jillian	Korte		Goodland	Thank you for your work! Please consider following the governor's suggestion and delay the beginning of the school year. It will help schools and communities prepare for the school year and better form contingency plans. Thank you!

7/20/2020 22:18:33	Amy	Hawk	Kansas parenr	Wyandotte	Please open our schools. My girls want to attend school in person. My oldest will be a senior in high school at Kansas City Christian school. She wants to have a cross country season. My middle daughter will be a freshman. She has plans for a great start to her highschool career. My youngest will be in the second grade. She has dyslexia. Right now we are paying 66\$ a week for a 30min online session. She needs school. She needs help from teachers to be a successful student. My family believes we should have the choice of attending school in person or online. Kids need social interaction. Depression is going to be in the rise if students can't go back to school. Don't allow politics to ruin education. Many students do not have access to the internet or have the support to be successful at online school. I have read about many cleaning products and air filtration systems. Why are we not hearing about any of these. Schools should be looking into this stuff. Please help kansas kids be successful. Thank you
7/20/2020 22:18:51	Nicole	Vulgamore		Cheney	I think the school year should be delayed until schools can get proper masks, sanitation, social distancing, and planning for the school year for the safety of the student and staff. It is not worth people going to work and school when it is spreading so fast! KS just added over 1,300 cases since Friday!
7/20/2020 22:18:54	Natosha	Pitcock	My family who attends	Preston	No state mandates. Allow the district to make the decisions based on their own community. I trust my school board to make wise choices. Our needs are different than Wichita or Kansas City
7/20/2020 22:19:05	Samantha	Crabbs	Teacher at USD231 and	Wellsville	As a first grade teacher (two years cancer free) and a single mom to two kids (one with an autoimmune deficiency) I hope that you take teachers lives and the lives of fragile students into consideration. As a teacher I will do whatever I can and make it work but I promise you another three weeks academic wise will not make as much difference as it could health wise. Please vote to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. I'm worried for myself, my children, my colleagues, and my students. Please be a voice of reason keeping us all safe and healthy. Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 22:19:08	Anna	Bertholf		Roeland park	Schools need to open up, period. What are working parents suppose to do???? Will the state of KS be paying us to hire a nanny since our taxes toward the schools won't be used??
7/20/2020 22:19:08	Pamela	Graber	Parent	Wichita	These students need to get back into the classroom. Not only for the social/ mental aspect but for the learning aspect. My children learned nothing from the continuous learning packets our district felt were enough to keep our students engaged. They learned more from household chores and home improvement projects we did as a family. I know alot of people are scared right now. However, I don't feel that keeping students home for an unknown amount of time is a good solution. The families that are scared to send their students to school in person can choose the online option. Those that feel it's safe, send your kids to school buildings for the much needed interaction they get from being in the classroom. Have temperature checks, that's ok. Have teachers video their lectures via Microsoft Teams or post to respective classes Google classroom. Students that are ill and need to stay home can then login and get the instruction for each class missed as well as assignments. If they have questions, email/ call the teacher for that class. Teacher can set up "office" hours like they do at universities or teacher can email to set up a time to help. Yes, this will require some extra time and "outside the box " thinking but it's not impossible. As far as the mask issue is concerned, there are many students with underlying issues that will not permit them to wear a mask an entire school day, if at all. Besides, most kids will use it as a distraction instead of paying attention to the necessary instruction happening in front of them. I have one child with asthma and she's pretty OCD. A mask will only hinder her breathing as well add contribute to her nervous tic that she has pretty well under control. My other child has many seasonal allergies that requires her to frequently blow her nose. Is she just supposed to sneeze into her mask and then live with snot on her face all day. I should hope not. My children are pretty average when it comes to kids these days. I can't imagine what it would be like for a child with sensory issues to be expected to wear a mask 8 hours a day.
7/20/2020 22:19:27	Laura	Thielen		Arkansas City	I support delaying school until labor day for the safety of our students, teachers, and community as a whole.
7/20/2020 22:19:42	Madeline	Prelogar	MiddleSchool staff USD	Leawood	SUPPORT Gov Kelly-DELAY opening and keep kids and staff safe!!!

7/20/2020 22:19:52	Darcy	Darbro		Madison	Children have to get back to routine and structure. Many households have 2 working parents which leaves children on their own ALL day long. This virus is serious, but very few children have battled it because it primarily affects adults with underlying medical conditions. Yes; staff are at risk, but so are us nurses that have continued to work through all of this. It is a known fact that going into the medical field that we may be exposed to harmful diseases. This is similar to a teacher, they know that they will spend their days with germ carrying children, they use precautions, good hand hygiene and common sense. There are risk with most jobs out there, we just have to do what we can to decrease the risk. Children are sacrificing and suffering right now. We are causing more harm than protection to them. We need to teach our children NOT to fear the real world, it will not get better anytime soon.
7/20/2020 22:19:54	Jane	Doe	Kindergarten teachers	Overland Park	As a teacher, I am desperate to get back to school IN PERSON WITHOUT MASKS. Let us go back as scheduled. Make masks OPTIONAL! It is impractical to expect small children to wear masks all day, to remain at the same seat in the same classroom all day, to be forbidden to be within 6 feet of anyone, etc. Under any other conditions, some of these behaviors would be considered harsh and abusive. Have you ever tried to teach a kindergartener to read? From SIX FEET AWAY?! It. Will. NOT. Work. We need to sit with them, point to letters and words, show them the way our mouths forms sounds, etc. If you're going to mandate masks and 6 feet rules we might as well not go back at all. Schools are not businesses; it's not like going to the store where you can mind your own business 6 feet away from other people. We can't accomplish any of our goals with these restrictions in place. Do you honestly expect ANY growth or achievement from these kids if you delay our start, require masks, and force us to stay 6 feet apart? Fat chance.
7/20/2020 22:20:03	Jamie	Lira	USD 437	Topeka	I would like to see votes in support of EO 2058 to delay the start date until after Labor Day. I teach music and I am higher risk for Covid as an asthmatic, cancer survivor, and a bone marrow transplant recipient. My younger 11 year old son had a congenital heart defect and is also higher risk for problems if he were to contract it. I feel we need more time to plan as well since health needs keep changing as well. Thank you for your time. I appreciate you reading this.
7/20/2020 22:20:03	Tim	Scott	Parent	Columbus	I do not agree with the mask, I believe it will cause more harm than good. I think the temperature checks is a good idea. It should be up to the parents.
7/20/2020 22:20:07	Angela	Kuta	Catholic Schools	Topeka	One size does not fit all districts. The Archdiocese Of Kansas City has been working for months putting together an extremely detailed plan to get our children back in the classroom. School districts should be able to decide what time frame works best for them to start classes. Our children are falling behind and it is time to get them back to school for education, socialization and stability. We need to move past the fear of this virus and look at what is important for our children's development. Districts that have plans, equipment and processes ready should be able to start school according to their school calendar. One size does not fit all.
7/20/2020 22:20:07	Jenny	Wright	Teacher and KNEA member	Kansas City	Please support Gov. Kelly's EO to postpone the beginning of the school year to after Labor Day. Teachers need the time to plan their best practices, parents need the time to prepare their children, and health officials need time to assess public safety. A vote for support is a vote for putting kids first. Thank you.
7/20/2020 22:20:11	Jill	Moos		Great Bend	I don't believe the delay is necessary, but if that's what it takes for teachers to get prepared, whatever. But I'm totally against masks being required. This should be a personal option.
7/20/2020 22:20:24	Chelsea	Lynn	Berryton Elementary School	Berryton, KS	Please open schools back up in August!! These kids deserve a normal learning environment.
7/20/2020 22:20:27	Michelle	Vielhauer		Tonganoxie	Please support the governor's orders to delay the start of the year. Please give our state time to get infection numbers down and give schools and teachers time to prepare.
7/20/2020 22:20:38	Nicole	Davis	Uniontown Junior High	Uniontown	The schools need to re-open. If it is truly going to open after Labor Day then I am ok with that but no more putting it off. My sons schooling was an absolute joke the last 8 weeks last year. It was way below his grade level and there was absolutely no effort put into the lessons from the teachers. One of his assignments was to make a virus and kill off his classmates. He received a zero for that as I felt that was very inappropriate for a child to do. These kids deserve an education and their mental health is just as important as their education. Depression and suicide numbers are going to climb if the kids do not get back to a normal life!
7/20/2020 22:20:47	Jodi	Testa		Junction City	As an elementary school principal I recognize schools need more time to prep for the safe return of students. Please delay the start of school to 9/8 AND make it very clear that the hours of education our students get remains at 1116. This is the best plan for students.
7/20/2020 22:20:47	Rachel	Plummer	Colby Public Schools	Colby	I do not support delaying schools until Labor Day



					<p>To Whom It May Concern,</p> <p>My children have a number of medical and developmental complexities. Both are on IEPs and require intensive support. We have been working months on wearing masks, and my son is still unable to tolerate them for more than 30 seconds. I purchased face shields as well in the hope of keeping others safe. My son has had 2 open heart surgeries, my daughter spent 83 days in the NICU.</p> <p>We understand that transmission rates will never be zero, this virus is here to stay. However, we need transmission under control so that there is enough room in the hospitals when at risk people go into the hospital. We are currently out of control. We need to take the time to wear our masks and reduce the speed of transmission before we add the incubators that schools inevitably become.</p> <p>Please support the Governor's delay of the start of school. Please put leadership above politics.</p> <p>Thank you, Christine Panus My Children are in the Blue Valley School District</p>
7/20/2020 22:20:53	Christine	Panus	My family	Overland Park	
7/20/2020 22:21:15	Tricia	Oren		Haviland	Our school has a plan safety protocols such as masks, hand sanitizer, and temp check already in place. No need to wait a whole month.
7/20/2020 22:21:21	Leslie	Caldwell	KSD therapist and Parent	Olathe	Please do not reopen schools until our Covid cases numbers are lower and school can be held safely for all staff and students. Please support Governor Kelly's executive order. We cannot teach and learn if we are worried about surviving.
7/20/2020 22:21:30	Casey	Long		Dodge City	I think it's a good idea to wait to open schools. This will give each district the time needed to formulate plans and put them into place, as well as educating us teachers/paras/aides on how to keep the kids and ourselves safe.
7/20/2020 22:21:41	Tamra	Coopman	School employee	Pomona	School should be delayed until after Labor Day! Please protect the school staff and students.
7/20/2020 22:21:42	Stacy	Tidwell	Myself	Wamego	Please follow Governor Kelly's orders. It's not safe right now.
7/20/2020 22:21:42	Andrea	Hicks	My kids goin back to school	Kansas City KS	Things are too risky to jeopardize my children life
7/20/2020 22:21:46	Rosa	Garey	Usd 233	Olathe	Delay start of upcoming school year
7/20/2020 22:21:47	Nicole	Hesseltine	SMSD family	Overland Park	Please do everything in your power to make the start of school safe for all. If the "one safe place" for many children becomes a place of starts/stops/restarts and a major source of community spread of COVID, I fear major mental harm will be done to our kids. We are ALL missing what school used to provide—safe socialization, developmentally appropriate learning, and community. Please wait until our state can provide those things in a safe way before opening our schools to in-person learning.
7/20/2020 22:21:48	Jana	Collins		Overland Park	Please delay the opening of school until after Labor Day like the governor recommends for the safety of the school staff and the children.
7/20/2020 22:21:59	Samantha	Turk		Marion	I think school should be online again for the year but if not then for sure until after labor day.

7/20/2020 22:22:01	Meredith	Lenfestey		Overland Park	<p>As a Kansas educator, I am writing to urge you to reaffirm Governor Kelly's executive order on the DELAY - not cancelling - of schools for the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>A fundamental aspect of education is to prioritize Maslow's Hierarchy of needs over Bloom's Taxonomy. In other words, our basic human needs - physiological &amp; those of safety - must be met before any critical thinking or learning can occur. Teachers learn this fundamental truth at the very beginning of their own education, and for good reason. The simple truth is that returning to schools in August would be unsafe, and therefore, we would not provide that basic needs foundation for learning to even be supported.</p> <p>The current infection rate &amp; lack of supplies (sanitizer, disinfectants, masks, etc.) that schools MUST have in their possession to mitigate risk are proof that more time is needed to adequately and safely open our doors. The additional time this order would afford also gives educators the ability to better assess potential learning gaps &amp; adjustments that must be made to our instruction, in addition to identifying and preemptively solving logistical safety concerns (transitions, transportation, distancing practices in classrooms, etc.).</p> <p>As an educator, I want so badly to return to my passion - I miss my students every day - but I am not willing to sacrifice their, their families', or my own's health over the matter, nor should any other educator or parent face that decision. Your reaffirmation would ensure educators across our great state could eventually get back in the classroom, doing what they love, while lowering the risks that could come in doing so.</p> <p>Please choose the right option - the most logical option - and vote to reaffirm and support Governor Kelly's plan to delay the start of our school year. Kansas lives depend on it.</p>
7/20/2020 22:22:04	Laura	Nordgren		Topeka	Please give local school districts the option to make their own decisions and rules that are tailored to their individual district and community needs. Kansas is so diverse that what is needed in KCK is drastically different than what is needed in Abilene.
7/20/2020 22:22:08	Elizabeth	Hiersche	Myself	Olathe	Do NOT delay schools! I am a teacher in Missouri school district. Please do elearning until labor day so that schools can prepare to get what they need to do for inperson with the exception of special needs children that can not do elearning. Use those three weeks to get those students the time to acclimate to all the adjustments to teach them the life skills during these times and have them do in person. Those students did NOT get any support since march when schools were closed! They need the support. The numbers are low in their classrooms. Example the autism classrooms as 8 or less in each classroom.
7/20/2020 22:22:13	Caroline	Dawson		Mission, KS	Please support the Governor's order to delay school opening.
7/20/2020 22:22:16	Alicia	Haupt	Prairie View High School	LaCygne	Please think about our kids education and open schools as soon as possible.
7/20/2020 22:22:17	Amy	Norton	USD 494	Syracuse	As a teacher and coach at USD 494, I would like to see school open on time. We live in western Kansas where there are few cases in our county and the surrounding counties. Please consider small towns/schools when making your vote. Our students need to be in a structured/organized environment. 70% of our students are on free/reduced lunches and come from low socioeconomic backgrounds. The school provides more to them than just school. I also believe in the need for activities to return, using all safety precautions that we can. Students also need activities/athletics. During this time, our students mental health has raised many concerns. Activities/athletics/school helps to combat and provide an outlet/release for students with low confidence/concerns for mental health. Please consider these things moving forward in your decision.
7/20/2020 22:22:18	Lydia	Vasquez	Teacher	Lenexa	I support the governors order
7/20/2020 22:22:23	Elaina	Johnson		Sedgwick county	I do not believe we should delay school. This is more damaging to our kids and their education. Delaying is just prolonging the inevitable.

					<p>I think it is time that the governor quit acting like a dictator and let the people of Kansas make up their minds on what they want. Whether it be not allowing school to start on time, mandating masks in school, or whatever bird-brained idea this incompetent governor may come up with, Laura Kelly is not a licensed medical doctor, and neither is the Board of Education. Therefore, I feel the decision for kids to start school and whether they wear a mask while in school, should be left up to their parents and/or their personal physicians. There should not be a one size fits all plan, because some areas aren't affected like others.</p> <p>It is also not the Board of Education nor Governor Kelly's job to hand out medical advice and/or mandates to the people of Kansas, unless they wish to be held liable for lawsuits for medical malpractice when there starts to be other health problems in these children from wearing masks and/or mental issues due to the trauma of being socially isolated from their friends.</p> <p>Get these poor kids back in school, back to their friends, and stop this ridiculous madness! If we are going to delay school even longer, maybe teachers should be placed on unemployment like the rest of us were, and the state should return the tax money they have stolen from the Kansas tax payers under the guise of educating our children. When our children are not getting the education we all are paying for, the teachers and educators contractual agreements are null and void. If they are therefore null and void, any and all tax money paid in the guise of educating our children should be refunded immediately!</p>
7/20/2020 22:22:29	Nathan	Houser	I am a parent of a child	Plainville, Kansas	
7/20/2020 22:22:33	Tonya	Greenleaf		Wilmore	It should be a local decision. We live in a county with 6 total cases in 3 months.
7/20/2020 22:22:38	Melissa	DeWitt	USD 323 Rock Creek	Saint George	I am a middle school teacher and a parent to two elementary kids. I want nothing more than to return to normal but the reality is that "normal" doesn't exist anymore. We are grieving the loss of normal as a nation but we can do better and take care of each other by SAFELY and WISELY getting back to school. Kansas is in the height of the pandemic outbreak and our district and staff need much more training to purposefully implement the changes in daily business and curriculum presented in the Navigating Change document. We owe it to our kids, our selves, and to fellow Kansans to do the right thing and at least wait until after Labor Day to officially begin school.
7/20/2020 22:22:40	Katie	Cox	Turner	Roeland Park	Teachers care about our students. Teachers want to be with our students. It's why we became teachers. What we put above all though is the care and safety of our students. We cannot fully keep our students safe if we are back in schools too soon without adequate time to plan. Please listen to governor Kelly. Please keep our students safe.
7/20/2020 22:22:45	Lisa	Hittle		Wichita	Agree with no school until after Labor Day. Also need to do part virtual, part in person.
7/20/2020 22:22:45	Aunita	Combs	n/a	Wichita	" At All Cost -- Our children MUST be kept safe ". They are counting on us to do that. The Cost of Covid -is too numerous to mention, kids need a complete package during this time of their lives to propel them forward in life ( we all know this ). However -- This will past and we will have the chance to be creative and generate a fast past learning strategy for our future Americans. It's a hard decision to make -- it WILL effect The Whole Community --- not just the kids. I have nothing to offer but this truth that we will get past this -- Only GOD knows when -- but keep the kids safe.
7/20/2020 22:22:50	Amber	Martinez		Olathe	Don't pass. Kids need to start school ASAP.
7/20/2020 22:22:51	Judy	Gray	Children	Overland Park	Our children need to be in school for the whole school year. Each child needs to experience the benefits of a quality education, along with the social relationships of their peers. It is time to allow parents to decide on their child's education not the state. Stop making decisions that are not yours to make.
7/20/2020 22:22:52	Leah	Wiehl		Smith Center	I am a rural physician in one of the counties least affected by coronavirus. Despite this, cases are on the rise all around us. In a neighboring county's nursing home, they have had an outbreak leading to 6 deaths so far. Our community consists of a lot of elderly people. We cannot take the risk of opening schools at this time. This is not a time to take a chance. We need to be proactive not reactive. I have no doubt our local officials would allow schools to open if given the chance, and I really think we need to try to slow down this virus which we are failing at doing at this time. Keep schools closed for now. Reevaluate as time goes on. The kids will catch up. We need to stop this pandemic. Listen to the scientists, public health officials, and those in healthcare. Please. I am sacrificing my own health and the health of my unborn child to work through this.

7/20/2020 22:22:53	Brooklyn	Chesney		Gorham	<p>Please let the kids back!!!! They need it. I have 4 step kids and 1 biological in school. On top of both parents trying to work. I cannot adequately teach these children like they need. They need the teachers. They need a decent education. If I can still work and other kids can go to daycare why can't school age kids go??? It has nothing to do with convenience and everything to do with what my kids deserve. Please don't keep them out</p> <p>As an elementary school teacher, I am eager to return to my classroom, but not at the risk of the health and the lives of my students, coworkers, or their families. While I think that there are precautions that can be put in place to make school in person a possibility, these things take time and careful planning to properly prepare and implement.</p> <p>My school originally was supposed to start one month from today. With guidance only just recently having come from the state and the status of the virus always changing, teachers have been given very little information and opportunities to plan. A delay would not only give the opportunity to hopefully see positives cases across the state go down, but it would give teachers and administrators time to get supplies needed to mitigate the risk of spread of the disease. It would give us time to train staff to do remote learning more effectively as it is very likely that we will have to shut schools down again. At the very least we will have families that opt for online learning or students or faculty who have to quarantine at some point in time. We need to be prepared to do remote learning well when it will be necessary.</p> <p>There are so many logistics involved in an ordinary school day. Teachers carefully plan out procedures for every single thing that students do during the day. We are having to take in all new guidelines and we will have to be ready to rework all of our classroom procedures to align with those guidelines. Then we have to work out how to best teach and practice all of those new procedures with our students. With everything being very new and different for both students and staff, more time to make these plans carefully and implement them well will only help teachers to do their job the best they can. Teachers feeling confident with well prepared plans going into the school year - for remote learning, for social distancing, for all new procedures - is what is going to be best for our students.</p> <p>Students are going to need extra reassurance and support as they return to a school that looks very different from the one they left in the spring. So why not give schools some extra time to be extra prepared to provide that extra support.</p> <p>Anyone who believes that rushing back into school because we need a return to normal is kidding themselves. Anyone who knows anything about a normal day in an elementary school knows that normal will not be safe. The new normal that is necessary for the health and safety of our students and staff will not be anything like the school we are used to. I love my school family and being in the school building with them. I want that. But I love and care about all of these</p>
7/20/2020 22:22:52	Paige	Blankenship		Dodge City	<p>I work for USD 229. I am not comfortable at all returning to school until cases are declining - ideally, no new cases for two weeks, per CDC reopening guidelines that were released in April. Grateful for this order to allow time to get closer to that.</p>
7/20/2020 22:22:56	Mikayla	Dreyer		Kansas City MO	<p>Please delay for safety of students and faculty. Also for all of the families. Colby is just now seeing COVID cases and the town unfortunately is doing risky things: prom, graduation, the fair, demo derby, rodeo is coming up.. people are having huge BBQ's and golf tournaments. Recently several businesses have had to close: Caseys, McDonalds, Starbucks, and a few Hospital employees have been positive. We live in a rural area with little healthcare if we were to have serious cases. It isn't fair to the ones who unfortunately have weakened immune systems like 2/3 of my children. I also feel an online option should be available. Please do not make light of this situation. Delaying frivolous teacher in services, field trips, sporting events would maybe even out days in the end. It will give teachers a chance to plan for safety of our community as a whole, for example being able to try to social distance, change activities for younger kids so they aren't always touching each other. I've seen more parents from here complain because sports need to go on. This should be based on education only not sports because sports are not required and not all kids attend.</p>
7/20/2020 22:23:01	Catherine	Rohr	Parent	Colby	
7/20/2020 22:23:02	Lyn	Boone	USD 369	Hutchinson	Keep teachers, staff, and students safe. Support the delay and give us time to prepare properly.
7/20/2020 22:23:07	Matthew	Croft		Olathe	I support the governors order. We, as a state, need to get the virus under control. Many federal employees are still working from home-- I don't see how we can send students and staff when it's not safe for Government employees. I don't see how having 2300 people in a building is safe. I realize it's inconvenient for many parents, but all it takes is for one student or teacher to end up on ventilator. It's just not worth it. Thanks for your time.

7/20/2020 22:23:21	Kristen	Knight	School	St. John	Please wait until after Labor Day! We need time to collect all the resources necessary to ensure the safety and health of our students and staff. We need time to prepare for remote, virtual, hybrid and in person teaching. We love and miss our students terribly, but we are not willing to risk their lives or our own. Especially if we can take steps now to prevent anything terrible.
7/20/2020 22:23:28	Pam	Patterson	None	St. John	Can grade school kids wear face shields. I think they are just as affective as a mask. Kids would get along better with a shield. It covers from ear to ear and to their neck.
7/20/2020 22:23:31	Kenya	Hageman		In Wichita	I think we need to do everything possible to keep our children safe. I think a hybrid school is the way to go.
7/20/2020 22:23:36	Melanie	Newberry		Cimarron	Students need to return to school
7/20/2020 22:23:37	Courtney	Gooch	Parent	Tribune	Student being required to wear masks during school hours is ludicrous! I'm all for wearing masks when out and about in businesses but masks in school will not create a productive learning environment. Also please keep in mind that rural Ks schools may not need the same requirements as larger schools. We only have 10-25 students per GRADE. Please let this be a county by county basis if anything. My fear of delaying school beyond Labor Day is that it will only continue to be delayed. The very little social life my 7 year old has right now is starting to affect him emotionally. I'm afraid no school for him will be much more damaging than any covid virus ever would be. Please let our kids get back to some normalcy! I'm fully aware that an extended break may need to take place at some point but I'd rather do that than keep these kids from getting back to school now. Thanks for your time!
7/20/2020 22:23:41	John	Sitzman		Olathe	Delay opening schools until COVID cases see a sustained daily drop over a 3 week period.
7/20/2020 22:23:47	Garren	Hutchison	Andover Community	Andover	Let's get these kids back to school. You are in for far worse problems if you don't. You will be dealing with children growing up with mental illness issues at a rate that will create literal hell on earth. A few sick with a virus kids is not worth losing a generation.
7/20/2020 22:23:51	Alison	Lecuyer		Downs	Please support this order. The time schools could have to be fully prepared is invaluable.
7/20/2020 22:23:54	Nola	Miller	Teacher	Dwight	Please approved Governor Kelly's order. This will allow for teachers, admin and others to get a solid plan ready to start school. I am starting at a new school this year and do I ever want to be with kids in the classroom. This extra time will allow things to take place for use to be able to get the kids back in the classroom and stay in the classroom. Thanks for your support of educators in Kansas!
7/20/2020 22:23:56	Amy	Speer	USD 468	Dighton	Please support Governor Kelly's Executive order to delay school until after Labor Day. Even as a 30 year experienced teacher, I feel the extra time will allow the opportunity for teachers, administrators and staff to adequately prepare and provide the best possible education and environment for our students in these unprecedented times and hopefully by that time the overall number of COVID cases will be decreasing and the risk to going back to in person teaching will not be as great. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.
7/20/2020 22:23:59	Luke	Chaffee	USD 437	Topeka	I'm a teacher and a parent. Please do not support the governor's executive order to delay the start of schools. That decision should be left in the hands of individual counties and school districts.
7/20/2020 22:24:03	Erin	Johnston		Altamont	Please uphold the executive order to give teachers and schools the opportunity to prepare the physical space according to brand new guidelines
7/20/2020 22:24:07	Erin	Perez	USD 231	Gardner	Vote to start in person school after Labor Day without a mask
7/20/2020 22:24:10	Nicole	Vaughn	Mother	Topeka	If the time is needed to make it safer for my child to resume school then I am on board with the delay.
7/20/2020 22:24:23	Megan	McCrary	USD 458 as a parent	Basehor	I would like to encourage you to vote in favor of delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. I feel it will give our district time to better prepare to keep the students and staff as safe as possible.
7/20/2020 22:24:24	Shannon	Rebolledo	KMC Parent	Wichita	Please support the EO—delay the start of school and require masks and social distancing.

					<p>It is my understanding that you are meeting virtually to discuss the impact of COVID 19 on our educational system. I know this is not a simple issue, and I have discussed this with many parents of school age children, and most parents believe their children learn and retain material better on site.</p> <p>I have served as a School Nurse in the State of Kansas for 20 years and I served as Health Care Coordinator for the district. I know this is an overwhelming situation.</p> <p>My concern is proper preparation of the classrooms to provide safe environments for learning. Masks are only one aspect of safety. Distancing, frequent air exchange with fresh air during the day, and air cleansing apparatus in each class rooms as well as frequent disinfectant cleansing are as important in my professional opinion.</p> <p>Let us consider our teachers who return home to their families every single day and their safety. Some of our teachers are at extremely high risk of COVID 19. What precautions are being taken to minimize their risk and promote their safety? Let us consider the significant others in their lives and in our community.</p> <p>If you decide to return our students to their classrooms, let us ensure that proper conditions are created and maintained for everyone in our public school buildings. We should monitor air quality within our schools. We should monitor the health of everyone entering our buildings, with or without students, and periodically during the day to ensure the safety of all within our buildings.</p> <p>Please ONLY consider the educational, social, emotional, and physical well beings of our students, faculty, and staff within the educational system. They are at your mercy. Please be responsible.</p>
7/20/2020 22:24:30	Debra Boyert	DeSeure		Basehor	
7/20/2020 22:24:34	Susan	Blake	Seniors at Home	Wichita	Why not wait until 15 days after Labor Day, two weeks for safety with a Covid19 quarantine.
7/20/2020 22:24:36	Krysten	Hearron		Overland Park	<p>As a Senior in high school I have already missed a very influential portion of my junior year which meant losing a lot of guidance for beginning a new step into college. Losing the last quarter of my junior year was something that I will not be able to get back, and not starting off my senior year on time will only lead to more stress for my class. Delaying school means extending it farther into our summer, which is the time we will be using to prepare for our arrival to our next step in life whatever that may mean. As someone who suffers from chronic asthma and other pulmonary issues, I cannot find a justifiable reason to continue with this order. If you must send us with masks that we will do it. But considering this disease is droplet spread and not airborne, if we have masks as previously ordered there would be even more lack of reason to send us to school. Just like every other disease to plague the US in current times it will most likely be around for a long time coming, and holding us back from social interaction at this point in time would be more for a political show than for the so called safety of the people being affected.</p>
7/20/2020 22:24:52	Leah	Gerber		Colby	I would like schools to open normally without any delay.
7/20/2020 22:24:52	Rebecca	Alderman	Parent USD290	Ottawa	<p>Postponing opening until AT LEAST after Labor Day allows more data to be collected regarding the trend in cases and the safety of congregate settings. Additionally it provides teachers and administrators more time to properly prepare for school without overlooking details in haste or making sacrifices that put not only our children's lives at risk but also every teacher, custodian, administrator, and staff person at risk. Listen to the scientists and epidemiologists and follow their advice. Please don't make our children a pawn in a political game of chicken.</p>
7/20/2020 22:24:55	Greg	Newberry		Cimarron	Return to school with no masks

					It is a severe disadvantage to students to delay the start of school. If safety measures are in place, and work as the CDC says they do, I see no reason to delay the start of the school year. I understand giving districts time to plan and make sure they have enough resources (masks, cleansers, hand sanitizers, etc.), but I'm sure most districts have been planning to some degree since March. I am concerned about the widening gap in academics, mental health, lack of physical activity for students, and the lack of structure and routine that help students thrive. I'm also concerned about executive orders like this because they don't consider the data, current cases, needs, etc. of my small town and take away local decision making and control. I know that some parts of the state have significantly higher positive cases right now and the governor is basing her orders on total numbers and not taking into consideration the extreme differences in various parts of the state. In Hill City, we have had 9 positive cases, 7 of which have recovered. Delaying school for 2 currently positive cases seems a little extreme. Of course, if things were to worsen in Hill City, I would trust my local health department to make safe decisions for our county and schools. Please consider voting no against this executive order and leaving control up to individual counties and school districts. I know it's a terrible position to be in and I appreciate all that you do. Thank you.
7/20/2020 22:24:58	Rebecca	Richmeier	Parent and Teacher	Hill City	
7/20/2020 22:25:06	Mary	Carr	Parent of 2 and teacher	Shawnee, KS	Online school, for the health of our students and staff.
7/20/2020 22:25:14	Kimberle	Curtis	None	Salina	Please keep schools closed until August. I am not comfortable with sending my child back to school with 1400 other kids.
7/20/2020 22:25:15	Linda	Tillitson	USD 303	Ransom	We need to follow the orders that are put in place by the governor
7/20/2020 22:25:15	Hailey	Quinn		Mission	Please pass this order. It is what is best to ensure safety for our students and children.
7/20/2020 22:25:15	Melanie	Curtis		Emporia	I am a mother of two and fully support this mandate.
7/20/2020 22:25:15	Kristi	Wibson	Parent Pratt USD 382	Peatt	Do not delay!!! Children need to be in school with all scheduled sports and extracurricular activities!
7/20/2020 22:25:16	Michael	Allen	Teacher	Olathe	I for one appreciate the extra time to prepare. Teaching in a large urban district the logistics to ramp up for whatever this may be are huge. At this point I still have no idea how I will be teaching. I would appreciate the time to really be ready for my students. I also have a lot of students living in multigenerational homes. Their safety is paramount and is way more important than my time. Keep them safe give us the time to prep.
7/20/2020 22:25:20	Melissa	Weber	Mill valley	Shawnee	It might be beneficial in order to provide the school's time to organize and get all the resources needed when school reopens.
					My family of 9 had Covid 19 from December - March. Before America took action against protecting it's people. Our 3 youngest suffer from severe asthma. We had 4 ER visits in the middle of the night, due to O2 stats being at 80%, their peak flow meter was on the red for weeks on end. After oral steroids, nebulizer treatments every 4 hours, on top of 104 degree fevers, that didn't break for weeks. I work from home, and I'm fortunate enough to be able to keep my kids home when they're sick. Each of them missed 12-17 days of school each, before governor Kelly decided to close down schools. To say I'm TERRIFIED to send our children back to school, is an understatement. I will not be entertaining the idea of in school, until Kansas flattens the curve for at least a month. I know this situation isn't an option for other parents who have to work full time, to provide for their families. I don't no if there is a correct answer to protect our children AND teachers. If we send everyone back before there's no new cases for multiple days, weeks, or months, we'll be right back to our "house arrest". Our family appreciates every one of the teachers, admin, and BOE who will hopefully make the best decision in protecting the health of our kids, and faculty come this fall. Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 22:25:20	Brianna	Lathrom	USD 348	Baldwin City	An exhausted mom that "kicked Covid's butt, but still feels the after effects, everyday".
7/20/2020 22:25:39	Juan	Rebolledo	Parent if high schoolers,	Wichita	Please support the order yo delay school.
7/20/2020 22:25:40	Rachel	Stone	Olathe USD 233	Olathe	I am a 4th grade teacher in Olathe USD 233 and I urge you to please support Governor Kelly's order. Please allow us to have time to prepare to open our schools as safely as possible and to allow cases to go down before we do so.
7/20/2020 22:25:45	Bailey	Mueting	USD 333	Concordia	I feel school needs to get started up before cold and flu season starts. Our kids need a education after being out for 5 months! 1 month is not going to make a difference on Covid numbers. As long as people are out and about numbers will rise.

7/20/2020 22:25:48	Annette	Viner		LaCygne	I support the delay in reopening to after Labor Day. I am a teacher 4 years from retirement but can't afford to do so yet. I also have several health concerns that put me in the higher risk category and a spouse who is at high risk. I love my students and I want to work but I also want to feel safe. I am a fine arts teacher and I contact 95% of my elementary school's student body over a 2 day period. The only students I do not contact in my buildings are the preK students. Please vote to NOT reopen until after Labor Day. Thank you.
7/20/2020 22:25:49	Amy	Moore		Prairie Village	Delaying school only a few weeks allows teachers and administrators to better prepare to have kids back in school and hopefully allow time for Kansas to reduce case numbers
7/20/2020 22:25:51	Brett	Clark	Self-Parent	St. George	Reject the Governor's EO and let districts decide what is best for their school district. School districts still have the option to delay school opening. Let them have that choice.
7/20/2020 22:25:53	Erica	Morgan	Teacher and parent	Saline County	I ask that you support in delaying schools. I believe it will give us time to work out some of the issues in the school we will have as well as time for Covid to hopefully flatten a little bit. My son has a heart condition and as much as I want to go back to my students; I can't handle sending him back right now. However, if I have to go back, it doesn't leave me any other options.
7/20/2020 22:25:58	Melissa	Hembrey	Kansas educator & parent	Shawnee, KS	I encourage our school board to vote to uphold Governor Kelly's order to delay school until after Labor Day. This would give teachers much needed time to address their plans for safety as well as time for our Covid numbers to subside. As a public first grade teacher and a parent of two Elementary aged children, I would feel more comfortable in all of us returning to school once our staff has had time to thoroughly come up with a safety plan in line with the KSDE guidelines. Thank you for letting the current data drive your decision, like all decisions in education are meant to be data driven.  Melissa Hembrey
7/20/2020 22:26:00	Crystal	Cummins		Isabel KS	At no time is it OK for the government (at any level: federal, state or local) to step in and decide what is the best medical treatment for people. People have an individual right to decide what medical treatment they will get. Forcing people to wear a mask for medical purposes is doing just that; it is prescribing a treatment and then forcing said treatment on a patient. The government needs to step back and stop over stepping their role. It is an individuals right to to choose how to protect their health and the health of their family. Stop forcing medical treatment on individuals because each person has a unique set of circumstances that the government has no way of knowing about. We care far more about our children than you ever could and want what is the best for them. What is best for our children might not look the same between every family and that's ok because that is what works for them. Stop over stepping and let us parent our children the way we as parents see fit. Benjamin Franklin once said: "Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety." I will not stand by silently as you try to strip Kansans of our God given Liberty to parent our children.
7/20/2020 22:26:02	Allison	Polifka		QUINTER	Coming from a small town with no active cases, I would hate to see a one-size fits all approach. We fear that September 9 could be the start of serious cases for us. We would love to start school in August to help students acclimate to their new teachers, classes, and online learning platform. Then, if it hits our small town in September, we can easily transition online.
7/20/2020 22:26:06	Amanda	Miner	USD 457	Garden City	I think it would be a fine idea to wait and start school after Labor Day, BUT we need to still end school before Memorial Day. The amount of student/teacher contact time needs to be adjusted to meet ALL of our needs. It is not fair to start school late and then end later as well. That would be a punishment to teachers and students. Also, we need to give teachers extra work days at the beginning of this school year to get supplies organized and prepared for students (no matter what the start date is). In my district we only get 1 work day before we start school with kids, this is hardly enough time to start a "normal" year, let alone all the precautions and mandates and recommendations we are going to have to put into place this year. We need more time to prepare this year, not just with in-services and professional development, but to work in our rooms! I will be ok with any decision, but whether we start in August or after Labor Day, we still need an extra day or two of in class prep time.



7/20/2020 22:26:09	Natalie	Limoges	Prince of Peace Catholic	Lenexa	I'm an educator and am in full support of Governor Kelly's Executive Order #20-58 and #20-59. Yes, a new school year is just around the corner. Yes, students want to socialize and hang out with their friends again. Yes, teachers want to teach from their classrooms instead of their living rooms. Yes, everyone is tired of Covid-19 and wants normalcy again. But NO to an August start date! For EVERYONE'S safety, health, and well-being, the start date to the 2020 school year MUST BE DELAYED until Kansas sees its number of positive cases decline over a period of at least two weeks. We must be absolutely sure we are moving in the right direction before we even begin to consider bringing students and faculty together in large numbers under the same roof. If not, THIS will become our new normal. I urge the Kansas Board of Education to approve Governor Kelly's order. Our lives matter!
7/20/2020 22:26:13	Kala	Davis		Plainville	Let Counties decide
7/20/2020 22:26:18	Dottie	Sheets		Saint John	I want what best for my children, whatever that maybe. Please put the kids safety first. That's all I ask.
7/20/2020 22:26:26	Emily	Desir	Speech language patholog	Olathe	The delay in the start to school is gravely important in setting up schools and staff for a safe return to face to face learning. Please vote in support of Gov. Kelly's executive order! The safety of our students and schools staff should be of the utmost importance!
7/20/2020 22:26:28	Meghan	Rice	Usd 500	Kansas City, ks	Moving the school year back would definitely allow the state to recover from Covid much better.
7/20/2020 22:26:39	Robert	Massa	teachers	Girard	Follow Gov. Kelly's order for the safety of ALL Kansans. Make no doubt there WILL be outbreaks once schools start.
7/20/2020 22:26:47	Kinda	Williams	Teacher and parent	Paola	Schools need to be open with all activities up and running in August, the mental and emotional well being of Kansas students is in serious jeopardy and far outweighs a virus that is 99.9% survivable!!
7/20/2020 22:26:52	Rhonda	Hill	Self	Kansas City, Ks	Please delay opening of schools for the fall. Our kids lives cannot be replaced, their learning can be!
7/20/2020 22:26:55	Michael	Rhuems	My family	In Kansas hell like the re	No delay and no masks! Fools think the masks work.
7/20/2020 22:26:57	Erin	Deenihan		Hays, KS	As a teacher, I appreciate the idea of a late start so that we can use the time to adapt to the released plan for reopening. I have been anxious about the idea of starting school. Surprisingly it was less about the number of COVID-19 cases increasing and more about how I was going to plan for something where I didn't know the ground rules until the last minute. I am pushing for the late start so that educators and all stakeholders have time to make informed decisions on what is best for the community. Yes, local planning should have a major role in reopening, but time is something you have the ability to help us with. Additionally, the idea of masking has been made political. I personally wear a mask to help protect the ones around me. It is my hope that students will do the same, but without a mandate I am not feeling reassured. You have the power to make educators feel valued and safe. I hope that you make the right decision. Thank you for your consideration.
7/20/2020 22:27:01	Braedon	Morrison	Olathe Public Schools	Lawrence	I am an elementary PE teacher in the Olathe USD 233 district. I am strongly against the reopening of in person schools and I fully support delaying opening until after Labor Day. This will allow teachers necessary planning time to prepare for the school year given we are not back on contract until August 7th. I would love to have in person school, but it is nowhere near safe enough right now for me to be willing to risk my health and safety as well as the health and safety of my family members. To me this is a common sense decision based on the science, the data, and the facts.
7/20/2020 22:27:12	Josh	Gooch	Greeley County HS	Tribune	Leave it up to the county or district. Everyone is ready for online or in person or both.
7/20/2020 22:27:13	Regina	Berns		Abilene, KS	As a teacher, of course I'm ready to get back to school with my kids, but I feel like waiting until September will give us more time to come up with a good plan to keep us all safe. There are so many new guidelines to consider and plans that need to be made so we are prepared to make this an awesome school year for our students. I feel like this will be better achieved with more time instead of throwing us all into an unfinished plan. Our cases are also rising, so it will give us time to evaluate the situation and hopefully see a downward slide before sending our precious kids off to school. Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/20/2020 22:27:14	Jennifer	Hopkins		tribune	please give power to local counties and districts to decide best path for their area based on current cases
7/20/2020 22:27:16	Venkat	Vallurupalli		Overland Park	That was a great decision by our beloved Kansas Governor Laura Kelly during these times.
7/20/2020 22:27:22	Ariel	Stoppkotte	USD 457	Holcomb	Please agree to follow the executive order
7/20/2020 22:27:22	Melissa	Hittle	Parent	Pratt	School needs to start on time and with no face masks! Covid has a 98% survival rate! Why is this still an issue?
7/20/2020 22:27:29	Cristina	Hardin		Olathe	start with online classes for the first semester and keep the regular start date

7/20/2020 22:27:34	Laurie	Rose	USD 259	Wichita	We need to wait to open schools not only to keep our kids safe but staff members. I work in a school and I have health issues. I can't wear a mask very long as I get light headed and I have respiratory problems, but I will have to when we start back. We have kids in our school that will not follow social distancing rules and mask rules. We have behavior problems and kids will spit on other kids and teachers, smear poop on walls and touch others.
7/20/2020 22:27:36	Amanda	Fehr	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	Since Maranatha is a private school and is funded by the parents it is difficult to abide by the executive order. If we can already put masks in place, temperature checks, and require distance where we can, I think we should get able to open on time. Fees could be given for those that do not abide the state requirements. I feel private schools should be individually evaluated or approved for opening on time.
7/20/2020 22:27:37	Laura	Howard	Prairie View High School	Louisburg	We SHOULD delay school until after Labor Day. This will give other schools across the country roughly 16 days of in-person teaching and (including weekends) will allow for 2 full COVID-19 cycles. If there are no spikes in cases, then we can move forward confidently and avoid the pitfalls that other schools faced. If there are spikes in cases, then we can adjust accordingly and continue to keep our students and teachers safe.  The board should vote in favor because the schools need to be protected. Many schools are being pressured by parents to open and are trying to justify in-person teaching despite the risks. If delaying and observing other schools happens, then they will have the data they need to make the best decisions.
7/20/2020 22:27:40	Kim	Epley	Wichita Public Schools	Andover	We should do remote learning until COVID cases are greatly reduced and it's safe for students, staff and families.
7/20/2020 22:27:43	Angela	Kuta	Catholic Schools	Topeka	One size does not fit all districts. The Archdiocese Of Kansas City has been working for months putting together an extremely detailed plan to get our children back in the classroom. School districts should be able to decide what time frame works best for them to start classes. Our children are falling behind and it is time to get them back to school for education, socialization and stability. We need to move past the fear of this virus and look at what is important for our children's development. Districts that have plans, equipment and processes ready should be able to start school according to their school calendar. One size does not fit all.
7/20/2020 22:27:45	Seanna	Viggers	Ascension catholic scho	Overland Park	Please delay school or have KS go virtual for the Fall. Too many unknowns and dangers
7/20/2020 22:27:46	Melissa	Huckabey	Students	Olathe	Please don't let our kids continue to sacrifice. Please open our schools on time. I have faith in our district and teachers that they will and have been acting responsibly to ensure everyone's safety in the classroom. For those that are still unsure, please give them the option to learn online rather than making the entire student body continue to wait. For their health and safety, please consider starting school as scheduled. Thank you for your consideration!
7/20/2020 22:27:48	Megan	Rives		Overland Park	I vote to uphold the decision to wait until after Labor Day to open schools.
7/20/2020 22:27:49	Sarah	Nickel		Olathe	Open after Labor Day. Give this a chance to get under control, for people to settle down their summer travel and gatherings. Give teachers more time to prepare. I hope that there are hybrid options available for hotspot areas. Thank you for all the work you are doing. Please make sure this is safe for our teachers and staff as well.
7/20/2020 22:27:55	Amber	Hennessey		Ottawa	Yes keep them closed until after Labor Day at the least. Let the schools have more time to formulate safe plans for all involved.
7/20/2020 22:27:56	Angie	Neill	I am a parent of 2 school	Effingham	I think delaying the start of school is a great idea so districts have a little more time to prepare for students. I hope every school in Kansas will offer parents the OPTION of in-person, online, or a hybrid of both so parents can choose what they feel most comfortable with.
7/20/2020 22:27:56	Michele	Pennington		Dodge City	I would prefer that school starts after Labor Day. It gives the districts more time to prepare & give more guidance to the schools. There are so many unknowns about the virus & at this point I really don't know who or what to believe. I only wish the flu season was taken this serious.
7/20/2020 22:27:57	Jason	Reece	Christ Prep Academy	Overland Park	This is simply a decision made void of the facts! Please look at actual statistics - an increase in positives does NOT mean we need to escalate the fear for political gain - the death rate continues to decline and 6 months from now the facts will continue to prove this is simply a different flu bug that politics has blown WAY out of proportion. You are only protecting yourself while ruining the lives of families with this blatant gross over reach. End the nonsense and open the schools!
7/20/2020 22:28:01	Julie	Lumpkin	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	Please support the delay. We need the numbers to be decreasing
7/20/2020 22:28:02	Susan	Blake	Seniors at Home	Wichita	Why not wait until 15 days after Labor Day, two weeks for safety with a Covid19 quarantine.
7/20/2020 22:28:03	J	J		Approve	Please let schools open up after Labor Day, for our safety

7/20/2020 22:28:07	Donna	Sibaa		Wichita	<p>We appreciate your service to the people and especially the students of Kansas. I do not believe it is in the best interests of students to delay opening and I am in favor of increased protocol and protections in place for the safety of students and teaches I do believe those mandated by the governor may be hard to facilitate.</p> <p>In preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <p>Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</p> <p>No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</p> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>I am one of the over 6,200 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay. OUTDOOR practices have already been taking place safely and should not be impaired. Club sports have been taking place all summer and will continue throughout the rest of the summer. Kansas students have suffered enough, please don't take another season of sports away from High School players.</p>
7/20/2020 22:28:21	Ruth	Abrahams	Grandparent	Newton	<p>It seems like a very wise move to give our school districts more time to get plans into place for safe schools for our children and staff. Also, did you realize that Kansas now is #1 in per capita transmission of CoVid19 in the nation?</p> <p>This is not a good time to open schools! Please vote yes on this executive order.</p>
7/20/2020 22:28:33	Mary	Pedroza		Shawnee	<p>Please listen to what people are saying and what we need — a later start date.</p>
7/20/2020 22:28:36	Jennifer	Sissell	USD 259	Wichita	<p>Please uphold the governor's executive order in order to allow schools time to prepare for the many scenarios the 20-21 school year will undoubtedly bring. Teachers want to do their jobs, but safely &amp; well, whether face-to-face or via distance learning.</p>
7/20/2020 22:28:48	Amy	Davis	Teachers	Silver Lake	<p>Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day! Teachers need the extra weeks to prepare for all the safety measures we need to put in place! WE ARE NOT READY TO DO THIS!!</p>
7/20/2020 22:28:56	Kim	Walters		Overland Park	<p>Please I beg you all NOT to delay the start of the school year. My 13 year old who is hard of hearing and has a IEP is falling further down the rabbit hole. He needs and wants to be back in school. To listen to a kid who hates to wear a mask say "mom I promise I will wear a mask and do everything they say if they'll let me go back" just breaks my heart. He had a extremely hard time with the online learning to where he regressed back to behaviors we worked so hard to correct. He deserves to be back in school, he needs the structure, the socialization, and most of all the education from a professional. I know you all are faced with this difficult decision but you all voted on guidelines for the schools to open in the safest possible way. So let the schools open and get the kids back to school where they belong and where they can start to feel somewhat normal again. If you have parents who want a delay they can always choose online learning, if you have teachers who want a delay, ask yourself why? You have recommended your guidelines for their safety face mask, hand sanitizing just to list a few, if those guidelines can protect healthcare workers, Walmart, Lowe's, and all those other essential employees it should work for teachers. I feel like if you delay the opening of school now then it's going to continue and once again be a complete mess and the kids will once again be the ones suffering.</p>
7/20/2020 22:28:57	Deanna	Kolle	School	Linn	<p>Please delay the start of school. This way we have adequate time to implement the guidelines set before us by the Kansas dept of Education</p>
7/20/2020 22:29:02	Deb	Travers	Self	Garden City	<p>Please honor Gov.Kelly's orders and delay school reopening until Sept 9th. Not only are Covid numbers rising, in Kansas, but staff need time to organize and implement the mandates to keep students and staff safe. Please listen to science and keep us safe.</p>
7/20/2020 22:29:04	Maranda	Matlack	USD 369	Burrton	<p>Please make the safest decision for BOTH students and staff. Delaying school maybe the safest way to start school. Don't let this be a politics decision only what's the SAFEST!</p>
7/20/2020 22:29:17	Doug	Piper		WAVERLY	<p>Please follow Governor Kelly's order and open Schools on Sept. 8. Governor Kelly has done a great job and has the best interest of the citizens of Kansas at heart!</p>

7/20/2020 22:29:19	Gloria	Rains	Grandparents for Comm	Newton	Please don't allow Dictator Kelly to subject our children to wearing masks all day. How many medical professionals will it take to convince you that masks are not healthy? Your decision will determine how many parents will send their children to private schools as well as home school.
7/20/2020 22:29:22	Heather	Johnson		Wichita	Children need to get back to school. They need to be around their peers. They have been out since March. They are not going to have any social skills if they can't go back and be around friends. I also disagree with the children wearing masks. Especially younger children. Its important that they be able to see facial expressions as they are learning about their own emotions and the emotions of others. Theres also the issue of households with both parents working or single parent households. It will be extremely difficult for them to be able to keep up with online/hybrid plans. If parents have to work all day , their only option will prob add bly be helping their children after work. They with have to cramps a days worth of work into a few hours. Or, a parent may need to leave a job, causing financial trouble for the family. Please override the governor's orders and allow children to go back to school at their normal time and with out masks. Perhaps face shields would be more appropriate for younger kids. These children need to get back to normal life.
7/20/2020 22:29:23	Kyle	Lowe		Lenexa	I am in favor of Gov Kelley's order. Additionally, I believe that schools should be delayed until it is deemed safe by the CDC, not the federal government.
7/20/2020 22:29:31	Amy	Smith		Overland Park	We should not have in person school until 2021. I don't like saying this but the numbers are spiking and we can't send kids to school.
7/20/2020 22:29:33	Kimberly	Studer		Olathe	I agree with Gov Kelly for pushing school back to make sure proper measures are taken before we go back to in face learning again. Our children our the future and we won't have a future with kids who have long term health issues from this virus. We need to protect the staff and these children. Parents are going to give their children Tylenol before school so they don't have a temperature, we have all seen it happen so taking temperatures at arrival is pointless in that matter. As a parent as well I have done all the proper measures so my children don't get sick so I expect the school district to help protect them while they get an education
7/20/2020 22:29:33	Jeffrey	Stone	My Family	Olathe	I believe delaying the start of school is a necessity and will give families and schools time to prepare. It will also allow families time to consider whether or not they will send students or utilize remote learning or homeschool. Please uphold the governors order!
7/20/2020 22:29:34	Kyle	Kaemmer	Oak Park Carpenter elen	Overland Park	Delaying the school year or especially not letting the kids who's parents want/need their children to go back to school as normal would be detrimental to the children's' futures! For the teachers that don't want to teach they shouldn't get paid. In the private sector (where there's risk of Covid too) where the majority of the parents work, if we don't work which is what happens when we are forced to "play" teacher, we can't make money which is detrimental to the children. Our children's mental health is suffering as well! They need the social interaction! To quote the American Academy of Pediatrics, "Schools are fundamental to child and adolescent development and well-being and provide our children and adolescents with academic instruction, social and emotional skills, safety, reliable nutrition, physical/speech and mental health therapy, and opportunities for physical activity, among other benefits. Beyond supporting the educational development of children and adolescents, schools play a critical role in addressing racial and social inequity. ... With the above principles in mind, the AAP strongly advocates that all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present in school. The importance of in-person learning is well-documented, and there is already evidence of the negative impacts on children because of school closures in the spring of 2020." THEY NEED TO GET BACK "IN" SCHOOL AS SCHEDULED! If they don't parents WILL find other educational routes outside of the public school system! People in the private sector have risks of contracting Covid too! We too have a choice, work and make money or don't work and don't make money! Make it the same for teachers!
7/20/2020 22:29:39	Wendy	Krause		Overland Park	These kids need to be in the school buildings. Fall sports need to happen with safety measures. The risk for school age kids is so low that it does not trump their scholastic needs to be in the classroom with proper in-person teaching and attention. PLEASE do not take another senior class' year from them! My son is finally a senior on his football team, interested in playing college ball like his father. Let him play! Give the scouts an opportunity to see our seniors for recruitment and college opportunities!!!!

7/20/2020 22:29:53	Angela	Epps		Shawnee	Please uphold the governors executive order to delay the start of school. Schools need the TIME to prepare. The communities need TIME to bring the case numbers down by wearing masks. Please support this EO.
7/20/2020 22:29:56	Jamie	Paget		Overland Park	I think Governor Kelly's order to delay school start is appropriate as so many counties and individuals will not comply with the mask order. As the parent of a HS senior who is deeply involved in co-curricular and extra curricular activities it breaks my heart to delay things. But I am also the mom of an immunocompromised child and a husband in a higher risk category. Provide full and extra funding for schools, mandate masks, support a newer, healthy community.
7/20/2020 22:30:09	Amanda	Griffin	KCKPS	KCMO	Delay
7/20/2020 22:30:28	Julis	Angell		Plains	I hope you will support the Governor's Mandate to delay the start of the school year & mask be worn. We currently have a rise in cases going on.
7/20/2020 22:30:50	Sharon	Bonura	My family!	Berryton	I believe this executive order should not go through. Kansas is made of many different counties in many different sizes. There is no way that a one-size-fits-all mandate should be handed down to every school. This does not look like a democracy!
7/20/2020 22:30:57	Melissa	Harris		Tribune	I think it should be up to each school district to decide when they want to open. Each school district should have their own set if guidelines for staff, students, and parents to follow.
7/20/2020 22:31:02	Sabrina	Grienke	USD 434	Carbondale	I would really like to see you approve Governor's order to delay school until after Labor Day. Our school districts are scrambling to figure how open safely with the resources we have and we are down to the last 3 weeks before school is to begin. This is not enough time! As a teacher, I am concerned about going back to school to begin with but really nervous if we don't have the time to prepare. I am not only concerned as a teacher but also as a parent. Please consider agreeing with Governor Kelly because it is what is best for the health of students and staff.
7/20/2020 22:31:12	Maureen	Goetz	Sacred heart	Desoto	Open the schools.
7/20/2020 22:31:12	Jackie	Scott		Weir	Please do not give a one-size-fits-all mandate. A large school in Wichita or Topeka have much different needs of smaller schools and counties prevalence of COVID will fluctuate. Please clarify the confusing rules of when students and staff can return. For example there is no logic in requiring a 14 day quarantine for just being exposed to covid while allowing those who are symptomatic (but don't get tested) to return after 10 days. That doesn't make any sense. And please consider lesser restrictions for exposure without symptoms. At my local hospital when we are exposed, we go through a 14 day symptom check and temperature checks, wear an not mask but can still work!! It seems unreasonable for staff to have to self quarantine for 2 weeks for just an exposure. That could happen multiple times throughout the school year and potentially for no reason.
7/20/2020 22:31:14	Melanie	Kasten-Mauk	KCKPS USD 500	Kansas City	Please approve the executive order to postpone the start of the school year due to Covid-19 safety issues.
7/20/2020 22:31:18	Amy	Jenkins	Parent and teacher in em	Admire	I think the longer we can wait, the better! I'm very worried to send my kids and for me to be exposed to 100 plus kids a day. Virtual school was amazing for our family!!!
7/20/2020 22:31:22	Helen	Woolsey	USD 368	Paola	As a teacher, I NEED school delayed and training provided in order to teach either partially or fully online.
7/20/2020 22:31:29	Lauren	Robinette	USD 500 - Sumner Acad	Kansas City	Please support the delay of school start. I'm two weeks away from the first day of school and have zero information from my district on what to expect this year. We need time to plan. We need time to prepare classrooms. We need time to train on helping our students transition back into school during a pandemic and all the trauma and mental health issues that have come from the last five months. We need time to train on Black Lives Matter issues to be more culturally responsive in our teaching. We need time for Kansans to get COVID numbers back down for a safe physical return to school.
7/20/2020 22:31:31	Iris	Wigley	WPS	Wichita	The delay the start of school idea a good idea.
7/20/2020 22:31:34	Andrew	Kneisler	Blue Valley Southwest	Overland Park	Although I am concerned for anyone to get sick. This virus has proven to be deathly mild and not as significant as other flu-like novel viruses before this one. All Children under 17 are the lowest risk age groups. I say let's open the schools for the mere sake of increase DV in homes is on the continued rise — children are more long-term hurt & damage. Get these kiddos on a schedule and return to patterns that limit DV in homes.  Let's care of our older aged population with more attention and focus restrictions on more "at risk" human age groups.

7/20/2020 22:31:36	Kristal	Werth	Quinter Public Schools	Quinter	Our children desperately need to be back in school! Our school officials should have control over our local schools, we are not in the same situation as schools in large cities!
7/20/2020 22:31:44	Jessica	Baxter	Olathe Northwest High School	Lenexa	I support delaying the start of the 20-21 school year. I feel more time is needed to ensure the health and safety of students and facility.
7/20/2020 22:31:44	Samantha	Martin		Olathe	I support delaying this school year
7/20/2020 22:31:56	Abby	Cornelius	Blue Valley School District	Stilwell	I am a teacher at Blue Valley North High School and parent at Stilwell Elementary. During my 15 years at BVN, we have lost students, parents, and teachers in our community for various reasons. Even one death is traumatic for the entire school community regardless of whether it is a student, teacher, or parent. We have the ability to take a little more time to keep the spread low and wait to open schools and it is our responsibility to take it and prevent deaths. Many times, people say, if you even help just one person, it's all worth it. Well in this case, we can prevent MANY deaths and it definitely will be worth it when kids don't have to suffer because the chances of losing family members, parents, teachers or even possibly classmates will be so much lower if we delay the opening of in-person schooling.
7/20/2020 22:32:07	Terese	Quenette		Lenexa	LOVE keeping our staff and students safe! With all the unusual plans to mix between in person and virtual learning this year, teachers certainly need extra time to plan well and prepare safely. We have no right to put students and teachers at risk. Data shows we need to do more to keep our community safe. Economic strain should be alleviated by legislators. Let schools focus on education.
7/20/2020 22:32:21	Tonya	Keeten	USD 325 Phillipsburg	Phillipsburg	Do NOT delay!!Go forward with School and Fall Sports
7/20/2020 22:32:29	Cheryl	Bergwell	Myself	Overland Park, Kansas	Let's do the first semester online. It is safer for everyone. We as teachers are better prepared. Let's protect everyone.
7/20/2020 22:32:38	Kim	Sipp	NONE	Topeka	I hope that the Board will carefully consider health providers and officials, parents, school district administrators, KSDE, and KNEA before voting. Please keep politics out of your decision making. You each have to make a decision in the best interest of our state's children, their families, and staff in all of Kansas schools. This is not about academics! This is about making the school environment as safe as it can be for our children and staff! Yes, I am a Special Education Teacher. I have mixed feelings about this matter, so I do not envy your position. This is why I want you to review and consider all available current information. I want to be in school with my students, but I want to make sure that each of my students and staff are in the safest environment possible!! There are no guarantees that any individual will not get COVID, spread it, or how the virus will effect any who do contract it, but we can make the best decisions that we can to keep everyone safe. My thoughts are with each of you as you make this decision. It cannot be easy. Thank you for your careful consideration as you make your decision.
7/20/2020 22:32:40	Pamela	Taylor	Stakeholder/Parent/Teacher	Olathe	Vote yes to delay the start of the school year in order to allow COVID numbers to decrease within CDC's recommended guidelines, protect students/staff and time for appropriate preparations for the start of school. Thank you for your consideration.
7/20/2020 22:32:57	Kathleen	O'Brien	Derby High School teacher	Derby	Please vote yes to delay the start of school. I just sat through a four hour school board meeting where the only consensus was we don't have enough information or enough time. We want to get back to our classrooms and I want my son in school but my district and building need more time to plan. Sedgwick county numbers are on the rise and we need direction from the state to delay. Please don't leave it up to our county commissioners!
7/20/2020 22:32:57	TIFFANI	Pauls	My family	Wichita	Please allow each school public and private to make their own decisions on how to navigate Covid-19. Each community and school is different and the individual schools knows best how to serve their students and families.
7/20/2020 22:33:01	Debra	Ramsey	Retired teacher	Uniontown, KS	I feel strongly that schools should stay closed until AT LEAST following Labor Day. In all honesty, I feel schools should take a time out during this pandemic for the entire year. Teachers could provide supplemental and enrichment learning activities for students to participate in online and by choice. Formal grade level instruction would remain on hold; each student would enter the 2021-2022 school year at the grade level they would have entered in the 2020-2021 school year. Yes the students will be a year older than what has been typical but this is not a typical time. YOU CAN REMEDIATE ACADEMIC DECLINE BUT WHEN A LIFE IS GONE IT IS GONE FOREVER!
7/20/2020 22:33:04	Melissa	Edmondson	USD 315	Colby	Start school on time these kids need to be in a classroom & participating In their extra Curricular activities. Online curriculums last spring was a joke!

7/20/2020 22:33:09	Heather	Albers	Usd511 and SCKSEC	Kingman	I believe the schools should follow Governor Kelly's late start mandate as I work in a rural school that is not taking this seriously. The school board last week voted that you could wear a mask if you desired but had to provide your own. They also stated they were putting the responsibility on the parents to temperature check their children as they were the best informed about their children. We are not socially distancing we are starting like nothing is happening. Our area has recently saw a rise in covid from 0 to now 7 in 2 to 3 weeks. The school I teach in has went from one to 4 in 2 weeks. Most of the people work put of town in Wichita, Hutchinson, or even Oklahoma. The teachers for this school 2 come from Kingman, 2 come from Pratt, one comes from Medicine Lodge, one from Winfield. We also utilize the special coop for services and the slp, pt, ot, along with many others cover an area with multiple counties. The exposure will be tremendous. We have old buildings with in adequate air systems and small classroom where 6 feet will be hard to manage so a mask is vital. I am really afraid to go back with out Governor KELLY'S mandates as I feel we are just being lead to our slaughter as our local board is not going to do anything proactive to help mitigate the exposure to all.
7/20/2020 22:33:16	Jennifer	Moore	Circle School District	Towanda	I would rather postpone the start of school and then have them going to school everyday than to do any distance or online. Childcare and transportation is hard enough to figure out without having to add on the stress and worry of shorter days/schedules or kids being home alone. Require masks and provide hand sanitizer and soap for hand washing. And also hire some people who are out of work to sanitize and clean the schools more effectively. to whom it may concern,
7/20/2020 22:33:17	Nicole	Taylor	Southeast of Saline USD	Assaria, KS	Please allow each individual school/district to decide what is best for their students. Our kids will be out of in person classrooms just shy of 6 months if we don't allow our students back into the classroom until Sept 9th. I think that if districts are able to abide by the mandates set forth to them they should be able to open on time. And clearly, we closed down schools in March, I would assume we have had plenty of time to put safety measures in place by now.  We already know that this previous Spring online/distance/remote learning was completely watered down and the educators were just trying to keep their head above water. I can't imagine what it would be like to have to do this the whole school year with a 1st grade student, a Kindergarten student and two full time working parents.  I know you can't do anything about Governor Kelly's other executive order but simply mandating all students, especially young ones, to wear a mask all day is absurd. I think students should be temperature checked and then monitored throughout the day, with proper handwashing. Kids and adults are supposed to be exposed to germs, that's how we build an immune system. Now, COVID-19 is a virus that we are still trying to figure out. I understand the logistics for keeping staff and children safe but we also need to worry about their mental and emotional health as well. And why should one person be able to decide what is best for everyone's children? It should be up to the parents to decide if they want their children wearing a mask all day long.  If there is nothing that can be done about the masking mandate, I will still be sending my children to school, because I know the education they are receiving from Southeast of Saline USD 306 is much more than what my husband and I can offer them at home. So please, if school districts are able to open safely and can abide by the safety mandates set forth for them, let them bring their students back! Don't make them wait another 4 weeks to get back to the education they so rightfully deserve.  Sincerely,
7/20/2020 22:33:18	Debi	Horn		Linn valley	Please allow this order to proceed. I teach third grade and we are planning on face to face teaching. If we don't delay until after Labor Day we go back August 13. We need time to plan for this school year. We need time to get things ready for our students.
7/20/2020 22:33:21	Rebecca	Eason		Haysville	I support this order. Please vote in favor of this.

7/20/2020 22:33:25	Rosemary	Beyer		Wichita	I believe that we must take precautions and delay school/find online solutions for the duration of the school year. COVID-19 numbers are continuing to rise and it's just not safe. The health and safety of students and teachers must be the #1 priority, even over an education. We must refund extra costs for things that are not provided online and make sure that people have safe housing and that they are receiving financial support during this time as well. I believe it is also important to cancel rent for the duration of the pandemic and make sure that all of our citizens are provided for, through the dollars that we as citizens collectively invested in this country. It is time for our investments to be put to use in keeping us safe.
7/20/2020 22:33:31	Beth	Burns		Newton	Please uphold the governor's order to delay the start of the school year. This is the best way for schools to be prepared to provide the best and safest learning environment for students and communities. Please so not make this political. It is the right thing to do.
7/20/2020 22:33:32	Beth	Derr		Overland Park, KS	supporting the Governor's order to delay school does NOTHING more than give all schools in Kansas a few weeks to make sure we are prepared to keep students and staff safe. It guarantees equity for all Kansans. Vote YES
7/20/2020 22:33:33	Bethany	Vokac		Olathe	As a teacher and parent I urge you to support Governor Kelly's EO to delay the start of school. Allow time for schools to adequately prepare for the safest in person learning possible and/or prepare for virtual learning. Allow time for Covid cases to decline before bringing large groups of people together in schools. Prioritize the health and safety of students, teachers, and school staff.
7/20/2020 22:33:45	Carol	Souders	Educator	Lawrence	Please allow us to delay the start of school so we can adequately prepare. This is a necessity for the health and safety of the students and the teachers and staff.
7/20/2020 22:33:51	Patricia	Connelly	Parent of an elementary	Overland Park	I think it is essential to get students back to school whose parents feel comfortable making that decision. I think there should be a virtual option for families that don't feel comfortable. I feel like the teachers in high risk categories should be given options. I think for the average healthy family in person school is ESSENTIAL!
7/20/2020 22:34:00	Lacey	Mosley	USD368/USD367	Osawatomie	I am a para and a mother of 2 but as a para I need to work and my special needs kids need structural teaching and a schedule and not to just be at home!! As a mother my kids need a normal life of school and sports but most of all learning at home is something neither of my children do well!!! I think that going back to school is a must!!!!
7/20/2020 22:34:02	Courtney	Weber	Parent of USD 230 stud	Olath	Please delay school so staff can receive accurate training and put protocol in place
7/20/2020 22:34:07	Maria	Hernandez		Dodge City	I agree with Governor Kelly. Our schools are overcrowded and our schools can you use the extra time to prepare on how we can keep our children healthy and our teachers healthy.
7/20/2020 22:34:10	Sarah	Neeb		Garden City	Open schools! Three weeks is not going to make a difference. Let the kids be kids.
7/20/2020 22:34:19	Sabrina	Muller		Kansas city	It is costing me another 1000 for daycare and as single mom have already paid for 4 month of cost.
7/20/2020 22:34:31	Courtney	Dowty	Special education teache	Topeka	As an educator in a building of 500 and as a parent I do not feel comfortable returning back to school on August 7th. The number of positive Covid tests are still rapidly increasing. It would be silly to send teachers and students back to a building where their health will be in danger. Please agree to push back the start date and keep our educators healthy!!!
7/20/2020 22:34:41	Leslie	Karlin		Hays	Please vote to uphold Governor Kelly's order to delay the opening date of schools. I am a teacher, and my colleagues and I need time to prepare at the district, building, and classroom level in order to implement guidance in opening safely. Thank you.
7/20/2020 22:34:41	Alison	Crane	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	I support the governor in her recommendation to delay the opening of schools. As a high school educator, I believe the few extra weeks will both give the community appropriate time to make progress on lowering the community spread of COVID-19 as well as give educators time to make plans and preparations for an unprecedented school year. As this situation has continued to change rapidly since March, we have had little time to adapt and have done the best with what we have been given. Three additional weeks will be a gift to teachers and administrators to strategize for opening their buildings to hundreds of children, and only a short time for students to miss instruction, especially if it means their teachers will have less anxiety and be better prepared to welcome their students. I appreciate the governor's thoughtful solution that neither puts educational staff, students, and families at unnecessary risk nor asks schools to unanimously shutter their doors completely.
7/20/2020 22:34:45	Brenda	Stanton	USD 458	Basehor	Please support the September school start date. Keep ALL of us safe!!!



7/20/2020 22:34:51	C.	Chelladurai	Parent in Blue Valley Se	Overland Park	Governor Kelly's order gives schools additional time to prepare for an unprecedented situation which will result in stronger schools this year. Support her decision to delay school openings, which in turn shows your support for teachers and educators. As a parent, I value a strong school opening (regardless of delivery system) over opening by a certain date.
7/20/2020 22:35:02	Jennifer	Cleeton		Kansas city	Yes it should be delayed
7/20/2020 22:35:02	BJ	Schultz		Lucas	Please, allow the kids to go back to school as soon as possible. Please, do not make children under twelve wear masks. It will be too much of a distraction and a huge burden on the educators.
7/20/2020 22:35:10	Erica	McIntyre	High school teacher	Olathe	Keep schools closed until cases decline and steady. I know kids are less at risk, but teachers are in the age range of higher risk. Kids are gross. You cannot social distance in a classroom as a teacher or as a student. Effective learning will not take place.
7/20/2020 22:35:24	Megan	Bubb	Prairie creek elementary	Olathe	I support delaying school opening until after Labor Day. This will give us much needed time to prepare to open safely, with appropriate guidance, and gives for the chance to hopefully lower the COVID curve again. Please delay the opening of schools.
					<p>I support the governor's order to delay the start of the school year, despite thinking it is not strong enough. I personally believe we need to continue the online learning like we did in the spring. But, her plan is better than reopening before we are ready to. Our buildings are not ready, I'm not convinced they will be by the time school would begin if they opened on the previously scheduled date. Additionally, I feel that we need time to adjust our instruction to the hybrid model with some students being in school, and some out. We also need the time to learn our new duties and responsibilities as it relates to COVID-19. This would include, but is not limited to, new screening, cleaning, sanitation, and routines. We need extra Professional Development to revamp our procedures within the buildings and to discuss and plan for the semester to come as well as build contingency plans for when the impending outbreak hits.</p> <p>Our district is in one of the state's hotspots. People here travel to Dodge City, Garden City, and Amarillo, TX regularly, even during the lockdown. All of those locations are COVID-19 hotspots as well. Our townspeople have refused to self-quarantine, social distance, or wear masks. We have teachers in the hospital, one in peril. Our hospital has performed admirably, with a death rate below the national average, but they are overworked with more 1,200 positive tests in a town of 18,000. If we return to school too early or unprepared, those numbers will grow exponentially. Despite all of that, our school board was prepared to charge headlong into reopening. Roughly half of our district workforce is high risk when you take into account our cooks, paraeducators, and support staff along with our teachers.</p> <p>I personally hated teaching online last year. I hated doing that as well as helping my sons with their classwork. I missed my students and my coworkers, my kids missed their friends. I want to coach my boys and win a league title. But, more than all of that, I want my kids, my students, my players, and my peers to be safe.</p> <p>I don't want to bring home a deadly virus to my wife who has been told by her doctor that it is unsafe for her to work because of a pre-existing condition and I don't want to bring it home to my 70-year-old mother who we help care for now that she has Alzheimer's. That is why I would prefer we hold the 20-21 school year online, but it is also why I support the governor's plan, as it is better than simply starting back on day one as planned. If the state chooses to reopen too early, I urge you to send us grief councilors. We will need them.</p>
7/20/2020 22:35:35	Michael	Campbell	USD 480 and KNEA	Liberal, KS	
7/20/2020 22:35:40	John	Lenfestey		Overland Park	Comment removed due to profanity
7/20/2020 22:35:58	Melanie	Krehbiel	USD 423 Moundridge	Newton	Thank you so much for supporting Governor Kelly's order to delay the school year until after Labor Day. As a high school teacher in a small district, I am very concerned about keeping my students and coworkers safe. I fully understand parent and student concerns, and I believe we as educators need time to get the necessary supplies (many of which are now on back-order) and plan for fall teaching. Because there are so many unknowns with how the virus will affect our small rural communities, I believe measures such as wearing masks, social distancing, etc., during this time can make a big difference. Please uphold Kelly's executive order to help keep Kansans safe! Thank you for your time.

7/20/2020 22:35:59	Christine	McKellip	NA	Newton	<p>I am writing to urge you to support Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of the 20/21 school year until after Labor Day.</p> <p>I am a retired special education teacher and can only imagine the challenges this school year is bringing. In addition to usual planning and relationship building that comes with every new school year, educators will be faced with concerns for their health as well as the health of our students. Additionally, they will be facing the possibility of delivering education to students in ways we have never experienced.</p> <p>Your leadership at this critical time is more important than ever before. Please show our educators and students that you will do what it takes to support them by voting to uphold Governor Kelly's order.</p> <p>Thank you for your commitment to public education.</p>
7/20/2020 22:36:07	Kim	Keiser		Pratt	<p>As an educator I feel that it is in the best interest of the students and staff to delay opening until after Labor Day. With the increase in COVID numbers a school building is not a safe place for anyone to spend 8 hours a day in. Social distancing cannot be maintained and I fear that the spread would be worse. When schools do open I would like to see everyone 5 years and older in a mask. It protects me and it protects you. We have medically fragile students, we have teachers with underlying health conditions, and we have families that cannot be subjected to COVID 19.</p> <p>I urge to please delay the opening of school and make Governor Kelly's requests required.</p>
7/20/2020 22:36:18	Katie	McWhirter	Kindergarten at KCKPS	KCMO	<p>To Whom It May Concern-</p> <p>I believe it is extremely necessary to delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year by a few weeks. It will allow us teachers to be better prepared for the upcoming school year. If we are given time to plan for not only curriculum that needs to be retaught from summer brain drain, missed content from the end of spring semester, safe transitions in the classroom, play grounds, lunch rooms, hallways, bathrooms, entrance into and out of the school, etc. I believe if we are given ample time to plan with our peers in our buildings-in my specific district we will lessen the chances of contracting COVID-19 this fall for both adults and adolescents. No matter the size of district, school or classroom we all need to plan for our students well being, and our staffs too. If we are given just a few extra weeks, not months we will be able to continue to flatten the curve that has clearly spiked in our wonderful state of Kansas. Please take into consideration what each teacher, parent and support staff are stating as they just too want what is best for the kids and teachers.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Katie McWhirter Kindergarten Teacher of KCKPS</p>
7/20/2020 22:36:29	Chris	McLean		Shawnee	<p>This is a no-brainer. Opening schools in August is both irresponsible and dangerous. At a minimum schools need to have the opportunity suggested by the Governor to start school after Labor Day.</p>
7/20/2020 22:36:30	Tamara	Riggs		Garden City	<p>Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day so school districts have time to make their buildings safe for students and school staff. They also need time to look at the state plan and make sure it works for their district-get masks, shields, hand sanitizer, cleaning materials, hire more custodians, discuss plan for at risk students and school staff with virtual learning, etc.</p>

7/20/2020 22:36:42	Dana	Castor		Wichita	I definitely think we need to delay school starting until after Labor Day. We are in no way prepared to start safely. I have listened to comments about what the students need. Most importantly they need to be SAFE. We need the state numbers to decline. Yes, there are a few places that are not increasing as drastically as Wichita, but, it is coming. Schools will be a petri dish of contamination because there is no way to safely socially distance. We just need time to decrease numbers and to put the safety protocols in place. Things are planned. Things are on order. They are not installed. They have not arrived. PLEASE delay our start. It truly will not affect our calendars that much. Safety before convenience.
7/20/2020 22:36:43	Jill	Burgen		Baldwin City	Please vote to uphold the Gov executive order delaying the school year. Please vote in accordance with science and the medical community recommendations.
7/20/2020 22:36:46	Mark	Beyer	Self	Wichita	I believe school should be delayed until a responsible plan that protects community health is in place. Schools must figure out how to stagger in class activities and supplementing with online assignments to keep the number of students in close proximity within recommenced levels. School workers, teachers, bus drivers, etc must all continue to be paid. We will not likely be back to normal until spring next year after vaccinations have been available for some time and evidence of risks are demonstrated to be under control and minimal. Students are resilient and will adjust. We may discover new creative ways to do school. Families with two working parents will be the ones to make the biggest adjustments.
7/20/2020 22:36:51	Amanda	Sandoval	Stafford Schools USD 3	Stafford	I want to do whatever is safe and suggested. I'm okay either way.
7/20/2020 22:36:57	Brandi	Burkett		Haysville	Keep schools closed
7/20/2020 22:36:59	Paula	Skidmore	My home	Smith Center	No late start, no masks, and no hand sanitizer. I don't think this will happen so we plan to homeschool.
7/20/2020 22:37:05	Brenda	Kirk	USD 417 Parents as Tea	Council Grove	I support delaying the 20-21 k-12 school year. With the rapid rise in covid-19 cases in Kansas at this time, I feel it would be best to wait. This will give districts added time to prepare for how to handle moving forward, whether it's an online option or in-person with appropriate precautions such as masks, good hand hygiene and social distancing.
7/20/2020 22:37:08	Aileen	Raymer	Parent and educator	Marion	I am not in favor for taking a statewide approach, rather I think the way districts handle the openings/closures/in-person/remote learning can be decided within their own communities. We have too diverse of communities that the virus' progression is different, which will result in different timing of impact within communities/districts. I'm all in favor of keeping people safe, let's just keep common sense in mind when doing this. Please look at the science and information that is out there for our student population. Let's keep in mind about other risks that are rising in our children...depression, anxiety, exploitation, etc. They need to be back to school to socialize and learn. Is it really worth the risk to take by keeping them home longer? We eventually have to move forward because this is not going away. I believe planning can begin for a safe start of the school year now, so that when the time is right schools can get going. Please allow for that decision and timing be made at a local level!
7/20/2020 22:37:11	Andres	Tran		Wichita	I do agree with Gov Kelly
7/20/2020 22:37:12	Craig	Bowman		Bucklin Kansas	Let the local school districts decide how they want to proceed. Why should we not have a voice for the children in our community? Can't even have online options through the school? We can do better than doing nothing. In small communities we're always around each other anyway ie Sports conditioning, daycare, church activities, Etc. This mandate accomplishes nothing other than exacerbate the education discrepancy between the affluent school districts and lower tax base rural and inner city schools. Please help!
7/20/2020 22:37:18	Lenay	Marteny		Rural Riley county	Start the school year, build the herd immunity, understand that delaying And putting things off until flu season hits too and more viruses can be spread Is silliness. We aren't seeing the hospitalizations predicted - the death rate numbers have been skewed from the start. The majority of people in our county and state are not requiring hospitalizations or ventilators. Let's move forward with life again - it's well past time.
7/20/2020 22:37:26	Anita	Parks	Parent	Wichita	Please delay the start of school or start school online until our covid cases have decreased.
7/20/2020 22:37:32	Tish	Roberts	Teacher in BVUSD	Olathe	Let the governor's order stand

7/20/2020 22:37:36	Amanda	Grosserode		Lenexa	Though I disagree with delaying public schools from beginning before September 8th, I'm choosing specifically to address private schools and public virtual schools. There is no reason why there should be a restriction on public virtual schools to begin instruction. Those schools should be able to proceed as normal. Private schools, as well, have made plans to address the health needs of their students. If the public schools are lacking in those plans, then by all means restrict their physical gathering. Though they've had all summer to plan, they still could begin school with an online delivery. The lack of readiness of the public brick and mortar schools should not hold back the students of public virtual schools and private schools.
7/20/2020 22:37:39	Julie	Smith		Overbrook, Kansas	Please allow local school districts to determine what's best for their communities. Ours has been working tirelessly since the shut down to formulate a plan for this fall. I've seen the draft. It's a pretty darn good one, despite the fact our education leaders are facing insurmountable challenges every step of the way. Our kids need to begin school on time. Maybe that's in person, and maybe it's not, but I believe local boards are better equipped to decide that for their communities based on the data available that is specific to their communities. Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 22:37:46	Hallie	Slavens	Tri-County Special educ	Pittsburg	I am thankful for the delay. As a teacher and a parent, I feel the delay gives school districts time to have multiple plans in place. I teach in a different district than my kids attend and I have concerns.
7/20/2020 22:37:48	Jim	Connelly	SMSD parent	Overland Park	In person school needs to happen and it should start on time. These kids have already suffered so much and continuing the isolation from teachers and friends in a structured environment is harming them.
7/20/2020 22:37:52	Megan	Meads	Elementary Teacher	Linn Valley, KS	Please allow districts to make their own decisions on re-opening schools.
7/20/2020 22:37:53	Gerald	Nichols	N/a	Olathe	Please start schools at the normal start date. Our kids need school and to get back to normal.
7/20/2020 22:37:54	Tonya	Winger		Colby	Let local districts decide what's best for their situation. Get back to school ASAP WITHOUT mandatory masks!
7/20/2020 22:38:02	Stephanie	Titus		Great Bend	I agree with the decision to delay school until Sept. 9.... I feel the districts need this time to implement a plan so we can all return to school safely
7/20/2020 22:38:07	Amy	Reinhold	USD207	Leavenworth	As a teacher, I believe, given the rising number of COVID-19 cases in Kansas, and the fact that only 3 of our 100+ counties have zero cases, that the only responsible choice for the safety of students and staff is to vote yes to Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. This will allow districts time to procure PPE and other safety equipment, as well as teachers extra time to plan deeply and intentionally for a school year fraught with uncertainty and inconsistencies. Thank you for supporting students and teachers in voting yes on Wednesday!
7/20/2020 22:38:11	Taylor	Hardin		Kensington	A mask will only be a distraction, and harmful to our children's learning. How do you expect elementary students to learn while wearing that garbage. This is outrageous.
7/20/2020 22:38:13	Gabrielle	Elliott	Parent of high school, K	Johnson	I rarely if ever take an interest in day to day political activities, but the events of late are going to require more of us to begin to speak up as wrongful executive actions are taken to restrict freedoms and cause harm to our society having consequences both immediate and far into the future. With that, I'm sure you will not be surprised that I believe the shuttering of our schools nationwide (not to mention our entire economy) was an extraordinary overreaction and foolish. Thus, further delays (which unless we speak out against them appear likely to be extended) are equally foolish and harmful to the development, overall wellbeing, and futures of our children. The fearmongering press and most unfortunate politicization of the new corona virus cross over strain(s) necessitates that we step up on a local level and defend freedoms and the wellbeing of our children. Thus, I would ask that you use your judgement and authority to get our children back in school and return at least that portion to some normalcy for them.
7/20/2020 22:38:16	Beth	Folks		Oskaloosa	I believe kids should start school at the normal time. They've been off since March, and I know my kids have desperately needed the social interaction that they received at school. I know it's just another month, but that would equal SIX months of no in-person classes. That's just not right in my opinion.
7/20/2020 22:38:18	Jeremy	McGuire		Hays	This will be better for the students and staff. That's what it should be about, not politics. I fully support the delayed start of school.
7/20/2020 22:38:22	Sarah	Williams	My family	Linwood	I support Governor Kelly's delayed start to school. I will keep/teach my kids at home if KS rushes schools to open before COVID is tamed such that numbers are declining. We will not participate in traditional school otherwise. Wear a mask, every single one of us. Instead of pretending life is normal, how about we acknowledge it is anything but. Thank you, Gov. Kelly!!

7/20/2020 22:38:28	Renee	Brown		Kansas City, KS	We need to delay the opening of school.
7/20/2020 22:38:34	Emily	Gates		Overland Park	Hi! Please vote against Gov. Kelly's request to delay the opening of schools. Thank you!!
7/20/2020 22:38:42	Hearher	Koehn	My family, myself as a t	Newton	Please support the EO to delay the opening of schools, community spread of covid is on the rise in Harvey County. A delay would give us a better chance to be safely prepared for what in-person, hybrid and remote learning might look like. Thank you
7/20/2020 22:39:08	Katie	Lowe		Lenexa	The school should not be opened until deemed safe by the governor and or the CDC. children should not be put at risk.
7/20/2020 22:39:09	Candace	Stewart	USD #497	Olathe	Please postpone the beginning of school. Put the health of our students and teachers before money
7/20/2020 22:39:15	Tess	Modrow		Salina	A Delay in school any longer is impacting the future of our children. There is absolutely no substitute to being in school with teachers and peers committed to learning. There are an abundance of viruses and ailments that children can contract - precautions can be taken but we can't continue to keep them out of school. Honestly, they are running all over town anyway!
7/20/2020 22:39:27	Stephnaie	Knutson	Teachers	Maize	Forcing children to wear a mask all day and not interact with their peers is an overreach of power at best. 7 hours of kids being forced to sit and get when everyone in education knows that isn't best practice. I had a student die at age 11 from the flu a couple years ago. Nobody cared beyond our school. Flu kills more each year but we haven't forced kids to deal with the consequences. Our neighbor to the north is giving two face masks per student and allowing parents to decide if their child will wear one. Quit overstepping your power and let parents decide what is right for their children
7/20/2020 22:39:30	Colleen	Farthing	Special Education Teach	Shawnee	With cases rising, please keep schools closed to protect all students and staff, but especially those with medical issues that make them more susceptible. I am one of those and so are some of my students. I want to feel safe, and make sure it is truly safe for my students and my own children . Thank you!
7/20/2020 22:39:55	Penny	Grabber		Wamego	Please vote to delay the start of school until September 9 so that teachers have time to prepare for the changes that need to be made to effectively teach our children and to keep them safe. Thank you!
7/20/2020 22:39:56	Laurie	Ackerman	My 7 children	Pratt	Kids need school and normalcy again!!
7/20/2020 22:39:57	Anna	Hinton	USD 500 teachers	Olathe	I am a teacher at FL Schlagle and I do not feel safe returning to school in any capacity. We need to teach remotely from our own homes. Please protect us teachers, too.
7/20/2020 22:39:58	Brian	Staek		Overland Park	96 total deaths in Johnson County as of 7/19. 2 of 96 under 60 years old. 74 of 96 over age of 80. Average age of deceased, 81. 80 of the deceased lived in long term care facility. Closing schools is absurd.
7/20/2020 22:40:15	Traci	Wood	USD 385	Andover	This is a time to step, up and show leadership and support for teachers. Schools need time to process the navigating change document, plan, and get teachers trained. Teachers want to do a good job and need time to prepare for the new way of school. There will be many hoops and changes this year, and the extra time will allow a little breathing room to make sure all schools and teachers are successful. The governor has not made these decision on her own, many medical personnel are in agreement.
7/20/2020 22:40:17	Annessa	Russell		Newton	As a parent of an elementary school child I am totally behind Gov Kelly and the mandate to postpone the opening of schools. Our districts need more time to make sure that everything is in order and procedures are in place to keep both students and all staff safe and healthy. I would also like to see the districts given more directives on class size, teacher ratio and cleaning/safety procedures. Thank you for your time and leadership.
7/20/2020 22:40:21	Leslie	Pruitt		Shawnee	Please vote AGAINST the Governor's executive order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. The American academy of pediatrics recommends in person school for students this fall, schools in Europe have reopened, and parents need to get back to work.
7/20/2020 22:40:38	Susanne	Mahoney	kckps	kansas city kansas	please consider the science and delay the opening of schools to allow in depth training of staff for dealing with COVID as well as social distancing plans.
7/20/2020 22:40:41	Nicole	BARKLEY	USD 356	Viola	One size does not fit all when it comes to opening schools back up. Counties/Districts should be in control of their schools not the governor.
7/20/2020 22:40:47	Delia	Trowbridge	USD 469	Lansing	School should be closed until after Labor Day

7/20/2020 22:40:49	MANDY	PROLAGO		WICHITA	Thank you so very much, for considering the welfare of our children, whom are coming and going from their homes, where some of us are caretakers for high risk people! My family greatly appreciates this order and will do everything in our power to take advantage of this opportunity to socially isolate, strengthen our bond, and educate our children! When it's time to resume in-person, please consider the option of online learning, and/or do so when the virus is manageable, has a treatment and/or vaccine. Thank you!
7/20/2020 22:40:50	Susan	Klankey	Turner USD#202	Olathe	Please consider the reality of how specials teachers In elementary schools will operate if school districts are rushed into opening. The fact of the matter is that schools count on specials teachers for teacher planning periods. I teach music and I have over 600 students I see in one week. I think it is going to be difficult to address this one issue as well as others.
7/20/2020 22:40:50	Amanda	Jolly	Teacher in USD262	Wichita	Please delay the start of the school year and put the health and safety of staff and students first. Actions speak louder than words, so if you're going to say that safety is foremost, then let your actions follow suit. Please don't let this be made into a political decision-lives are at stake.
7/20/2020 22:40:53	Alexa	Daily		Wichita	There are many more cases of Covid-19 now than when we shut down schools in March. The numbers of those infected continues to rise. It would be illogical to send children back for face-to-face instruction given the current data. In addition, to throw the decision on starting times back to individual districts is irresponsible. Consider the reaction of the majority of county commissioners to the governor's mask order. Doing the "right thing" may mean that the safety of children will have to take precedence over the desires of many (perhaps the majority) of your constituents.
7/20/2020 22:41:02	Diane	Thoman	Concerned Grandparent	Olathe	To continue attending schools this year, still seems too soon. There is no sure vaccine yet, teachers are parents, grandparents and administration. Those persons, after spending 8+ hours daily around students and other outsiders, will not stop the rise of Covid cases. They can carry the virus from the school, to their home, and infect others. We need to continue the social distancing, and keep the children at home, till we have the vaccine, all can really feel safe, and the virus cases had subsided, or flattened.
7/20/2020 22:41:10	Barbara	Ramos	I wish the vius would go	Yes	I wish the virus would go away
7/20/2020 22:41:14	Lena	Duncan		Andover	This should be a county decision, not state. There are several counties that have very low COViD numbers. Blanket orders are unnecessary and harmful. Also, sports need to happen! Take all the precautions, but we are beginning to harm our kids' mental health with all the cancellations!
7/20/2020 22:41:34	Dee Ann	Beam	USD 107 Rock Hills, Fi	Mankato, Kansas	I support the delay to start school after Labor Day to give teachers and staff adequate time to prepare for changes and safety guidelines that will need to be implemented. Rushing into a school year when not fully prepared could be detrimental to the safety of our students.
7/20/2020 22:41:43	Jon	Link	Parent citizen	Larned	No masks for kids. I do not support this at all nor will I back anything as such. If this is the case what's next, mandatory vaccine for covid next. No thank you. Think about it more. No kid is going to wear a mask they long
7/20/2020 22:41:46	Tricia	Stogsdill		Chanute	I am very pro these mandates as a minimum for moving forward. As an educator I am very concerned for my wellbeing as well as that of my students and family. I strongly believe that we should keep schooling remote next year until there is widespread vaccination.
7/20/2020 22:42:01	Persis	Lugalia	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita	We spoiled open up the schools and the masks be optional. I couldn't imagine wearing a mask all day while I teach music. I couldn't imagine having to stop my lesson multiple times because of children continuously playing with their masks. We should at least do half days or alternative days and not be required to wear masks.

7/20/2020 22:42:14	Sue	Gorman		Overland Park, KS	I would encourage the KSDE board members to put politics aside when making your decision about delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. Those additional three weeks may be the precious time needed to help quell Covid 19. It is three weeks. Do your part to help slow down the spread. It is three weeks. Calendars can be adjusted, back in the day, we didn't start mid August. It's three weeks. Perhaps the legislature could amend the days need for this 2020 - 2021 school year. It's three weeks. Thank you for your work regarding the education of our Kansas children. Thank you for taking the health and safety of teachers, students, staff, nurses, therapists, bus drivers, cafeteria workers and custodians into consideration when making your decision about delaying the start of school. It's three weeks. Sincerely, Sue Gorman, retired teacher
7/20/2020 22:42:17	Jody	Gorges	Parent in parochial scho	Goddard, Ks	I understand there may be areas of the state experiencing a surge in COVID-19 that makes it difficult to have in person school. But these decisions need to be left up to the local school boards. At least let us start online August 13 like we were scheduled. I have an 8th grader with an IEP for Reading. He was on track to be able to transition well into high school next year. Now, I worry that will no longer be the case. Friendships are tough for him. He hasn't had a friend/peer to talk to since March 12th, the last day he was in school. What do you think that does to a 13-14 year old, shy, boy. PLEASE DO SOMETHING!!!
7/20/2020 22:42:18	Jeri	Harris		Olathe	Protect students, teachers, and staff. Delay school start so we can prepare and flatten the curve. Masks required for all when we do go face to face. Science over politics, please.
7/20/2020 22:42:20	Cindy	Wichman	USD 260	Derby	Please do not start school until after Labor Day!! Online only is preferred!
7/20/2020 22:42:22	Candace	Fish	Usd 259 teacher	Wichita	If delaying the year helps I'm fine with that. However I honestly don't have time to police masks all day if we are expected to teach. I teach behavior kids and they are not going to keep them on! Also, the senior class of 21 has already missed the spring of their junior year. Please don't take away their senior year too. They deserve to get their athletic seasons, dances and graduation.
7/20/2020 22:42:26	Tina	Donnelly	Teacher	Salina	Schools need to be delayed according to the governor's order. This is necessary due to the rising cases in Kansas, including Saline county. It would more safe to hold off on school to see if the mask mandate results in cases decreasing in the next month. It also would give schools the necessary time to plan and put into place the necessary safety precautions that are needed to try to keep staff and students as safe as possible.
7/20/2020 22:42:29	Kara	Sorenson	Teacher/Parent	Derby	I am asking that the Board support Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-58 delaying the 2020-2021 school year. As a parent, I am opting to keep my children home learning via a remote option. The risks are too high for me to feel comfortable to send them back to school in-person. Additionally, we have the privilege of being able to keep our kids home, which lowers the number of students in the buildings for those who do not have that privilege. Our state closed school buildings in March when the number of cases was far fewer than we have now. The current increase in positive cases of COVID-19 is truly a crisis. Pushing back the start date gives districts the opportunity and time to implement the guidelines laid out in KSDE Navigating Change plan. We currently do not have enough information to determine how this virus affects children. They have been one of the most isolated populations since remote learning was implemented. We simply do not know how this will spread once they are back in school buildings. I am not okay risking our children's health due to politics and public pressure. As a teacher, I will always do what is best for my students. We are being asked, once again, to completely upend everything and create new ways of teaching and building connections. Even if we are in-person, group activities and lessons have to be reworked and reimagined. We have to plan lessons that can easily transition from in-person to hybrid to online seamlessly. We are being asked to do all of this in the face of budget cuts and uncertainty. Having a few extra weeks will allow teachers across the state time to prepare high-quality lessons and learning experiences for their students. I hope that you stand behind Governor Kelly in her decision to do what is best for Kansas children.
7/20/2020 22:42:32	Shelly	Francis		Olathe	Thank you

7/20/2020 22:42:38	Sussanna	Hardaway	BVNEA	OLATHE	I would like to see school delay in opening so that schools and staff have time to prepare for students. If it is in person there needs to be time for planning and meeting the new guidelines. If it is virtual there needs to be time to train teacher so to meet the requirements for virtual teaching. I would love to see teacher report at their originally scheduled time with students delayed until September. Also if there is virtual teaching I would love to be able to teach from my classroom virtually.
7/20/2020 22:42:39	Beth	Schmelzle	USD 378	Riley	Start as normal. The kids need to return to normal! My daughter asked if she could sue the governor over the delay. She's 15.
7/20/2020 22:42:43	Rick	Evans	Help them play	Eudora	PLEASE for the sake of our kids mental health and safety, please let them play fall sports. The depression and anxiety are FAR worse than the risk of a viral infection that NOBODY under the age of 36 has died from in the state!!!
7/20/2020 22:42:52	Dominic	Roberson	USD 373	Newton	Delaying school until September allows teachers to get much needed planning in. This allows us to be better equipped to create as safe and efficient learning environment as possible. This also allows for communities to come together to stop the spread of COVID. The extra time would allow more incubation cycles to go through with the mask mandates in place.
7/20/2020 22:42:56	Lesli	George-Mitzner		La Cygne	I support Gov Kelly and her decision to wait for schools to open. Her concerns are valid and I would ask that you allow her order to stand.
7/20/2020 22:42:56	Stephanie and S	Dunkley	Concerned parents	Olathe	We understand that additional time may be necessary to plan for in person school. The extra time required for the Olathe School District is prudent. However, we are concerned for those families that this delay will cause a financial burden. Further, we do have a few points we would like for you to consider. - mask wearing for elementary aged students will likely be more detrimental (ability to enforce, distractive and arguably unhygienic over the course of time) - taking daily temperatures upon arrival at school each day will create a logistical nightmare for everyone involved (why can't this be done by parents/guardians before sending the kids to school?) - as for middle and high school, mask wearing will come with its own set of challenges (besides enforcement issues and classroom management, it wouldn't be surprising if toilets would be backed up as a result of discarded masks) - we also support the commencement of school related activities as soon as possible with appropriate social distancing measures
7/20/2020 22:42:58	Rachael	Roberts		Topeka	Delay the opening! Protect teachers and students!
7/20/2020 22:42:59	Dawn	Longbine		Wichita	I fully support the governor's order to delay school a few weeks. The kids will still be required to get their full hours in for the year and this will give districts much needed time to prepare and help keep our children and school staff safer. As a parent I am thankful for the delay to take extra precautions. With the number on the rise in Kansas, starting school in August would be a high risk. Please do your part in ensuring the safety of these children and support the governor's decision.
7/20/2020 22:43:12	Johnna	Frantz	Colby area schools	Colby	Let the kids get back to school without masks. Mental health is so important and there will be side effects to delaying school and overuse of sanitizers.
7/20/2020 22:43:13	Jack	Herbert	Abilene Baptist Academ	Abilene	Delaying only leads to more issues with the calendar and creates greater hardships for our parents. After a less than stellar conclusion to last year, we will face plenty of challenges this year. The closer to normal we can keep things the better for students. I have serious objections to the other mandate but I don't believe this is the forum for that.
7/20/2020 22:43:14	Meagan	Lowe	Mission Valley Junior H	Maple Hill	I agree with the governor delaying school. If starting school after Labor Day is the magic potion to start school as normal as possible, I support it fully. Summer activities should have been shut down weeks ago! Give people less to do so they will stay home and away from large crowds!!!
7/20/2020 22:43:23	Anna	Metcalfe		Hartford	Please open the schools up, kids need interaction with other kids. They are getting exposed at child care while parents work but we can't educate them?



7/20/2020 22:43:25	Michael	Schatz	USD220	Ashland	<p>Please Do Not push back school opening. Our students have lost enough contact hours. These hours will never truly be made up and it jeopardizes our children's education and future of becoming productive members of society. We all know there are risks, but the fact is that this virus has a 99.5% Survival rate where Most positive cases are a systematic. The stats of dying from car accidents are higher than contracting COVID from a safely sanitized school facility.</p> <p>Current positive rates are low, if the ratios should rise in the fall, then local districts Can decide whether to close or not.</p> <p>Please allow schools to open in August. It comes down to parents' choice of whether or not their child be allowed in school.</p>
7/20/2020 22:43:31	Heidi	McKennon	Skyline Schools	Pratt	<p>Good evening. I am the school nurse for USD #438. Not only am I employed by the school, but I have a son who will be a Junior in high school this coming school year. Our school has had a team in place since March to plan the reopening of our school. We have had to revise our plan several times to accommodate the changing recommendations, but we are ready to execute that plan. I know some may think that waiting a few more days or weeks will not be a big deal, but to our students it will. These children have been out of the building for far too long already. There are many studies that show that children have low Covid transmission rates, Low infection rates, mild symptoms, and have far more negative side effects from the disruption in their lives than from contracting the virus. It is unwise to ignore the mental health issues that go along with the extended closing of schools. Physical health is not the only concern we should have in this situation. Why should mental health be any less important? We can safely open our doors. Our plan already included daily screening, extended absences for ill staff and students, increased hygiene practices, cohorting of classes, Increased sanitation, isolation of ill persons, strictly limiting visitors, and masking. We will need to revise our masking protocol should that executive order be upheld, but as a medical professional I agree with the American Academy of Pediatrics recommendations that children 12 and under should not be wearing masks, and I also think it should be a personal choice that parents should make for their own children. Particularly in our area where we have very few cases. I understand that you have no control over that, but please be aware that we can open our school with the measures we have planned. Please do not delay that start of school any longer than we already have. Thank you for asking for input from your districts.</p>
7/20/2020 22:43:38	Ashley	Lang	My family	Gardner	<p>I want children to be able to safely return to school. No lives (teacher, staff, child or family) should be risked so that we can "feel a sense of normalcy."</p>
7/20/2020 22:43:42	Dwayne	Abrahams		Newton	<p>Please support Governor Kelly's plan to delay the start of our public schools. Lives are at stake. You have a great responsibility!</p>
7/20/2020 22:43:44	Kami	Van Slyke		Olathe	<p>At a minimum, please consider opening schools on-time for students on free or reduced lunches. Children living in low-income situations are high-risk for more detrimental and long-lasting delays if kept from a consistent and adequate education.</p>
7/20/2020 22:44:09	Tiffani	Knowles		Live in Hesston / teach i	<p>One size doesn't fit all! Hesston a smaller town has the ability to have a plan and keep things consistent for students. Wichita should be able to make the accommodations they need because they are larger and their covid cases are higher. Don't punish the rural small communities to make it fit the need of the larger.</p>
7/20/2020 22:44:10	Doug	Pauls		Newton	<p>I support waiting until after Labor Day to start school for the safety of all.</p>
7/20/2020 22:45:05	Patricia	Parker		Manhattan	<p>To require elementary children to wear masks is not healthy. Children have immune systems that need fed to help build stronger immune systems. If you want to do anything, give them immune building foods and not processed foods that tear down immune systems.</p>
7/20/2020 22:45:07	Kati	Channell	KCKPS	Overland Park	<p>As both an educator in Kansas and the parent of a middle school student in Kansas, I believe the BEST decision is to delay the start of school. It is not the decision any of us want to make, but it is what is best for the safety and health of both students AND staff. Please make this decision.</p>

7/20/2020 22:45:10	Amanda	Wahlmeier		Colby	First, thank you for your service on the State Board. I am in support of in person classes for the coming school year in my area. Northwest Kansas looks different than other parts of the state and I would feel comfortable sending my middle and high schoolers. I realize that if a spike occurred in our area we might have to adapt to online, but would rather go to that if needed. Kids need to be in school and our economy also depends on it. These kids are our future and they need in person school. Again, thank you for your service.
7/20/2020 22:45:19	Jana	Hutton	USD 315	Colby	I would like to have the decision be made by our county health department, in coordination with our school district.
7/20/2020 22:45:50	Marianne	Dittmer	Cunningham usd 332	Nashville	kids are ready to go back to school. I really don't want to do homeschooling as virtual school didn't work for us. let's get these kids back in school. bring back some normal for these kids!!!
7/20/2020 22:45:51	Amy	Wiese	Blue Valley	Leawood	The scheduled start of school is August 13. Our district has provided teachers NOR parents with any solid plans or protocol as of 7/20, therefore limiting the ability to plan and make informed decisions in a PANDEMIC. We care about quality of education and the health of our teachers/staff/students enough to accept the delay in order to accomplish two things: to hopefully see a decline in cases and % positive and 2) to give teachers more time to plan for a safe return to schooling — whatever that may be. This is NOT a political manner, this is about the health and well-being of ALL present day-day in a school setting. I would love to see younger kids in-person, while HS start online due to their increased transmission.
7/20/2020 22:45:55	Courtney	Dunn	USD 507 Business Educ	Satanta	Open in August please.
7/20/2020 22:45:58	Terry	Presta	Liberty PAC	Overland Park	Based on all science it is clear that Covid-19 poses ZERO risk of death to the majority of healthy Kansas Citizens much less Children. You have to put in context the TREMENDOUS damage you are doing to children everywhere if you go along with the governor. Please do NOT agree with Governor Kelly, open the schools on time.
7/20/2020 22:46:03	Kate	Nicolai		Overland Park	Yes, I do think school "opening" should be delayed to allow teachers to develop the quality online classes our kids deserve and for admins to figure out how this is going to work if we don't have buses, or don't have teachers willing to risk long term disability or death due to Covid. There's no way many parents in the KC metro will send their kids to in-person classes, possibly this entire academic year. So yes, let's wait a few weeks.
7/20/2020 22:46:08	April	Springer		Cimarron	Absolutely NO mask! Kids need to see emotions. No cloth mask is going to stop a virus. Do your research.
7/20/2020 22:46:12	Stephanie	Brown		Augusta	As a teacher, parent of a teacher, and grandparent of a new kindergartener, it is my hope that we you will decide to wait the 3 weeks to start school. I'm not only concerned health-wise, but am also concerned about the time it is going to take to disseminate information in in order to plan for this VERY unusual school year. I only wish everyone would take this virus seriously and do their part to help see a decrease begin to happen.
7/20/2020 22:46:13	Jennifer	neywick	Cunningham	Cunningham	no
7/20/2020 22:46:19	Susana	Ramirez	Parent	Kansas City	I do not want my child to be in school while a pandemic is in affect. Please delay the 2020-2021 school year. I wish for her to be safe as well as her teachers.
7/20/2020 22:46:39	Sharla	Marriott	Mother of a student at m	Olathe	Our family thinks it is in the best interest of our child for school to start on time and not delay until after Labor Day. They need to have their school routine back and have some normalcy back In their lives. We fully support in school learning.
7/20/2020 22:46:40	Brian	Prendergast	parents	Lenexa	Please vote no on mandate to delay schools opening.
7/20/2020 22:46:47	Erin	Ybarra	Parent and teacher in use	Wichita	Thank you in advance for passing this executive order. As a public school teacher in Kansas, as well as a parent, I can breathe a sigh of relief knowing that we will have a few more weeks to plan and prepare for the upcoming year, as well as hopefully lower our numbers in our city/State.
7/20/2020 22:46:50	Kaylyn	Bruns	USD 450	Topeka	Schools should remain closed until after Labor Day. Teachers and staff need ample time to plan for several scenarios for this school year.
7/20/2020 22:46:58	Betsy	Meeks	Teacher	Shawnee	I appreciate that leaders are listening to the science and have delayed the beginning of the school year. I am personally fearful to return to teach in the classroom as my school has stated they believe 3 feet will be acceptable social distancing. Of course the science tells us 6 to 8 feet is how far this airborne pathogen can travel. This, along with poor ventilation, puts an older teacher like myself at a very high risk. I am considering resigning if we return in person. My life is worth more than the desire I have to continue in the job I love! Please consider the teachers when making decisions. I understand students need to be at school, but in the big scheme of things this is only a short period of time!

7/20/2020 22:46:58	Lori	Austin	Plainville Public School	Plainville	Please do not delay the school year any longer. Let the kids go to school, play sports, play in concerts and choir, go on field trips, learn, thrive, grow, succeed. Please do not require kindergarten classes to wear masks. Kindergarten holds 5 and 6 year olds. I can't think of an elementary grade level that would be able to successfully wear masks without causing other issues. We do not want to scare our kids. We do not want to detour or dampen their drive to learn, to succeed, to enjoy education. We want to encourage learning, entrepreneurship, team playing, social and emotional health and growth. Please do not force small communities to follow rules and regulations that may fit well in a large city, but smaller schools makes it unnecessary. Please allow each school, and school board to decide what is best for their communities without feeling pressured or guilty.
7/20/2020 22:47:00	Kristi	Kyle	Citizen and voter and pr	Kingman	Start school now. Kids need to be there. Parents need to be working. Totally unrealistic to expect little kids to wear masks. Online learning does not work- collaborative groups and manipulative are absolutely necessary for K-5. Sports are also needed. Consider the needs of kids. Get them back in school. No masks for littles. Research randomly controlled tests about the science of masks. Active learning requires the student to engage with the speaker. Visual learners need to be watching the teacher's speak as they listen to the speaker speak. Not possible with the teacher wearing a mask. Please get our kids back in school now!
7/20/2020 22:47:02	Sara	Cahoone	Parent	McPherson	Please start school in August. We are already so far behind starting this year without finishing the last. Please do not delay any longer sending kids back to school. There have been no children that have died in KS. Cases are up but deaths ARE NOT. What will you take away next? Kids need to be in school. We need to have herd immunity!
7/20/2020 22:47:06	Rachel	Cochran		Overland Park	I refuse to jeopardize the health and safety of teachers, staff, and students. They cannot go into a regular school setting safely. Even one life lost is too many. Please listen to scientists and medical doctors not politicians when making this decision. Please make this decision by removing politics and truly looking out for the best interests of the families involved!
7/20/2020 22:47:07	Alicia	Beeson		Norton	Make a decision and stick with it! Delaying school isn't going to help anyone. Kids are such a small percentage of the positive population. Let the districts decide like they always do.
7/20/2020 22:47:07	Mikaela	Moore	Self	Hiawatha	Do as Gov Kelly says and do not open schools before Labor Day. Schools need more time to prepare both their plans for multiple modalities so that it can be effective this year for our students and need time to prepare for logistics of distancing and also supplies for sanitizing. Products are difficult to get right now and schools need time if they are going to do this right. We saw how a rushed approach to planning turned out last year. Let's not repeat that. Quit being political and follow the lead of the governor. Support her decision and start schools after Labor Day. It's the right thing to do.
7/20/2020 22:47:12	Mistie	Roberts		Olathe	OPEN THE SCHOOLS!! Our kids can't keep being denied this basic right of education. Leave it to the parents to decide whether or not they send them.
7/20/2020 22:47:13	Chanda	Bush	My family	Dighton	We have no active cases. Requiring adults to wear a mask is not right and especially not children.
7/20/2020 22:47:16	Brecken	Mangan		Tribune	As a mom that works full time from home with 3 kids, I ask that school start as planned. These last several months have been very hard on my family. I had to spend 1-2 hours a day with my each kid when we were homeschooling. So 3-6 hours a day working on school...and I also had to find time to work 8 hours. I don't know that it's fair to say all of Kansas schools have to do everything the same. Our county has only had 3 cases. I feel like we would be in a safe position to start. And when we do start, I think trying to social distance and wear masks is a terrible idea. The masks will be a distraction and I think the social distancing will be hard on those kids. These kids (and their parents) have been thru enough. We need some sense of normalcy back. When this all started the goal was to flatten the curve. I feel like we've succeeded in that. But now all of the sudden it seems like we don't expect to have any cases? Of course we will, that was the whole idea, spread it out of several months instead of just 1 or 2. Mission accomplished, let's get these kids back into school where they actually have a chance at learning something. They need school, they need social interaction, they need sports and competition...they need this all for their mental health, physical health, and as a family we need it for our emotional health. Please help us to keep our kids healthy in other ways besides just COVID health concerns. There are many, many more health concerns that come about from what is going on now. Please keep their overall well being in mind when making your decision, thank you.

7/20/2020 22:47:17	Lizabeth	Rosewicz	Geary County USD475	Pottawatomie	I request that the State Board of Education supports the Governor's executive order pushing the start date of school to after Labor Day. I am a high risk person for contracting the virus and have been feeling high amounts of stress over this and have not been able to sleep well. I teach elementary art to three buildings and see over 1,500 students per month and have contact with each teacher in the building as well as other personnel. Please, I implore you to support the Governor and make the healthiest and safest decision for our teachers, staff and students!
7/20/2020 22:47:20	Deanna	Ketner	Blue Valley School Dist	Olathe	My preference is for the start of school to be delayed until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 22:47:22	Kate	Gulick	My family	Olathe	I agree with the Governor that delaying the start of the school year gives the districts more time to come up with useful and hopefully successful guidelines and alternatives to traditional in person school.
7/20/2020 22:47:25	Emily	Freeman		Shawnee	We agree with the delay of school starting, but truly hope that it encourages school districts to come up with a creative plan for getting schools at least partially in-person. We are hoping for a hybrid approach.
7/20/2020 22:47:31	Sarah	Doerfler	Teacher	Hays	Upon many conversations with my fellow teachers, we all agree to wait and open school in order to receive extra time for training in many areas: online classroom applications, sanitation, and extended routine & procedure protocols. We want to be as prepared as possible during these times of uncertainty, as a standing foundation for all of the children. Thank You.
7/20/2020 22:47:32	Merri	Meyers	Olathe school district	Olathe	I support Governor Kelly's desire to keep our students safe by opening later (after Labor Day). I also support a hybrid schedule for my Olathe North High School student, where he would attend in person in a smaller class size some of the days and online class the other days.
7/20/2020 22:47:39	Samantha	W.	Junction City Middle Sc	Junction City, KS	Keep schools closed!
7/20/2020 22:47:53	Alyssa	Cole		Wichita	As a first-year teacher, I definitely understand the health concerns with students returning to school at the normal time. However, I am concerned about the safety of children. Kids will have been out of school for nearly six months if school openings are postponed until after Labor Day, and many of these children may be in unsafe situations that have been exacerbated by the economic hardships and added stress of the pandemic in recent months. As teachers and other school professionals are often the reporters of child abuse and neglect, I worry about these children who likely do not have eyes on them at this time and for whom school is the only safe place. In addition, many students have had no engagement in education for months, and they are missing out on valuable learning. While I do not know exactly what the best decision for Kansas schools is, I believe these things are worth consideration and that the physical safety, emotional health, and educational opportunities of these students must be weighed and addressed in whatever decision is made.
7/20/2020 22:47:57	Melissa	Merriam		Overland Park	Please keep the governors mandate to start on Sept. 9. It is important to keep teachers, faculty and students safe. Covid cases are at all time high in Joco
7/20/2020 22:48:08	Pam	Hale	Children's Mercy Pharm	Shawnee	Please support the proposal to delay school opening. Our kids need to be in physical schools, but it also needs to be safe. An alternative schedule for this year is our best option to keep everyone safe& still have school.
7/20/2020 22:48:13	Jackie	Roy	Olathe School District	Olathe	Please delay the school year or go digital. I am a first grade teacher and know my kids will come to school sick and pass it on. Parents send them to school sick all the time. I want to go back to my students but only when it is safe! I don't want to get this nor do I want to pass it to anyone else. Please take politics out of this and do what is right for our kids.
7/20/2020 22:48:13	Diane	Owen	USD497	Lawrence	I work at Lawrence High School. With adults, there are over 2000 individuals in the building. I can't even imagine 2000 people together for 7 hours at this time. Why are you even hesitating giving us time to prepare for that? I am 63 with 3 stents. I would retire, but I need health care. Why can't we have 3 miserable weeks to prepare to jam 2000 people in a building for 7 hours with Covid circulating? NO LOGICAL REASON. Please be reasonable.
7/20/2020 22:48:23	Jennifer	Scheer		Lenexa - Olathe School	Kids need an education. They need structure and stimulation among other things. I don't want them at risk, but they have been out of school 4 months. It will be 6 months after Labor Day. There is no vaccine yet and nothing truly is going to change between now and September due to that. Schools have had plenty of time to plan online or in person. If they don't yet have the supplies to open in person, then let them open online. Let each area decide what is best for their district vs a one size fits all approach for the entire state.
7/20/2020 22:48:30	Michele	Schieferecke	USD434	Carbondale	Please vote against this order.
7/20/2020 22:49:06	Cindy	Kirby		Overland Park	please do not start until AFTER September, I would prefer online only until numbers go down or vaccine.
					I agree with starting school after Labor Day as long as school sports can resume with caution as well.

7/20/2020 22:49:06	Karen	Block	KCKPS	Raytown	I am very worried about a return to in-person schooling until a vaccine and/or reliable treatment is available. I am 62 and have asthma. My husband is 73 and has diabetes. A member of my extended family has metastasized cancer and is immuno-compromised. I am an itinerant speech pathologist in my district and am assigned to 2 different school buildings. I have 60+ children that I see multiple times weekly on my caseload and over 30 teachers I interact with regularly to provide services to those students. My chances of coming in contact with the virus while in school are very high. I hope I don't have to choose between doing my job and protecting my life and the life of my loved ones.
7/20/2020 22:49:27	Aimee	Rosenow		Topeka	Please allow for in person learning options for the 2020-21 school year as well as on time school start. As a parent of older elementary and preK students, it seems unfair that one child can start as scheduled but the older kids can't. My children struggled with virtual learning during lockdown in the spring and I struggled teaching them. One of my children, who is very outgoing, even struggled with depression. That is not a situation we want to relive. Please open schools!
7/20/2020 22:49:35	Sherrie	Wiedeman	My Children	Colby	I am okay with starting school after Labor Day, but only if you can guarantee that is when it will start. A guarantee that there will not be another start delay because of rise in cases etc. In addition, I am extremely opposed to kids wearing masks. It is ridiculous that the Governor is saying masks for 6th through 12th grades but not the younger children. I have a teaching degree and was an educator for several years. The younger children exchange germs at a much more rapid rate than the older students who know how to cough into their arm, sneeze in a kleenex, and not pick their noses in public!!! Please do not make any students wear masks. I mean seriously if they have to wear masks during school are they also going to wear masks playing football, volleyball, etc. I think the masks will be a constant source of distraction during the day!!! Furthermore, I worry about the health consequences of wearing a mask the entire day for children!!
7/20/2020 22:49:41	Patricia	Judy		Olathe	I agree with the delay
7/20/2020 22:49:42	Jennifer	Wilson		Prairie Village	I am a parent in the Shawnee Mission District and I fully support the executive order to postpone the start of school due to the rising cases across the state.
7/20/2020 22:49:44	Kathryn	Tanner		Olathe	Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 22:49:52	Kori	Green	Self/high school teacher	Wichita	I would like schools to delay opening. Safety HAS to reign supreme here. One life is too many to sacrifice.
7/20/2020 22:49:56	Shannon	Little	Self, taxpayer, parent	Topeka	We need to follow the advice of our medical experts and give our state the opportunity to get the current outbreak under control before we send students back to the classroom. We do not fully understand what this virus does with children and what the long term consequences might be. Please accept Gov Kelly's EO and give our schools a chance to be successful. We are an innovative state and we can handle this with your support.
7/20/2020 22:50:00	Amy	Fenner		Goodland	Please adopt all of the Governor's Executive Orders. I support all and especially a delayed school start date, masking, temperature checks, and hand washing policies.
7/20/2020 22:50:14	Amber	Rikoric		Leavenworth	Conditions are not the same state-wide, so why should the implementation be? Return the power to the people and allow our individual school boards to decide what's best for their area. We elect you to represent us, not control us.
7/20/2020 22:50:17	Abigail	Buser		Manhattan	I am worried about making sure I get paid. I wonder if teachers can return to do training and prepare before Labor Day.
7/20/2020 22:50:19	Cathy	Eftink		Goodland	As an educator, I would appreciate the delay. It will be important in being as prepared as possible. With the extra few weeks, teachers will be able to be trained and be ready for online learning if that situation arises.
7/20/2020 22:50:20	Erinn	Whalen	Parent	Osage City	I don't think it's right to make a decision that applies statewide when the entire state is affected differently. Each school board should be allowed to make plans/decisions for their own district after the state board makes recommendations. The governor's orders from the spring and just recently had massive impacts on our schools and children when we had no cases. The orders were issued because of what was going on in schools on the east side of the state.
					I think we should delay at least the first semester until March. After cold and flu season and continuing to flatten the curve without exposing more kids that could spread Covid. School could go into the summer months to make up the time missed. The infection rates are still too high to put the kids and staff into a petrie dish. I'm am open to remote learning but I'm not a teacher and my child needs the professional educators.

7/20/2020 22:50:21	Whitney	Rohlman	Cunningham USD 332	Cunningham	Allow decisions to be made at the local level. I want my kids back in school on time and in person. If we start late and have to extend the school year it will have an impact on wheat harvest. Our small district of less than 200 students is smaller than some city daycares centers. Our rural district is not the same as an urban school. Please keep the decisions up to the local boards.
7/20/2020 22:50:24	Katy	Congdon	Cair Paravel Latin School	Topeka	Please give each organization control over what they decide. Our school has only 350 students and the administration has had things in place for safety and precautions for months. They are prepared and we want our 3 grammar school boys back in the classroom. Please let them go back.
7/20/2020 22:50:39	Jessica	Kannady	USD 352	Goodland	Start in Aug. please
7/20/2020 22:50:40	Nancy	Mateos	Myself	Overland Park	I 100% support the delay. Thank you, Governor Kelly, for providing the leadership we need!
7/20/2020 22:50:58	Tara	West		Lenexa, KS	Keep schools closed until Sept.
7/20/2020 22:51:02	bryan	wiese		Leawood	I'm in strong support of Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of school for two reasons - 1) safety of our teachers, admins, and students and 2) gives our teachers adequate time to fully prepare to teach in this environment, with state/district guidelines turned into actions
7/20/2020 22:51:10	Stacy	Millerskow		Maize	Please delay the start of school until cases drop. Safety of our children should be put first! To many what ifs if returning to school to soon. I don't want my kids crammed in a classroom of 25 kids. NOT SAFE.
7/20/2020 22:51:11	Livia	Custer		Minneola, KS	To begin with, thank you for your service and making this tough decision. I am in support of Gov. Kelley's order to delay schools starting until after Labor Day. I have been teaching for 16 years in Kansas and I couldn't be more proud of our state and its educational leaders. A few reasons I support the delay... 1) First and foremost Student, family, and community safety. We are a small 1A school but just this week we are beginning to see a rise in cases. Our rural communities do not have the medical infrastructure in place it handle many Covid patients. It will also provide time for schools to retrofit their facilities to meet the PPE requirements. 2) Educational Equity across the state. This will help provide consistency, clarity, and equal opportunity for education for all Kansas students. 3) Time for professional development of staff for safety implementation and curriculum development 4) Curriculum/Planning development opportunity - This will allow teachers, admin, and parents time to develop cohesive learning plans that will follow the KSBE recommendations that were released less than a week ago. 5) Increase School Board collaboration and effectiveness - This opportunity will allow local school boards to have more time to develop and implement comprehensive learning plans based on their community needs. Those are just a few of the reasons that I can foresee delaying school opening. I know that this decision cannot be taken lightly and I can see many valid reasons for the other side of this debate. Again, thank you for your time and service to our students, teachers, admin, communities, and state.
7/20/2020 22:51:22	Jennie	Watts	Parent of USD 450	Topeka	I do not feel that delaying the start of school is necessary. Let's get the students back in the classrooms on time.
7/20/2020 22:51:23	Evie	Unrein	Parent and Elementary	Wichita	I am requesting that you support Governor Kelly's Executive Order to delay the start of Kansas schools until after labor day. As a teacher, and a parent, I am very concerned about returning to school while our cases of covid continue to rise.  My small family has been obnoxiously strict about social distancing and safety measures. We don't go out except for grocery pick ups, and if family comes to visit we all wear masks inside our house. I'm worried about being in close quarters with so many staff and students who may not be distancing well outside of school. As an elementary school technology teacher, I teach every student (nearly 500 of them) two or three times each week.  I'm eager to get back to school when we can do so safely. I am also in support of bringing teachers back on our previously scheduled start date so that we can begin planning together.
7/20/2020 22:51:24	Drinda	Harter	Parent	Johnson County	Thank you for your time and hopefully your support. Don't delay school opening and no mask for 5th grade and below.

7/20/2020 22:51:33	Ashby	Rowan	Teachers	Olathe	As a teacher that regularly goes above and beyond to teach young children I would greatly advise not opening schools or opening virtually. Every year I have parents disregard fever protocol and have students at school with parents who knew they were sick. I can only imagine the havoc covid will cause in a first grade classroom with no masks. If my students don't show symptoms, who's to say that won't spread further through the community with silent spreaders. I do not feel comfortable teaching students and coming home to my newborn child and husband. Please keep our students, teachers, paras, and subs safe.
7/20/2020 22:51:37	Teresa	Commerford		Bucklin	We need to open schools on time (mid-August/before Labor Day) with use of the KSDE guidelines. Our district has a high number of at-risk kids that need to be back in the classroom, because home isn't safe. In addition, I have higher performing students who have stated they will work to get a GED and either start college or join the workforce if schools are delayed and sports are postponed/cancelled. I am a high school teacher, and am willing to take extra precautions to be able to open up on time.
7/20/2020 22:51:42	JoAnn	Romano	United States of Americ	Olathe	Children need to be back in school-without mandates masks! This is purely a political parlay and NOT in the best interests of Kansas families!
7/20/2020 22:51:42	Jennifer	Duncan		Newton	As a teacher in the great state of Kansas, I urge you to accept Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of school. We must listen to the advice of our medical professionals when it comes to ALL people inside our school buildings, not just the students. The research is currently inconclusive on whether or not children transmit the disease as easily, or get sick as often, but children are not the only ones in our buildings. Unless you teach in an elementary school, you work with teenagers who spread the disease as easily as adults. There are staff members, staff member families, and student's families to also consider here. The additional time before the start of school will give districts time to procure the items they need to make school as safe as possible. PPE, sanitizing supplies, plexiglass shields- these are all in high demand and hard to find. Districts across the state have been working to find and purchase these items all summer, but many are on backorder or not in stock. We have to make sure that our school district's have the time to get these essential supplies. The issue of Covid has somehow become a political point, but let me be clear, it should NOT be political in any way, shape or form. What we are dealing with is a public health emergency and it should be dealt with as such. If Governor Kelly's order is not upheld, we will see the same things that happened when Kansas' county commissioners refused to enforce the mask mandate-exponential infection rates and spread of this virus. I beg you, DO NOT make the same mistakes they did. We can't keep making the same decisions and expecting different results. Our children and staff deserve the best and to learn in an environment that is safe.
7/20/2020 22:51:45	Robin	Block	Myself	Topeka	School needs to start on time and run normal hours.
7/20/2020 22:52:03	Melanie	Nicsinger		Overland Park	In-person school is dangerous for the staff and students. Even with masks, students won't comply and will spread COVID-19 to each other, the adults in the buildings and then bring it home to parents and grandparents. The children may have non-life-threatening symptoms, but too many adult lives will be lost. Also, the expense of paying teachers sick leave or paying them when they have to be quarantined for 14 after exposure is outrageous. Also, to the same point, as children test positive, the other children who were exposed will need to be quarantined and within weeks of school starting, it will be unmanageable trying to educate children online in quarantine while at the same time in the school building. Best solution is to start online and hope that by the spring the numbers of COVID-19 cases will drop enough to lower the risk.
7/20/2020 22:52:04	Laura	Vind		Lincolnville	Do not open schools!!!! It is not safe!

					<p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</li> <li>•No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</li> </ul> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know that you have our support.</p>
7/20/2020 22:52:06	Lori	Turner	USD 232 Parent	Shawnee, KS	
7/20/2020 22:52:06	LynAnn	Bowman		Bucklim	<p>As a mother of eight children and a teacher I value a quality education and as a family we work hard to educate beyond the walls of the school. The problem is in our small town our family is not typical. We have many low socioeconomic families who can barely make it, let alone thrive. Many single parent families rely on the school to educate their children as well as provide much needed food. Our schools teachers really help raise the children in our community. When you look at the fact that our children have been out of school since mid March and possibly won't go back until September that is very concerning! Children in our community and others like ours need their school family back .. they need the routine of seeing those friendly teachers and peer groups, they need to feel the social and emotional stability of school. Please reconsider the decision Governor Kelly made and put our children back in school where they can thrive and not merely survive!</p>
7/20/2020 22:52:23	Sara	Dwyer		Wichita	<p>Considering Kansas has the second highest amount of covid-19 cases in the country, I do not think it is wise to reopen schools. I believe distance learning is the safest option for not only the students, but the adults who are working in that building as well who also need to be considered.</p>
7/20/2020 22:52:26	Terri	Detrick	Olathe Public Schools U	Olathe	<p>Please vote to not begin school until after Labor Day. We need time to be trained and prepare for movement of students and staff safely. If you know the mindset of middle schoolers you know this task of keeping distance, correctly wearing a mask, plus new learning environment must be orchestrated in such a way to keep not only students safe but staff as well.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/20/2020 22:52:28	Bobbi	Murray	USD 329	Belvue	<p>Please delay start</p>
7/20/2020 22:52:35	Tasha	Koker	#437 Auburn Washburn	Topeka	<p>Please consider delaying school to give school districts and staff adequate time to clean and plan for the school year. I want my child to go to school and I want to teach, but would like time to have to get prepared.</p>
7/20/2020 22:52:50	Blair	Hollis	Blue Valley USD229	Prairie Village	<p>Please think about the safety of your students and teachers. Delay the start of school and divide a safe learning environment. If that can't happen, provide an online option until a safe environment can be provided. Last February I asked for two big bottles of hand sanitizer and my principal told me it wasn't in the budget. Hopefully that budget is being reworked.</p>
7/20/2020 22:52:55	Kalynn	Johnson		ELKHART	<p>I feel that the decision to open up later in September or sooner in August, should be decided by the local school board and the school administrator's and staff. Each county in Kansas is different. Sure, the bigger cities in Eastern Kansas and a few in Central and Western Kansas are having spikes right now. But, majority of the Kansas Counties do not have many cases and all have been contained and not community spread. The kids need to get back into a routine. They were yanked out of their routine a month and a half early and they need this normalcy. As long as the schools have a good plan in place for keeping things more clean, let the schools open up. The American Pediatric Society says let the kids go back.</p>



7/20/2020 22:52:56	Gail	Snowbarger	Parent and staff member	Olathe	<p>I support delaying students until after Labor Day and delaying STAFF the same respective number of days or as many as possible. I also believe we have had enough "out of the norm" in the past six months to last a life time :) so I also support district calendars being allowed to finish at their typical time, meaning flexibility in completing mandated contact hours with students (example: extended school day, shortened breaks)</p> <p>Taking into consideration the varying needs of the districts across the state of Kansas, I also support allowing districts either the choice to begin as schedule or to delay until after Labor Day. Another variation of this might be to delay the start of the school year state wide and allow districts in areas with little to no outbreak to write a variance to begin as regularly scheduled.</p> <p>I desire to see the state of Kansas work together for the good of students and educators. I would be so terribly disappointed to see our amazing students and hardworking staff pay the price for Democrats and Republicans jockeying for power. Please be the wonderful Kansans that I know you are! Show the world how to cooperate, instead of how to compete and fight.</p>
7/20/2020 22:53:01	Ken	Morris		TOPEKA	<p>There is no reason to have school start before Labor Day, and zero reason to have kids in physical classrooms at all. There is a real danger in COVID, and putting kids that close together will cause the spread of the virus to their parents, siblings, grandparents, friends, and on and on.</p> <p>What good does it do to send a kid into school to a science class when they will later be told that science shouldn't be used in appropriate decision making? This debate is a farce.</p>
7/20/2020 22:53:06	Melissa	Hixon	Olathe public schools	Olathe	In person 8/14
7/20/2020 22:53:07	Mary	Courtney	United Methodist Church	Johnson	When I started teaching in Rolla in 1987, we were one of many schools that started the day after Labor Day. The students were ready to begin, and they were successful in their classes. Now, they are threatened by an unseen, incredibly dangerous virus that thrives in crowds. It will not hurt to delay the start to insure safety measures and equipment are in place.
7/20/2020 22:53:20	Phillip	Wrigley		Lawrence	Please uphold the order. We have one chance to get this right.
7/20/2020 22:53:22	Sara	Sowers	Parent	Bird City KS	Reopen public schools and no mask requirements please!
7/20/2020 22:53:23	Cori	Wegner	Parent	Silver Lake	Please send our kids back to school. I have a senior who had a 3.8 GPA the beginning of March. He ended with a 2.9. The guilt I felt being an essential worker and working more hours than normal due to Covid. I was not able to stay home with him and failed him as a parent regarding online learning. He needs to be in the classroom.
7/20/2020 22:53:25	Brandy	Rea	Students with Disabilities	Leawood	I am blessed to be the mother of an amazing son with autism. Before the schools shut down, Brody was part of a wonderful program called LIFT run by the Blue Valley School District that provided all day one-on-one support that he needs due to his differences. He had exceptional occupational therapy, speech therapy, behavior therapy, social skill development, individualized special education and more all under an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Due to COVID and the schools being closed, this amazing program is closed, his IEP has been suspended and him and children like him no longer have proper access to essential services they need that used to be provided through the school district. While I completely understand and appreciate the risks of reopening school for typical children, I do ask for consideration for children like Brody. We can no longer suspend these essential services and we need plans in place to accommodate children with disabilities in the State of Kansas if schools continue to be closed. We need help. I much appreciate consideration for finding a way to properly reinstate these services and I know, as a community, we can do it. For these children it is not just about education - it is about their health, safety and ability to thrive in life. I know that these are difficult times and I pray for all of us to come together and be kind, love each other, and provide support for those that may need it. In conclusion, I am kindly asking for your support for my son - and other kids like him - and allow schools to at least reopen partially to serve students with disabilities and reinstate these essential medical, behavioral and mental health services.
7/20/2020 22:53:28	Whitney	Wilson		Prairie Village	In light of the fact that cases in the Kansas City metro, including Johnson County, are on the rise, I see no reason to rush into sending our children back to school. I think Governor Kelly's order delaying the start of the school year was a well-informed decision made with the best interests of families, faculty, and staff in mind, and I firmly believe it should stand. Academic progress can be replaced; lives cannot.

7/20/2020 22:53:34	Jessica	Navarro		Stafford	I do not mind that school has been delayed until after Labor Day as this is when school used to start anyways before inching their way forward. I do not feel as though it should be delayed past then. Students mental, emotional, and physical state are at risk with not being in school. If we continue to have kids out of school we are creating a much bigger problem.
7/20/2020 22:53:35	Ody	Jacobs		Derby	This cannot happen, our children have suffered enough. We will not sacrifice our children's future over a political agenda. There is no coming back from this.
7/20/2020 22:53:36	Fiona	Turner	Myself	Gardner, KS	I believe that it is in the best interest for public health and safety to delay the 2020-2021 school year. Education can be replaced and supplemented, lives cannot.
7/20/2020 22:53:56	Michle	Haunschild		Valley Center	A decision of this magnitude is never an easy one. I plead with you to put the health of our children, teachers, staff and parents as your top priority. My child of course wants to go back to school. He misses his friends and his teachers. He also deserves a top of the line education. None of that will mean a thing if his teacher, friends or family gets sick and doesn't get better. Cancelling school is not an option either. Online options are real options that pose little risk. You have time to put together a curriculum that will actually benefit the kids and improve their learning experience. Please consider this as a option for re opening our schools.
7/20/2020 22:53:59	Jill	Strahm		Topeka	Open schools. This has gone way too far. Keep the on-line option for those parents who don't want to send their kids back.
7/20/2020 22:54:02	Sarah	Jerby		Phillipsburg	I believe for our little community it's essential to stay closed until after the holiday. 1rst reason is we have the rodeo coming up which brings tons of visitors right before school is to open, which gives us virtually no time to see how this will affect our community if we start on our normal August 13th date. 2nd reason is this gives our district time to properly plan out not only which route they wish to go down education wise but it also gives them time to aquire masks and sanitizer. 3rd reason is it gives us as parents proper time to decide which route is best for our children based off of how our district plans to move forward. I firmly believe if we as a state do not listen to the warning about social distancing, proper mask wearing, and proper hygiene such as hand washing and sanitizing we will not see a great outcome from opening up too soon. As a parent who takes my childs education very seriously, I do keep my kids home when they are sick, and I do make sure they are using proper hygiene, but I can only do my part and other parents unfortunately will not. To some school os simply a child care facility and in our district we have had kids told to go back to class with a fevwr or children who have vomited told to just go back to class and try and ride it out. I jave seen it first hand as I worked as a dietician for over 5 years on my district before following a different career path. We are fighting a virus here, not a political war. We need to not only worry about the safety of our children but the safety of everyone, insulin depentent, the elderly, and those with other underlined conditions. Thank you for your time. Gods speed and prayers for all while making this tough decision.
7/20/2020 22:54:02	Fabienne	Parker	My home	Olathe	I agree with the executive order that Gov. Kelly issued in regards to delaying school. My families health is worth everything to me. We can NOT afford to be wrong about covid 19 and I will trust science and not political opinion. Until a safe downward trend is sustained in my area in person learning can not happen!
7/20/2020 22:54:13	Lindsay	Murillo	KNEA	Olathe	The Kansas Board of Education needs to seriously take into consideration the state of Kansas' students and teachers. Delaying classes until September is for the best. However, outdoor sports training should be okay because it is easier to adhere to social distancing outside for conditioning and weight training. Cramming classrooms full of students with masks is not ideal for anyone. Kansas needs to go back to the drawing board and come up with a hybrid model for schools to use. It is easy to make decisions from an office on other people's lives and well-being. Support your teachers and not your ego. Be smart and listen. Everyone wants things to be normal, however, that is not reality at this time.

					.008 percent of total KS population has tested positive .08 percent of total KS population has tested negative .01 percent of positive cases end in death Currently 481 people in Kansas hospitals Figures from Kansas Hospital Association website. 7/20/2020
7/20/2020 22:54:32	Malia	Lindner	Elementary special educ	Augusta	Open the schools
7/20/2020 22:54:40	Tanya	Szanto		Goodland	Please follow the governor's recommendation and delay the start of school to give schools and teachers (of which I am one) time to plan for this new school year.
7/20/2020 22:54:42	David	Robinett		Salina	I think it should be up to the individual districts to decide what is best for their kids. This isn't a one size fits all. Saline County has many COVID-19 cases compared to many counties around the state that have less than 10. As a teacher and parent I want my kids, students, and myself to be safe when we go back but I'd rather have our district and local health department decide what is best for us. Thank you!
7/20/2020 22:54:42	Roxanne	Zillinger		Topeka	For the safety of everyone in our state, I strongly support delaying the start of school. I want my children to be in school, interacting with their peers and teachers, but not if it increases the spread of COVID-19 and puts people's lives in danger; especially right now as numbers continue to rise daily.
7/20/2020 22:54:43	Sheralyn	Goering	None	Newton	Please follow governor Kelly's executive order. Kansas covid numbers are out of control.
					I support the delay, though I do not necessarily think it needs to be statewide. Some smaller districts may not have the same impact currently that places like Wyandotte are seeing.  My personal concern is, who will cover my class when me, my 2 toddlers and husband get Covid and have to quarantine for 14+ days? What is the plan, when there were sub shortages BEFORE the pandemic? Should I expect to have 30-40 second graders in my room when my colleagues are out, as well? How would social distancing work without subs to cover absent teachers?  If my family did not get sick at the same time, but back to back, I could possibly have to quarantine 56 days, or more if there was a hospitalization. These are the scenarios stressing me out right now. Is your Magic 8 Ball working? Because mine is on the fritz...
7/20/2020 22:54:45	Stacy	Fletcher	USD 204	Kansas City, KS	
					As both a parent and a teacher, I implore you to please uphold the Governor's executive order. I wish that all local districts would make the right choice to start late and give their teachers and administrators the chance to take the guidance given by KSDE and develop the best plans for their situation but I'm not confident in that and teachers and administrators need that time, regardless of the case count in their district. If there happens to be an uptick in cases later in a district that has very few now, this time will allow them to put plans in place so if a shift has to be made mid year they will be ready. Prior planning is essential and having back up plans in place will be key to ensuring that our students get the best possible education regardless of the situation. I also believe that activities need to be halted immediately and not August 10. It does not make sense to keep pushing activities if we're worried about virus spread. Shut it down for now and let's get some plans in place so we can come back in September.
7/20/2020 22:54:56	Rebecca	Jones		Basehor	
7/20/2020 22:55:02	Afaf	Bounouar	I am a parent of an 8th a	Olathe	I like the school buildings to open for summer activities and would like my kids to go back to school in August.
7/20/2020 22:55:05	Justin	Reich	Garden City High Schoo	Garden City	Completely against delaying the start of school.
7/20/2020 22:55:09	Madison	Richardson		Olathe	School in-person start dates should be suspended until after Labor Day to endure schools have measures in place to support protecting our children (PPE, thermometers, hand sanitizing stations, etc.).
7/20/2020 22:55:11	Debi	Von Lintel	Parent	Goodland	Think we should wait till after labor day
7/20/2020 22:55:11	Lisa	Guzman	KCKPS USD 500	Kansas City, KS	More time is required to prepare buildings, to establish best safety practices and procedures, and to be prepared for all possibilities.

7/20/2020 22:55:13	Megan	Evans		Medicine lodge	No mask for school children
7/20/2020 22:55:14	Jessica	Brunsmann		Olathe	I propose school begins virtually or 1-2 half days a week at first, working our way up to full face-to-face IF or WHEN it's safe. That may not be this school year. That may be short lived. But I would like to see the energy of our educators spent formulating a strong plan, ensuring each child has the opportunity to learn, and engaging our students, even if it's virtual. This is possible. Let's trust our educators, allow them some freedom to explore technology over the next few weeks, and give them the tools to do the jobs they do so well. It will look different this year, but in the grand scheme of things, this is short lived. I am against sending kids to in person school at this time, until we know more about the long-term effects of the virus on our children's organs. I have held onto the words of a superintendent from the East coast throughout this, "We may never know if we overreacted, but we will know quickly if we under-reacted." School can start safely on time if the technology we have access to is utilized.
7/20/2020 22:55:28	K	P	Parent of student in Catl	Wichita	School needs to open in August. This virus is going to be around for a while, we need to get our kids back in school. We can't keep them out forever!
7/20/2020 22:55:32	Amanda	Marrufo	USD 428 parent	Great Bend	School she continue. Our children need education full and set on please don't allow them to fall behind anymore
7/20/2020 22:55:39	Carla	Melia		Dodge City	As educators, I'm sure you all understand that for most children they learn in many forms, primarily in group settings. Elementary students specifically aren't great with "social distancing" nor should they have to be. Please tell us how will an environment that is covered in plexi glass or whatever type of shield chosen to maintain this distance encourages learning? School should be a welcoming and safe environment where learning is what is focused on! If you all approve the EO 20-58, and children are required to wear masks, we would like to know what kind of assurance that the Kansas Board of Education is going to implement to keep our children safe? How are you going to assure that any type of activities, physical or not, our kids will be safe while wearing a mask? What metrics are you going to use to ensure their safety, both physically and mentally? Our children should not have to be put through all of those unnecessary restrictions to get an education! They need to be in the classroom, learning in an environment where they feel safe and ready to learn. We have complete faith that our school districts are ready to welcome our children to a clean and safe environment, where they do not need to wear masks! These kids are our future and it is our duty and honor to set them up for success. Please help make the right decision for our kids and disapprove Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-58. Thank you all for your time and help.
7/20/2020 22:55:57	Becca	Semkin	Kansas City Kansas Pub	Kansas City, MO	I feel that with pushing it back for all after Labor Day will give districts and schools to fully prepare to education to start in person or online.  As a School Social Worker I will need ample time to get individual social emotional boxes ready for students. I miss my students but I also want all and anyone to be safe. Remember we are in a pandemic and cases and numbers continue to rise in Kansas.  Sincerely, Becca Semkin Devoted School Social worker who only wants the best for the students in my district and building. Please help keep us safe.
7/20/2020 22:56:03	Amy	Kepler		Lenexa	I fully support delaying the start of school until after Labor Day as our state tries to get our covid numbers back down. With numbers rising I don't feel comfortable sending my kids back to school and more time would allow parents to make a more informed decision as well all give schools more time to get all safety precautions in place before hundreds of kids gather together in school buildings. My daughter's middle school has over 700 kids.
7/20/2020 22:56:07	Laura	Thompson		Manhattan	I hope the state board of education will vote to uphold the executive order to allow school districts the time needed to safely re-open schools. Thank you!

7/20/2020 22:56:09	Stephanie	Bridwell	Kckps: usd 500. & smsd	Shawnee	I am a teacher in usd 500 and a parent of usd 512. I want more than anything for myself and my child to go back to school, but safely. I want to be provided all the safety measures for myself, my child and my students to learn in the buildings as much as possible. Funding needs to be provided to do so. Funding for adequate shields at group learning tables, funding for individual supplies and manipulatives. Also, please do not forget about special education students. We provide a second learning environment and need to have supplies in our rooms, also. We often do not get recognition for being teachers and also needing supplies and materials for our students in the gen ed classroom and in the resource room. We all want to be in school. Please help us to do this safely.
7/20/2020 22:56:11	Holly	Hageman		Abilene	Please do not delay the start of school until after Labor Day. These kids need to get back to school and to solid routines. If masks work to control the virus there should be no reason that school can't start on time.
7/20/2020 22:56:14	Mindy	Messmer	Classroom teacher	Lenexa	Please consider data in higher populated areas. I believe more rural areas have different circumstances. More urban/suburban areas need to be by area. I teach approximately 150 students and miss them and am ready to do back 100%. What I need from you is safety precautions so I am protected and my family is as well when I get home. If this can't be provided- please do what is right until it can be. Thank you:
7/20/2020 22:56:18	Kaitlin	Clawson	N/A	Ellinwood	Please keep schools closed till after Labor Day. I am a teacher, and I believe we need more time to gather information about this virus, and teachers need more time to create lessons and schedules for these new changes heading our way. After what happened last year, we deserve more time to come up with better lessons that are more engaging and rigorous for our kids.
7/20/2020 22:56:22	Billie	Palmer	Goddard Eisenhower HS	Wichita, KS	Please lock it down. Please keep our kids safe. Postpone, postpone, postpone! We beg you.
7/20/2020 22:56:23	Dom	Derosa	NEA - kck	Kansas City	I support the Governor's executive order. Gives districts and teachers to properly prepare for the safe return of students and staff. Gives everyone time to prepare for the formats of school.
7/20/2020 22:56:26	Anita	DeWeese	Skyline School	Pratt	As A teacher with 7 preps (4 of which are lab classes), please consider starting classes at the date Governor Kelly recommends. This extra time will allow me to better prepare for teaching labs in individual setting instead of group. Additionally, extra time will be required to get my lab and classroom ready to be able to meet the requirement needed.
7/20/2020 22:56:33	Elizabeth	Koch	Parent	Olathe, KS	I fully support the Governors' executive order in order to allow time for schools to make additional plans and preparations to ensure the safety of the teachers, staff and students. These people are our community, and we need to make sure we take care of them and support them so we can have a full year or education. Thank you for your willingness to lead during these challenging times!
7/20/2020 22:56:39	Lori	Lockhart		Ramona	Please support the delay of the opening of schools. My husband and I are both teachers and we are the sole caregivers for my mom. This decision impacts staff, students and the families they return home to on a daily basis. Honestly, we could teach online for a few weeks if necessary. We need to look at safety first. Literally, lives are on the line. There is too much unknown about this disease and any long term effects it may cause.
7/20/2020 22:56:57	Gina	Turner		Salina	As a specialist teacher and a parent, I'm extremely concerned about returning to school. My husband is also a teacher. I worry about quarantining. I worry about bringing the virus home to my immuno-compromised son. I worry that we aren't ready. Our doors are supposed to open Aug 11. That's less than 3 weeks from now. And there are so many unknowns. Please—I beg you—vote to delay school so we can calm the virus down.
7/20/2020 22:57:08	Melissa	Browning	USD 368, Paola KS	Paola KS	I work in USD 368 and I have a 5th grader and an 8th grader. We support the governors mandate to start school after Labor Day. This gives time for schools to implement the necessary safety measures, train teachers, inform and educate parents, and let teachers and special educators come up with an effective plan to best provide education to all kids,.
7/20/2020 22:57:13	Laura	Holland	Early childhood teachers	Overland Park	Plas delay school until after Labor Day or until the COVID numbers go down. I am a high risk teacher with serious concerns about starting school now.
7/20/2020 22:57:14	Denise	Humphrey	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe, Ks	Vote Yes to uphold Governor Kelly's Executive order to delay the opening of school until after Labor Day. Give the time for virus numbers to go down, and for the schools to have equipment, training and protocols in place, before sending staff and students back into a dangerous environment.

7/20/2020 22:57:26	Amye	Schneider		Bison	My concern....my son missed the last couple months of his junior year. The proposal is to miss the first month of his senior year and with this Governor, I would bet that she will extend delaying the start of school, further putting our children's futures in jeopardy or at the bare minimum delaying their opportunity to be successful by being several months behind, instead of being on schedule to begin their futures upon graduation. I already see students entering College unprepared and this will further put our students at a disadvantage and further behind. I would like to see students start on time with the option of attending f2f and/or via ZOOM/video conference and no matter the delivery that all students are required to do the same work. I would propose that schools set up a schedule where half of the class is f2f while the other is Zoom. Alternate so all students experience both delivery methods and get to see/socialize while social distancing with their classmates. Mix up the classes so it isn't a set group all the time. While I think this would be ideal for high school and most junior high students, I'm not sure this delivery method would work for K-5. These students need to start on time and requiring young students/any age K-12 students to wear masks seem unreasonable and impractical for numerous reasons. This is putting a bigger burden of responsibility on our teachers and administrators who already have enough on their plate. Seriously, how will you enforce kids wearing a mask and if they don't what are the consequences? Expulsion? Failure? Is that fair? If anything is delayed or cancelled, let it be sports; although there are great benefits to sports. Please, do not further delay our kids education and futures. If education is now optional, please let us know ASAP so as I parent, I can make a plan that will best benefit my child and his future, since the State of Kansas doesn't seem to be responsible anymore.
7/20/2020 22:57:29	Ashley	Matthews	Myself	Overland Park/Stilwell	I have looked at the numbers in our county as a RN. I have seen the effects on my children being out of school, the looks on their face when I say I have no idea if you will have school. My daughter breaks down and cries. We have 5 children. Four of our children are in school still. There needs to be some kind of in person schooling for our children starting on time. I wish we would have thought like some colleges and started earlier. Broke at Thanksgiving and gone back mid January. Cut out all this meaningless small breaks. Please our children need their teachers to teach! Also what about children that have asthma, or disabilities will face shields or something be ok instead of a mask?? We have this in our home. I just need to know what to plan for..... that's the other we as parents don't all have the luxury to stay home I am a essential worker. I am a RN my job doesn't stop. I need to be making plans and arrangements for my family to keep going!!!!
7/20/2020 22:57:35	Shawn	Springer	Derby USD 260	Derby	I truly hope you uphold Gov. Kelley's request to delay the start of school. Our cases in Sedgwick county are out of control. Please, not all local districts in our area will adjust the school calendars and do what's best. I am truly concerned for kids, parents, staff, and our community if schools open full like our district is planning to do. The state will loose many teachers and staff if we open fully on time.
7/20/2020 22:57:37	Michaela	Lake		Topeka	I urge you to heed the advice of the the American Academy of Pediatrics in holding off on school, at least in person schooling. By at least waiting until after Labor Day, it gives the chance to determine how the virus trends will rise and fall and if it will be able to curb the spread. Our children, their teachers and the support staff in schools should not be sacrificed for politics. Politics should have no part in the safety of our schools. Data is the only thing that should have a role in it. At this point the data shows it is not safe to do so.  NPR article on AAP pulling their support of opening schools in favor of following the data. <a href="https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/07/10/889848834/nations-pediatricians-walk-back-support-for-in-person-school">https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/07/10/889848834/nations-pediatricians-walk-back-support-for-in-person-school</a>
7/20/2020 22:57:46	Steve	olson		abilene	Follow the advice of the superintendents. Do what needs to be done to keep the children safe.
7/20/2020 22:58:01	Craig	Scheer		Lenexa	School should NOT be delayed
7/20/2020 22:58:22	John	Palmer	Goddard Eisenhower HS	Wichita, KS	Please postpone opening. It's for everyone safety. Give the masks time to work. We beg you.
7/20/2020 22:58:42	Amy	McGavran	Olathe Northwest High	Lenexa	Start school in August!!! Our kids need structure. They are depressed and need socialization.
7/20/2020 22:58:44	Trina	Riffel		Gypsum	I feel it is important to have kids back in school in August and not delay it further into September. Social/emotional factors are so important, especially at the younger grades! I am a teacher and am strongly for starting in August!
7/20/2020 22:58:52	gabby	scheer		olathe	i want to go back to school i'm bored 🙄

7/20/2020 22:59:04	Jericho	Johnson		Salina	I believe school should start remotely at the start of the year! Schools have a hard enough time controlling head lice and can't even do that accurately but yet we want to send our kids to school. I know there will be no correct answer that will make everyone happy but we must put politics aside and think about the safety of our children and educators.
7/20/2020 22:59:09	Bev	Birney		Bucklin	Open schools in August
7/20/2020 22:59:19	Jennifer	Guffey	None	Codell - 67663	I'm ok with the delay. However, schools should not be required to make up those missed hours/days of school. Requiring the days to be made up puts a strain on teachers & administrators. Many of these will be made up at the cost of school breaks, professional development days, and the end of school contracted days. State assessments should also be forgone the upcoming school year. Students missed out last year and the beginning of this year, and will be returning on a modified schedule. The teachers will pay the highest cost, as some school boards want all the days made up or cutting the teachers pay. Teacher pay needs to be protected as well as other school personnel who may be missing out on pay they desperately need.
7/20/2020 23:00:00	Lisa	Littlejohn	Parent	Newton Kansas	Please consider overturning the executive order for schools to not start until September 8th. We are not a one size fits all, and we have several counties that schools could be open. Our children can safely attend school, with proper safety measures, and need in person class settings. Thanks for your consideration.
7/20/2020 23:00:14	Alyssa	Vanderhoof	usd 105	Bird City	I fully support waiting until Sept. 9 given the guidance from the state was just released. If the BOE wants teachers and staff prepared to teach the competencies and be ready to go remote at any time, we NEED time to plan better than we were able to in March!
7/20/2020 23:00:14	Lisa	Allen		Olathe	I am a parent of a student in the Olathe school district. I implore you to delay the start of school until after Labor Day and then to offer virtual and hybrid options for students. This should not be political and the focus should, first and foremost, be on safety for both students and teachers. A safe return to school is impossible and requiring students to return will only cause harm in the long run. Please make the responsible choice and protect our children and their teachers.
7/20/2020 23:00:36	Jeff	Bubb	Pioneer Ridge Middle S	Olathe	I support EO 20-58
7/20/2020 23:00:41	Julie	Adams	USD259	Wichita	Please vote to delay in person classes. There should be a steady decline for 14 days before school resumes in a brick and mortar setting. Staff and student health MUST come first.
7/20/2020 23:00:41	Maia	Carter		Lindsborg, KS	I think delaying school is a good idea until our numbers are down.
7/20/2020 23:00:45	Christina	Hess		Lawrence	Virtual and online school should be allowed to start as scheduled.
7/20/2020 23:01:08	Andrew	Kocukov		Wichita	As a husband of a classroom teacher and father of 2 elementary age daughters. I do not think wearing masks at school is a good decision. In fact, I find it to be more dangerous than not due to how many times kids will touch their face as a result of wearing the mask. Please do not vote in favor of this mandate.
7/20/2020 23:01:10	Shelley	Pollak		Overland Park	I support having in person school as soon as teachers and schools are ready. The sooner the better for our 3 kids. Online school did not and will not work well for our kids, and is an impossibility for 2 working parents. Our daughter has done multiple weeks of summer camp both indoor and outdoor with great results using recommended precautionary measures. There's no reason why they can't work at a school.
7/20/2020 23:01:12	Molly	Anderson		Olathe	Delay school opening!
7/20/2020 23:01:23	Marcia	Smith	Parent from SMSD	Lenexa	Please open our schools as planned in August. My child has special needs and has regressed without school and a social network.
7/20/2020 23:01:41	Sarav	Gregory		Holyrood	Decisions should be left up to each school district and their board, teachers, and voters. Not an all in one plan for the whole state.
7/20/2020 23:02:19	Larissa	Davidson		Olathe	Keep closed until after Labor Day or longer. If the positive test numbers are not steadily declining us, as parents, are facing a very tough decision on returning to school and the safety of our children.
7/20/2020 23:02:14	Cathryn	Linney	Blue Valley School Dist	Leawood	We support delay of school until COVID cases decreasing in the state & all CDC safety guidelines are met for reopening.

					<p>Please approve the executive order delaying school! It is in the best interest of the children, school staffs and our communities! We are in the midst of a spike in covid cases. I do not feel confident ( despite the dedication and best efforts of local school boards and administration) in the school's ability to implement your safety recommendations in such a short amount of time.</p> <p>Our district is scheduled to have students in buildings on Aug. 10. I am very uncomfortable with this!</p> <p>Even with the options of on line, and hybrid bring available, I feel that extra time would be beneficial and necessary! The extra weeks would allow for teachers to better prepare for the more stringent expectations of online learning/teaching. It would allow them to prepare their classrooms for socially distant learning. I believe strongly that in person classes are the best for both students and teachers. But only when it is safe to do so.</p> <p>Postponing the start could allow for communities to focus on decreasing cases so that we could have a safe in person start to the year.</p> <p>I know that many feel that local communities Rather than the governor should control the calendar on their own. The fact is that this isn't happening. Local agencies have not embraced mask ordinances and are frequently voting based on political influence rather than science. In our own district, they are working very hard to prepare but have not considered postponing school. Despite significant increases in cases in our county, the health department has not delivered a plan for what to do when an out break occurs in the school. They have also not indicated that they intend for anything other than an in person start. This greatly concerns me. I feel that it puts my children and my own health and safety at risk.</p> <p>Please put politics aside and vote for the delayed start in order to protect all of the children and school staff in the state of Kansas!</p>
7/20/2020 23:02:18	Kristin	Prophet	I am a mother of 3 publi	Salina	
7/20/2020 23:02:57	Holly	Taylor	parent	Olathe	Open up schools and all activities sooner rather than later!
7/20/2020 23:03:27	Chris	Ollig	Teacher in a metro schoo	Olathe	Please accept Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school and require safety precautions. As a high school teacher I implore you to consider the health and safety of everyone involved. People's lives are genuinely at risk including mine and those of my family members, students, and colleagues. The emotional tole that, god forbid, a death of just one teacher or classmate on a student would be difficult to overcome let alone the potential for multiple. It is simply too great a risk and these measures are the absolute minimum we should consider to keep our schools safe.
7/20/2020 23:03:21	Shelsie	Moyer		Columbus, Kansas	I believe that schools should open on the original date they planned to open. Postponing it will likely causes damages for children who do not have a very good home life. It will also make students with disabilities suffer by not having a routine. Our county only has 7 current positive cases with no one hospitalized. I believe that it is best for the students to go back to school as they are already behind. School is some kids only safe place.
7/20/2020 23:03:35	Heavenly	McQuillan	School/ Parent	Weskan	<p>If we mandate the masks, there are smaller school systems that won't have a school to go back to next year. We need the schools open, so we can keep these schools open. There are parents thinking about home schooling their kids, that would take away even more funding from the schools.</p> <p>This decision this to be decided by each different school board members, along with the superintendent &amp; county health nurse. Each school has a committee I am sure that could make a wise decision for themselves. What works for one school does NOT work for all.</p> <p>Please let the children &amp; staff get back to school. We need to get some normalcy back!!</p>
7/20/2020 23:03:55	Victoria	Rall		Atwood	As a teacher I have watched families and kids struggled over the past month with what is coming next. I personally feel delaying school any longer will not be beneficial at all, especially in my district where we have 0 cases. If we wait until after Labor Day the only thing we will be doing is holding back children's education another month. A lot of these kids will be going on 6 months without being in a classroom and as an educator that is unacceptable. Kids coming back will already be behind due to the shutdown in March and delaying them more will benefit no one. Again I feel we should start school as soon as possible and leave major school delays up to the counties.



7/20/2020 23:04:08	Deb	Meyers	USD 270	Plainville	We need to not mandate masks and delay school opening! Masks have not been scientifically proven to help the spread of disease. It should be a CHOICE to wear one or not!
7/20/2020 23:04:08	Kim	Crabbs		Salina	Please start school. Even if it is online classes that may or may not morph into face to face classes. Our children need to have some normalcy by starting school on time.
7/20/2020 23:04:20	Morgan	murphy	parent	paola	Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 23:04:29	Aaron	Edwards		Lansing	Kids in elementary school should not be mandated to wear masks. I encourage the ruling to fall on the school district. You are mandating things for areas that still have no cases. How does this work for kids that are already scared to start kg in the fall. There are so many things wrong with forcing such young kids to wear masks.
7/20/2020 23:05:11	Jill	O'Connor	None	Overland Park, Kansas	As a parent, teacher, and coach in Kansas I want to urge our State Board of Education to delay starting schools and activities. Educators need the time prepare for a safe return to in person classes and set up a rigorous system for remote learning. We have many teachers that either are or have family in the house at higher risk if they contract the disease. Educators want their students back to school, we also want to provide a safe place for learning too. We do also worry about our students that rely on school to be their safe place in their lives but in order to make it the safest we can we desperately need time. Let's do this the right way for our students and our educators.
7/20/2020 23:05:22	Nicole	Elliott	Olathe public schools	Lenexa	Open the schools on time and NO MASKS on these kids!!!
7/20/2020 23:05:35	Jennifer	Addington		olathe	We need to start school. We are doing damage to our kids that can't be reversed. Start school!
7/20/2020 23:05:45	Kari	Otero	Parent and educator	Garden City	please uphold the governor's order. Do not start school. The reward does not outlay the risk.
7/20/2020 23:06:12	Rick	Moyer	Usd476	Copeland	No mask mandates for educators and students and no hourly hand sanitization. Leave decisions about health and protection to the people. Parents should be able to make those decisions for their families. Let students play sports and activities. Require social distancing and promote hybrid model of school. Do not allow teacher or principals to be fired by refusing mask mandates when they are doing so for fear of their own health.
7/20/2020 23:06:24	Lisa	Sage		Topeka	Do not let the governor decide what is best for our schools
7/20/2020 23:06:25	Chad	Swift		Topeka	NA
7/20/2020 23:06:30	Todd	Stramel		Colby	Do not delay schools. Let each disteic decide!
7/20/2020 23:06:34	Scott	Schechter	Myself and my family at	Hugoton	My children are ready to start back to school. We live in an area of the state with very little Covid. Please allow local control for all aspects of the school year. Recommendations are appropriate. But a local district knows what's best for their community. Thanks.
7/20/2020 23:06:39	Karen	Horton	William Allen White Ele	Emporia	Leave us alone, we have always taken care of ourselves. We can do it now. We are intelligent enough to take care of one another and social distance when necessary. We do not need the state or federal government to tell us how to do it. We are independent.
7/20/2020 23:06:48	Carrie	Henderson		Overland Park	I feel it is best for students and staff to delay school until after Labor Day.
7/20/2020 23:06:51	Andy	Thompson	Parent of student and sp	Manhattan	Stay closed until after Labor Day to see if we can flatten the curve again before reopening schools.
7/20/2020 23:06:53	Andrea	Anderson	Classified hourly employ	Lawrence	It is imperative we put politics aside and vote to uphold the Governor's order. We are in no rush and the safety of our children and families needs to take priority in this moment. Please do not make a selfish and uninformed decision this week. The safety of our children are in your hands.
					I appreciate a delay in the start of school however hope and pray that we are able be back in our buildings. I have noticed with some of the organized activities I recently attended (youth sports, dance competitions, meetings, etc.) that the kids seem to be so adaptable with a "go with the flow" mentality... whatever it takes to participate. The adults seem to be the ones resistant to adjust, adapt, and change. It is frustrating to me that doctors, nurses, truck drivers, cashiers, fast food workers, construction workers and more have assumed risk for us and now we who work in education are not willing to assume that same risk in return? I do have hope that some normalcy in life is achievable with appropriate risk management. I think about it like this: every time I get in a car I'm taking an assumed risk that I find acceptable with appropriate management such as wearing my seatbelt and following traffic laws.... we just need to find appropriate management for the risk of Covid being part of our lives. And our children need to be in school. I am willing to take that risk for them. Let's get to work, let's get back in our buildings!

7/20/2020 23:06:54	Jessica	Denio	Special education teacher	Phillipsburg	Please keep teachers, staff and students safe by postponing the start of the school year. This will give districts and schools time to implement the necessary precautions to keep us safe. Thank you for your consideration.
7/20/2020 23:06:55	Brian	Elliott	Olathe School District	Lenexa	Everyone is going back to work, schools need to be I. Session. We are doing more damage keeping them at home. Kids need school.
7/20/2020 23:07:00	Jamey	Borchers	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	As a Kansas parent and teacher, I ask that you please consider upholding Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school. Not only would this give districts time to implement the state guidelines well, it would also allow time for our Covid numbers to again decline. I want nothing more than to start school and see my students, but the reality is it is simply unsafe right now. As much as I want to see my students in person again, it should not come at the cost of risking their lives, their family's lives, the teacher's lives, and our family's lives.
7/20/2020 23:07:00	Jennifer	Stearns		Olathe	Schools should not open until after Labor Day. Our COVID-19 numbers are worse now than when we shut down school in March. If it wasn't safe for students to be close together in an enclosed space then it isn't safe now.
7/20/2020 23:07:00	Tamara	benhassine	my kids	olathe/ blue valley school	I think it is extremely important that the schools are delayed. This is just getting worse. It is the responsibility of you all to keep the kids safe. I personally think virtual is the way to go. The likely hood of children wearing the mask at school is slim to none. The fact that you guys will be checking temperature is worthless because the kids won't be tested before getting on the bus. Or they will be waking in groups to and from school.
7/20/2020 23:07:00	Luke	Bauman		Arlington	I am a special education teacher at Pratt High School, my own children attend Fairfield High School. Let's open on time and allow fall sports. Kids need it and teachers and entire Communities do too.
7/20/2020 23:07:01	Leanna	Keller		WaKeeney	With currently having zero active cases in our county, I feel it is a disservice to our students and the rest of our community to delay the start date for school. We have only had 5 cases total, which is an extremely low percentage of our population. I teach kindergarten and do not understand the reasoning behind having students ages 5-6 go to daycare for three more weeks instead of going to school. Our school has been planning out safety measures since last spring; if there is already a plan in place, why wait longer and allow our students to fall further behind? Most of the students within our community are around each other as is with the pool being open and summer basketball/baseball/softball being played. I understand the severity and the risks in other counties, but please do not forget the ones who are doing well thus far, and please do not forget the well-being of parents and those families whose income relies on students going to school.
7/20/2020 23:07:03	Tim	Watta	Parent in USD 450	Topeka	It is in our students best interest to return to school full time and in the classroom.
7/20/2020 23:07:06	Wyatt	Smith		Garden City	If the KSDE board approves Kelly's mandate I fear for the future of Kansas schools. How can a single Governor have the audacity or the authority to mandate anything for hundreds of school districts who have put in countless hours and worked with experts in every field to develop safe and effective strategies for going back. We must give individual teachers and families the options of whether to go back in person, hybrid, or on-line. No one person or entity should be able to decide what is best for hundreds of different locales and demographics. I'm from Finney county which saw some of the highest numbers and we are at 98% recovered with being fully open for several weeks now and no outbreaks or any such nonsense. I implore you to maintain local control. We've already seen how state wide mandates are balked at, and honestly we need to give each school district the freedom to make decisions for their own students, teachers, and communities. Please believe in the people of Kansas enough to see that an umbrella mandate is not what is needed. Thanks!
7/20/2020 23:07:27	Robyn	Schmidt	Lincoln Elementary, Junction City	Junction City	I think it is a good idea to push back the start of the school year so extra precautions can be taken and be put in place before school starts. Also gives the State a chance to hopefully lower the amount of Covid cases.
7/20/2020 23:07:38	Debbie	Ruff	USD 227	Hanston	Please open schools as scheduled!
7/20/2020 23:07:47	Anneliece	Lusk	Taxpayer	Junction City	Please delay until after Labor Day for safety.

7/20/2020 23:08:03	LeAnna	Soehner	Parent of children at US	Colby	<p>I want to thank you in advance for taking the time to read my concerns. I have two daughters, 5th and 6th grade. They want to go back to school and learn from their teachers in a normal setting with no masks. They want to be around their friends and enjoy learning in public school like they are used to. They want to be able to have PE, band, choir, art and all the other extra curricular classes they have enjoyed learning in the past. We can NOT continue living in fear and passing that fear to our children. Labor Day will mark over 5 months that my children have not been in school. They need to be back in school at the regular time in August. Kids need routine, they need schedules and they need the support of their teachers to learn. The online experience we had for the end of the year schooling was a joke! I have much respect for our teachers as both my mom and my mother-in-law were teachers for over 25 years each, but putting our teachers in that place last year was so hard for them.</p> <p>My kiddos have a stable home life but there are so many out there that don't and those 8 hours of school are a safe haven for them. We can't ignore the statistics that show how abuse is rising with these kids. My heart breaks for them.</p> <p>There are also many statistics and studies showing the inefficiency of cloth masks. Please do not make our kids wear these. If you look at our states statistics, if the masks worked then the counties that instituted a mask ordinance should have lower numbers but that's not the case. They have numbers increasing just as much as those counties that didn't issue a mask order. The reporting of cases is so skewed. Counting "probable" cases as positives without having absolute confirmation is so deceptive and manipulative.</p> <p>We Kansans deserve better than half truths and lies.</p> <p>I myself along with a number of other mothers in my town of Colby are seriously considering homeschooling our children if things don't go back to the way they were. You start having multitudes of families pulling their kids from public school and your public school systems are going to be in a world of hurt.</p> <p>I pray that God leads your decision making. May God bless your board and again thank you for listening to my concerns</p>
7/20/2020 23:08:28	Audrey	Lothman		Pratt	<p>The kids have been out of school too long as it is. Teachers in our community (Skyline) are prepared and ready. Kids need to get back to school. They require stability and routine. No masks!! It will be an utter failure. They cannot be required to wear them for 8hrs straight. There should be no mandate on hand sanitizer. Governor Kelly is violating our rights as Americans. Too many parents are considering homeschooling. What would hapoen to our schools if there werent any kids? I understand some people are scared, online learning is an option for those. Teachers are essential, just like doctors, nurses, walmart employees. They are doing their jobs, and its time for the teachers to do theirs! How long is this going to continue!/? She is failing our children, please put a stop to it!</p>
7/20/2020 23:08:40	Mary	Van Schuyver	my household	Plainville	<p>Please, please do not push back the start of school. Our children need to be in school, not only to learn but to be among other students and friend. No matter how hard our teachers try it is not the same as being in a classroom setting. Thank you.</p>
7/20/2020 23:08:51	Paula	Jacobson	Grandparent	Horton	<p>I think delaying school till after Labor Day is a wise decision. What I don't agree with is face masks for all students. Elementary children are not emotionally or mentally ready for this. They are still struggling with how abruptly last school year ended and masks will cause added stress for them and major problems for the teachers. Contact KDHE about daycare procedures and how that is working without masks! The children's mental health needs to be considered too!!!!</p>
7/20/2020 23:08:53	Stacey	Tischhauser	Council Grove elementa	Wilsey	<p>I believe school should be pushed back to after labor day, but the time prior to that should be part of the teacher's contract to prepare for in person and/or online learning. Then we should re-evaluate at the beginning of September to determine if we should start online or in person at that time. The board needs to lessen the amount of contact hours to allow for this change as teachers should not be forced to work a longer school year as many rely on summer jobs or, many people like me are an integral part of agricultural work that occurs in June. Please consider the needs of all teachers and students. Please protect us and respect our contracts while protecting kids.</p>

7/20/2020 23:08:55	Rebecca	Barrett-Fox	Offender Victim Minis	Newton	<p>I am dismayed that people pushing to reopen schools are using domestic violence and child neglect as a reason to reopen. Reopening is not safe for any student, regardless of their family status. Families where abuse occurs are not better off if their students are also exposed to the risk of COVID; indeed, illness and its attendant economic disruptions are predictors of increased violence.</p> <p>Please do not use victims of domestic violence as pawns in school reopening. If we choose to do so, we can end family violence whether schools reopen or not. That we've chosen not to during when schools were in session tells us that it's not our priority and those who use it as a reason to reopen insincere. That is another kind of victimization of already-hurting people.</p>
7/20/2020 23:09:20	Diana	Sutter	Parent of student	Plainville	Offer options: Zoom schooling and in classroom settings, or a little of both
7/20/2020 23:09:48	Maria	Young		Kansas City, KS	I fully support delaying the opening of school &/or moving to online learning. The safety of students, teachers and staff must be the first priority.
7/20/2020 23:09:53	Justina	Denison	USD	Hutchinson	I support starting in September. This gives the district and staff to prepare for all learning styles that will be coming due to COVID. The students will still obtain contact hrs and learn this year, that will not be hindered. Give the district and staff time to prepare for the mandates and ensure quality online learning!
7/20/2020 23:10:02	Jenny	Burgess		Sterling	Please leave the decision to the districts on when to start. They have the best knowledge for their area and situation. Please don't hold our children's education hostage.
7/20/2020 23:10:03	Renaec	Frost		Assaria	<p>Please do not make these children wear a mask to school. I am an RN. In nursing school we were taught how to wear masks and the purpose of a mask. There is no way children or even teens can wear a mask appropriately.</p> <p>Of even bigger concern is the extra burden it places in educators to enforce this mask policy.</p> <p>Can the school really enforce the policy? What will be consequences for kids of any age that don't comply?</p>
7/20/2020 23:10:31	Kirsten	Brandt	School Social Worker-	U Wichita KS	I agree with Governor Kelly. With the surge in COVID-19 cases, districts need time and resources to address safety concerns for students, staff, and their families. This summer at least two of our teachers were infected by COVID-19. If they had been in school teaching 1/2 of eighth grade at the middle school would have had to be quarantined. At the high school 157 students would have been quarantined. So sending kids back to school is not safe, but also detrimental to students moving in and out of in-class and virtual because of quarantines,. Staff and students will get sick and some will die. Some will take it home and infect loved ones. How does this affect our students mental health? Thank you for upholding Governor Kelly's executive order.
7/20/2020 23:10:37	Beth	Dean	Teacher - Olathe USD 2	Olathe	<p>I have dedicated 16 years of my life to education. I spend hours upon hours at my school, often choosing my job over my husband and daughter. I have high blood pressure, and am fearful of this virus, not only from my own students, but from my daughter who will be attending 4th grade. I would give anything to be back in the classroom, however, I think the thought that I could potentially have to give up my life is a bit extreme. Johnson County numbers are high, it's terrifying to think that something that I love with my whole heart could eventually kill me. I realize at some point I will need to return to the classroom while this virus is still a problem, however I think there needs to be time to train staff, to give admin time to make important decisions, and allow for virus numbers to hopefully decline.</p> <p>Of all the times I have lobbied for my students, I'm taking a much overdue moment to lobby for myself, which I never envisioned having to do, but here we are. Please give us this time. I beg of you.</p>
7/20/2020 23:10:48	Lori	Strnad	Parent of Blue Valley m	Overland Park	Please delay the schools a few more weeks so that we as a state can get our numbers under control. I would much rather my kids start in-person vs virtual and I think we need a few weeks to plan, implement, and adjust. Since a number of large retailers have just now started requiring masks hopefully we can get the numbers a little lower before school starts. A September start would give us the time we needs to plan for in-person or virtual. Thanks for delaying for the safety of our kids, school staff, and parents.
7/20/2020 23:10:59	Taney	Browning		Scott City	I have one child that needs to have the teacher in front of him to help learn things. Both of my children are ready to be back in the school rooms learning. I think the you should leave it up to each county to decide if they are requiring mask or leaving it up to the people. We live in a small town and my family feel safe with Not wearing a mask.

7/20/2020 23:11:01	Karen	Elliott	Blue Valley Northwest H	Overland Park	Most importantly, high school and college students need to be present and amongst each other. This time in life needs exposure and immediate feedback from fellow classmates. In person with their teachers allows for direct assessments and the ability to “notice” each student in person where a computer zoom call or alike cannot capture what’s truly going on. Also, there needs to be statewide documents about the rules for safety & COVID. For example, Colorado has the same fliers on everyone of its businesses doors of entry including outdoor places. The communication is precise & consistent. Plus they are required to enforce no mask, no entry or business. Walking around people wore their masks outside of public places as well. Our schools should have the same expectations for the staff and students. Our teenagers need to be all in at school with masks & frequent hand washing times required. We need to face this mess straight on. Put our teenagers in the classroom face to face where they will best benefit not on a computer screen where there is ways to hide your struggles and lose site of direction and understanding. These are the years specifically to educate but even more intense is the need to prepare them for their college/post high school plans. You cannot achieve this without a well formed student done so through all the personal relationships, direct connections and academic fortitude one gets in the social environment in HS. The staff gets to know their students in many ways by the students present in their classrooms not virtual where everyone has a varying environment in which to learn. Be CONSISTENT Kansas with expectations and make the message clear and if not followed, fine the entity not following the guidelines.
7/20/2020 23:11:10	Peggy	Berls	USD 352	Goodland	We have very few cases of COVID -19 in our county. Our district is ready to do what is necessary to keep people safe in schools. Please let us reopen schools and get back doing our jobs and educating students.
7/20/2020 23:11:16	Dana	Markley	#WethePeople	Overland Park	Mental and emotional issues in our youth and also parents are building as we push back the start of the school year. This is way more destructive than Covid has shown to be. We need to get our kids back in schools. I am a parent of three kids- one in HS, one in MS and one in elementary school. I know that three weeks may seem like a small amount of time to push school back, but this time away from friends, in person instructive learning and sports is dragging on too long. Let parents decide if and when to send their kids back to school. Don’t dictate for us when they can go back. There is still ample time over the next month to get schools ready to safely start school in mid-August.
7/20/2020 23:12:03	Kate	Thornton	USD 473	Chapman	I have emailed Dr. Horst but appreciate the opportunity to write to all of you, as I have not had communication. On January 16th each Kansas school district received a document (over 1,000 pages) to help guide our plan for reopening in a global pandemic. As a mom, assistant principal and daughter of a teacher; it is my hope and prayer that the State Board of Education gives us more than a month to follow and implement a 1,000 page document. We are talking about the lives of Kansas educators and students. States around us will the same or different precautions set in place. Give us a chance to see what works and what does not. I would rather learn from others than be the guinea pigs in a global pandemic. I want my two elementary students back in the classroom as much as the next person. Childcare will be difficult for my family in the next few weeks. However, my headache and stress is nothing compared to the lives of Kansas kids and educators.
7/20/2020 23:12:06	carlie	scheer		lenexa	i’m a sophomore in high school and would like to start school whether online or in person
7/20/2020 23:12:43	Michelle	Thompson	USD 457	Holcomb	I vote to wait until September 9 to start school.
7/20/2020 23:12:48	Jackie	Rieder		Overland Park	We want the schools to open. Keeping the schools closed is causing more harm than opening the schools. Education is essential and many families need to go back to work and cannot if school does not open. I am very unhappy with Governor Kelly and she no longer has my support or vote. It is time to open up. We have to live our lives. If you want to give parents a personal choice if they send their kids back then great, but we also need the option to be back in the classroom. I am for beginning school ON TIME 100%

7/20/2020 23:13:10	Susan	Borchardt	Parent	Lawrence	<p>I would like to ask the KBOE to accept the governor's mandates regarding both the masks and the delay in schools returning. It is clear to me, after watching the board meetings of my own district and reading the latest science and guidance from medical professionals that our schools are not prepared to begin in-person instruction safely. Delay and remote learning are the only clear ways to ensure that our children, our teachers, our administrators, and other professionals (Paras, nurses, maintenance, tech) do not carry, pass on, or contract the virus.</p> <p>As an educator, I understand and value in-person learning. I miss it dearly. However, it is not worth risking death or damage to health to be in a building. Learning can be made up. Learning can be retooled, rethought, remote. Lives cannot be regained. As a parent, I would much prefer to have my son be in a position to need to catch up with his work than to be in a position that requires him to understand why his peers and adults are sick or dying because we made an ill-advised choice, because we decided that classrooms were a great experiment for this virus.</p> <p>This is not a matter of politics. It is a matter of public health and well-being.</p> <p>Furthermore, when our children return to school buildings, masks must be mandated. We have our kindergarten students trained in lockdown drills for active shooters. Wearing a mask for protection may take time, but let's not underestimate their understanding of safety. And let us not underestimate the risk that we put them and all school communities in by failing to require the most basic of protection.</p> <p>It is enough that schools are thought of as daycares, that teachers are considered human shields, deeply underpaid and undervalued ones at that. We cannot demand that they also become the lab rats we choose to sacrifice.</p>
7/20/2020 23:13:12	Gayle	Price	USD512	Shawnee	It is unfortunate that school districts did not make safety plans before the starts of school. However, based on current data delaying the start of school so we can have a "safe" opening would be in everyone's best interest.
7/20/2020 23:13:17	Diane	Lloyd	Parent	Fort Scott	If the kids have to stay 6 feet apart and wear mask. Which I think sitting at their desk they could take it off. Then let's get started on time. They need their teachers and friends. My son hasn't seen them since March. Thank you
7/20/2020 23:13:58	Hailey	Martin		Towanda	I believe we should hold off on opening schools until after Labor Day because people's lives are more important than learning. Everyone's health and safety should always come first. I'm so scared for my children and myself. I work for the school and I'm scared of going to work. The virus is at it's highest right now. So I pray that the people making this decision think about the health and safety of all involved. Thank you for your time.
7/20/2020 23:14:00	Lisa	Nagabhushan		Wichita	I support the governor's order to delay the return to in person K - 12 education. Moving forward cautiously is in the best interest of public health and our economy.
7/20/2020 23:14:02	Alicia	Yahaya	Open Minds	Olathe	I love the idea of delaying school
7/20/2020 23:14:21	Alexandrea	Rall		Hoxie, KS	I believe we should start school in August like normal. Due to smaller population.
7/20/2020 23:14:22	Lindsay	Black	Kansas City, KS Public	Overland Park	As a parent and educator of elementary students, I implore the board to uphold Governor Kelly's executive order. As someone with family members with fragile medical conditions, opening schools again places them at an extreme risk that is completely avoidable. We are all aware that distance learning is far from ideal, but postponement gives us a chance to avoid that and get a solid plan in place to keep ALL staff and students safe. My job as a gifted facilitator means that I serve multiple buildings, and routinely set foot in 8+ schools per week. There are many other related service providers in the same position, and that's just one of the major hurdles our district needs to make plans for. This extra 3 weeks allows for that to happen. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.
7/20/2020 23:14:34	Elizabeth	Eyhorn		Wichita	Schools should remain closed until there has been a significant amount of time with no new cases. Schools have plenty of time to prepare quality virtual learning if they know that is the goal.

7/20/2020 23:14:36	Patricia	Kramer	Self	Smith Center	Open the schools. No mandates, no masks. Masks are unsafe for the person wearing them and does more harm than good. They are not fitted, not ventilated, keeps Bacteria in, no oxygen out. Our immune systems is made for sickness. Let families decided the health and safety for their own families. Government has never intervned before and they should not now. The swine flu was far worse than this. I pray that you allow the kinds to go back to a normal serving where they can learn and play and be reunited with their friends. Isolation is not good for any age. Thank you
7/20/2020 23:14:43	Sara	Brockman		Clay Center	I would like Gov. Kelly's mandate upheld to reopen schools after Labor Day so we can get the case numbers down.
7/20/2020 23:14:58	Stacy	Sprague	Myself as a teacher	Kincaid	I support the delay of school until after labor day
7/20/2020 23:15:22	Krista	Heimberger		TOPEKA	In difficult times, leaders are faced with difficult decisions that impact the lives of many people. The responsibilities you have in making these decisions require you to consider all those who are stakeholders. In the decision you have in front of you regarding the reopening of schools this fall, the stakeholders include students, educators, administrators, support staff, residents in general - in other words, every single person in the state of Kansas. The accountability that resides with your decision is to give every school district the best opportunities to respond in the most positive manner to the 1,000+ pages of Navigating Change 2020, which was approved on July 15th. Successful implementation of each school district's individual plan should have priority over fast implementation. Therefore, it seems to me, a concerned grandmother of students and parent of educators, the most practical way to accomplish this is to provide the school districts the extra few weeks to put some final touches to their implementation plans. Please vote yes for Executive Order 20-58 delaying the 20-21 K-12 school year.
7/20/2020 23:15:25	Caroline	Clayton	a	b	I NEED TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL BECAUSE I AM SO BORED AND I WANT TO PLAY SCHOOL SPORTS, SEE MY FRIENDS, AND BE ABLE TO INTERACT WITH PEOPLE AGAIN
7/20/2020 23:15:32	Jessica	Eimers		Gardner	Our kids need back to school! Our family isn't able to make it on one income for me to stay home and homeschool
7/20/2020 23:15:57	Jessica	Adams	USD 232 (Riverview an	Shawnee, KS	Please start school on time and do not require masks for students under 5th grade. Thank you!
7/20/2020 23:16:04	Kari	Rettinger	Rose Hill USD	Rose Hill, KS	We need to open the schools for the students, the sooner the better!!
7/20/2020 23:16:37	Esa	Parker	USD 259	Wichita	Buildings should be closed until after Labor Day, and should be closed for at least 8 weeks after to make sure we, teachers, and our kids and families will be safe.
7/20/2020 23:17:16	Susan	Reusser	Myself a retired teacher	Wichita	Schools need the additional time to get safety measures into place based upon sound, data driven science and teachers must have time to formulate instruction and the logistic in delivery of that instruction
7/20/2020 23:17:26	Angie	Seaton	Parent of 2 students at O	Olathe	A delay in the opening of schools is a reasonable step to help us slow the transmission of the virus. Beginning the school year during a time of a very large surge in the number of cases is inviting disaster.
7/20/2020 23:17:26	Courtney	Hadley	None	Tecumseh, KS	Delay school starting. Let's take some time to figure this out. If we aren't sending adults back yet (how many of you are back full time/not working from home?), don't send our kids back. Maybe show other states that we can pull together and get it done.
7/20/2020 23:17:48	Angie	Dorrell		Olathe	Please help keep us safe as a community by delaying school starting.

					<p>I really believe the best thing you can do is to vote in favor of Governor Kelly's executive order and delay starting schools in Kansas.</p> <p>I am a teacher with an infant at home, my husband teaches as well. Schools need time to properly prepare for the enormous amount of germs that students bring in a daily basis to school, and one of those germs will be COVID-19. As a state we need to think not solely about the economy, but about what science is telling us. The leader Kansans elected into office is trying to do what is best for Kansans, remember that.</p> <p>I live in an area that depends on a meat packing plant, and even with the precautions put in, COVID-19 ran rampant through the building. This same thing WILL happen in schools if schools reopen too soon and are not prepared.</p> <p>I am nervous about the return to school, but I know how important it is for students to be with their peers and teachers. I foresee many issues like passing periods, lunch and passing out copies of an assignment, these close contact times greatly increase the chance of contracting this disease. As a middle school teacher I know we will have battles with students to keep their masks on and staying away from each other. Schools more time to get their teachers prepared for the new policies and routines that will go into place. We are under enough stress just thinking about the many different possibilities this school year will hold, these extra weeks will help us be more prepared for this crazy year ahead.</p> <p>Please vote in favor of delaying schools, your teachers will thank you.</p>
7/20/2020 23:17:54	Katie	Novack		Garden City	<p>I agree with Governor Kelly in making safety the priority not only for our students but for educators and staff as well. Many don't understand how elementary schools actually function, with kids having a difficult time remembering to keep hands out of nose, mouth, ears, and anywhere else they can fit them into. As a Special Education Paraprofessional, I know first hand that with our kiddos, this is even more difficult. It is also appropriate to keep in mind that some of our kiddos have auto immune system deficiencies. I would hate for a place of learning, positivity, laughter, and smiles become a place of harm, worry, and scary anxiousness (even more for some our kids). Another thing to keep in mind is our staff is also put at risk. Being in a room with 25-30 kids, in a building of 300 people is a scary thought. If one, just one were to contract the virus, it is only certain this will spread like wildfire to everyone. It is already almost impossible for a teacher to find a sub sans virus, now for the teacher to be out for 2-3 weeks, is unimaginable. For the safety of everyone, most importantly, our future, the children of our community, it is best to follow all safety procedures and not be afraid to be too cautious. I'm sure we can all agree that no life is worth losing over negligence. Thank you for your time.</p>



					<p>I am writing as a concerned citizen and as a teacher.</p> <p>Please vote no on Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the school start date.</p> <p>Educational decisions should be made at the lowest possible level of government, and it is presumptuous of Governor Kelly to mandate a delayed start to the school year for all of Kansas, with its diverse communities and geographic expanse.</p> <p>There is no reason students in rural counties should be barred from returning to school in mid-August. This order puts thousands of rural Kansas parents in a bind for childcare and acts as a detriment to the educational and social wellbeing of students, solely because COVID-19 cases (but not deaths) are spiking in Johnson and Sedgwick Counties.</p> <p>As a young and healthy teacher in Johnson County, I want to be teaching in person on our original start date, just as there are many parents who want their students back in school at the same time. Conversely, I have colleagues and former students who have legitimate reasons to stay home. Our local school board can find a way to competently balance these concerns.</p> <p>Our board members live in our community. They are the neighbors of their constituents and recognize the specific names and faces of their friends on both sides of this issue. They know the nuances of how our system runs and the myriad situations that need to be addressed. By contrast, Governor Kelly is out of touch with the specific operations of any individual school district and is therefore not equipped to make decisions on their behalf.</p>
7/20/2020 23:18:39	Bethany	Rexroth		Olathe	Vote no and allow our duly elected and competent school boards to do their best work.
7/20/2020 23:18:58	Anna	Patrick		Rose Hill, KS	Please delay school opening, thank you
7/20/2020 23:19:08	Renee	Marcotte		Damar	I do not want school year delayed or mask to be mandated! There's not enough information or studies report test done to know all the health issues this can cause mental and physical! I have grandkids with asthma and some just plain freak out with something over their faces! I believe the mental damage and risk is greater than the virus risk! Very upset with our Governor's leadership!
7/20/2020 23:19:14	Amber	Hock	I teach in USD 260	Mulvane	Please honor Gov Kelly's order and delay the start of school for the safety of our students and staff
7/20/2020 23:19:44	Virginia	Porter	Retired teacher	Lenexa, KS	Do not open the schools until we have this virus under control!!
7/20/2020 23:19:50	Cindy	Branham	SHHS student	Tecumseh, Kansas	<p>School needs to start. My freshman in high school needs to go back to school. She busted her butt in the online portion, but for her even though she is a all A student by zoom learning was hard and took 8 hours a day. Now as she starts high school we do not want her to get behind on her high school career and don't want her education to be below standards. Our children need normalcy for their mental and physical health.</p> <p>They need to be a priority, not inflated Covid case numbers that reflect higher Covid testing numbers.</p> <p>Facts need to be taken to make wise decisions, not fear based political agendas.</p> <p>Please be wise in your decisions.</p>
7/20/2020 23:19:55	Sharon	Fries	Bethany Lutheran Schoc	Overland Park	Opening date is not one size fits all. Definitely can be decided locally and effectively. We are ready to open safely!
7/20/2020 23:20:05	carolyne	sramek	none	Louisburg	Children have been home long enough. I am confident that school districts are eager to get back to school using all the necessary precautions per schools district on time in August. One size fits all didnt and wont work. Staff members have been working dilligently to open school on time. It was really tempting to retailate to the Governor once again throwing district staff and undermining The Board of Education for the second time this year but we will just wait for an election.
7/20/2020 23:20:09	Courtney	Cooper	Olathe Public Schools: U	Olathe	Vote YES! We, as teachers, do not get the option to opt-out of in person instruction. As a pregnant teacher, it is vital I feel safe when I return to my classroom to teach and protect my kiddos. The extra few weeks would allow our district to obtain the resources needed to make our buildings safe and ready for the return for both students & staff.

7/20/2020 23:20:27	Jena	Meyer	None	Hiawatha	Please vote against delaying school opening and allow this call to be made on a local level. What is appropriate for one area of KS is not the same for another
7/20/2020 23:20:34	Geoffrey	Burgess		Sterling	The kids need to be back in school asap for their own well being. If the district's are ready let them start on time. If the bigger districts need more time let them have it but don't put all the kids in the state in one basket. LET THE LOCAL DISTRICTS DECIDE.
7/20/2020 23:21:01	Elizabeth	Finley	Parent of a student in 18	Valley Falls	We need the schools to be open and back in session. Our student needs the routine of the school day to keep her mind and body on an even keel. Other students are wasting away and have no motivation to even try. Think how well they will adjust, if at all, when school doors are opened up again. We need to open schools to keep our country strong.
7/20/2020 23:21:02	Teresa	Pendergrass		Towanda	I do not believe school should start until the virus has substantially slowed down. All students and staff lives matter more than learning anything. It's just a matter of weeks that could potentially save many lives. Please set politics aside and put lives first. Teresa Pendergrass "Voter"
7/20/2020 23:21:34	Kayla	Prochnow		Pomona KS	our governor is taking away our childrens safety by implementing masks for all ages, small children in elementary school shouldn't be confined to mask wearing to get an education and delaying schools to open is a ridiculous joke, the first day of school has been set for a year and they've had a very extended summer theres no need to delay their education any further.
7/20/2020 23:21:46	Amanda	Hill		Tecumseh	I'm ok with a 2 week delay so teachers can get all their ducks in a row , but after that our kids need to get into the school.
7/20/2020 23:21:46	Jessica	Dee	Parent/ Elementary Para	Junction City	As a parent, and a para educator, I am very concerned about the rising Covid cases, as well as the lack of clear and consistent plan for how to safely proceed with the year. Following the Governor's plan to delay the start of school will give schools a chance to plan the year better, and also hopefully, allow the virus to die down a bit.
7/20/2020 23:22:00	Elizabeth	DeRoulet	KCKPS	Kansas City	Please support gov. Kelly's order.  I have worked in rural and urban districts in KS and the small towns would be over run with an outbreak. Think of Logan, KS as an example. Rural towns don't have many cases yet because the lifestyle there is very spread out. I feel that the mandate to close schools saved a lot of the smaller towns from being devastated. We can make up for lost time. We cannot resurrect the dead.
7/20/2020 23:22:04	RaeAnna	Rutherford		Coffeyville	I believe delaying ALL SCHOOLS is a NECESSARY thing to protect the entire communities health!!!
7/20/2020 23:22:18	Carolyn	Johnson	Teacher/coach	Gaylord	I agree on the late start. The teacher need time to get programs in place. I am concerned about sports. I love sports as much as others but feel it was be hard to keep everyone safe with volleyball and games. Not sure of what the answer is for this.
7/20/2020 23:22:26	Kimberly	Maley		Stilwell	Please err on the side of caution and keep schools closed until after Labor Day. The safety of our kids is far more important than an arbitrary start date.
7/20/2020 23:22:48	Amber	Cunningham	My school aged children	Dodge City KS	If starting in September means that we have to go into summer, we are against it! These kids have already had so much time off!!! My son has fallen so behind! I will also not be forcing my kids to wear a mask all day! There's no way my son will keep it on with his allergies being so bad and my high schooler won't either! Please take all these things into consideration! I know there are many other families that share my sentiments. Thank you!
7/20/2020 23:22:55	Rebecca	Fernandez	Parent	Mankato, kansas	Please start school...
7/20/2020 23:22:56	Kristan	merz		horton	open school as normal in August!
7/20/2020 23:23:29	Melissa	Alley	Self	Wichita	Please delay the school year.
7/20/2020 23:23:33	Jan	Rudicel		Buhler	Start in person schools. Offer options to those with health risks. Kids learn better when taught in person!
7/20/2020 23:23:43	Jenno	Osburn	Usd 259	Wichita	Keep schools online until the numbers are lower

7/20/2020 23:23:48	Shannon	Callahan	KCKPS	Kansas City	Delaying school will give districts and teachers the time to prepare for whatever type of instruction is the best for the community after Labor Day. Teachers are concerned with how to keep masks on students and social distance in small classrooms with large class sizes. We must be given the time to work together in planning what is best for our schools, in order to be safe for all. We have families to come home to and keep safe just like everyone else. We will be placed in enclosed rooms, with approximately 25+- students, that we pray their parents are being safe and following the social distancing and mask mandates with fidelity. We must have a plan to be prepared and must be given the grace to prepare. We are not daycare and must be respected as others.
7/20/2020 23:24:21	Steven	Watkins	Watkins Realty/First Ins	Hoxie	Would like schools to open on time and have local control. Our county currently has. 0 active cases.
7/20/2020 23:24:25	Lynn	Zimmerman	Parent and a teacher	Hays	I support the Governor's EO for delaying school until after Labor Day. We need the time for our school district to establish protocols in order to insure that our schools are safe for students and staff. Staff needs the time to modify curricula to meet the needs of students, whether they are getting instruction in-person, online, or a type of hybrid format.
7/20/2020 23:24:25	Angie	Jennings	Parent/school volunteer	Maize	For the health and safety of our students, their families, school staff, and their families please comply with our governor's executive order and delay the start of the 20-21 school year. Many express their concern for the mental health of students if they must be out of school any longer. However, I do not believe we can dismiss the extreme distress children will experience if/when parents, grandparents, friends, and beloved school staff become seriously ill and even die. Children are flexible and resilient by nature. We can process these pandemic issues at a later time, but only if students, families, and staff are physically healthy. I plead that you put what is best for students and staff at the top of your priorities, listen to our top medical experts both locally and nationally, and do not allow this to be a decision based on politics. Thank you.
7/20/2020 23:24:45	Karen	Brown		Maize	I disagree with delaying the start of the school year. What will it achieve? Supposing cases aren't lower by then? That's three weeks of schooling children will have missed. Allow school districts to set their own methods of instruction, hopefully most will offer parents the option of in-person schooling for those who want it, or on-line. But delaying all instruction does nothing but deprive kids of an education. School districts have had all summer to work out their plans and get necessary equipment, and I'm sure most have done that. Creating more delay and uncertainty just makes it worse.
7/20/2020 23:24:52	Cara	Santaularia	Self	Shawnee	Schools need more time to figure out the logistics needed to make this school year work. Starting at the initially scheduled date, will be a total mess. I could repeat all the valid arguments to back up this request, but you've been hearing them for weeks. Now you just need to do the right thing!
7/20/2020 23:25:38	Whitney	Larson	Mother	Sharon springs	We are a zero case county and I would love for my 5 and 7 year old kids to attend school mask free. If they are required to wear masks we will be pulling them and homeschooling them unfortunately. Please re consider that western Kansas is much different than eastern right now. Allow our county health department make our choices. Thank you so much

				<p>First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas.</p> <p>Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</li> <li>•No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</li> </ul> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>I am one of the over 6,200 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay.</p>	
7/20/2020 23:25:38	Joy	Modrcin		Olathe	We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know that you
7/20/2020 23:26:00	Taylor	McCluskey		Holton, KS	I understand the teachers saying “they didn’t sign up for a death sentence.” I am a veterinarian in this state and I too did not sign up for a death sentence. However, throughout this whole pandemic I have gone to work and helped Kansas farmers and pet owners. We have kept our doors opened and allowed clients to come in and out of the building, as they don’t want to leave their animals side. We have worked tirelessly throughout all of this, because that’s what our clients expect of us. That’s the oath I took when I decided to become a veterinarian. That I would use my medical knowledge and do what’s right for the animals in their time of need. In the same fashion, I believe that teachers took a similar stance when they agreed to the role of a Kansas educator. Children need normalcy, structure, and relationships with others their age for healthy development. This is not something most working parents are able to achieve for their children. It’s crazy to expect members of our working class to continue to work their jobs, but then also to return home to teach their kids everyday. Especially when educating their kids in a classroom setting is not something they have been equipped or trained to do. The return and reopening of schools is essential for the growth and development of our children.
7/20/2020 23:26:32	Jaime	Rogers	Kansas City Christian S	Overland Park	Please open schools! Or at least exclude private schools that are much smaller in size and don't have the numbers that private schools do.
7/20/2020 23:27:31	Jennifer	Neywick	Cunningham School	Cunningham	you can't put grade school kids in masks for 8 to 9 hours a day. These kids are going to be trading masks multiple times a day spreading more germs then they normally spread. Making them miss more school then normal.

7/20/2020 23:27:48	Jenn	Bycroft		Iola	With the rising cases in Kansas, and the fear that so many of our teachers, our parents in sending our kiddos, and possibly many students afraid of the unknowns - I think it is wise to delay the starting of school until after Labor Day. I am not a fan of my 9, almost 10 year old, wearing a mask all day at school - as parents, we have some big decisions to make concerning this year. With the mask order in place by Governor Kelly, it just makes sense to wait a few more weeks to see what the info and numbers looks like with the covid cases then. Let's give our teachers and admin some more time to adjust to these hard things, and our parents more time to consider what we might do in terms of sending our kids to school, or just teaching them from home. I understand not all cities are the same, our districts are different, and not every town has the same amount of cases, but I care about teachers and their safety and health everywhere, and certainly will put my child first. Her health is top priority. I'm praying for wise decisions to be made. And I do realize that this affects sports and activities. I love sports - my recently graduated senior (finally last week) lost out on her entire senior track season with her coaches and teammates. Her career will continue in college fortunately. She had a teaching internship with first graders. That was one of her most favorite things, probably even over sports. It was heartbreaking when schools closed last Spring. So I get it. We've been there. That was so hard. And my heart goes out to this incoming group of seniors especially. But track won't always be there. Or any other sport or activity. But our friends, our family, our teachers and staff, our kids?? We need them around. Let's keep them safe. Let's keep them healthy. We all need some peace of mind.
7/20/2020 23:27:49	Brooke	Fiocati	My family	Johnson county ks	Thank you!!!
7/20/2020 23:27:56	Aimee	Heinisch		Wamego	We absolutely believe that keeping schools closed until after Labor Day is the right decision.
7/20/2020 23:28:18	Amanda	Porter	My Family	Lenexa Kansas	We are opposed to the Governors order as a whole and believe that our children should be back in the classroom and they're should not be a delay in starting! It is scary to see the control that our Governor is trying to have over the citizens of our State.
7/20/2020 23:28:26	Jessica	Vogt		Eudora	We need to start school ASAP. 3 weeks will not change anything.
7/20/2020 23:28:52	Jody	Bures-Helton	Myself, school psycholo	Wichita	Please reopen schools and allow local districts to determine when school resumes.
7/20/2020 23:28:55	Susan	Vice Bennett		Bucklin	Delay school until after Labor Day please. Thank you!
7/20/2020 23:28:58	Stephanie	Smith	Teacher at KCKPS	Kansas City	I agree with Governor Kelly !
7/20/2020 23:28:58	Lori	Drouhard	Chaparral Schools	Danville	Please support the executive orders.
7/20/2020 23:29:19	Kara	Nelson	Parent/Cheer Coach/Lib	Attica, Kansas	Delaying school for our small town of less than 600, would be awful!! Some of these kids are so ready to get back to school, and learning that school could be delayed has only upset them!! They have been away from structure long enough, and pulling them further away from that is only going to do more harm than good.  I worry about kids that depend on school for happiness, home-cooked meals, and socializing. When all these things are taken away from them, you are messing with their mental health. It's sad to think these kids are going through more than necessary....if this virus was wiping out the state with an 80% death rate, or even 50% for that matter, I could understand shutting things down. But when the death rate is less than 1% of the population of Kansas, this seems unreal to delay school any longer. They have already been stripped away from all kinds of things and events, it is finally time for some normalcy and get these kids back to structure. The headlines are always stating "for the safety of our kids" but really? I think for the safety of the kids, let school start when our district had it set for...they are so ready!
7/20/2020 23:29:20	Laura	McFarren	Derby North Middle Sch	WICHITA (reside) / Der	I'm asking that you consider the delay to the start of school. While I know there are many communities and districts in our state that may not need the delay, in the bigger cities and counties, it's imperative that we allow the mask-order time to lower the cases... AND it gives us (teachers) time to review the state document in order to more effectively implement the recommendations and guidelines. I am supportive of the delay.
7/20/2020 23:29:30	Tracy	Thayer		Merriam	I think the plan is ridiculous. Masks required for students? If I were still a student, I'd rather just stay home. Wearing one shoots my blood pressure through the roof; how do you know this won't happen to students? Are they going to be punished for not wearing?
7/20/2020 23:29:36	A	C	Teacher/parent	Mankato	Please wait to open after Labor Day! We need more time. We have more cases in the past few days. I'm beyond scared to go back to work and to send my children!
7/20/2020 23:29:42	Scott	Snavelly	myself	Spring Hill	Please support the Governor's executive order! Students can go into June and I really don't want my son or myself to bring it home.

7/20/2020 23:30:06	Tim	Vesco		Frontenac	<p>My name is Tim Vesco and I am a fourth grade teacher at Frank Layden Elementary in Frontenac, Kansas.</p> <p>I am writing you to ask that you please support Governor Laura Kelly's executive order and delay the opening of school until September.</p> <p>With the usual August opening of the school year only a few weeks away, there is not adequate time to thoroughly review, debate, and consider the best manner of reopening for each school district based on the recommendations from Navigating Change document. By delaying the start of school, districts will have adequate time to plan and include staff, students, parents, community members, and business leaders in the process. It is imperative we assure our communities we have adequately planned for every possibility and schools will be as safe as can possibly be guaranteed. The whole community must have confidence in the school's ability to open, be safe, and stay open.</p> <p>Not only will this delay allow for effective planning, it will provide the opportunity for districts to provide staff members with appropriate professional development to implement the plan. We must be sure all staff understand the district's reopening plan and what each individual's role in the implementation will be. This will inspire confidence in both the school staff and the parents whose children are in their care. Additionally, smooth implementation assures students that schools are ready for them.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
7/20/2020 23:30:25	Dawn	Dennis		Topeka	I am a science teacher at a private high school and I worry about my health as well as my family's and coworkers. I am ok with waiting until we have a handle on this virus. We need more information and that requires more time. We can wait.
7/20/2020 23:30:52	Cheryl	Duerksen	Stay at home parent	Hillsboro	Please do NOT delay school. 3 wks is crucial time to learn and not waste before fall sickness sets in.

7/20/2020 23:30:52	Shanda	Brown	Kindergarten teacher	Colby	<p>I feel very strongly that we should be in school, in person, full-time. Not online, not hybrid. I have many students that school is their safe place, the only place where they can be clean, be fed, and be shown kindness and love. I have other families who have no ability to take off work and teach their children at home or wait for school to start. We will create bigger problems in the home if we keep parents away from work, limiting what they may be able to provide for their families. We also run a serious risk of increase of abuse of all kinds, whether it be physical, mental, emotional or sexual. All of these aren't as easy to see on a computer screen. The trust it requires for kids to come forward with that information truly can only be gained in person. I strongly suggest we look into some kind of outdoor schooling if we are worried about the spread of the virus.</p> <p>I also strongly disagree with young children wearing a mask. They run a greater risk of infection because they constantly touch their faces, will be licking the mask, or taking it off and putting it down places they shouldn't. The mask will also completely hinder their growth in learning to read and speak properly. Young children need to see how a mouth moves to mimic that to make their sounds correctly, which impacts their reading ability. Taking away that visual will have so many unseen consequences that could affect several generations for the rest of their lives. My daughter is hearing impaired, and when she was in grade school, if others were wearing a mask she would have struggled immensely to learn to speak and read correctly. The visual aspect also comes into play with children seeing our faces and reactions. With a mask, emotion can't be conveyed in a way they can process. They can't see an encouraging smile or the facial expressions of their peers that teach them the proper ways to interact with each other.</p> <p>All of our students in this time of terror have experienced a large amount of trauma. They were ripped from school, told they couldn't see anyone, and kept secluded and expected to learn in a brand new way. Please, I beg you, don't add to this trauma. I spoke to 5 and 6 year olds daily who cried and cried, because they were scared to death and missed everyone and everything. They missed learning so much. They begged to be back in their classroom with people. The loneliness they experienced caused sadness kids that age shouldn't have to experience. Their mental well-being is at risk if you keep them from school, from learning, and from their friends. That isn't just a percentage of the kids, that is all of them. And it's also putting so many others in harms way with no escape from abusive homes, or a home so poverty stricken they rely solely on the school lunch to keep them through the day.</p>
7/20/2020 23:31:17	Darlene	Behnke	USD #350 St. John scho	Stafford	<p>Educators and school staff need support, resources and training to be able to completely reopen schools. I would like to see a hybrid between on-site learning and online learning. I would like to see fewer people are in the school building at a time, lower class size and credit stacking or more project based learning that ties several subjects together.</p> <p>Testing and contact tracing is not robust enough either. I feel that not enough preparation and research was done to be able to start a "normal" school year. We do not understand enough to use best practices.</p> <p>We have only been dealing with this virus a few months. Across the nation and in our start we are seeing a trend of increasing infection rates.</p> <p>Our small towns and school districts do not have the resources or talent to restaff if a lot of educators get sick. Also, in our small towns we have a lot of older folks who still work full time jobs, work on a farm and raise grand children. We can not allow C19 to get a foot hold in our schools.</p> <p>Please help schools, educators and students by giving them the resources and support they need. We need clear direction for the best safe practices. We need the community to pull together to stop the spread and keep C19 out.</p>
7/20/2020 23:31:27	Angel	Fetty		Leoti	I do not agree with masks for our kids!
7/20/2020 23:31:37	Heather	Williams	USD 260	Derby	PLEASE uphold the order to delay school starting until September. Please do not make this a political issue. Please make the safety of staff and students the highest priority!

7/20/2020 23:31:42	Christy	Lemuz	My Children	Larned	I'm concerned with students wearing a mask for 7+ hours 5 days a week. I'm concerned this will cause more touching of the face as they don't properly know how to take on or off a mask without contamination. Most of these children have been practicing sports this summer and hanging out. I would like to see schools and sports resume as normal or maybe give the parents the option of online or in person for nine weeks and then Re evaluate.
7/20/2020 23:32:15	Kristen	Schweitzer		Manhattan	I know you guys have a tough job and won't make everyone happy. Thank you Please do not open schools before Labor Day. Cases are on the rise and this would put all of us at increased risk.
7/20/2020 23:32:16	Julie	Glendening	Parent/Community Mem	Stockton	I would love to have my girls attend in-person school this fall. I understand the health risks and scientific data that lends to the support of children and adults wearing masks in the classroom and school building. What I can't begin to grasp is the thought of my young children (Kindergarten and 3rd grade) having to wear a mask almost continuously for 8 hours per day, 5 days a week and applying hand sanitizer a minimum of once every hour. My thoughts also go to the teachers, staff, and administration who would be responsible for gathering the necessary supplies and enforcing these measures while struggling to meet all the other demands of their job. Our school has been blessed as a Mercury 7 Redesign School so I have no doubt our staff will do their best to try and meet the needs of all students in our district. As a parent, I think this can be done in an alternative manner that would include virtual learning until the immediate concern of COVID-19 has been mitigated. My husband and I are fortunate to have full-time jobs and my employer, the State of Kansas, has provided great flexibility in these uncertain times. I understand not every parent, student, and family situation allows for an alternative learning environment. Their needs and concerns should be considered as well. While there may not be a perfect solution, I hope that each school district will have the ability to determine what is in the best interest of their students, staff, and community and the flexibility to adopt and incorporate measures to protect that interest. Through the great challenges ahead I have faith in our administration and believe Stockton is TIGER ready. Touchstones, Innovative, Grit, Empowered, Relationships
7/20/2020 23:32:34	Jordanne	Tillman		Kansas City, KS	Please don't make our child the canaries in the coal mines. It astonishes me that educators who claim the love and support our children are actively trying to put them in harm's way. My child currently has COVID and I wouldn't wish this on anyone else. Listen to the scientists, not the politicians. You will literally save lives by switching to online classes
7/20/2020 23:33:00	Ashley	Johnson		Humboldt	I'm all for starting school after the Labor Day holiday. I'm NOT for doing hybrid or at home learning. My family lives 4 miles outside of town, and I can NOT for the life of me find an internet provider that can reach my house. We tried like 8 different companies! We must live in a hole surrounded by too many trees. My husband and I both work full time jobs, and when the school was closed in March, it REALLY put a curve into our lives, as well as everyone else's I'm sure! Luckily my children are only 4th and 2nd graders, because it was a struggle coming home from work at 4:30 and getting all of our chores done, dinner done, leaving the house to go hook up to the Wi-Fi in our vehicle because you couldn't go in anywhere, and then getting home at a decent time to get to bed. It was a struggle!! So please, I'm BEGGING, don't MAKE kids do hybrid or at home learning unless that's what a family chooses to do. My family can not emotionally do that much in the evening. My children will fail and HATE school. Right now, they are looking forward to GOING to school. If that means putting a plexi glass between teacher and students and everyone wear a mask, so be it! Kids need other kids....they are sick of their own family! (LOL) God bless you all on one of the toughest decisions you'll have to make in the history of schools..I can't even begin to imagine the stress y'all have going into the school year!
7/20/2020 23:33:25	Erica	Seago	USD 500	Shawnee	Please vote in favor of the order to delay schools!
7/20/2020 23:33:50	Andrea	Aguilera		Wichita	As a mother of four and certified employee of an alternative school in the USD 259, I support Governor Kelly's executive order 100%. The numbers in my area are rapidly increasing and we need to delay the school year to flatten the curve & ensure the safety of the students and staff of our schools! We are still in the midst of a pandemic and need to adopt flexibility in order to meet the challenges this crisis is presenting! I ask that all of you support our courageous Governor who believes in science and cares about the citizens of Kansas! Safety should NOT be a partisan idea and regardless of whether you have an R or a D next to your name, you should vote to support our Governor's delay!



7/20/2020 23:33:53	Sarah	Crumrine	Parent of 3 Kansas students	Sedgwick	Local schools and health departments should be given control. Masks and social distancing and temp checks will be impossible and likely damaging for kids. Each district should have a remote option and also an in person option. I fear for the teenagers' mental health if they are not back with activities and school this fall. I am also a teacher. I'm ready to be back in my classroom. If we need masks to start the year, that's fine. But there needs to be an end in sight. When cases are down, health departments can lessen the restrictions. Social distancing isn't how humans interact and it can't be enforced in schools. This latest mandate has gone too far. I am heartbroken for the kids.
7/20/2020 23:34:00	Jessica	Short	USD 500	Kansas City	Please take the time to think about everything that will need to be in place before we can begin a school year in person. I work in an elementary school where kids spread germs rampantly, as they are learning how to grow. I also have to handle a lot of behaviors, which requires that I'm touching/holding/restraining/standing very close to students. We will need A LOT more time and training to get ourselves prepared for a whole new way of teaching.
7/20/2020 23:34:17	Rebecca	Woolery	My children's education	Ottawa	What sense does it impose to start school late and require the use of face mask as a safety precaution? Yet daycares have been open through this whole COVID-19 event and not one single event has been brought to light of any daycares closing due to any positive tested CHILD or their daycare workers. No mask have been used in these environments and so shouldn't be in any school environment as well. Me as a parent should be more worried about bullies in schools then wether or not my children will pass out and die from carbon dioxide poisoning from wearing a mask or have to worry about long term health effects down the road. Enough is enough!!!! Open up our schools and get rid of this ridiculous order to start late and require face mask in not only schools but public areas as well!!!!!!
7/20/2020 23:34:30	Kelly	Hall	USD 265	Wichita	We need the delay and the masks for safety of children and teachers.
7/20/2020 23:34:52	Alicia	Worthington	Teacher	Cummings	Get us back in school
7/20/2020 23:34:52	Jereny	Stover	Usd415	Hiawatha	With less than 1 half of 1 percent affected and the vast majority of those in 5 large cities in Kansas, it is extremely irresponsible to hold back our children from education knowing there is already alot of catching up from this spring to do. Open the schools and let our fabulous teachers do what they do best.
7/20/2020 23:35:29	Vicki	Steffen	Cunningham and Skylin	Cunningham	Please, do not delay the 20-21 school year. Based on current research, it is not necessary and would be detrimental to students and staff both mentally and educationally. Small schools such as ours, are prepared to start the year with appropriate social distancing, since class sizes are small, and good common sense hand washing and cleaning practices. Please consider not following the Governor's mandate if possible. If not, allow county commissioner's to do so. Thank you for your consideration
7/20/2020 23:36:15	Tamara	Clymer	Myself as a parent	Brewster	Please do not delay the start of school. We still face a second wave of Covid... waiting to start school until September will only mean even less time in the classroom. Many children, including ours, are looking forward to being back in school. There are no reasonable medical reasons for the delay... please allow SOMETHING good to happen for the kids this year.
7/20/2020 23:36:33	Celeste	Goddard	Self	Minneapolis	I do not feel it is in the best interest of our kids and teachers to postpone school. They need to be back to some normalcy!
7/20/2020 23:36:48	Ye	Wang		Overland Park	These executive orders are overreach of executive power. The amount of learning that kids are missing due to daleyng school opening and the months' long close down is devastating to kids. The literature on Spanish flu shows that the only thing that did not recover was education. It was an entire generation's loss. Kids are statistically less likely to get Covid 19. I understand the risk of the other parts of the population, but one essential workers bravely served the communities during the hardest time. Schools should do the same. Also, have we asked our kids? Are their voice heard? My kids told me, no more online learning, and the miss school. Meanwhile, we should also let the schools to decide which health recommends to follow. One-size-fits-all is a formula for disaster for sure. People know what is the best for themselves, not the governor. The right thing for the governor to do is to provide options, not to limit freedom!
7/20/2020 23:37:16	Stacie	Tharp	Public School	Pratt	I'm all for the delay.

7/20/2020 23:37:35	Kristol	Stenstrom	Parent of middle & high	Shawnee, KS (Johnson C	As a medical professional the past 26 years, and being an essential worker since the beginning of this pandemic, kids NEED to attend school to regain the time lost in behavioral, educational, and social development. FACT: children are NOT a source of community transfer; FACT: if PPE works for those of us in healthcare working with ill individuals, then PPE will work for teachers instructing HEALTHY children; FACT: the infection rate of essential workers is very very low (this includes grocery store workers, department store workers, day care facility workers, hospital workers, doctor's office staff, veterinary office doctors and staff, etc. Teachers should be considered ESSENTIAL. Enough is enough.
7/20/2020 23:38:06	Nichole	Milleville	Renwick School District	Wichita	Please don't open schools till after Labor Day for our students and teachers safety. I am a teacher and am horrified to be rushing back to school.
7/20/2020 23:38:15	Scott	Logan		Hutchinson	Please do not allow the governor to shut down all music and athletic programs between August 10 and September 8. This will CRIPPLE music and athletic programs all over the state and will be EXTREMELY harmful and demoralizing to thousands of middle school and high school students. The schools and students who will suffer the most are students in smaller districts where the infection rate is lower anyway. Students in smaller schools already have to fight harder to "keep up" with students in larger schools. This will only widen the gap between larger schools with more money/students/programs/facilities and smaller schools. Closing down athletic and music programs for a month will only add insult to injury for what these students have already lost since last March. Athletics and activities are quite often the only things that keep kids coming to school. Don't rob our students of those opportunities. Don't add to their already compromised social-emotional well-being. Don't allow the governor to inflict pain and harm on our students and our schools' athletics and activities programs. Please fight FOR our students, not against them.
7/20/2020 23:38:19	Raschel	Jolly		Wathena	Keep schools closed Board members,
7/20/2020 23:39:15	Jonathan	Eshnaur	Teacher	Olathe, Kansas	<p>This is a difficult decision that you are facing that was forced upon you. I appreciate the service during this difficult time, in the midst of a pandemic. I think it is important to pause and reflect upon the moment we find ourselves, in the midst of a worldwide pandemic.</p> <p>A major job of any school system is the safety of our students. In the midst of a pandemic, we need a standardized approach to the start of the school year for all Kansas schools. This executive order provides schools with a much-needed gift, the gift of time so that districts have time to fully read the Navigation Change and adjust their plans for re-entry into the school building.</p> <p>In a normal year, time is a very critical resource that we often never have enough of during a non-pandemic year. The gift of time provides school staff to develop safety procedures that we've never had to do before. Time provides us with the ability to make sure that educators have the materials needed in the classroom to keep students safe. Time provides us with the ability to learn new technology tools that we will need to teach students. Time gives us the ability to focus on the hows that are filling our heads at night as we fall asleep.</p> <p>Educators want to return to teach our students. I myself would love to make this pandemic disappear with the wave of a whiteboard eraser. What I've learned over the past few months is that no matter how much wishful thinking I might have, Covid-19 is not going away or getting any better. We cannot ignore hard data facing Kansas.</p> <p>Kansas continues to see high numbers of people infected with Covid-19. This executive order allows the education system the most important gift of all, time to lower the number of infections of Covid-19. Please see the data on this chart that Kansas now has more infections than April or May. <a href="https://covidtracking.com/data/state/kansas">https://covidtracking.com/data/state/kansas</a>. I am fearful that if we do not lower the number of infections now, what will happen after school starts to my students and fellow co-workers. A recent story from a small town in Kansas shows that any Kansas town can become a hotspot. <a href="https://www.kansascity.com/news/coronavirus/article244268532.html?fbclid=IwAR3NdTqDrebMgLO7uEih5fm6MrZn">https://www.kansascity.com/news/coronavirus/article244268532.html?fbclid=IwAR3NdTqDrebMgLO7uEih5fm6MrZn</a></p>
7/20/2020 23:39:32	Barbara	McDonald	Concerned citizen	Salina	Please support Governor Kelly by passing the start date of public schools in Kansas until after Labor day at the earliest.

7/20/2020 23:39:33	Danelle	Johnson	my family	Lindsborg	please get kids back in school with no delay and continue all activities as they have been already doing. Stopping sports and activities for middle and high school kids is beyond confusing to them when they have been preparing for them for 2 months. We are teaching our kids that there isn't logic to what is being decided. They are doing what is asked for them with success. These kids need their activities and their school experiences. Please don't delay in opening schools. Thank you kindly
7/20/2020 23:40:04	Ragena	Duling	Resident of Kansas	Columbus	Please let our children go to school on the original date and please do not require them to wear a mask. This fear has to STOP. Let us make a personal choice for our children and ourselves.
7/20/2020 23:40:08	Deborah	Glenn	None	Overland Park	Please consider facts, medical experts and the KSDH when making your decision. Kids get the virus, kids cannot under any circumstances or at any age be trusted to keep a mask on for an entire day, wash their hands when they should or maintain social distance. This is not about football or falling behind some imagined line of academia, people will die. Go slow. Be safe. Pray.
7/20/2020 23:40:26	Reagan	Proctor		Lawrence	I do believe schools should stay closed until sept 9th and then continue online only until KS can get our cases per day down to 0 for fourteen days. We have no business putting adults and students in classrooms when thousands or hundreds of thousands will die.
7/20/2020 23:40:34	Marc	Anderson	Derby Public Schools	Derby, Kansas	Kansas is a red zone. The majority of the county commissions threw caution to the wind in opening their county after the governor's authority was taken away. The Kansas BOE can make a strong statement to those county commissioners by backing the governor's executive order. All stakeholders in our public schools deserve the opportunity to start this school year in a safer environment. This delay would give the nay sayers a chance to show just how important school and the lives of Kansans are to all of us.
7/20/2020 23:40:38	Ashleigh	Downs	Kansas City Kansas pub	Kansas City	I am beyond delaying schools start virtual and go from there! Funding should not become before our children! Many children have pre-existing conditions! Please consider that and for those families who need school to provide for there family give options that can work with them like small classroom Less than 10 kids ! Teachers report soon and for this to keep getting pushed and is left in the air does not feel like the importance and our safety is really the first mindset of our educational system in Kansas
7/20/2020 23:41:06	Kathy	Hershberger	Self	66618	I am a medical provider and mother who is a life long resident of Kansas. I have done much reading and processing of information and research regarding COVID19. I have been frustrated from a professional standpoint regarding the inflammatory portrayal of COVID19 signs, symptoms and treatments as well as illogical and poor care given to patients during this pandemic. In any given situation, when things are out of control you need to return to the basics. We as medical providers are not grounding ourselves in the basic fundamentals that have been the cornerstone of providing care. Additionally we as Kansans are not grounding ourselves in the basic fundamentals of educating our children which will have rippling consequences for our children and our society long into the future. Different schools, different students, different teachers have unique challenges and unique talents and unique experience. I implore you as members of the state board of education to reject Governor Kelly's current mandate regarding school reopening and leave the decisions to the individual schools and/or districts. Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/20/2020 23:41:08	Kim	Horinek		Goodland	These kids need to get back to school! Get things back to a normal state! No matter if you start now or wait it will still be around! Take precautions and get back to school!!
7/20/2020 23:41:09	Jamie	Tast-Pasley	Topeka public schools u	Topeka	Please no in person school before labor day. Our children are our future and we must protect them.
7/20/2020 23:41:22	Terah	Yoder		Hesston	I fully support Executive Order 20-58. School districts need extra time to finalize details for effectively implementing COVID-19 safety measures. It is vitally important for ALL children and adults to wear face masks to mitigate risk for disease transmission.
7/20/2020 23:41:22	Charlotte	Hagman	My 3rd grade children	Overland Park	Please, please follow Gov. Kelly and do not open the schools prior to September. For the safety of our children, their teachers and the staff I feel that schools should not open during the fall semester.
7/20/2020 23:41:53	LaRae	Schneider	Middle School parent	Concordia	Core classes only and separate kids into 2 groups and do each 2 full days per week.
7/20/2020 23:42:06	Abbi	Markowitz		El Dorado	I believe teachers need adequate time to prepare for this upcoming year. By delaying the start of school for kids I think that gives educators that time necessary to make this year successful.
7/20/2020 23:42:10	Heather	Good	Parent - Shawnee Missio	Overland Park	As a parent to three elementary aged students, one of whom has type-1 diabetes, I strongly support Governor Kelly's executive orders to delay school until after Labor Day. I also strongly support her executive order for requiring masks for all students. Thank you.

7/20/2020 23:42:11	Mason	Bennett		Bucklin	Please delay until Labor Day. Thanks!
7/20/2020 23:42:15	Rachel	Hancock	David Brewer Elementary	Kansas City	I believe we need to delay the start of the 20-21 school year until at least after Labor Day to allow school staff to prepare according to the guidelines set out by the state. I also believe this is in the best interest for the students/staff to allow more time to hopefully flatten the curve and lower local cases. Thank you.
7/20/2020 23:43:01	Chris	Belknap	USD Iola Middle School	Iola	Please support the governor! Giving teachers and school admin 3 weeks to prepare for students is imperative. Everyone is buying hand sanitizer and masks, so just to get those items will take awhile. We also need time to figure out how to reorganize classrooms to keep student desks apart or build partitions on tables. This is all going to take time. Thank you!
7/20/2020 23:43:24	Megan	Trimble	USD 229	Overland Park	Approve Gov. Kelly's EO delaying the start of the academic year until after Labor Day. By approving the EO you are NOT taking away the power of local school boards. Approving the EO empowers local school boards to make decisions based on student/staff health & safety. Shutdowns are inevitable and the risks outweigh the benefits of rushing back into in-person learning this fall. By approving a delayed start we will be setting-up all Kansans for success.
7/20/2020 23:43:35	Pam	Baker		Olathe	I am actually happy with school starting after Labor Day regardless of the pandemic. I think starting in early August is nuts and would love to see the kids go back later and then extend till the end of May.
7/20/2020 23:43:47	Marcy	Bizal	Blue Valley Schools	Overland Park	As a parent and as an employee , I am so grateful for this order, so the districts can try to make the safest and best decision possible. It may look different than any other school year, but considering the fact that we are in the midst of a pandemic, it's to be expected. I am nervous about going back to work with the special education population with whom I work the most.
7/20/2020 23:43:48	Dana	Roemer	aunt who schools her sh	Emporia KS	My cousin says it best - I am "just" a teacher and I will do whatever needs to be done in the best interest of my students. However, please keep in mind that I did not sign up to be a front line worker, which is exactly what you are asking us to do when discussing in person school. We shouldn't be hearing things like "death waiver", personal protective equipment, or normal. Nothing about this school year is going to be normal, but it can be safe. We should be making the decisions about In person school based on scientific facts, not political or economical beliefs and wishes. Science doesn't yet know the extent to which kids can contract, carry, or transmit the virus. Science doesn't yet know the long term effects of contracting this virus. Science doesn't yet know who will or will not be effected and to what extremity that person could develop symptoms. There are a lot of people that we are putting at risk when we discuss in person school. Instead, let's uphold Governor Kelly's order to postpone school and give educators the chance to plan effective distance learning that ensures the safety of everyone involved.
7/20/2020 23:44:06	marybel	castilleja		Satanta	I know that these orders are placed for our safety. But I don't believe masks really help anything I have 2 kids with asthma and this is not going to work for them. Something also about breathing your own carbon monoxide can not be healthy. I believe it would be best to cancel the rest of the school year. Flu season is coming up and it's only going to get worse 🙄🙄
7/20/2020 23:44:10	Julie	Davis	Self/grandchildren	Olathe ks	Plz do not Re-open schools. Children will learn more virtually rather than trying to learn under the stress of in person education. It is our duty to protect the children and their families from the spread of this disease by returning to school. The generalized anxiety disorders that the younger generation will develop due to the stress of what they will experience is not healthy. The economic toll of businesses having to either shut down again or people not having confidence to be out again due to the increased spread sending children back to school will cause. The benefits do not outweigh the risk. Keep children safe at home to learn. Keep teachers safe by teaching virtually. This has been proven in other states and countries. Long term damage by this disease has not even been determined yet.
7/20/2020 23:44:18	Rosella	Madere	My family	Hiawatha	We need to wait until at least after Labor Day to start school. We need to do what the governor says she has the kids best interests at heart.
7/20/2020 23:44:28	Mandi	Miller		Brewster	My kids go to colby middle and grade school. They need things to be normal again. Dont postpone school any longer.
7/20/2020 23:44:57	Jaylyn	Davis		Columbus	I don't feel as if we should delay school starting. It's only going to push back the timing on everything and it's not going to be gone in 3 weeks. Sorry. :)

7/20/2020 23:45:10	Margaret	Leigh		Olathe	I am in favor of keeping schools closed until after Labor Day and until our numbers have been declining for 14 days. I have lost 3 friends to COVID. My son's best friend is 11 & is very sick with COVID right now, as are his parents. Covid is a very real threat in Johnson Country. We had to shut down our summer camp due to COVID, and I understand there Jewish Community Center in Overland Park had to close their camps last week, too. When schools open, it won't be long before we are sending entire classes home to quarantine. If a teacher gets Covid, will every teacher who was in the teacher's lounge at the same time or in the office at the same time quarantine? Please let the numbers decline significantly before opening. There are scientific facts for how an epidemic should be handled. As educators, we can't turn our backs on knowledge. It isn't easy, but we know what we have to do. Wait for the downward trend before we open schools. If you're still undecided, I would love to introduce you to my nurse practitioner friend who is working a pediatric COVID ICU. Her entire floor in the hospital was converted for kids in ICU with COVID. She said less kids are hospitalized than adults, but that the ones who are hospitalized get every bit as sick as the adults. My friends has pediatric patients on ventilators. She's in PA, but KS could be next. You have the power to keep kids and teachers safe. KS is trusting you. Science supports you.
7/20/2020 23:45:23	Nicholas	Green	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita	No in-person learning for the first semester.
7/20/2020 23:45:49	Holly	S		Overland Park	Governor Kelly continues to ignore the advice of experts, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, who are saying that kids need in-person learning to thrive. Please follow the experts and not the political pressure. Let our schools re-open without a delay. Let our kids learn again, grow again, and thrive. The sooner, the better. On a related note, daycares have been functioning much like normal throughout this pandemic without significant issues, the school should be no different. Also, please do everything you can to follow the expert advice to let children under 12 years old NOT wear masks to school. As the Board of Education's report Navigating Change said in Appendix C, pages 8-9, masks are not effective for this young age group as the masks will serve as a distraction from learning, cause the kids will touch their faces more, and the benefit from wearing masks at such age is low as they have been shown not to be "super spreaders" of the virus. If you haven't personally tried to keep a mask on a 6 year old, I would ask you to try it before acquiescing to the governor's unworkable order. Thank you for your time and service.
7/20/2020 23:46:25	Katie	Stout		Derby	I know my opinion really doesn't matter, but I will share it anyway. I am filled with anxiety with the thought of being forced to make a decision that could impact my children's health. Opening schools for in person instruction with our current infection rate is irresponsible. I fully support the delay. Hopefully this will give time for the new mask mandates to start impacting our infection rates and those will begin to lower. Our children are not political pawns. This isn't a Republican vs Democrat decision. Look at the science. I find it funny that all these adults making the decision to open schools are doing so on Zoom meetings from the safety and comfort of their own homes. If it isn't safe for them together for a 2 hour meeting, how am I to feel ok about sending my child to a building with 600+'kids for 6 hours a day? Please support the governor's executive order.
7/20/2020 23:46:31	Katen	Bannister	Retired central admin O	Gardner	I support the governor's order to postpone KS schools start date to after Labor Day. School personal need extra time to prepare for the year knowing, likely both online and in person instruction will be offered. Please keep foremost on your minds the mental wellbeing and health risks of the people you are asking to do this work. Delaying the opening of schools while Covid 19 cases have increased is in the best interest of staff and students, as it will hopefully, limit the number of times schools have to start and stop in-person instruction. Please do not make this a political issue!!!! I have 2 grandchildren who are abnormally susceptible to the virus! Thank you very much for hearing our concerns.
7/20/2020 23:46:36	Kevin	Dority		Salina	Do NOT make kids wear mask!
7/20/2020 23:46:46	Robert	Farris		Overland Park	If a decision is made to not allow schools to open after Labor Day, as a teacher, I request that we be considered essential personnel. This would allow us access to needed resources, technology, and pieces of equipment that don't have at home. If all the teachers are in their rooms, we are physically distant from each other, which will reduce the possibility of spreading the virus. If a teacher does not want to work from school, he or she could stay home.
7/20/2020 23:46:49	Chad	Weinand		Olathe	As a parent of two kids in public schools and spouse of a teacher in Public schools, I support the delay of the school year until after Labor Day. If COVID trends continue as they are currently, I'd support a further delay. The safety of our kids and teachers should not be jeopardized.

7/20/2020 23:46:58	Melissa	Bigge		Stockton	When school was called off for the remainder of the year back in March, I felt like it was a little over the top. However, when the governor announced last week that school would be delayed until after Labor Day, I felt a great sense of relief. As things have opened up and cases of Covid have increased, I have felt anxious about sending my child back to school until numbers are under control. I feel like the delay gives some time to have more answer of the direction of spread and if more caution needs to be taken. Also, I know the importance of kids being in school, especially those who aren't safe at home and those who have working parents. It is important for kids to be able to socialize with their peers too. When I read the regulations of desks all facing the same direction and being six feet apart and everyone wearing masks, I have great concern that we are taking the social aspect away from school and going back to the model of the past that the Kansas Redesign is trying to get away from. I feel like it is moving in the direction of the teacher lecturing while students sit in rows and stare at the teacher. At this point, I feel like we are losing the social interaction that is a driving factor in going back to school. It is my hope that the State Board of Education will vote to uphold the Executive Order delaying the start of school until after Labor Day and in the future even longer if necessary.
7/20/2020 23:47:28	Kevin	Edmonson		Overland Park	As a nurse, I fully support Gov. Kelly's EO.
7/20/2020 23:47:47	Desirae	Kessler		St. John	I would not like school delayed.
7/20/2020 23:47:53	Latanisha	McGuire		Wichita	It is not safe to begin school on site. I support the governor's executive order. When cases decrease then we can open up safely.
7/20/2020 23:48:04	Stacey	Coad	OSD teacher	Lenexa	Please keep our schools open and allow athletes to participate in sports! If parents choose they can have their child enroll in the online option. Thank you!
7/20/2020 23:48:07	Caitlin	Naylor	I am a teacher in a school	Kechi	I am urging you to please approve the Executive Order. My district only just began the initial phase to plan for instruction. Instead of starting to plan in June, my district waited until the KSDE recommendations were approved. Our first district meeting about reopening our district was on July 20th. As a teacher, I feel districts need more time to not only plan, but to also see if cases can begin to decrease. Also, as a teacher, it is not my responsibility to keep the economy open. My job is to love and teach my students. I cannot do that if I am sick or dead because local agencies do not take this pandemic seriously. I firmly believe that lives are at stake, and even 1 death of a child, teacher or family member that can be traced to a school is completely unacceptable. I strongly urge you to think of the best interest of the people in Kansas and to please approve the EO. Thank you for taking this huge task on.
7/20/2020 23:48:10	Suzanne	McDonald		Lenexa	I agree with delaying the start of the school year until after Labor Day. I'm hoping with the extra time, efficient plans and procedures can be implemented and more options can be made available to try to open as safely as possible. I would love for my kids to be able to go back to their schools but I do not feel it would be safe right now.
7/20/2020 23:48:35	Barbara	Head		Coffeyville, ks	Let school start in August
7/20/2020 23:48:38	Stephanie	Conner		Paola	I would like to see the executive order stay in place. Teachers need the time to be able to get school ready for students and right now they don't have that time. This will be of great benefit to everyone in the long run.
7/20/2020 23:48:39	Beth	Krum	USD 233	Olathe	Please do what is best for our state by voting yes to support Kelly's EO to delay the start of school. Allow teachers the time needed to get trained and adjusted. It doesn't make sense to start school when we are in the worst position we have been in since this pandemic started. Lives are depending on our leaders to do the right thing.
7/20/2020 23:48:56	Zachary	Shoemaker	Teacher	Eudora	Please delay the reopening of our schools by supporting the advice from governor Kelly. Please encourage our schools to start with remote learning. We have to keep each other safe.
7/20/2020 23:48:56	Jamie	Edwards		Topeka	Close the schools
7/20/2020 23:49:04	Brittney	Menges		Salina	As a teacher, I think delaying the start of school will be very effective. It will give teachers time to plan and make sure safety measures are taken without being rushed into anything. This will ensure the most safety for our students.
7/20/2020 23:49:33	Stacey	Coad	OSD teacher	Lenexa	Please keep our schools open and allow athletes to participate in sports! If parents choose they can have their child enroll in the online option. Thank you!

					<p>Please support Gov. Kelly's plan to postpone the opening of school.</p> <p>I offer a perspective some may not have considered.</p> <p>As a (newly pregnant, high risk pregnancy) elementary music teacher, I fear for my own health as well as the health of my unborn child. I also worry about my fellow staff members and most importantly, my students and their families/community.</p> <p>I personally see about 500 students twice a week for 30 minutes at a time.</p> <p>Even following socially responsible protocols, my risk of being exposed to and then transmitting COVID-19 is exponentially higher than many other staff members.</p> <p>There are many of us who could be infected with the virus and be completely fine, but there are dozens (possibly hundreds) of others who are either higher risk or would be in contact with someone who is high risk who could die.</p> <p>We have to consider community spread and our responsibility to protect each other.</p> <p>We also do not know the long term affects of this virus, so even if someone doesn't die, they could still have detrimental long term affects.</p> <p>Any life lost is one too many. We cannot risk that.</p> <p>From the beginning, we have been told that large gatherings were the quickest way to spread this virus. Because of this we CANNOT allow students and staff to convene for 5 days a week, 8 hours at a time while the case numbers are higher than they have ever been.</p> <p>There are many other things I am concerned about, here a just a couple of my main concerns.</p> <p>1) substitute teachers. If a staff member gets sick in any way, we'll need to take time off work. There is already a sub shortage for many districts, this will only get worse. And many substitute teachers serve multiple schools, how would they continue to do that? We would have even less substitutes available. In the past if we haven't had a substitute available, we've "simply" combined classes, how can we do that and stay socially distant?</p> <p>2) if a teacher is tested positive, everyone they come into contact with would need to isolate/quarantine. As the music</p>
7/20/2020 23:49:53	Bernadette	Ferraro		Kansas City, Kansas	
7/20/2020 23:50:30	Pam	McCoy Greene	Shawnee County Democ	Topeka	<p>Thank you Governor Kelly, for taking a stand to protect all Kansans. I realize you have the Republicans nipping at your heels continuously and I admire your strength and determination.</p> <p>I have four generations residing here and my son is in Tempe AZ. I worry daily for their health like many families. You are saving lives, I wish those in government would step back and let you pave the way to a better future for us all. High praise to you.</p>
7/20/2020 23:51:21	Lori	Klein	Silver Lake Schools	Silver Lake	<p>Start school. 99 percent survival rate, we live in rural Kansas. We are not New York. No masks, they don't stop viruses.</p>
7/20/2020 23:51:30	Angie	Draney	USD260	Derby	<p>Please value public health over politics. Uphold the Governor's order and support the delay of KS schools opening.</p>
7/20/2020 23:51:45	Halli	Linkn	USD 352	Goodland	<p>I think our districts should be able to do what is best for our students! One size does not fit all of Kansas!</p>
7/20/2020 23:52:05	Evangeline	Hart		Fort Scott	<p>The high school students who are reluctant learner's which seems to be most of them, failed to do any work following the shut down in March. This will further delay their learning. We know students lose a significant amount of what they have learned in a school year just over summer break and this will be double that time. They need to be in a learning environment not turned loose on the streets or in a restrictive or abusive one.</p>
7/20/2020 23:52:18	Rachel	Johnson	Parent	Wichita	<p>Support following CDC guidelines, schools should not reopen for on site classes until the guidelines set by health professionals can be met. This includes delay and use of remote learning as new information and guidelines evolve. Students and staff should have the support of leadership that is not being pulled by forces other than medical guidelines with the top priority being safety. Furthermore, resources for staff should be a secondary priority to ensure safety measures can truly be met.</p>
7/20/2020 23:52:28	Jacob	Will	Parent	Leavenworth	<p>Schools should open on time without any screenings or mask wearing.</p>

7/20/2020 23:52:34	Colleen	Cunningham	none	Overland Park	I support delaying the start of the school year. A delay gives the general population additional time to flatten the curve so there is less community spread, as well as giving school districts and families a bit of wiggle room to figure out how this will all work for them. We are in an unprecedented situation, and it's okay--even wise-- to move with caution.
7/20/2020 23:52:47	Danielle	Holtzman	St. Catherine of Siena C	Wichita	I believe schools should DELAY until after Labor Day in order to ensure that schools have appropriate plans in place to keep students distancing, implement online programming if needed, and finalize sanitation plans.
7/20/2020 23:52:53	Danita	Long	Kckps	Lawrence, ks	I support Gov Kelly's EO
7/20/2020 23:52:56	Jeanneyy	Valdovinos		Liberal	Please think about the safety of students, staff, and families and pass EO to delay school made by Governor Kelley.
7/20/2020 23:53:19	Ashley	Petty		Protection	Open schools at their original start dates!!
7/20/2020 23:54:49	Melissa	Dunn		Topeka	I stand with science, safety, & Governor Kelly. Going back to school while numbers spike is so incredibly foolish I can't believe it's even being debated.
7/20/2020 23:54:50	April	Hoffman	Kckps teachers	Lenexa	PLEASE uphold the Governor's executive order! It truly is the right thing to do!
7/20/2020 23:55:10	Veronica	García	Self	Scott city	How do we make it a law for the little kids to keep their masks on! Not all kids are ready for the change in their lives. So my point is how do make it a rule for the little kids that are barely going to start school ( one change) wear masks ( second change) the whole school year
7/20/2020 23:55:16	Aubrey	Deegan		Overland Park	Yes delay
7/20/2020 23:55:33	Justin	Rugg		Greensburg	The delay in starting school should not be based on big city numbers of covid. Where we live we have almost no cases and not one K-12 student has been diagnosed. Why should our kids be punished because of some big city spike of Covid? This needs to be looked at district by district. Not city by city or town by town. For the most part, western Kansas has different needs then let's say Wichita or Kansas City. You can not base delaying schools just because some cities show a spike. It's not our Childrens fault that the big cities have this going on. Please we pray that you override the Gov and let school start on time so that the students get the education they need!!
7/20/2020 23:55:38	Rachel	Swearengin		Olathe	Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send students and staff safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time. Please do not approve the governor's executive order. Leave this decision up to each school district.
7/20/2020 23:55:47	Gwen	Jenner		Goodland	Delay school until after labor day
7/20/2020 23:56:39	Nathan	Shaw	Parent	Maize	Don't delay school openings. Kids need school and they're not at risk of Covid



7/20/2020 23:56:50	Lauren	Wohlford	Teacher	Olathe, KS	<p>Good evening,</p> <p>My name is Lauren wohlford. In full disclosure, I'm an elementary school teacher but I'm so much more than a teacher. I'm a mom, wife, friend, sister, daughter, etc and all these people NEED me. I'm honestly terrified to go back to school.</p> <p>We learn more conflicting information about COVID 19 daily. Because of this, I absolutely do not feel safe in a poorly ventilated classroom amongst 20+ third graders.</p> <p>I have a two year old with severe asthma, a four year old with periodic high grade fevers. I am terrified to bring covid home to either of them. I watched one of my daughters sit lifeless at children's mercy at 2 weeks old. She stayed for a week fighting RSV/Bronchiolitis. I am terrified to be put back in this situation where I sit helplessly watching my child struggling to breathe and unable to eat in a hospital.</p> <p>As a parent, I understand the frustration and anger. I would be lying if I said I wasn't disappointed to hear that my daughters preschool had been cancelled for the 2020-2021 school year. Despite my disappointment, I understand the reasoning behind it and I stand behind the preschools decision. While I fully want my child to have the social interaction and academic support, I would be devastated if her school had a single death due to the risk we put on students and staff.</p> <p>Please, I beg of you, please vote to uphold Governor Kelly's executive order to start schools after Labor Day. This will allow teachers and districts the time needed to fully implement the new education plan. It will also give our community time to social distance in order to bring our case numbers down.</p> <p>Thank you for considering, Lauren Wohlford</p>
7/20/2020 23:57:42	Allison	Swilley	Circle, USD 375	Towanda	<p>As a first grade teacher and parent of three elementary age children, I am so thankful for Governor Kelly's plan to push back the start of school. Our district will not complete our official plan until approximately July 30th. My report date is August 7th. That would only give us one week (that is supposed to be our last week of summer with our families) to frantically plan and gather the proper protective equipment. Please consider accepting her proposal for the safety and well-being of the students and adults working in my building, and all other buildings across the state. Thank you!</p>
7/20/2020 23:57:59	Dana	Collins	Kckps parents	Kansas city	<p>Please think about everyone involved before make a choice. Think about the grandparents who take care of their grandkids and more. We need to protect the teachers and students. Would you send your grandparents into a school for 8+ hours a day during this. If not why would we send our kids and teachers. They released prisoners to make room to avoid Covid. So why send our kids and teachers. Delay school reopening until number drop. We closed in march to keep everyone safe when numbers where at there lowest. Why would we send everyone back when they are at there highest.</p>
7/20/2020 23:58:42	Melissa	Fullen		Salina	<p>I agree with Governor Kelly and school should be started in September after Labor Day to hopefully give a little more time for things to slow down with this virus and also to allow schools to be more prepared. I think most kids want to get back to school the sooner the better but I also think the truancy laws are going to have to be relaxed so if there is a question a parent isn't in trouble for keeping a sick kid home. If kids are coughing and sneezing I don't want them in school or any other symptom where they could be rapidly spreading the virus. I hate the idea of them wearing masks all day with asthma and other health concerns I am worried and maybe giving another month can help parents feel better about sending them back to school. I am so torn on whether to send my son on site or to do online and I need more time to ride out this second round of cases and hopefully feel more confident in my decision.</p>

7/20/2020 23:59:11	Treva	Prieb		Canton	School needs to open as planned for the mental health of our children. Sports need to be played & we need to resume our lives. If people do not want to send their children, that is their choice. Please... let them have their lives back!
7/20/2020 23:59:35	Rebecca	Mulanax		Paxico	Open schools with restrictions and alternate options for those who are uncomfortable sending their children, or with immunocompromised children. Keeping schools closed will negatively impact children's education and mental health. Keeping schools closed will devastate our economy for many years to come. Colleges will likely close as well, furthering the devastation. Alcohol use, illicit drug use, and unwanted pregnancies will likely increase due to children being left home alone. Most parents are unable to teach their children while working full time jobs. Young children will stay home alone because their parents cannot afford daycare or the daycares are already at full capacity. Too many children will suffer silently because there will be no one to see the bruises or their lack of nutrition. What percentage of students completed their online school work? What is the difference of 50 children in a daycare center that do not wear masks, touch their face constantly, share toys, put those toys in their mouth, and have contact with all of the daycare providers, than kids who can wear masks, and can wash their hands effectively? Why can children go to pools and play at parks with other kids but recess is a concern? Children need interaction with other children to fully develop their brains. If you choose to keep schools closed, you will find in years to come that you deprived them of so many things that you will not be able to undo.
7/20/2020 23:59:44	Gerie	Byrum	Parent	Wichita	Please follow the Governors mandates & give schools more time to plan how they are going to handle schools opening. They are under so much pressure. I don't envy the decision makers in this situation.
7/20/2020 23:59:54	Rachelle	Menard		McPherson	No, schools should NOT be delayed. We must learn to live with a virus that isn't going to magically disappear sept 8th when the Governor says schools May open. Also, a one-size-fits-all approach doesn't make any sense. Counties with minimal ACTIVE cases should not have to adhere to the same rules as counties with many ACTIVE cases. The size of districts also plays a factor as there is a wide range across the state. Let individual school boards do what is best for their county and cities. Kids need to get back in to the classroom!!
7/21/2020 0:00:12	Judith	Hernandez	Substitute Blue Valley,	Olathe	Thank you for reading this. I would not want to have to be in your position to make such an important, potentially live altering decision. I am writing to simply give my thoughts on this situation. I haven't worked since March, I need to work, but I am also willing to continue to wait in order for it to be safe for all teachers, children, and staff to return. I have read lots of scientific literature on this virus and although I understand that children are not in a high risk group, teachers, bus drivers, paras, staff, and family members could be. I'm very concerned that children could carry this virus home or could bring it from home to school infecting those they care the most about. I'm concerned for the students as they may lose friends, teachers, or family to this virus. Many children live in multi-generational families that are at high risk. They could lose their loved ones needlessly and I cannot imagine the guilt they would carry for life if that were to happen. I understand that children need to be back at school but not at the cost of their lives or the lives of those in the schools or their families. Until this virus is under control, the risk is just too high. Other countries that have opened successfully did so when numbers were negligible and they had stringent plans in place to protect their students. That is not possible with the current rising numbers in this country and class sizes In our schools. I'm honestly dumbfounded that we have to even have this conversation. That Governors in some states have acknowledged children may die, but we must open. The death of one child is too many. Could you go into a school and pick out a few children to die out of each school? If you cannot then this is the wrong time to open because that is essentially what you are doing. You may never know if staying closed was the right or wrong thing to do, but if you open and children, staff, and families begin to die you will surely have your answer. Can you live with that? Please, for the lives of our children, staff, and families wait to open until it is safe.

7/21/2020 0:00:26	Cheryl	Sostarich		Kansas City	I support Governor Kelly's delaying the opening of schools. The Governor helped to keep the numbers low because of her decision in March. We are seeing an increase of cases in Wyandotte County. The highest since the beginning of the pandemic. It would be irresponsible to have in person classes. You would be putting the health of myself, my family, my students and their families at risk. In my classroom at the beginning of the pandemic I had 2 students who lost relatives to this virus. One was an uncle and the other their father. It is real and can be deadly. Now there is an increase in the number of younger people being affected. I would love to go back to school. As a teacher I truly missed my students. I missed the connections we had. As a teacher it was very difficult to not be in the classroom with my kids. But I knew it was the best thing for everyone! Put politics aside and protect all of us!
7/21/2020 0:01:09	Amanda	Smith		Olathe, 66062	Schools need to stay closed. There are a high number of cases of Covid in the metro area, and we haven't had time or enough closure to take care of the rise in cases by the time school will start. Starting now is dangerous.
7/21/2020 0:01:16	Annette	Bradbury	USD 233	Olathe	Please allow this delay AND help encourage citizens to stop the spread. I know this is not a one-size-fits-all situation, but across the state, this short delay could save lives.
7/21/2020 0:01:27	Shalan	Field		Wichita	It is a joke and a disgrace to our kids that school is pushed back another 3 weeks. 9f its that bad...start it up remotely? My children already lost out on 9 weeks of education last year. One of my children is on an IEP and lost out on 1 hour a day of her gifted services. I am at a total loss as to what Usd 259 has done the past 5 months...but collect a paycheck. 259 has failed the students this past year. I understand that not all students have the means or technology to remotely learn...but my children did and the only thing they were offered was a packet sent in the mail every week. I look at all the other districts and businesses scramble something together to get the job done. You are telling me that a teacher did not have the means nor technology to offer something to the kids that had that same ability as they are still getting paid for 8 hours a day of work. You are telling me that the librarian, the gym teacher, the music teachers, the school social worker nor the art teacher could send out an email for a zoom meeting and have kids remotely be apart of something kind of normal...even just one hour once a week? If for even a minute anyone in the education or political field feels that a child's education is not essential then they need to find another profession. Our children deserve better than this. Quit playing games with people lives and do the right thing. Let the kids and teachers that want be in the building be there! After all we live in America don't we.

					<p>I truly support the Governor's delayed start mandate and respectfully ask you to uphold it.</p> <p>Our schools need to prepare for the Department of Education guidelines that were released last week. Please give staff time to truly understand the considerations for this upcoming school year, to obtain the needed protective and sanitation supplies, and give our community time to try to turn the curve back around. As school ended in May, Kansans had done an admirable job of flattening our COVID curve. We all expected to return to a healthier situation this fall than is actually happening. And now, they must navigate this pandemic with a few long-standing realities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Our schools rely heavily on parents to send in hand sanitizer &amp; disinfecting wipes? These items have been exceptionally difficult for families to purchase since early March. Schools will now have to find robust disinfecting and sanitation supplies in a tight market. I know my family does not have enough extra to send to the school right now - I was able to find ONE package of disinfectant wipes last month for the first time, and haven't found any since. I would normally send an additional \$50 worth of sanitation supplies to our school midyear but doubt I will be able to this year. We can't ask parents to carry that burden any longer, and we can't let schools whose families can't afford to send extra cleaning supplies in go without. This needs to be a permanent funding shift.</li> <li>2. Do you realize how many students arrive at school with medication on board to hide fevers? I've lost track of how many times one of my kids has reported a classmate arrived and disclosed they have been vomiting all night. Families send their kids to school sick. This is the sad truth, but now in the midst of this pandemic, the illness families may be hiding carries a real threat of dire consequences for our staff and fellow students.</li> <li>3. Kansans are still gathering in large groups, not wearing masks, not distancing, returning from quarantine states and hiding where they had been, or flat out refusing to quarantine. Testing is taking 10+ days to get back - including for symptomatic pediatric cases. How will schools manage containment when it takes a week and a half or two to even begin contact tracing? Our testing system needs time to improve.</li> </ol>
7/21/2020 0:01:29	Carrie	Humiston	Parent, Blue Valley 1st	Overland Park	Please, give the schools these extra weeks to manage all of this, and be willing to encourage our legislators to revise
7/21/2020 0:02:17	Michele	Friesen	Teachers	SpringHill Kansas	Please give us time to open safely! Please delay opening
7/21/2020 0:02:43	Rachel	Gayley		Salina, KS	Please approve starting school after Labor Day. Doing so would allow schools be better prepared and allow for a safer environment. Given how much The numbers of positive cases have risen in recent weeks, it doesn't seem safe for teachers and support staff, nor for families at home, to have children attend school in person any times soon. Hopefully mask mandates will allow those numbers to decrease in coming weeks. Our children and the adults that work with them should not be guinea pigs in a situation where there are so many unknowns, particularly in regards to long term health risks and issues that may arrive from COVID-19. Thank you for your time and attention.
7/21/2020 0:02:52	Kelly	Oaks	Horton schools	Horton	I believe school should start as normal without masks. Sanitizing and good hygiene is understandable and should be done but the masks for children is absolutely not what's in their best interest and the kids are the priority. The majority of them will not be able to focus let alone function with them on.
7/21/2020 0:03:21	Tim	Hoffman	USD 204	Lawrence	Vote to uphold the EO. I've seen first hand the impact COVID has when my spouse (also a teacher) was hospitalized for a week in Lawrence Memorial Hospital ICU. She tested positive for COVID and needed supplemental oxygen in order to stay conscious. Although home now, she is still struggling to regain normal lung function. Do not rush other people into the same situation by forcing teachers and students back to schools that haven't been able to prepare to keep them safe.
7/21/2020 0:03:39	Kathy	Beach	Teacher SKACD 613 w	Dodge City	We need to wait to start school after Labor day. Time to get a good plan in place and hopefully bring down spread.
7/21/2020 0:03:48	Lauren	Turner	USD 305	Salina	Please allow this later start date. I'm a teacher and single mother and we need this time to be fully prepared to allow children back into the school setting. I worry about everyone's well being. We must have the supplies needed and if we start at regular time then we won't have the plans and supplies needed to protect everyone. This in return would cause more illness.

					<p>The activities around schools are critical for the proper development of young men and women. These students will grow through the activities. It will help them gain a stronger sense of working to a common goal. They will learn even more about how to succeed with the adversity. They have put in the work and they have listened to the science. Participating in these activities always involves a component of risk. Allowing the to participate now will help them learn more ways of mitigating the risk while continuing to accomplish the tasks at hand.</p> <p>Athletics will bring out leaders who help the others do their part. It will help many face up to their fears of the real world so that they are better prepared for life.</p> <p>These students must be allowed to perform to be a part of the community and their teams. The community needs these students to be out there as they cheer them on while practicing the social distancing.</p> <p>Taking more things now is a higher risk than the disease itself. It would be robbing them of both the present and the future.</p> <p>When we asked our young men and women in years past to prepare to go off to battle at 16,17 and 18 years old they rose to the challenge of those deadly plagues of war. These young men and women need to be able to rise up and face what is out there. The parents know there is a risk. The students know there is a risk as do all the fans. But any activity contains a certain amount of risk. We are ready to face that risk. And we also know that part of taking to risk means we are also going to help protect the vulnerable while we are still living the life we are meant to live.</p> <p>There are many dangerous things in the world and we don't cower away. We find solutions and we work the problem but ultimately the only way to move is to move forward. These students must play the game.</p>
7/21/2020 0:04:21	Chuck	Peters		Lindsborg	
7/21/2020 0:05:30	Lexi	Denn	USD 305	Salina	After Labor Day or until numbers drop.
					<p>I write today to request your approval of Governor Kelly's Executive Order to delay the first day of school until after September 9. I have been working closely as a parent representative with USD 500 and strongly believe there is just too much that needs to be done to keep our staff, students, and families safe.</p> <p>As someone who works in pediatrics, I understand there are fewer risks of student to student transmission of Covid-19, but I can also tell you the research is ever changing and limited. What we thought we knew last month about this virus has changed, and the risk of sending our children and educators is far too great.</p> <p>Give it time. Time for more research. Time for more thorough plans. Time for our communities to work together and support working families.</p>
7/21/2020 0:06:34	Lisa	Hamrick	Frank Rushton Elementa	Kansas City	Vote to delay the start of school.

7/21/2020 0:06:55	Angela	Combed	Emporia	<p>My name is Angela Combes and I am a special education teacher and a single parent of a soon to be first, third, and sixth grader here in Emporia. I wanted to take a moment to let you know that this is my 15th year of teaching and as a teacher and parent, this year I am filled with more anxiety and now fear than ever before. A sigh of relief came when Governor Kelly made the announcement to delay schools because I am confident that the added time will allow my district, as well as the Flint Hills Special Education Cooperative, time to construct well-thought-out reopening procedures and protocols.</p> <p>The beginning of the school year is always a whirl wind of activity and the delay will provide extra time for professional development around safety measures and remote learning. As a special education teacher I am responsible for a two hour teacher orientation for my para professionals to kick off the school year. How can I orient them through this uncharted territory when I am struggling to navigate it myself. How can I train them on how to be safe in a classroom, when I don't know myself. How do I keep my students with high needs safe but still adhere to social distancing and health protocols?</p> <p>This summer has not been an enjoyable one because the unknown is scary. How do I meet the needs of my family? My middle child is scared that he will get COVID at school and die, how do I comfort him that he is safe, when I don't know that he is. I LOVE teaching but this year I feel torn between being an advocate for my personal children and a career that I take great pride in.</p> <p>I am not confident in how to keep my children, my students, my paras, nor myself safe. To teach special education you have to have a lot of patience and understanding and that is what we teachers need. Please allow us time to look through the Navigating Change document and decide how to best meet the needs of our students and staff.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
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					<p>I am writing to you to ask you to not make a blanket state wide decision on if schools should open on the normal scheduled day. This is a decision that local school boards should make, and after reading the draft plan released the other day, I thought that that was the plan, to let local representatives make decisions for their schools. The governor's announcement that school will be postponed until after Labor Day is disheartening and frankly the wrong decisions for our local school districts. As an example of how the more rural schools are not a consideration when making these plans, please refer to your own comment request form I am filling out now. We do not reside in a city. However, your form assumed that everyone that will be impacted by this decision lived in a city. We rural patrons, once again, have been forgotten.</p> <p>Please understand I am not saying that when there is an outbreak of COVID in the local area that schools should ignore it. However, I am saying that there should at least be an outbreak within the vicinity before going to that measure. For many of the counties in Western Kansas, there are no to a very small number of active cases. This should be a fluid, local decision taking into account children, parents and staff at that school. Our small 1A school with less than 15 kids per classroom should not be closed because 6A schools can't achieve social distancing. We can. We can hold classes in the school, in downtown buildings, in the gym, etc., and we can have in person school in a safe way, even as other schools cannot.</p> <p>Most of the parents in our school have essential jobs, and many had multiple kids to teach last year. As I'm sure you know, the last nine weeks of school last year was not optimal in any way. Parents that are essential were working full time and then having to teach their kids after long hours of work and drive time, afraid their kids would be left behind. I know quite a few that reached out after the governor's announcement of the executive order in a panic because of the announcement, frankly saying that they physically and emotionally could not teach their kids and work full time again.</p> <p>Please vote to overturn the executive order and return the planning to our local school districts.</p> <p>thank you, Christina Mullender</p>
7/21/2020 0:06:40	Christina	Mullender		Waldo, KS (in the count	
7/21/2020 0:07:28	Amanda	Devine	My children.	Topeka	I believe the Executive order and the mandates are unnecessary. We should have local control. We're all in different situations with our children and we should have the right to make choices accordingly.

					Discretion is the better part of valor.  You, as a state board, have been entrusted with nothing less than the very lives of every student, teacher, and staff member who enters the doors of any educational facility in Kansas. I urge you, please consider each one of those lives and vote in favor of Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-58.  I believe there are two major considerations to this order: 1. Health of students and staff, and 2. Curricular and lesson planning for student success.  It is not responsible nor sensible to block an order that is designed specifically to better our children's educational experience under current health conditions. Nor is it responsible to advocate for schools opening prematurely, while a very real pandemic, unlike anything seen in the past century, is breathing in our faces. The potential threat to our children's health notwithstanding, even with safety protocols in place, the inevitable spread of the virus to teachers and support staff will place an unbearable amount of pressure on our local districts.  What is a responsible course of action for our State Board of Education is to send the citizens of our state a message - if you want your kids back in school, follow recommended safety protocols (staying home, masking, and social distancing) so that we can greatly reduce the risk of infection facing our children, our educators, our school support staff, and the families of everyone within our school communities.  We knew long ago that the state's recommendations would not be released until mid-July, which already gave educators little time to study the document prior to the planned start of the new school year; what we did not know at the time was that so many Kansans would be so careless in their actions during this global pandemic, allowing the novel coronavirus to spread throughout the communities in our state. Give our citizenry an opportunity to redeem themselves and reduce the viral risk, and give our teachers an opportunity to fully review the document and adjust teaching plans accordingly, for our students' benefit.
7/21/2020 0:08:09	Ryan	Nichols		Ottawa	
7/21/2020 0:09:22	Eddie	Saldanha-Olson		Topeka	Please keep schools facilities closed until after labor day, in order to facilitate proper preparation and safety measures as needed to protect our children and educators alike. This is a moment to save lives and families. Not to. Push useless politics.
7/21/2020 0:09:52	shana	watson		bennington	I think it doesn't matter when you open, 2-3weeks wont make a difference. I am hoping that since it's being pushed back though, that covid will flatten when they come back from the holiday and will be good to go back to normal. My concern is more regards to making them wear a mask. I dont feel it's best for kids to wear it 7-8 hrs a day. I want all kids and teachers to be safe but think there are other ways to go about it. I think we need to think of all the kids who struggle with it.. please think about each county different Nd their numbers
7/21/2020 0:10:05	Marianne	Murphy	USD 233 and USD 512	Lenexa	As a teacher and a parent, schools should not reopen until we have no new cases in Johnson County for 14 days. Remote learning is not ideal, but it will save the lives of staff and students. No one wants to bury a child because we couldn't make the right decision.
7/21/2020 0:10:34	Kim	Hall	Teacher	Baxter springs	I support the delay - this will allow time to put procedures into place, review the new document, and be prepared for the students.
7/21/2020 0:10:39	Heather	Wood		Larned, KS	I do not think schools should be postponed till September. Our kids have lost way to much time away from school as it stands now and by delaying the start of school puts are kids further behind. School needs to start as scheduled.
7/21/2020 0:10:42	Shelly	DeFrain	Parent	Pretty prairie	Wearing masks is ridiculous and delaying sports and schools also. Our ancestors lived and survived worse. What happened to living in the land of the free. I am so upset with all this!
7/21/2020 0:11:03	Sarah	Fawbush	Im a mother and a para	Paola	I feel we should push back the start date for school opening. The safety of students and staff are so important. Not to mention the cost and time needed to properly prepare and gather supplies to even give school a chance to open and stay open. Also the cost of testing, subs and medical costs to children and staff that may contract covid 19.



7/21/2020 0:12:42	Julie	Littrell	SMSD	Shawnee	School needs to open on the 17th. I know many children who suffered mentally from lack of instruction and friends to be with last March-May. My 3 kids learned nothing on line. It was a disaster!! All the kids are together now anyway. Implement MO's lead and do what they are doing. Kids need to Physically be in school. Covid is amongst us all. We just have to learn to live with it. We are suppressing our immune systems and making things worse in the long run from hiding from it.
7/21/2020 0:12:47	Andrew	Gaylor	Educator in USD 405	Lyons	I am writing to you to ask you to vote no on the Governor's EO. Our community has done a great job at slowing the spread of COVID-19. We have very few total cases and very few active cases right now. I have talked with some of my students and they are excited to get back to school and be back in the building. I feel if we delay the start of school almost a month that it will be punishing the students and the community that has done such a wonderful job of slowing the spread. If there is ever a time for local control this would be it. Why should our stakeholders be punished for doing a great job by the big cities who haven't been able to slow the spread as well. What happens if/when we have to close school down later in the fall, winter, or spring and our students miss this month of school as well even though it is okay to attend. I trust my district BOE and Superintendent to make the right call and to have protocols in place to keep us as safe as possible. I believe this should be a local decision being made from the people in the community and not from 1 person in Topeka. I know Gov. Kelly mention South Korea today in her remarks but if you look at more studies most say children aren't as susceptible to the virus and are not super spreaders of the virus either. Germany came out with a study just last week. Child care facilities have been open in most states throughout the pandemic and very few have had clusters. Schools in KS have done summer weights, camps, and other activities all summer long and there hasn't been any clusters from them. Again I ask you to vote no on the EO and let local districts make the decision on what is best for all the stakeholders. One size fits all hardly ever works in education. Thank you. I know my kid needs to be in school I can not teach him like our wonderful teachers can
7/21/2020 0:12:57	Melinda	LeBoeuf		Pomona	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If a teacher tests positive for COVID-19 are they required to quarantine for 2-3 weeks? Is their sick leave covered, paid?</li> <li>• If that teacher has 5 classes a day with 30 students each, do all 150 of those students need to then stay home and quarantine for 14 days?</li> <li>• Do all 150 of those students now have to get tested? Who pays for those tests? Are they happening at school? How are the parents being notified? Does everyone in each of those kids' families need to get tested? Who pays for that?</li> <li>• What if someone who lives in the same house as a teacher tests positive? Does that teacher now need to take 14 days off of work to quarantine? Is that time off covered? Paid?</li> <li>• Where is the district going to find a substitute teacher who will work in a classroom full of exposed, possibly infected students for substitute pay?</li> <li>• Substitutes teach in multiple schools. What if they are diagnosed with COVID-19? Do all the kids in each school now have to quarantine and get tested? Who is going to pay for that?</li> <li>• What if a student in your kid's class tests positive? What if your kid tests positive? Does every other student and teacher they have been around quarantine? Do we all get notified who is infected and when? Or because of HIPAA regulations are parents and teachers just going to get mysterious "may have been in contact" emails all year long?</li> <li>• What is this stress going to do to our teachers? How does it affect their health and well-being? How does it affect their ability to teach? How does it affect the quality of education they are able to provide? What is it going to do to our kids? What are the long-term effects of consistently being stressed out?</li> </ul>

7/21/2020 0:14:02	Carmen	Cutting	Mom of 3 children in Ka	Overland park	Kids need to go to school for mental and social stability! The risks of Covid are minimal for kids and a much smaller risk than the common flu. Pediatricians even recommend that they go to school. Our Governor is STEALING school experiences (including sports) from our kids. If some don't want to send their kids, then they should have that choice, BUT don't make that mandatory for others who want to go! Have each school determine the risks they have. It's not the same for all schools. Our Democratic Governor is trying to CONTROL us!
7/21/2020 0:14:09	Erin	Buster	Teacher	Wichita	Schools need to be delayed. We need more time try to bring numbers down. Schools opening is going to have an impact on cases. But, teachers need preparation to teach under these new regulations. Just because schools open does not mean they will be the same. Teachers have to reconsider all of their collaborative structures to social distance. We are going to have to educate students on regulating emotions with masks on. We are going to be discouraging physical touch which is a huge way Young students learn emotions communication. There is no answer that makes everyone happy. But, at least give us time for it To be more safe.
7/21/2020 0:14:35	Kelly	Ulmer	USD 233 and my family	Olathe	Sooooooooo many questions, most of which are entirely reliant on our COVID status, which changes daily.  When teaching science safety/ lab safety I always tell my students that I have a responsibility to teach them, but first I must keep them alive and safe. It usually gets their attention and sparks a giggle or two, but it's true.  As a mandated reporter I'm required to report when as child is suspected to be put in harms way.  Because we love our kids, their families, our communities, we owe it to them to be prudent and prepared and to offer them the best education possible.  Three additional weeks will provide us the time we need to address safety, the professional development required to provide incredible instruction which will lend itself to the realities of transitioning between in class and remote learning if/as it becomes necessary. We can problem solve for the unique needs of our individual buildings. We need time to realign classes and schedules to adjust staffing for those families choosing remote learning and those sending children to school.
7/21/2020 0:15:37	Pam	mccue	usd259	wichita	We need this time like we never have before, and we are truly grateful for your support!!! I support pushing back until after Labor day and extending days.
7/21/2020 0:15:54	Sherry	Shannon		Overland Park	Great idea to delay until Sept. Gives schools more time to prepare and hopefully infection rates begin to decline so students can go back to school (hopefully) in a more normal fashion. So far, KS plan is one of the most logical I have heard from any state. Uncertain why so many are taking issue with a 3 week delay when the positive far out weighs the negative.

7/21/2020 0:16:28	Craig	Balzer		Wichita, but in Circle di	<p>Taking all of the below into consideration, and the mental health of the students, I honestly believe that the risk to the students lives and wellbeing is more at danger staying home than going back to school in person (I have heard a handful of parents in just my small circle talk of concerns with their kids acting unusually depressed and suicidal, and I personally know more people that have died from suicide since COVID started than have actually died from getting COVID)</p> <p>“I don’t care what the media says, I think Kansans have done a great job of containing Covid, and our medical professionals have rocked at keeping us healthy and alive!</p> <p>Number of Covid deaths in Kansas of people under the age of 25: 0</p> <p>Number of Covid deaths in Kansas of people under age 75: 126</p> <p>Number of people living in Kansas: 2,913,314</p> <p>Percentage of Kansans under the age of 75 who have died from Covid: .00432%</p> <p>Percentage of Kansans under the age of 75 who have survived Covid: 99.99568%</p> <p>Number of pneumonia/flu deaths in Kansas during the 2018-2019 flu season: 1,400 (4.5 times more than covid deaths this year)“</p> <p>I believe these stats to be real, along with the fact that these COVID death numbers are falsely high (even at these small mortality rates) because we ALL KNOW that facilities are paid more for COVID cases/deaths than non-covid and it is widely known that if someone dies with Covid, even if it has nothing to do with the cause of death, it is recorded as a COVID death.</p>
7/21/2020 0:17:18	Kassandra	Strube	None	Eudora	<p>If schools are not delayed, I will not be enrolling my child for the upcoming year. We can all argue back and forth until we are blue in the face about if kids will get sick and how sick they will get and what potential as of yet unknown long term consequences health consequences we happen to our children but the fact of the matter is this: I can get sick. My husband can get sick. My child's teacher can get sick. And all of us have a potential fatal risk attached to getting sick depending on our various health conditions. What happens when my husband and I get sick? Who watches my child? Her even more vulnerable grandparents? Do I ask my friend to take in a child who could potentially make them ill? Would you? Until each of you are individually comfortable spending 2 weeks in a classroom during a pandemic at a time where our states numbers are at near crisis levels for our healthcare facilities, I don't think you should be asking any teacher, child, or support staff to do so.</p>
7/21/2020 0:17:42	Heidy	Acosta		Wichita, Ks	<p>I want schools to start after Labor Day. Districts and teachers need time to plan and prep for a year like no other before. Students need to be in school for their social-emotional wellbeing but that shouldn't be at the cost of students or staff lives. Please don't open schools until after Labor Day. Thank you for your time.</p>
7/21/2020 0:18:17	Elizabeth	Voyles	Parent of elementary stu	Derby KS	<p>Please open up the schools for in seat instruction as soon as possible.</p>
7/21/2020 0:18:23	Casey	Moss		Dodge city	<p>I think it should be delayed to allow complete things in place. This is cause I have 6 kids within the school district</p>
7/21/2020 0:18:55	Kelly	Reimer		Eudora	<p>Please support the Governor's Executive Order and give us as educators more time to plan for the upcoming school year and keep students out of the buildings to keep staff and students safe. Numbers are rising and rash decisions will not be helpful to anyone.</p>

					<p>The governor's order does not specifically address private, non-accredited schools that may be associated with churches or home school cooperatives. These types of institutions are seemingly in a gray area regarding this order, as these groups typically do not fall under the state's regulation in any other way, other than registering the organization with the Kansas Department of Education per K.S.A. 72-4345 through 72-4347. Most private, non-accredited schools are relatively small and typically do not have the same preparation, logistical, or space concerns that a public school has; however, compliance with a one-size-fits-all order would certainly have an impact.</p> <p>While it doesn't necessarily fall under the purview of the Board, it would be nice if someone were to clarify the status of private, non-accredited schools with respect to the governor's executive order.</p> <p>As far as the order itself goes, requiring masks for younger elementary aged children seems almost unworkable. Personal masks are germ catchers, and children are prone to manipulating and touch the masks. This may invite more viral spread by secondarily passing the virus to touched surfaces in the classroom. Once an hour hand washing or sanitizing may not be enough to prevent spread. Requiring daily temperature checks of every student also seems logistically unworkable for not much gain, especially for large schools. I'm just thinking of accommodations for lines with social distance spacing, student drop off, loss of instructional time, administration and record keeping, personnel, and privacy and security. Also, by the time a student presents with a temperature, they will likely have been infectious, with an unknown contagion (flu, Covid) or infection (strep), for several days. Anecdotally, I've heard that, currently, testing is taking over 7-10 days to return results in some places. The lack of speedy testing will keep students (and teachers) out of the classroom for longer periods of time than may be necessary if they can not be cleared by a test in a timely manner. The science on whether children spread at the same rate as adults still seems inconclusive. However, the Australians and many European countries kept their grade schools open during the early stages of the pandemic, with little student-to-adult or student-to-student transmission. Children in general seem to be at low risk for this virus. So the threat of children passing the virus to family members, which is one of the stated reasons for doing all this, may be over stated and the provisions overkill. Overall, it seems like the mandate is poorly thought out from a school's perspective, even though I'm sure many people pondered over this for many days. I would suggest a revision of the requirements especially for younger children (K-3), but that is unlikely to happen.</p>
7/21/2020 0:19:33	Scott	Parish	Covenant Academy, Pitts	Arma	
7/21/2020 0:19:53	Kara	Washington	Teacher - Maize USD 20	Wichita/Maize, KS	I support Executive Order 20-58.
7/21/2020 0:19:56	Stacy	Miller		Lenexa	I support beginning in person school on Aug. 13 and certainly NOT after Sept. 9. If you delay school once more, when will the delays stop before all of our precious children are learning in front of screens for an entire year? We are made for human interaction. No in person school will harm many of our children emotionally, socially, and/or academically. I am a teacher and a mom with a vested interest in our children.
7/21/2020 0:20:13	Jody	Dendurent		Goddard	Please consider our the detrimental impact of our public school system. It pains me to hear of people pulling their students from their school districts to join virtual schools or hire private teachers. We will never recover :(.
7/21/2020 0:20:54	Joanna	Yeager		Larned	Thank you for providing this outlet to share our thoughts.
7/21/2020 0:20:54					I like the delay. It will give everyone a chance to get organized: administrators, teachers, and parents.
7/21/2020 0:22:44	Laura	Mallon	Teacher/ Parent	Gardner	Please do not delay school further - including sports for the kids.
7/21/2020 0:23:53	Bart	Ricke	USD #332	Cunningham	Please uphold the executive order to delay the start of school. Delaying the start of school is a necessary step to best prepare staff in keeping our students and staff healthy and safe in addition to planning to educate students through the variety of modalities that will be offered.
7/21/2020 0:24:28	Kate	Clark		Kansas City	Please consider the science and data in reference to children age 18 and under in reference to the virus. I know there will be some teachers that will support the executive order, but as you all know this not about us teachers, it's about the children. Get them back to school as originally scheduled by each district. Three more weeks, in my opinion, will do more harm than good for the students.
7/21/2020 0:24:58	Sarah	Homan	USD 458	Basehor, KS	Yes - Delay the start of school
					Please vote for a late opening of schools. It will be good to see where we stand with virus numbers and can go from there. Help us to get closer to an available vaccine and a chance for masks and social distancing to work. This would be such a great time to reconsider the public school model and offer more flexibility and support to kids, parents, and teachers. Thank you.

7/21/2020 0:26:15	Julie	Bergkamp	Olathe North High Scho	Bonner Springs	Thank you Governor Kelly for delaying schools and thinking about the safety of students and staff. I saw on a site that the mortality rate for children is 0.16%. Well, in my district of around 30,000 students that's 48 students. So if there are 490,000 school aged kids in Kansas, that's 784 dead children. I only have one child, what if she's one of those 784 kids? So if you want to sacrifice children, open the schools. The mortality rate for adults is higher. There is already a shortage of teachers, who's going to step up when that number could be permanently (as in dead teachers) lower? More hypothetical questions... How are 2,000 students supposed to wash their hands every hour with 5 restrooms? How are we going to do duty free lunch? How are we really going to keep head strong teenagers 6 feet apart, or wearing masks? They already have a hard time keeping goggles on for 50 minutes while doing a lab! You know the same parents that are pushing hard for schools to open are also the same parents that will sue if their child dies. Killing a student, my own child, another family member, or having long term effects from this virus are NOT acceptable risks of my job.
7/21/2020 0:28:19	Angela	Miller	Parent of Senior child	Ashland school	1st... Why would the school need to wait 4 more weeks to open school? The reason was so they can prep and get things ready for safety protocols. How do they not have enough time right now, when they still have 3 weeks or so, to do just that!? What is really the situation that is making a month delay to open school?  2nd question... All the comments that school age kids aren't vulnerable to covid... How do we really know how susceptible they are, as we had school closures to prevent exposure?  3rd... What about the organ inflammatory illness that kids are getting, will that be a concern and are there different safety measures for that?
7/21/2020 0:28:48	Jerrime	Fobbs		Kansas City	In regard to the governors plan to delay reopening of schools until after Labor Day, I would like the board to affirm the position of the governor. As an educator, watching the increasing numbers of those infected with the coronavirus gives me pause. To this effect, the best course of action would be to delay school until numbers have sufficiently dropped and the recommendations of the medical and scientific communities have been met by the state. Reopening schools at this time, in light of prevailing medical data, would be detrimental to both the health of teacher such as myself and to our students, and their families by proxy. As such, it is my hope that you all will take the recommendation of the governor and agree with the delay of re-opening schools for physical and work face-to-face teaching/learning. In the interim, we can work together as a staff, community, and school district to reach all of our families and their students and find online opportunities for them to continue their learning safely until the challenges of this pandemic have been resolved and or affectively mitigated to the point where it is no longer a communal threat.
7/21/2020 0:28:51	Gil	Perea	USD 457	Garden City	I believe this should be a district decision. If numbers are not spiking or showing any significant growth, but is minimal compared to the rest of the hot spots, we shouldn't have to stay closed. Especially if there has been a plan developed and put in place taking precautions for our teachers and kids.
7/21/2020 0:29:30	Marco	Hernandez		Wichita, Ks	I agree with the Governor that schools should open after Labor Day. My wife is a teacher and by taking this time she will be able to adequately prepare for a safe return for students and herself. Returning to a school environment is already unsafe at the moment; giving all teachers and districts this extra time can help save lives. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 0:29:33	George	Lucas	None	Sterling	Open schools
7/21/2020 0:29:42	Elainne	Fulenwider	USD 260	Maize	Support the Governor's mandate and delay the start of school until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 0:30:21	Katie	Wendt	Wendt	SHAWNEE	I support the governor's executive order and urge you to as well. The schools need more time to plan for the schools to reopen and we must get these numbers under control. I want my child to go to school but only when it's safe. There's no way schools can implement all the changes needed in the time allotted. Give us time to ensure our children and communities can keep the infection down.

7/21/2020 0:30:23	Michael	Price		Wichita	I think your decision to delay the school year is foolish and will only hurt the local economy and people who need to work. If teachers aren't going to teach in the school, we may as well homeschool, we'd certainly do a better job.
7/21/2020 0:30:31	Amanda	Abrahams		Hillsboro	Please vote to follow the governor's order to delay the start of school until after labor day. Thank you
7/21/2020 0:30:33	Corene	Smith		Norton	My concern is implementing all of these mandates for children PreK- 6, that the actual learning will be sacrificed. Are we creating an environment more stressful to our children. Are children's mental health being considered? Not all kids come from supportive, loving homes, and coping skills are not a top priority in schools anymore. I am concerned on forcing my second grader into a mask all day without it causing more distraction, and in causing further delays for her learning. It's going to be a bigger challenge as these kids are going to new classrooms, a different grade, new classmates and teachers than what the kids were taken abruptly away from. That said, I do believe school needs to start back, but I'm just very concerned with all of the rules, if it will be more traumatic than nurturing.
7/21/2020 0:30:47	Alex	Lewis	Myself	Wakefield	Delaying school is a smart idea. It gives us time to monitor the situation and schools to plan for a safe return. Everyone is focused on the kids and that is fabulous. But let's remember teachers are at a high risk. They don't get the PPE that Health care workers do. They don't get the Luxury of tending to one patient in a room at a time. They have 20-30 small people to care for.
7/21/2020 0:31:00	Danielle	Seitz		Topeka	Support Gov Kelly. Don't play politics with the health and safety of students and staff. Kids have been protected worldwide throughout the pandemic and there is not yet enough information about how this will manifest in a school environment. Additionally students will not be in schools in a vacuum. The safety of school staff and teachers need to be taken into account as well. Health is not partisan. Make the right choice! Support our governor.
7/21/2020 0:31:32	Daichi	Tadokoro	Teacher	Emporia	I personally would like it if we are able to delay the start of the school year. This way the Administration have more time to look through the document that was created by the Board of Education and make a thought out decision.  Another suggestion that might be harder is to delay the school where the covid case is high. As much as I know 8 have over 1,000 cases of Covid and about 12 counties between 100-1000 while the rest being a low number. If the counties shows a low number with consistent daily cases of 0 cases they should be okay to open like normal, but if the cases are high like Kansas City and Wichita, they should not open yet for the safety for the students and the staff.
7/21/2020 0:31:51	Amanda	Powell	Parent	Olathe	Please keep the schools closed. I love the Olathe school district and want to keep my children enrolled here but I have autoimmune diseases and my son has heart and lung issues. We can't have our children attending in person at this time.
7/21/2020 0:32:24	Betsy	Hermreck	parent	Basehor- Linwood	Please wait to start school until after Labor Day to give schools a chance to get things in order.
7/21/2020 0:33:16	Patricia	LANTER	Parent	Olathe	Want to delay until where we stopped in March. Start where we left off and give the kids back their year. It is supposed to be the best time of their lives. Instead they are experiencing family deaths due to covid, missing out on prom, sports, band, etc. Give it back!
7/21/2020 0:34:44	Daniel	Leebrick		Atwood, KS	Open schools in time please.
7/21/2020 0:34:48	Shannon	Armendariz	Parent	Wichita	I want to say that the BOE needs to make a decision that is best for our children. My office rushed into getting people back in and we had ten people in a matter of days get the virus and they had to close our office back down. Where I can appreciate smaller districts small success with summer school they don't have near the volume as a typical Wichita school then you throw our large middle school and high school populations and honestly it is scary. Children in their teens are rebellious anyway so there is no guarantee they will wear masks. It only takes one ill person or someone who has been exposed but is a symptomatic at first and we could possibly look at hundreds of young people's lives in danger and families lives in danger. Our children need to get back to school but it needs to be when there is a vaccine approved. Until then hybrid is the next closest thing that is available. I urge you to think about all the nursing homes where people got sick and died. Those residents don't go anywhere so people from the outside made poor choices and people died. Please don't force our children back into school too soon. This could have catastrophic results for USD 259. Thank you

7/21/2020 0:35:17	Grace	Powell	Usd226	Meade	School does not need to be delayed. Decisions need to be made and finalized so schools can make preparation now. I am a teacher and I am ready to teach. COVID-19 is here. Quarantine the sick and let's keep schools open please. So much more harm is being done to precious babies stuck in homes with unstable parents. Not to mention children being left at home alone. Please give control to local districts.
7/21/2020 0:35:50	Mike	Gilliland		Topeka	Let each school district decide how to handle the return to school. Each district is different, and nobody knows their district like its patrons.
7/21/2020 0:36:37	Keighley	Miller		Louisburg	I'm terrified to return to work before this virus is under control. We should not be sending any students or staff back to schools until there is a steady decline in cases. Going back to school buildings before then will only add fuel to the fire. There will be more cases, and more damage done to public schools because of that.
7/21/2020 0:37:23	Katherine	McGuire	Special Education Teach	Overland Park, KS	<p>Personally, I feel it is an excellent idea to delay the start of the school year until after Labor Day. The rationale behind my thinking is for several reasons. Administrators and teachers need adequate time to prepare to receive students within the school setting due to the current pandemic which is above and beyond what a normal start of a school year would be. The start of a normal school year is very stressful due to professional development requirements and classroom preparation to receive students. Covid-19 preparation adds another layer to the preparation process. Administrators, educators, nurses, and support staff will need to be educated about Covid-19 safety measures and educators will need time to prepare their classroom settings accordingly. All will need to prepare for what they will face each day in the presence of Covid-19. Also, it is very concerning to me, as an educator, that the Covid-19 numbers are higher than they have ever been in my location since the pandemic began in March in regard to school starting this fall. I am deeply concerned about putting myself and the well being of the students I serve in harms way each day. Doing so could make finding teacher subs to replace educators who become ill very difficult or impossible, students may witness the loss of a beloved teacher, or a peer. I personally know of two daycares that have closed due to children 0 - 12 coming down with Covid-19 in Mason City, IA as well as centers in TX in regard to transmission through children. I am concerned about what staff and student Covid-19 cases will do to local hospital numbers. The district I am employed in alone has 30,000 students and 5,000 staff members. It makes sense to me to begin with on-line instruction due to the continuing increase of Covid-19 cases, move to a split of on-line and/or rotation of students based upon pandemic data to avoid having to up root students and educators due to possible increased numbers of Covid-19 cases. No matter what is decided, school will look very different for students who will be attending in thinking about how they will be able to socialize with their peers, receive instruction, participate in instruction, attend specials and recess, and the holding of normal school events within the school setting. For example, fall open house, music programs, parent/teacher conferences, etc. Please give consideration to Governor Kelly's recommendation to begin school after Labor Day and possibly beyond her recommendation with a plan of integration back to school as was done for opening the economy for students, educators, support staff, and administrators.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>

					<p>We have talked many times about the possibility of homeschooling but always resort back to how we were raised, how our lives were impacted by teachers, and how we were shaped by the education we received. We are now faced with a tough decision as our first daughter is off to kindergarten. We know this is an unprecedented time and deciding what the right decision moving forward is a difficult task. The data I am coming across shows that kids are a very very very low risk for COVID19. Families and kids have spent the last several weeks attending weekend baseball/softball/basketball tournaments and the statistics of hospitalizations in our area for young people just is not there to use this as a reason to push school back and to force my 5 year old to wear a mask all day. As we attempt to use this as a way to "slow the spread" we are just prolonging how long we are going to be battling this virus. My fear is that this is decision is one small step that will be a catalyst to reshape the entirety of public education as we know it.</p> <p>Based on the upcoming decision your department must make, we are seriously considering homeschooling as an option. Not because we are fearful of the virus, but rather as a way to state that we do not agree with the decisions made and refuse to let our children's worldview be shaped by a political agenda we do not agree with.</p>
7/21/2020 0:38:31	Konner	Bergstrom		McPherson	
7/21/2020 0:38:38	Emily	Matthews		Galena	Delay or not, my kids will be staying home because nobody knows what the right choice is at this point! I do think a delay will give schools more time to prepare and decide what they're going to do for virtual learning considering it's so close to school starting and the governor just made her announcement!
7/21/2020 0:40:18	Janene	Follmer	None	Winfield	Schools should reopen as soon as possible. Kids need each other, kids need to learn, and taxpayers are paying for schools to function!
7/21/2020 0:40:46	Amanda	Witty		Overland Park	This teacher and mother of a school-aged child would like you to support the Governor's Executive Order to delay the start of school. All school staff need time to prepare and ready ourselves and our buildings for new procedures and processes.
7/21/2020 0:40:59	Heidi	Crowley		Topeka	Wait until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 0:41:02	Michelle	Augustine		Salina	Make kids and staff members health and safety top priority. Delay the start of the school year. Our city has rising cases and our state is seeing a spike.
7/21/2020 0:41:03	Heidi	Crowley		Topeka	Wait until after Labor Day



7/21/2020 0:41:10	Stephanie	Anderson		Concordia	<p>I very strongly feel that kids need to return to school in August.</p> <p>At all grades and age levels, school plays such an important role in a child's life. Of course their education is crucial, but the social aspect is just as critical. We will have four school-aged children - two in high school and two in elementary school. They have already missed out on so much since in-school learning was put on hold in March.</p> <p>My husband and I both work outside the home. We survived the "homeschooling" from March thru May, but we had to rely almost entirely on grandparents and our daycare provider to help get us and our children thru that time. We managed because it was short-term. We are very blessed to have a support system, but I honestly don't know how we will be able to manage any sort of extended homeschool set up with four children in four different grades. The prospect of that is very daunting.</p> <p>I have often wondered throughout this ordeal why families that are not comfortable returning to regular school don't pursue online learning options that are already available in the state of Kansas. Perhaps that could be suggested, and allow others to return as scheduled. I have also wondered why schools were not considered an essential function through all of this.</p> <p>While I realize that Covid could create health risks to certain individuals, I think it's important to consider that life in general has risks. There is inherent risk in everything we do, but I don't want our children to live in fear; to constantly worry about what "could happen".</p> <p>School creates structure and stability for a lot of children that otherwise have very little or none. It is (or was) a constant in many little lives, and I think it's vital that school is restored.</p> <p>Thank you, Stephanie Anderson</p>
7/21/2020 0:43:15	Chance	L	Myself	Topeka KS	<p>I think that Gov. Kelly is hurting our young kids by not sending them to school I'm for putting kids back where they belong in school out of trouble my generation is dumb enough and we went to school can you imagine the next generation without going to school i am dumbfounded by our governor!!</p>
7/21/2020 0:44:17	Stephanie	Baez	USD225 Fowler School	Dodge City	<p>I think we should delay for the safety of our children and staff. I work with kids K-12 and I want all these kids to be safe and healthy. I want our wonderful staff to be safe and healthy. I worry if we open to soon we might pay the ultimate price. Please think of the children and staff who want nothing but what's best. Protect our kids.</p>
7/21/2020 0:44:45	Katrina	Goscha	Usd 253	Emporia	<p>Support science and approve the executive order</p>
7/21/2020 0:46:17	Amy	Davidson	USD 259	Wichita	<p>I miss my students more than anything, but I beg you not to send us back before the case rates are decreased.</p>

7/21/2020 0:46:24	Kelley	Lowe	Parent and Kansas Teac	Derby	I appreciate the Governor's delay on school beginning and the push for masks of all children over the age of 5. As a parent of a soon-to-be kindergartner and a fifth grader, I fear sending them to school when our beautiful state shows that virus cases are up and have not yet shown decline. It makes no sense to send thousands of children to school, putting them in harms way. I am also a teacher in a primary school. This year, I will be teaching preschool. It scares me to think these children may be exposed and affected by the virus but also the teachers and staff that care about their littles so much. I think about myself, bringing the virus home to my own family and even giving it to my own students who are so young. We halted Kansas schools in March (with less than 50 cases in the state) - which was a brave decision by Governor Kelly - that made it so we were sure students would be safe. Why now is it ok to send them back to school when there are over 20,000 confirmed cases and deaths are rising? These are children. I know that my 5 year old daughter and 9 year old son will be placed in school where Social distancing is not possible. If anything, classes must be made smaller and that seems like it will not be considered. Until the virus is under control in our state and numbers drop drastically, I feel that virtual learning is the safest option. I hope it is considered at the beginning of the year until we see Kansans taking initiative and doing what they are supposed to be doing - wearing masks and social distancing. Gov. Kelly, thank you for working so hard to do the right thing, even when you have others fighting so hard against you. You have compassion, a heart, and you truly care about the children of your state.
7/21/2020 0:46:55	Melody	Funkhouser Gaugler		Overland Park	School needs to be delayed longer or online only but actually be like normal online schools rather than what we had in the spring. Things are only getting worse and people here are not taking it seriously. They travel to FL and don't quarantine at all yet send their kids to baseball and have other kids over to play. It's been like this the whole time, even when we were supposed to shelter in place. These are the people who will be sending their kids to schools here.
7/21/2020 0:47:01	Tait	Holtwick	USD 508	Baxter Springs	The kids can wait until after Labor Day or longer if need be.
7/21/2020 0:47:03	Kate	Works	Parent	Humboldt	I am in favor of the Governor's EOs. It will allow us more time to better assess the Covid situation & ensure the safety of our children and ultimately our community. I am both a parent and a healthcare provider and see these EOs as a way to hopefully decrease the risk of spreading Covid until a vaccine is developed.
7/21/2020 0:47:10	Brandon	Fisher	Prairie view high school	Lacygne	While the premise of face-to-face instruction is appealing, there are more than a few issues coming with opening the schools to instruction. Firstly, teachers need protection from the virus as well, even if kids don't get very sick teachers will potentially be exposed as soon as they meet the first class of children. Not to mention without proper air circulation in classrooms all children will be potentially exposed. Secondly, the children will be exposed to the virus as well, remember when flu season comes around we ask any children that have the flu to stay home and away from the rest of the class, so with this more virulent disease having in classroom teaching will take a chance on every kids ability to stay healthy. Thirdly, even schools that are in areas with few cases could see huge increases with opening up the schools as children interacting will then go home and then interact with their families. It's about limiting spread. If you have to open face to face schooling at all, I implore you to wait and see how this will impact communities that don't take the same precautions.
7/21/2020 0:47:36	Rochelle	Baker	Self	Linn Valley	Delay & continue with home schooling if diagnosed cases continue to rise.
7/21/2020 0:48:04	Morgan	Johnson	Parent-Leavenworth US	Leavenworth	Based on Leavenworth cases going up (doubling in the last couple of days, as well as doubling in the weeks before this), I feel as though school should be delayed. This county has already decided not to follow the mask mandate, which is why cases continue to go up. Unfortunately, this decision cannot be left to local boards because they will only make suggestions and not do what is right for safety of students, parents, and their extended family.
7/21/2020 0:50:24	April	Sloan		Frontenac	My concern with waiting until after Labor Day, is will it push the last day of school to the first two weeks of June. It is hard enough to get students to do their school work, once it starts warming up in April/May. Also if doctors are right and once cold and flu season is here again. We might have to do school from home from November to spring. Then the students will have only been in the classroom for two months. My kids are ready to be back in the classroom with Teachers and start playing sports again.
7/21/2020 0:52:35	Kim	Herring		Overland Park	After 5 months out of the classroom, our children need to be back. Not online or for just a few days, but fully back with teachers, classmates, learning and recess. The academic, social and physical ramifications are too great to delay a decision.

7/21/2020 0:55:25	Keli	Kennedy		Haysville	<p>Get them back to school and without masks! Their mental health is at stake! We are living in the midst of a crisis right now, and we cannot afford to get this wrong. Imagine if this crisis were a tornado or a flood, and the school buildings were no longer safe to use. Would you send the children of Kansas and the teachers who love them back in to those buildings without learning the best safety precautions? Or even send them back at all, when distance learning could truly save lives? Several cases of COVID19 have already been diagnosed in children around the country in large numbers, with many children dying or suffering, and it is foolish to believe that we live in some kind of magic bubble that will prevent it from happening here. Even if the majority of children suffer less, we do not know the long-term health damage that can happen to them or to staff, for that matter.</p> <p>Kansas students and the teachers &amp; staff who serve them deserve the right to live and work in a safe environment. Reopening our schools without proper safety measures is completely unacceptable. If we open doors without every precaution being taken, the virus will spread exponentially into our communities because children will bring it home to their families, who will then spread it further, causing casualties that would be completely avoidable with distance learning. Many children don't yet understand how to social distance and don't understand the importance of good hygiene. Doctors and scientists say that the best prevention is to keep a 6 foot distance from others, wear a mask, wash hands frequently, and sanitize surfaces often. Yet you are asking us teachers to stay 8 hours a day in a room packed full of children, where it is impossible to social distance, constantly police children for all necessary safeguards - masks, hand-washing, temperatures, social distancing as well as implementing quality, rigorous teaching on top of that? When will we have time to teach? Yes, we want to go back to normal, but NORMAL IS NO LONGER AN OPTION. We will try our best, but we have to face the fact that going back to school will look different from before and won't be able to offer children the socializing and fun times that used to be had in schools. I won't even be able to offer a hug to comfort a child who needs it and they won't be able to see my warm smile behind my mask to reassure them everything is okay (though teachers will have fear lingering at every step that if we miss something or do something wrong, it could unwillingly infect someone or ourselves). We, at the very least, need these few weeks of delay to do our best to prepare for this impossible task you have set before us.</p> <p>If your meeting is virtual because it's not safe to meet in person right now, then you already know it's not safe for students and school staff, either. We cannot teach from a grave! Please, I beg of you, vote to delay the opening of this school year, or else take responsibility for the infections and deaths that are sure to come, and the trauma our students and staff will incur when they have to say goodbye to beloved members of our school communities.</p>
7/21/2020 0:56:28	Jennifer	Beer		Shawnee	
7/21/2020 0:57:40	Michael	Whaley		Chspman	<p>I believe all things considered our children need to be in school as soon as possible. Yes some may get sick with vivid 19 and or the flu. They usually do. Teachers will get sick too, they usually do. But statistics show, even with the inflated case numbers that 99% of the teachers, administrators and other school personnel are going to be alright. Institute whatever safety policies you feel necessary, but open our schools.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 0:59:15	Stephanie	Hanson	Students	Kansas	<p>Online learning in my sons high school should be an option this year! Majority of his class work is through google documents already! Teachers need to feel safe as well, if there busy consumed with safety 75 percent of their attention will be to safety concerns and 25 will be to academic instruction how is that fair to our children.</p>
7/21/2020 1:01:03	Jennifer	Lake-Ramsey		Olathe	<p>I support delaying school at the minimum, and preferably virtual classes for the fall semester.</p>
7/21/2020 1:02:02	Jamie	Schnaithma	Parent	Garden city	<p>Please help keep my son safe, delay the start of schools to give teachers and support staff the appropriate time to be trained correctly.</p>
7/21/2020 1:02:22	Ali	S		Merriam	<p>Please vote in favor of delaying. Schools need time to appropriately prepare and train staff.</p>
7/21/2020 1:02:40	Catherine	Hollyer		Lawrence	<p>Please delay the start of school and consider online instruction. In an age when many grown-ups are only willing to have meetings via Zoom, why on earth would we send children and teachers into a crowded school? This is unconscionable.</p>

7/21/2020 1:02:45	Crystal	Brown	A concerned parent of st	Wallace	I beg of you to think of our children when considering any changes. I know that they say wearing a mask will help. This is not what I want our 5 year old to experience entering into Kindergarten for the first time..... I believe the masks will cause more harm than good. It will be a carrier to ALL of the sicknesses we already worry about going through our household. I have 5 children, yes 5 the last thing I want is for anyone to get sick cause by the time it gets through their systems the last person that gets it gives it back to the first person. It's tough getting past that point sometimes even with just a cold. We have never shut down everything because of the H1N1, Flu, influenza A B or C and they are super contagious, chicken pox, or foot and mouth disease. We have put our lives on hold long enough and if we are going to have to get it and die from it I at least want to go out living. Not locked up at home or my children experiencing school worse than an inmate in a prison. I beg of you to think of how these how these children are missing their friends and how many children are raising themselves right now cause parents don't have an opportunity to stay at home and this will only Make it worse for them and their futures when considering their education. How little towns like I live in will not survive if we homeschool all of our children or put them in online courses because of all of this.
7/21/2020 1:02:48	Madison	Loomis	Public School Teacher	Wichita	I have a question about supplies and resources: Will each school district have access to cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, PPE (including masks for students who will arrive to school without one), etc by the scheduled start date? Will they be l'm competition with health care services to obtain these resources in large quantities? I have also seen a lot of talk among staff bout what the schools will provide them in terms of PPE. Will we have to supply it ourselves?
7/21/2020 1:03:06	Kelly	Brende		Leawood	I fully support moving the starting day of school to after Labor Day. It gives school districts more time to figure everything out. It allows us to see how Covid-19 is progressing. It just makes sense. Please support!
7/21/2020 1:04:03	Kate	Miller	Teachers	Hiawatha	We need to delay the start for everyone's safety - kids will get sick, educators will get sick. People will die. Teachers need time to learn how to prep for all of this - to truly be ready for what is to happen. I beg you to listen to our governor and delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 1:05:42	Kira	Ryan	Mother	Lincoln KS	Honestly, sickness comes & goes thru out every life, catch em/or not. With recovery from this newest feared virus being so positive... there's hardly any reason why we can't get on with our lives. Get sick, get over it. Practice excessive hand washing, hand sanitizers at doors, extra cleaning of frequent touch items but all the extreme excessive measures seem to not have enough merit to warrant putting em to use (I.e. masks, 6ft, virtual class).
7/21/2020 1:06:27	Diane	Petrella		Leawood	These executive orders are outrageous. The governor should not have shut schools down in March when there were hardly any cases in Kansas- our kids have now been out of school, sports and activities for over four months. Please don't support another sweeping mandate- our kids are not okay!!!!
7/21/2020 1:08:32	Niccole	Vogel	USD #413 Chanute Pub	Chanute	As a Computer Technology teacher at Royster Middle School in Chanute, KS. I urge you to please vote yes and support the governor's executive order. The extra time for us to plan and prepare for a safe return and start of the school year is so very important to all school districts! Please help us do what is best for ourselves & our students!

					<p>Not only is delaying the school year absurd but completely ridiculous. What is all this planning that districts and the state have been doing this entire time since May? Now only to push back school a whole 3 weeks?? The data does not support pushing school out and the Governor refused to bring up any actual data reporting other than increased cases. Schools should be able to implement policies and safety measures without government overstepping. Governor Kelly went against not only the school board but the association of pediatricians board and the KS covid workgroup.</p> <p>She has also overstepped with her next announcement for mandatory masks, hand sanitizer, and temp checks. I sat on my BOE meeting tonight and they all stated it was impossible to do temp checks within our large district. The CDC does not support hand sanitizer as the primary option and it's not actually beneficial like hand washing to kill viruses. My child also has extreme eczema and I have doctors notes stating the importance of hand washing and allowing my child to wash his hands vs hand sanitizer. So she thinks she's smarter than physicians and science???? Her orders only continue to prove she is not doing these out of safety but to appease certain appellates. And children should not be mandated to do anything. Adults and teachers should be stepping up there safety measures to assure children have the utmost normalcy returning to school and these EO are far from it. You can order adults around but you're crossing so many lines when you go after people's children. Our state is not a one size fits all approach and that is the only way she has been handling all of this mess. I'm just so upset. I love my school district but we will be looking elsewhere if these EO are promoted and supported. They are not in the interest of our children. She is continuing to hurt and divide so many and now she's coming after our children, when is enough going to be enough for all of you to see she needs stopped.</p>
7/21/2020 1:08:40	Melissa	Foster	My child and the right a	Derby	Thank you for reading this.
7/21/2020 1:08:54	Cristen	Williams	Parent	Spring Hill	<p>Please delay the start of the 20-21 school year until the rate of community transmission starts to decline. OR implement a staggered learning schedule that allows 1/2 class sizes, fewer hours in a room and more room during lunch periods where masks need to be off. My 14 year old daughter falls in to the "high risk" category due to a chronic condition. By all accounts she is a normal teen excited to start her first year of high school, finally see her friends, and cheer for SHHS. If school starts full time in session 8/12-I will have no choice but to enroll her in online schooling, to protect her. Which also means she will lose her spot on the cheer squad. She is so sad. But she understands that safety comes first. 20 kids in a room is too much right now. We have the opportunity to wait a few weeks and see what happens as other states open their schools. Let's not take a chance on our kids or our valuable teachers. Please help me not have to isolate my daughter to protect her. Many oppose masks in this town and I can only assume their children will have the same views-masks will not be worn properly. Wearing masks only work if everyone in the room wears one over their mouth and nose. We can do this safely and get EVERYONE back in class. Please. Please.</p>
7/21/2020 1:10:12	Jasmyn	Ostmeyer		Spring Hill	<p>With the high number of cases, the delay would be beneficial to help get the numbers down, allow time to get proper ppe supplies, allow time for teacher prep, collaboration, and development. Plus it will help parents feel better about sending their kids back to school, knowing they are in a safer environment.</p>
7/21/2020 1:11:53	Holly	Corman	Special Education Teach	Larned	<p>I work with the youngest students that are provided public education - teaching 3 year old preschool. These students have many health needs and most are IEP students. How can we possibly teach students in this time safely? I feel we need time, we need resources, and we need to follow the directives of our state Governor. Education should NEVER be POLITICAL! Please do the right thing and give us time by supporting the mandate presented by our Governor.</p>
7/21/2020 1:12:11	Michael	Gossenauer		Kansas City, KS	<p>Please chose to delay school openings this fall so that our state has time to reverse the disturbing spike in the spread of the pandemic so that teachers have time to plan appropriately to keep themselves and all of the kids as safe as possible.</p>
7/21/2020 1:13:19	Lacey	Shank		Lenexa	<p>Yes we should delay the start of school. The number of cases should be trending down.</p>

					<p>First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas.</p> <p>Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</li> <li>•No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</li> </ul> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>I am one of the over 6,200 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay.</p>
7/21/2020 1:13:27	Heather	Zimmer	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park, KS	We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know that you
7/21/2020 1:14:39	Amy	Hatcher	Student/teacher	Olathe	Please wait to open schools.
7/21/2020 1:17:47	Pat	Igleheart		Marion	Delay opening school yet it was ok to play summer baseball
7/21/2020 1:18:01	Charity	Horinek		Sublette	<p>I believe the Board of Education should accept Governor Kelly's executive order. I have heard from several school nurses that they were very relieved by the order, as much of the preparations fall on them and they are grateful for the extra time. I have talked to several teachers who are also grateful for the extra time to get their classrooms and lessons ready. And as a parent myself, I am</p> <p>Grateful the governor and the Board of Education care enough about my children to take enough time to open schools properly.</p>
7/21/2020 1:22:03	Katherine	Schlem	Parent	Olathe	I fully support delaying school until after labor day. There is no reason to open sooner. The science supports us taking a wait-and-see position, to see if continued masking will get the outbreaks under control in various areas of Kansas. There is no need to worry about the school year ending next May. I feel going longer into June 2021 is preferable to starting school in August. Children, though resilient, can still contract COVID-19. They can also be asymptomatic carriers and bring the virus home to family and close friends who are vulnerable. School in Kansas used to begin after Labor Day, and we are not as agrarian as we once were. There's no real need to have kids out for three months in the Summer next year. I fully support Governor Kelly's proposal to allow an extra three week lee start time.
7/21/2020 1:22:52	Gail	Fisher	self	Wichita	Please allow Gov Kellys orders to be implemented. It's all just common sense.
7/21/2020 1:25:19	Andrea	Knakmuhs	My family	Lenexa	The only way for school districts to have a fighting chance of giving our children a good education, in the midst of a pandemic, is to delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 1:27:31	Stacy	Wright		Shawnee	Please push back start date

7/21/2020 1:28:07	Ashley	Walz	Holy Name Catholic Sch	Wichita	Please have us start school after Labor Day. It will be cooler for us to do fun academic activities outside. This is my second year of teacher and I'm teaching at a new school. As a Type 1 diabetic, we need time to prepare for all our students to be in their safe place, school. I'm scared, but the extra time will help me in preparing to have the safest environment as possible.
7/21/2020 1:28:58	Cristel	Heffron		Peck	Please vote to delay school until the spread of Covid19 has decreased. It is nowhere near safe at this point for students and staff.
7/21/2020 1:30:15	Staci	Prawl		Eudora	Our kids need to be in the classroom and extracurricular activities. If you follow KU Med's teleconferences each day, you will find that a panel of 4 doctors and a psychologist were stating these very things today! Online only works for some children, it was terrible for mine, and several other kids I know! Kids are less likely to carry Covid-19 and we have had no pediatric deaths from Covid-19 in Kansas at all. Some counties have not even had one single Covid case. There is absolutely no reason to support Executive Order 20-58. Please leave decisions up to local school boards. Please veto this order.
7/21/2020 1:32:31	C.	Alpers	My children	Dodge city	I am all for delaying school until September, but I am ready for some sort of normalcy. I would hope if staff and children attend physical school, precautions are put in place. Masks are fine but smaller classroom sizes and frequent sanitization would make masks much more effective. I do hope districts plan on offering an alternative schooling for parents who have issues with masks or children with health risks.
7/21/2020 1:32:47	Christopher	Shull	Myself	Haysville	This delay will further hurt our students, the tyrannical governor should resign over this unconstitutional abuse of power.
7/21/2020 1:33:55	Liz	Krueger	Shawnee Mission School	Overland Park	<p>Dear KS BOE,</p> <p>PLEASE uphold Governor Kelly's executive order to keep teachers, staff and kids home and healthy. The Shawnee Mission School District, at the very least, needs time to collaborate and become acquainted with our new online platform (which teachers still don't have access to).</p> <p>Furthermore, it is negligent to expect the School Districts, as employers, to place their teachers at risk in their school buildings as numbers of Covid-19 cases continue to rise across the state. 1 teacher, 1 student, 1 grandparent or parent of a student, one school secretary is one too many to risk. Furthermore, the effects of Covid 19 in children are unclear and suggest potential long term effects.</p> <p>Don't make the mistake that our country's leadership has - put in place a plan that most mitigates risk until our entire state is trending the correct direction.</p> <p>I am a mother of an incoming freshman, 7th grader and a 3rd grader. My kids want NOTHING more than to go back to school. But they don't feel safe. They worry they will bring it home to me, an immunocompromised Mom, or their Grandmother who is a part of our family's everyday life.</p> <p>When schools do reopen in September, I am prepared to keep my children home (because we are fortunate and have resources, a safe home and our employers are flexible) so that the kids who NEED to be in school buildings can get there ASAP, but the next few weeks is no time to send children with cognitive or behavioral delays, young kids (and preteens) who pick their noses, high schoolers who have little regard for social distancing back into our schools.</p> <p>My nephew is Covid positive. He lives in a major Southwest Missouri county that only has ONE testing site in the entire county. That said, his high school aged peers are riddled with positive Covid diagnosis. It is spreading like wildfire, I assume in part to the inaccessibility to testing and to the disregard for the wearing of masks and social distancing. These kids are dropping like flies from participating in typical school activities - conditioning, scrimmages,</p>
7/21/2020 1:34:45	Maggie	Buttram		Springfield Mo	Keep them closed for the ones like my son who wouldn't survive. Teachers and students shouldn't be risking their life's hoping they will recover with no permanent damage.
7/21/2020 1:38:59	Shelley	Lane	USD 372	507 Mariner, Silver Lake	I support Governor Kelly's order to delay he started of school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 1:39:41	Kristen	Long	General Public	Beloit	Comment removed due to profanity

7/21/2020 1:39:52	Kaylene	Rudy	Parent	St John	I am writing in regards to governor Kelly's school order. My son is 7 years old I am concerned about him not being able to really focus pay attention and communicate well with everyone wearing a mask. I am concerned about the extra work and efforts put on our teachers especially the grade school teachers they already have so much to keep in order let alone another list to try to keep in order along with keeping track of kids and making sure they Are staying sanitized and apart. I worry about the impact this change in school will have on him and the other kids. In my opinion if it counts the masks Are not worth it. They will be "contaminated" when the children are not distanced 6 ft apart while they have the masks on then they take it off and then the mask is contaminated and they are touching it. I would like to see school start normally based on county health dept and school boards and cases. If that is not possible I wonder if it is almost better to keep the school at home. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 1:41:43	Crystal	Weakley	USD312 staff, USD 259	Wichita, KS	Delay in person instruction until September, but let us start school online. We can teach virtual so the kids don't get even further behind. Masks should be mandatory, not recommended. (With exceptions as listed in the 20-59 order.) PLEASE require hand sanitizer in ALL classrooms. I am a Specials teacher, and I see 400 students a week. I want to get back to school to see my kiddos, but it should be done safely. If we can't do ANY teaching until Sept, at least modify the school year (required days) so the teachers and administrators are not MORE stressed then we already are.
7/21/2020 1:47:34	Linda	Innes		Mulvane, KS	I appreciate the time given so that school districts have adequate time to plan, purchase, and redesign what the school year will look like in order to keep ALL CHILDREN SAFE, HEALTHY, AND LEARNING!
7/21/2020 1:51:03	Cecilia	Hodde	Public	Ensign	Yes, delay school. If this saves children, then yes, delay school
7/21/2020 1:51:50	Amanda	Long		Hays	Start with online schooling. And slowly transition
7/21/2020 1:51:52	Tracy	Mayfield	Public	Augusta	I plead that Kansas schools i person opening delayed/go to online model be delayed till Kansas Covid 19 positive cases trends are in declining for over a month. It is not safe for students, their families and staff to return to indoor school attendance till we have community management of Covid 19.
7/21/2020 1:53:23	Dorothy	Lewis	Ms	Norton	Delay school start!! School used to start after Labor day every year. This will not hurt ANYTHING and could make a difference in the safety of Kansas children! DO NOT PUT OUR CHILDREN AT RISK FROM COVID-19!



					<p>and guidance from the local health department for not allowing the individual counties to decide return to school dates when there has been a decline of Covid 19 for 14 straight days?</p> <p>If not, then could you please provide guidance on the following concerns;</p> <p>Could you please address the guidelines of social distancing a class of 26 third grade students to 3-6 feet apart in a room that was only designed to accommodate 18.? (Considering it is only a guideline.)</p> <p>How would you advise on answering the questions from parents who have requested social distancing from others, but expect their teacher to provide individual small groups instruction when the materials needed for a safe zone are not available?</p> <p>(Not supplied due to lack of resources.)</p> <p>Who will provide hand sanitizer needed for students who do not supply their own? (no sharing of supplies.)</p> <p>When a child or teacher has had exposure /contact with Covid 19 who will be the substitute for the class? (there is already a shortage of available teachers.)</p> <p>Have any of the acting Board Members given thought of consequences/ ramifications of returning to classrooms if a member of staff is exposed and then exposes associated staff members?</p> <p>Will the entire grade get sent home or disbursed to different schools?</p> <p>(Please do not reply with the answer of that is a local district decision.They are looking to you as the State Board Members to answer to set guidelines.)</p> <p>Has the academic school year calendar been adjusted to provide for testing measures?</p> <p>Will state testing still be required? If so when and under what circumstances?</p> <p>Has there been discussion to policy and procedures to deal with sick children whose parents are unable to collect from school once temp exceeds 100 degrees?</p> <p>Who will be disinfecting classrooms and materials on a daily basis? (following JOCO board of health regulations?)</p> <p>Thank you for the time and effort in answering all of my concern Please do not hesitate to call upon me to assist in your next campaign. I am proud to know you and I, both work for the common health and benefit of all our students in Kansas.</p> <p>Sincerely, Mary Gerling, Proud Kansas Educator.</p>
7/21/2020 1:53:27	Mary	Gerling	Teacher of 3rd grade Ele	Leawood	
7/21/2020 1:55:46	Katherine	Ryan	USD 383	Manhattan	<p>I am asking that school opening not be delayed, or not be delayed as late as the EO suggests. My reason is for special needs children. Our children have gone without services since March. Professional, therapeutic services that are desperately needed. They have regressed significantly as we cannot replicate these professional services at home. Four-six more weeks would be very hard on them and would cause even more damage. I am asking that services for special needs children are allowed to begin immediately. I also ask that local districts be allowed to decide concerning mask usage. Each district needs to be able to make that decision based on their independent district. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 1:56:53	Ann	Kauten		Norton	<p>Do not risk the health of children. Do not have in person school until it is clear that they will be safe.</p>

7/21/2020 1:57:06	Danielle	Baker		Easton	<p>I am writing to recognize your leadership and support in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you, and your leadership role in deciding what is best for the people of Kansas.</p> <p>I respectfully request working together to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</li> <li>•No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</li> </ul> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, please vote the mandate down. Allow the individual districts to make their own decisions that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state, and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>Keeping kids from an in-person education is not going to stop the spread. Our kids are not the vulnerable one's (the stats don't lie). Of course the one's that do have health issues, please have other schooling options for them in place. What will kill our kids is social isolation, anxiety, depression, suicide. Child and adolescent physical, and sexual abuse are on the rise. Along with substance abuse. We are making our kids vulnerable, by isolating them.</p> <p>In-Person classes are essential to a child's social, emotional, and educational well-being. The risk of kids contracting Covid-19 are far less then the long-lasting damage it can have on the development of children by not returning to class. Kids need structure, academic instruction, social &amp; emotional support, safety, nutrition, physical activity, access to mental health therapy, and peer interaction. Being in school provides this fundamental role. Losing out on the opportunity to help grow one's mind is only going to cause more mental health issues within our society. We are socially isolating kids, whom of which will end up having severe social anxiety, among many others.</p>
7/21/2020 2:04:31	Jennifer	Swisher	Blue Valley schools	Overland Park, Kansas	<p>Thank you for this executive order to keep residents safe. Please do not offer in school classes this fall due to the surge in Covid cases. Please offer online classes instead and allow flexibility in submitting school work when there are two working parents.</p>
7/21/2020 2:11:45	Lisa	Duerksen	Usd 262	Valley Center	<p>I think it should be each districts choice when to open. Yes each district needs time to figure out the year and how to teach online and in class and how to go virtual if needed but a blanket policy for everyone is not best.</p>
7/21/2020 2:16:44	Kelsey	Beat	Cunningham USD332	Cunningham	<p>I am completely heart broken by the decisions Governor Kelly made today. I will be a first year teacher this year and I am not afraid of this virus. Kids NEED to be in school and sports NEED to be played! STOP taking the childhood from our children. Making everyone wear mask is also disgusting and inhuman. Kids NEED to breathe fresh air and build up their immune systems. Kids NEED to SEE smiling faces from their teachers. I, myself, will not wear a mask because it gives me anxiety and I can't breathe when I have one on. How do you think a 5 year old is going to keep one of these things on? It's not going to happen. I pray that you all realize how ridiculous this mandate she is creating has. We are a school of approximately 60 kids!!!!!! K-12!!!! Do NOT PUNISH US!! Let us make our our decisions. There have been multiple parents (especially ones who are apart of our school board) that say they will not send their child if they have to wear a mask. I do not blame them and will not send my daughter to preschool if she has to wear one either. The Death percentage rate of this "virus" Is less than 1%!!!!!! You all know everyone is being lied to about the actual number of positive cases and deaths. People get sick with something ever single day. This country needs to stand up for what is RIGHT and what this Governor is doing to these kids and teachers are WRONG!!! Give the choice to allow the scared ones to stay home, etc. but DONT PUNISH US ALL!!!</p>
7/21/2020 2:19:22	Michelle	Ray	Self, children	Eudora	<p>Keep it closed as the Gov. ordered.</p> <p>Give our school some time to figure out a safe way to open if it can open at all. I don't want to risk our children and our families.</p>
7/21/2020 2:22:54	Janie	Parsons		Leavenworth	<p>Please, don't start school until after Labor Day.</p>

7/21/2020 2:32:07	Ross	Dessert	Bishop Miege High Sch	Westwood	Please support governor Kelly's order to delay opening. I am a teacher. Our schools are not safe to reopen in the coming weeks. More time is needed to plan for the proper And safe reopening
7/21/2020 2:38:34	Becky	Stephens	USD 500 KCKPS	DeSoto	I'm a Therapist that works with Special Needs kids and with the number of positive number of COVID numbers increasing I feel that school should be delayed until proper protocol are in place!
7/21/2020 2:38:35	Thomas	Hall	Parent	Tecumseh	Open schools up completely with no masks. Other euro countries have had no impact by keeping schools open.
7/21/2020 2:39:00	Amelia	Williams	Shawnee mission Schoo	Lenexa	Please delay the opening of schools and uphold the governors executive order. Thank you for caring about students' life as well as staff.
7/21/2020 2:41:33	April	Sikes		Lawrence	I am the mother of four children attending public schools in the Lawrence School District USD 497, and I am asking the KSBOE to please pass Governor Kelly's executive order, E.O. 20-58, to delay the opening of Kansas schools until after Labor Day. Thank you.
7/21/2020 2:42:48	Aaron	Rittmaster	None	Overland Park	<p>Though difficult, Executive Order 20-58 delaying the 2020-21 K-12 school year is the safe and proper choice to protect the health, safety and well-being of all Kansans. Community spread of the novel coronavirus continues to grow, and sadly far too many of my fellow Kansans continue to display selfish disregard for their neighbors' health.</p> <p>There is no practical way to effectively implement the practices necessary to adequately protect our children in school right now. Buildings aren't large enough. Too many schools have inadequate ventilations systems under the circumstances. The tragic irony is that the same physical presence and connection that our children are yearning for would represent a clear and present danger to their health and the health of their families.</p> <p>While children have generally had milder symptoms and the majority of recovered successfully from COVID-19 infections, that does not mean they are unaffected. A significant proportion of children who survive COVID-19 infections will suffer disabilities for the rest of their lives, affecting multiple organ systems. Even those children who legitimately experience the least discomfort from the symptoms of COVID-19, present a substantial infectious spread risk to the adults they come into contact with, including school teachers and administrators, and the parents and grandparents of their schoolmates.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the life and well-being of our children and, indeed, our entire community seriously. PLEASE SUPPORT this executive order, delaying the start of the school year.</p>

7/21/2020 2:45:15	Alisha	Farmer		Wichita	<p>The BOE in the district I will be working for just voted two options for the start of the school year. Parents can either enroll their student full time in person or full time online. Sedgwick county's numbers continue to rise. I have always purchased cleaning/ sanitizing materials for my classroom, but I have been unable to purchase these things for my home since March, let alone my classroom. I am truly, truly concerned about the increased risk about transmission. Public schools have always been a breeding ground for illness. I have taught in the public school for 14 years prior to this. Best teaching practices require educators to be in very close contact with students. One of the best ways to prevent or defuse behavior issues in the classroom is proximity and movement in the room. In a classroom with 20-30 students, it is difficult to limit proximity on a good day. Adding new classroom procedures, which is going to happen for the safety of our staff and students is going to take time and should not be something we rush into. I fear that push back from parents is pushing us into a dangerous situation that we simply not prepared for. Extra time would, at the very least allow educators time to: 1) prepare online curriculum as it does require extra planning and work and 2) create a better plan of how we can apply safer practices in the event that we face classrooms full of 20-30 students.</p> <p>I want to be in my classroom. I really do. I know that in person classes is best for student learning and emotional health, but at the same time, I know I have more than one family member with chronic health conditions, one of which is at high risk due to severe lung issues. I have students who have medically fragile family members as well. I have friends and family that view this as a hoax; they refuse to social distance and rarely wear masks. I know that we will have students whose families will feel the same way. We have students that are sent to school when they were sick during cold a flu season. Are we really prepared with how we will handle this when a student comes to school ill with COVID? What about students who are asymptomatic? Will we be able to get subs when teachers fall ill? Doubling classes will increase potential problems and reduce space in already crowded classrooms.</p> <p>In a normal school year, I would have started preparing my classroom and lesson plans last week. Many of my colleagues would have done the same, but this year we've had to wait. Buildings that would have normally open by now still have limited access while districts wait for guidance. It is in everyone's best interest that we allow ourselves a little extra time to do this right. We have more work to do with less time to do it if we move forward as scheduled. Please allow us the time to do this the best way possible.</p>
7/21/2020 2:50:45	Brandy	Ford		Leawood	<p>Our district is unprepared to open on the 15th. Teachers still haven't been given guidelines as to what they are prepping for as far as how the school year will go and haven't had access to prepare their classrooms. We have already pushed daycare classes at my facility to accommodate for the delay and prepared the kids. Stop playing politics with our kids and altering their schedule again! Approve the delay and move on. It would have been helpful if in your 1100 page plan you actually gave guidance ( beyond the normal cdc items) to assist our schools. Thank goodness we have 1000 pages on curriculum and how to make sure we test these kids! None of you from the state board to local boards have given any guidance on how you will try to protect these kids! You just keep pushing responsibility down the line! Take the extra time the Governor has given the districts to figure it out ( since apparently 6 months wasn't enough).</p>
7/21/2020 2:55:15	Brianne	Lucius	Cedar Vale Schools	Cedar Vale	<p>I understand you all are under tremendous pressure, and you all have important, pressing decisions that must be made and will impact every student, teacher, para, specialist, administrator, superintendent, cafeteria worker, bus driver, custodian, maintenance worker, coach, parent, and family in our great state. A monumental task of this magnitude requires cool heads, flexibility, teamwork, and patience. I pray all of those things in your favor as you lead education in our state.</p> <p>I do not wish to sway your decision. I simply wish to encourage you in your endeavor to make the best decision possible for the lives you will impact. You will make the best decision for our state's public education. I believe in all of you to do so!</p>
7/21/2020 2:55:36	Amanda	VanSkike	KS Educator	Great Bend	<p>As an educator, I appreciated the consistency that KS provided to our students and staff. Many states went back and forth between online and in-class learning throughout the 4th quarter. PLEASE give us consistency again. Kids need consistency. Working parents need consistency. Teachers with children at home need consistency. Think of all of these factors to try and make things as consistent and stable as possible.</p>

7/21/2020 2:59:53	Kim	Lambdin	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita	Schools need to open! Our sped kids have lost almost 6 months of services, kids who connect with no one else but their teachers need socialization and our most at risk academic students are falling further behind. Put precautions in place and let's get back to school.
7/21/2020 3:03:37	Elizabeth	Hickerson	Oakpark Carpenter, Indi	Overland Park	I think it is a very good idea moving school back to make sure the schools are ready and prepared.
7/21/2020 3:06:28	Ryan	Bach		Topeka	<p>I implore the Board to uphold Governor Kelly's order delaying the start of school. This will give Kansas school districts time to prepare for eventual in-class and distance learning - both in preparing for instruction and gathering required materials (masks, thermometers, hand sanitizer, etc.)</p> <p>Many teachers are anxious about the reopening, as about a third of teachers nationwide are in the at-risk age group (as I've seen in some sources). Please, remember that adults are in the buildings, and as we've seen in Florida, the young are able to contract the virus, with about 30% of those tested in Florida turning up positive. We need to make sure we are as safe as possible, especially now that Kansas is seeing an uptick in cases - it is worse now than it was in March.</p> <p>As you are aware, Kansas districts have until June 30, 2021, to get in the required hours of learning. Governor Kelly's order does not cancel school, it only delays it. The weeks will be made up.</p>
7/21/2020 3:11:31	Tiffany	Pettit	Parent	Medicine Lodge	The Governor should not dictate what my child's school year should look like. Recommendations are understandable, but let the individual school districts determine what is best for their students. "One size fits all" does not work for a school district of 500 students.
7/21/2020 3:11:46	Val	Vazquez		Wichita	The delay only makes sense to get a solid plan in place for when school does start, protect staff and students, and hopefully see an overall reduction in Covid cases before school does start.
7/21/2020 3:13:33	Amie	Nelson		Larned	Please, allow schools to open in August!
7/21/2020 3:18:45	Tim	Vesco		Frontenac	<p>My name is Tim Vesco and I am a fourth grade teacher at Frank Layden Elementary in Frontenac, Kansas.</p> <p>I am writing you to ask that you please support Governor Laura Kelly's executive order and delay the opening of school until September.</p> <p>With the usual August opening of the school year only a few weeks away, there is not adequate time to thoroughly review, debate, and consider the best manner of reopening for each school district based on the recommendations from Navigating Change document. By delaying the start of school, districts will have adequate time to plan and include staff, students, parents, community members, and business leaders in the process. It is imperative we assure our communities we have adequately planned for every possibility and schools will be as safe as can possibly be guaranteed. The whole community must have confidence in the school's ability to open, be safe, and stay open.</p> <p>Not only will this delay allow for effective planning, it will provide the opportunity for districts to provide staff members with appropriate professional development to implement the plan. We must be sure all staff understand the district's reopening plan and what each individual's role in the implementation will be. This will inspire confidence in both the school staff and the parents whose children are in their care. Additionally, smooth implementation assures students that schools are ready for them.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
7/21/2020 3:26:09	Emily	Gordon		Overland Park	Support delayed start for purposes of preparation to protect students and staff. Schools need to then open virtually or in-person.
7/21/2020 3:33:33	Katie	Patee	USD240	Lincoln	I do think it is a good idea to keep things closed until after Labor Day. This will allow for more preparation time for Teachers and other staff members to ensure that we have a solid plan before students return to school.

7/21/2020 3:43:18	Nichole	Lind	Parent & USD 489	Hays	<p>Please delay the start of school and encourage legislators to suspend the required seat hours for this year. We are in unprecedented times and the rules cannot apply as they always have. Schools need the extra time to develop safety, health, instruction, and crisis response plans. We are expected to creatively meet the guidelines to ensure safety for our communities with limited resources. That creativity takes time and collaboration.</p> <p>In addition, our school does not have the supplies needed to ensure proper disinfection or personal protection. Those supplies have been ordered but are in short supply across the nation.</p>
7/21/2020 3:45:31	Rayne	Swezey	Parent of 2 public school	arma	<p>These are vulnerable little innocent lives you are speaking for. Until a vaccine or cure is founded there should be no kids gathering in public schools. They can be home schooled.</p> <p>I think we have a moral obligation to our children that can be easily summarized: number one, protect them from harm. #NotMyKid</p> <p>( I'm not political, I'm practical )</p> <p>NO SCHOOL until there are other options besides 6 ft rule/masks OR permanent damage/death. DO THE RIGHT THING..I WAS SO PROUD OF GIV KELLY WHEN SHE SHUT DOWN THE SCHOOLS IN MARCH !!!</p>
7/21/2020 3:47:27	Jason	Broxterman	Self	Meriden	I don't think putting our children's education on hold is the right answer. A 3 week delay wouldn't be terrible but you have already canceled nearly half a semester. We need to get this school year rolling. We are delaying out of fear not facts. Your job is to educate after all. How far behind are you willing to put these kids' education.
7/21/2020 3:47:52	Terrance	Bohm	The kids of Salina Ks.	Salina	Get the kids back in school to a totally normal environment!!!! Quit being scared!!!!
7/21/2020 4:05:43	Katherine	Judy	Olathe USD233	Olathe	As a teacher, I think the 20-21 school year should not only be delayed, but should only happen remotely. I love my job, but I love myself, my family, and my students even more. We need to think of the consequences that opening schools will bring. Simply stating that the number of individuals who are predicted to die is very "low" is unacceptable. Why take the chance? Any number is too high in my opinion, especially when we're talking about children. This includes my own infant child. I am not willing to put him at risk when there are other options.
7/21/2020 4:13:54	Hattie	Lee		Carbondale	Opening schools while our Covid-19 numbers are climbing is irresponsible, and puts the health of our teachers, staff, families and communities at great risk. Please support delaying the opening of our schools.
7/21/2020 4:18:45	Dana	LeRow		Baldwin City	I personally wouldn't want my child going to the public school unless masks are worn because I have diabetes and for any reason if he should catch it and pass it to me would NOT BE GOOD FOR ME!! So therefore I wouldn't want to send my child to school until after knowing the virus has backed down quite a bit!!
7/21/2020 4:21:10	Michelle	Eastwood	Prairie View USD 362	Fontana, KS	Please let the schools make their own decision on whether to open. Our district has not had the number of cases in the area that larger cities have. The virtual learning program DOES NOT work for elementary kids. I feel my son could get behind if he has to do it again. He is bored and does not get challenged when doing it.
7/21/2020 4:21:21	Melissa	Laughlin	None	Overland park	I strongly agree with the decision to delay school.covid is not under control and we should not be sending our teachers into school right now given the situation with covid in kansas
7/21/2020 4:22:47	Amanda	Bernard		De Soto, Ks	With numbers rising I don't even understand why this is being debated. I will NOT send my child to school to possibly expose himself, his family or teachers to a virus we know so little about. If you deem it necessary to hold zoom meetings vs in person meetings regarding school then there is your answer. I am a single mom with a compromised immune system doing the best I can in an unknown world. It is a given that the school year will be difficult for all but these are lives we are discussing not some political agenda. The politics of education are already failing so many children with IEP or 504s. If this means that I must agree to let my child drop out and obtain a GED at a later date because of risks associated with his health and safety then you have failed yet another child. Who are we to say that a child must be at a certain point by a certain age? Yes, education is important, but at what expense?
7/21/2020 4:26:57	Anthane	Cobb	ANW Special Education	Frontenac	I think we need to delay start times and consider distance learning options in order to protect our kids, teachers, and staff
7/21/2020 4:28:56	Alison	Russo	Parent	Overland Park	yes, please delay
7/21/2020 4:29:18	Karen	Adams	Myself and family	Wichita	Open.
7/21/2020 4:35:47	Randall	Allen	citizens of Kansas	Lawrence	I support the Governor's delay of schools opening. Districts should ONLY open when community transmission is nearly 0.

7/21/2020 4:40:46	Angie	Roberts		Topeka	<p>Hi, I am writing to you today to express my hope that you will uphold Governor Kelly's executive order. I am sure you have been inundated with emails and so I want to express my thanks for your time.</p> <p>I am a current 3rd grade teacher in Shawnee County. I am also a new mom. Returning to school during such unprecedented times is terrifying. I am very nervous to bring COVID home to my little guy or worse yet, not be able to nurse him. I know how hard it is to try to keep things like the common cold, flu, and lice out of my classroom. Those are things that we have medicines for that will help resolve some of the symptoms. COVID has no cure and we do not know the lasting effects of this disease. If we were to open schools without a proper plan it would be a petri dish experiment gone bad. Also I know it has been stated that local control is what is needed. While I agree with that statement to an extent, I also know that if some schools were to start now and others wait, we would be dealing with a whole slough of scheduling problems. Scheduling will be a nightmare in the elementary school alone as it is. I can't imagine at the junior high and high school levels. Thank you again for your time and I hope you stand with Governor Kelly.</p>
7/21/2020 4:43:07	Janice	Plum	Olathe Schools	Olathe	Districts need to time to pivot and implement safety protocols...and see what the science/data looks like in early September in regards to reopening schools face to face at all!
7/21/2020 4:43:48	Brandi	Robinson	USD 500	Kck	Please vote in favor of Laura Kelly's EO to delay school start date. I need a little more time to find an appropriate babysitter for my toddler, whom was staying with my 71 year old mother. If school starts in person my children will no longer be able to be with my recently widowed mother. I am a teacher and will not want to spread COVID-19 to her. This is a HUGE transition for our family as my mother was staying with us. Thank you for reading my story. Please vote in favor.
7/21/2020 4:46:01	Halee	Johannsen		sterling	get school started! The kids need it, it's been way to long without
7/21/2020 4:47:54	Kelsey	Perez	USD 268	Cheney	We desperately need this extra time to wrap our heads around and plan for all of the new guidelines that we are expected to follow this year.
7/21/2020 4:53:17	Sonya	Roberts		Olathe	Absolutely no school until after Labor Day and possibly beyond. With the rise of cases it would be irresponsible to open.
7/21/2020 4:56:43	carol	clark	myself	Garden city	kids need to be back in school in August. Have family who teach. they need to be there to perform needed work to accomplish yearly goals. Kids need to be back in their early fall activities.
7/21/2020 5:01:56	Rusty	Lueger	St. John's Catholic High	Beloit	<p>I am deeply concerned for a couple reasons about Governor Kelly's use of executive action to mandate postponing the start date for school until after Labor Day for all schools in the State of Kansas. I am a teacher of mathematics and science at St. John's Catholic High School in Beloit and a father of two students (K &amp; 1) and humbly ask you to vote to rescind this action and allow that decision to be made on a local level.</p> <p>First, one of my biggest frustrations--especially in hindsight--has been both the state and federal response as a one-size-fits-all, top-down approach. The State of Kansas is vast and diverse. I am particularly not opposed to moving the start date until after Labor Day, IF that is what local authorities deem best for their particular school. Our local public school had already decided to lengthen their school day and start a week later. Our principal at the Catholic school had also considered to delay our start date by a couple days to allow more in-service/work days for the teachers to be prepared. However, there are still some counties without a single, COVID-19 case and I would be VERY upset if I were in their shoes. This may be the best time of the year to even have students present in the classroom, and for some reason, local authorities are deemed too stupid or incapable of handling such decisions. The governor's 'I-know-better-than-you' decisions and actions are very frustrating.</p> <p>Second, if we allow the governor to continue to make one-size-fits-all, top-down decisions, I feel it could (and probably would) be a slippery slope. Will she feel emboldened to continue to wield her power and make decisions for all Kansans? However, if you stand and vote to send that power and those decisions to the local level, it will set a powerful precedent if future situations occur.</p> <p>I thank you for your public service and humbly ask once again for you to vote against Governor Kelly's mandate.</p>

7/21/2020 5:01:57	Kellie	Belleau	Parent of two USD 211	Norton	I have no problem sending my children back to school as planned. I also have no problem with a delay. What ever our district needs to make sure the staff and children can get an education and remain safe from Covid. I have faith that our district will have measures in place to keep them safe for a return to school.
7/21/2020 5:02:00	Rusty	Lueger	St. John's Catholic High	Beloit	<p>I am deeply concerned for a couple reasons about Governor Kelly's use of executive action to mandate postponing the start date for school until after Labor Day for all schools in the State of Kansas. I am a teacher of mathematics and science at St. John's Catholic High School in Beloit and a father of two students (K &amp; 1) and humbly ask you to vote to rescind this action and allow that decision to be made on a local level.</p> <p>First, one of my biggest frustrations--especially in hindsight--has been both the state and federal response as a one-size-fits-all, top-down approach. The State of Kansas is vast and diverse. I am particularly not opposed to moving the start date until after Labor Day, IF that is what local authorities deem best for their particular school. Our local public school had already decided to lengthen their school day and start a week later. Our principal at the Catholic school had also considered to delay our start date by a couple days to allow more in-service/work days for the teachers to be prepared. However, there are still some counties without a single, COVID-19 case and I would be VERY upset if I were in their shoes. This may be the best time of the year to even have students present in the classroom, and for some reason, local authorities are deemed too stupid or incapable of handling such decisions. The governor's 'I-know-better-than-you' decisions and actions are very frustrating.</p> <p>Second, if we allow the governor to continue to make one-size-fits-all, top-down decisions, I feel it could (and probably would) be a slippery slope. Will she feel emboldened to continue to wield her power and make decisions for all Kansans? However, if you stand and vote to send that power and those decisions to the local level, it will set a powerful precedent if future situations occur.</p>
7/21/2020 5:02:00	Rusty	Lueger	St. John's Catholic High	Beloit	I thank you for your public service and humbly ask once again for you to vote against Governor Kelly's mandate.
7/21/2020 5:03:51	Jordan	Fitzpatrick-Buell		Wichita	Starting school before the science and medical professionals advise it, would be a betrayal of our City's children. I don't care who a person supports for President— but anyone telling me to send my children to school during a pandemic has lost my support, and will never again receive it.
7/21/2020 5:04:02	Jordan	Fitzpatrick-Buell		Wichita	Starting school before the science and medical professionals advise it, would be a betrayal of our City's children. I don't care who a person supports for President— but anyone telling me to send my children to school during a pandemic has lost my support, and will never again receive it.
7/21/2020 5:04:50	Nicholas	Hofmeier	Olathe School District	Paola	Please follow the directive from Governor Kelly for a delayed start. The COVID cases are going up in many places and will surely go up even more. If schools open too early students, teachers, and families will likely suffer from either getting sick or dealing with the death of loved ones. I, like many educators, want to teach; however, I am unwilling to sacrifice the health of my students, colleagues, and family. Please give districts more time and allow for the number of cases to drop significantly before school begins again.
7/21/2020 5:08:13	Mary	Holm	personal	Lawrence	Please protect the health of students, staff and the larger community by delaying the opening of school. As an elementary teacher, I very much want to work with my students face to face, but not at the risk to their health or mine.
7/21/2020 5:09:20	B	I	USD 290	Ottawa	Reopen after 9/7 to give teachers and staff time to safely prepare
7/21/2020 5:09:43	Kelli	Torres		Wichita	I believe schools should be delayed in opening until after Labor Day, maybe even longer, as the cases of COVID-19 are still continuing to rise, even with mask mandates in place. I, as a parent to three school age children, do not feel comfortable with my children returning to school with the way that things are at this very moment. I feel that waiting would also give the district more time to figure out what they need to do since it seem like they are scrambling. Thank you for taking the time to consider my response.



7/21/2020 5:10:38	Guy	Claudy	A parent	Lenexa	I recommend that you do not support the EO as it is currently written. Delaying the opening is just delaying the inevitable. What happens in 3 weeks when the numbers haven't changed? We wait three more weeks? 3 more months? Skip the entire year? Open the schools and start educating our children. If the teachers don't want to go in because they feel unsafe, then why not do remote learning? Why not conduct classes from home? If the teachers prefer to go into their classroom to do delivery the lesson then they should be allowed. The first choice should be trying to get the children back into the classrooms, and even if it is on a rotating schedule. But to just delay they opening because the teacher union refuses to do allow their members to work is ridiculous. How will this affect the amount of contact hours? Are teachers now willing to work into the summer next? What about parents who have made plans based on the released schedule?
7/21/2020 5:13:20	Mary	Harden	Teacher	Bucklin	Let's start school!
7/21/2020 5:16:21	Shirley	Chavez		Dighton	I think depending on ages groups of kids preschool through 6 grade should not wear masks and all school district should go to school back in August. Trump clearly stated school needs to go back to school normal time otherwise he will cut back funding.
7/21/2020 5:16:52	Monica	Cadwallader		DeSoto	There shouldn't be any school starting due to COVID-19! They closed schools when there weren't anywhere near the amount of cases and now they are climbing and want to open? How wrong! I refuse to send my child to school to possibly become exposed and bring home to others.
7/21/2020 5:18:17	Shane	Ewing	Commonsense	Wichita	My wife will be 8 weeks pregnant when school is set to begin. There are countless other staff members who are at-risk for major disruptions to their lives and health if they come in contact with the virus. They are all paid poorly and will be forced to spend thousands of dollars they don't have if hospitalized, as well as possibly lose their sick leave days if districts don't make adequate accommodations for missed time. Please do not leave me to wonder all day if my wife and unborn child are left to go into a warzone together each day. I can't even believe that plea would even need to be made. The fact that it does, though, shows how indelicate our world has become. Fortunately for you, you have the ability to ignite civility and honor in it once again by doing what you know is right and protecting the people who have dedicated their lives to education, and will continue to dedicate their lives to education in an improved virtual setting. Thank you.
7/21/2020 5:19:15	Kay	Moeder	A concern parent	Quinter	We have to start school. These poor kids need it and with as little restrictions as possible. My son as horrible anxiety and I know wear a mask all day won't even be possible. What is the difference starting school when our kids have been going and doing sports every where with everyone with no mask. We NEED in person school.
7/21/2020 5:19:42	Cathy	Enneking	USD115	Seneca	Please let the locals decide the direction for their schools. Our county has been "open" and mask free since June 19 and have very few cases. I am also a 59 year old teacher in our district. I do NOT want to teach wearing a mask. I am not worried about my safety. Do not require that we wear masks when our county doesn't require them!
7/21/2020 5:19:43	Shay	Carter	Doniphan County Educa	Highland	Our students have a right to instruction. I prefer that we return to in person, if we can safely do so, however online instruction is better than no instruction. We must provide instruction to all!!
7/21/2020 5:20:04	Tim	Krause		Overland Park	Please do Not delay or cancel in-person school this year! The actual risk of death/significant morbidity is so low in these age groups that doesn't even come close to overriding the benefit of a good education. We as parents desire education for our children. Also, the rural and underserved communities are hurt the most by this due to lack of access and quality follow up in a total virtual environment. Thank you.
7/21/2020 5:22:38	Tommy	Triplett	Valley Center Middle Sc	Wichita	With cases on the rise, I feel as though waiting to see if the general public can help contain the virus is the right call. If cases stop rising at an alarming rate, districts can evaluate if in-person classes are safe. If cases continue to rise, districts can explore online options to keep their respective communities safe.  Those calling for school to be in session need to remember that students and staff will not be returning to a normal school setting. We need to choose the option that is safest for our communities. Rushing ahead can make matters worse for months to come. At the absolute worst, rushing ahead could cause deaths.
7/21/2020 5:24:08	Debra	Wells	Self	Fredonia	Please keep safety as the primary motivator for your choice. Thank you.  As desperately as my three young grandsons need to be back in the classroom, my first concern is their physical health and that of their families. Please support the Governor's order delaying the start of school until September.

7/21/2020 5:24:57	Heather	Dowling	Our Family	Smith Center	Starting school later is not a problem for us. Our children being required to wear masks is. If this condition stands, we will homeschool our children.
7/21/2020 5:25:19	Jeanne	Koontz		Hutchinson	Please uphold the governor's mandate to delay the start of school until after labor day. School districts need more time to prepare for implementing the recommendations provided by the State task force.
7/21/2020 5:26:00	Debra	Seiler		Garden Plain	By delaying the school year, it will help schools better prepare for educating our students and implement safety training for all. It will also help teachers and staff time to work on plans how to do a better job if we have to move into hybrid or online teaching if the need arises instead of just "winging" it. We can also better prepare our students this time as well. Kansas needs to bring our numbers down and flatten our curve. We need to be able to protect our students and well as our teachers and staff.
7/21/2020 5:26:52	Emily	Komarek	USD 307	Salina	Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day. It is important that the schools have time to adequately prepare for a safe return and that children are not thrown into another chaotic situation.
7/21/2020 5:28:51	Kenny	Eaton		Topeka	Bottom line is, This is real but there's worse and more dangerous virus's and germs out there to catch. Always has been. Always will be. This one is just being "promoted".  "Of the 60,000 types of germs that people come in contact with on a daily basis ... only about 1 to 2 percent are potentially dangerous to normal people with "normal immunity,". That works out well for us, because pretty much any surface contains some of these microscopic organisms. We need our immune systems to be healthy instead of damaging them. Please open up our schools or at least make it an option. Thank you.
7/21/2020 5:32:56	Molly	Rapp		Olathe	Please uphold Governor Kelly's mandate. I work in the 2nd largest school district in Kansas. We need more time to ensure that all safety measures are put into place.
7/21/2020 5:33:56	Nedra	Auer	USD 392	Osborne	No mask for students
7/21/2020 5:33:58	Alyssa	Passmore	SMSD educators	Shawnee	It is not safe to put teachers in classrooms with kids until we have more data on how the virus effects or spreads through students. We need to wait to start in person learning. Period.
7/21/2020 5:34:03	Matthew	Clay		Dighton	As an education professor and husband of a teacher I am asking you to uphold the executive order. Schools need more time to get proper safety measures in place. Furthermore, forcing this decision to a local level will put administrators in the impossible situation of choosing between what is safe and what is socially acceptable in their communities.
7/21/2020 5:35:30	Jenny	Parker	Ellinwood Grade School	Ellinwood Ks	Our kids need to be in school. Not only for the learning aspect but the social as well. Mental health issues are on the rise due to these kids not being able to interact with their peers for months. Staying home when they should be in sports. This is only hurting our children. There is no reason to delay school opening. Our kids are faced with other virus during the school year that wipe out classrooms example influenza and we don't shut down the schools. Economy etc. influenza has a higher death rate then COVID and yet we still send our kids to school each and everyday with possible exposure. Send our children to school and on time. Us parents who work full time don't have the time to come home and do online classes with multiple children. I didn't go to college to be a teacher. I went to college to be a nurse. I should not be expected to try and teach my children their schooling as well. Please do not agree with Governor Kelly's order. Get our children back amongst their peers and learning in a classroom. Thank you
7/21/2020 5:36:58	Barbara	Reed		Paola	If you open schools and make everyone social social distance and wear masks is fine BUT what are you thinking allowing sports? You need to cancel fall sports or you have defeated the purpose of social distancing. There is much more contact during sports.
7/21/2020 5:37:28	Michael	Fenner	Fenner Family	Goodland	School year start should be left up to the individual districts! Every district has different circumstances!
7/21/2020 5:37:50	Deborah	Gregoire		Leavenworth	Do not delay reopening of schools. In Kansas it is much too difficult for everyone to school from home because Kansas doesn't put money into the communications infrastructure to support rural communities. Living just 10 miles outside of Leavenworth/Lansing I know there is little to no internet access with enough capability to stream education content or anything else. I can barely keep access to do my government job for teleworking which does not involve significant amounts of streaming. Driving across Kansas you find many locations with no service. Satellite is expensive and isn't reliant all of the time. If the students don't have streaming video access to their teachers (a minimum for education today) then the education is basically worthless, boring, and reliant on the education of the adult at home. DO NOT DELAY reopening of schools.

7/21/2020 5:39:36	Donitta	Wiles	none	Dodge City	DO NOT DELAY reopening of schools. It is a mark that must be met to show we believe in Kansas and the residents of Kansas can fight this. Delay is not good for rural Kansas with little to no internet access.
7/21/2020 5:39:51	Sherry	Marcie	Usd 428	Great Bend	They need to open. Not every parent stays home. We both work and can't stay home to homeschool or make sure they are online for class. With younger grade school students someone has to be with them to help them.
7/21/2020 5:39:51	Chelsi	Nolan		Dodge City	I think delaying the start of school until after Labor Day is a wise decision, as it gives districts more time to prepare plans for reopening and gather the necessary materials to properly implement their plans. While I agree that students need to be back in classrooms learning with their peers as soon as possible, it must be done in the safest way possible in the interests of students, teachers, staff, and their families. Failure to properly create and implement safe reopening plans will undoubtedly have severe lasting consequences for our state and its people. While education is of great importance, nothing is more important than the health and safety of our students, teachers, staff, and families.
7/21/2020 5:40:25	Don	Wiles	none	Dodge City	DO NOT DELAY REOPENING OF SCHOOLS IN KANSAS.
7/21/2020 5:40:48	Helen	Kirkpatrick		Marion	Please vote yes, to delaying school until after Labor Day. Our county is experiencing a rapid growth of Covid 19. Our school leaders need time to plan and act accordingly. I am an elementary school librarian with underlying health conditions, the start of school concerns me, please give our admin. the extra time they need to do this right, for kids and staff!
7/21/2020 5:42:09	Dezerae	Poole	Self and family	Mound City	Mandatory face masks in school is not ok. I have children going into kindergarten, 6th, and 9th grade. Kindergarten children learn so much by watching their teachers lips when it comes to the correct way to pronounce things and learning to read. Daycares have not had to wear face masks at all during this entire time. How can we keep saying it's mandatory for one thing involving children, yet as soon as you get out of school and have to attend daycare with a bunch of children don't worry about that mask ? I have no problem with social distances of 6 ft, hand washing, etc., but this is our children's education that is being messed with.
7/21/2020 5:43:15	Andrea	Taylor	Abilene Middle School	Abilene	Get the kids back in school!!!!
7/21/2020 5:43:29	Debbie	Bond	Myself	Overland Park	<p>1. Our first priority needs to be the safety And well being of students and staff. Areas - such as JOCO should not be permitted to open schools because of COVID19 and the serious numbers. Schools cannot keep students socially distanced with 24-30 students in a 450 square foot area. It is not safe to open schools in areas with high community transmission. The health and well-being of students and staff depend on your judgement.</p> <p>2. It is a fallacy to think that school will be good for student's social development during this time. Schools will not be the same. How will 5,6,7 year olds understand 6.5 hours of sitting away from people? Keeping a mask on and being safe? How can staff stay safe? How will the open/shut/open/ - no substitutes....high anxiety- be good for children?</p> <p>3. THE ECONOMY - if we open schools the impact of mass transmission will possibly be devastating on the economy. Teachers will run out of covered leave with 2 quarantines and if they get sick- they will not get paid. The impact on hospitals and healthcare workers could be horrific and a shutdown becomes more likely. What impact will all the hospital bills from covid19 patients have on our economy if schools become part of the transmission?</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration. This world-wide pandemic is terrible. This is not the flu. This is not a simple virus. For those wanting life as usual- they are not understanding the reality of the situation. There are NO easy decisions. As the leaders making the decisions - the health and well-being of Kansas students relies on you making the decision to protect them. Thank you for your service.</p>
7/21/2020 5:44:00	Christina	Bunker	USD 350	St John	Delaying school past Labor Day is not the answer, our children need to be in school and getting back to normal. We have wasted too many in school learning days, zoom is not the answer.
7/21/2020 5:44:27	Dana	Steinwart		Overland Park	Please follow Governor Kelly's executive order and keep schools closed until after Labor Day. I am a teacher and feel that opening schools while our county is seeing a spike in COVID cases is a recipe for disaster. I fear for my health and safety as well as my students. Thank you!

7/21/2020 5:44:25	Heather	Vincent		Topeka	Please no masks at schools
7/21/2020 5:44:36	Darcie	Gomez		Leon	I would like the board to reconsider the ordered requirement of k-12 to wear masks. While I am 100% on board with keeping our children safe & healthy I do not believe, especially in the grade school age and younger, wearing masks will benefit our children at all and instead it will be a huge distraction for them and hinder their learning. My heart hurts for our country right now and what it is going thru & it's our innocent children that are suffering the most. I hope and pray schools are back in session and that it can be left up to each schools superintendent to make the final decision on what he/she wants to do within their school district. It seems to me that the "open door" way of thinking so less cross contaminated touching will happen is also counterproductive to enforce safety from the terror or threat of an active shooter. I just wish that when deciding the "fear" of the what if's is pushed aside so the rational what wills can make more sense. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 5:45:30	Hina	Baig	Parenthood!! / The Univ	Overland Park	Yes, schools should remain close until we have some treatment and/or effective preventive measures against Covid-19. Children are not going to wear the mask throughout the day, especially younger kids. They're not going to wash their hands after every possible interaction with other folks and most likely won't maintain 6-foot distance. Data is showing that younger healthy adults and children are catching the virus too now. If children and/or teachers do catch Covid-19 (whether become symptomatic or remain asymptomatic), then they'll spread it to the rest of their family members; and the vicious process of spread will continue.
7/21/2020 5:46:12	Diana	Fahring		Haysville	Let the kids go back to school . This mask thing is stupid . And also they make you have more issues wearing a mask . Also they dont work for covid 19
7/21/2020 5:48:26	Cheri	Ricke	USD 511	Attica	Kids are depressed and need interaction and teachers to teach them. Online is too lax! They are not being educated enough online. Please open schools with no masks! We really need this!!
7/21/2020 5:49:21	David	Heath	Self	WICHITA	You need to look at the KDHE July 7th virus map; the numbers do not justify neither a Statewide delay of school nor mask-wearing students. Of 105 counties, 50 have single digit cases (0-9); a further 15 have <25 cases. 40 counties have 25 cases or more & of these 40, 16 have <50 cases. Only 24 of 105 counties (23% of the State) have 50+ cases. Those counties with cases that rise into the hundreds or more have the only true claim to needing the Governor's two Executive Orders. This is a very clear case of Statewide Governmental overreach and Gov. Kelly not paying attention to her own statistics.
7/21/2020 5:50:07	Becky	Price	Usd 459 Bucklin	Bucklin	Please open schools on time! Do not wait til Labor Day! Kids need to be in school and to play sports!
7/21/2020 5:51:08	Jamie	Panek		Pratt, KS	I ask that you fight the governor's order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. My daughter has not been in school since March and has already missed so much. She's in Pre-K and online learning is not conducive to 4 and 5 year olds. We have a limited number of active COVID-19 cases and our schools/administrators/teachers have action plans in place and are ready. I think that delaying the school start date is going to limit my child's learning as a resurgence is expected in the fall. If anything, our children should be in school now...not later.  I understand the need to delay the school start date for schools that are experiencing higher numbers of COVID19, but one size does not fit all. That decision needs to be up to the districts, health departments and city to best determine, not the Governor.  Please push for school start date determined by individual communities. Thank you.
7/21/2020 5:52:27	Amanda	Goebel	USD 361 school board	Anthony	Yes, please postpone school until September
7/21/2020 5:53:18	Emily	Nichols		Hesston	I don't feel strongly either way about a start date. But I do feel strongly that my child needs to be back in school. I'm more concerned with teachers being ready than exposure to Covid. Exposure will most likely happen and I've made peace with that. Last spring was a disaster. If we have to work online again I want the teachers to be ready with good, valuable content, not busy work.
7/21/2020 5:54:14	Gayla	Peterson-Whitney		Kensington	I am ok for wearing masks, we have 2 children our oldest (asthmatic) will be in 4 year old preschool this year. Our youngest has viral induced asthma and pharyngeal phase dysphagia she struggles with poor lungs. They both know how to properly wear a mask. I feel that with the unknown of how Covid-19 will affect each person that becomes positive and that asymptomatic carriers can spread it with out knowing it will be the safest option for our household. I am fine with a later start date if it will help figuring out how to get the kids back in school.

7/21/2020 5:54:26	Stacy	Edmondson	My family	Columbus	School needs to start in August .....as regularly scheduled. The kids routine has already been thrown way out of whack. There is no reason to delay them anymore, move on with life. I am a bus driver, and a single mother of 4, I cannot afford to be unpaid for 1 month. We are already prepared enough, just rip off the band aid, and dive in head first and deal with it as it appears.
7/21/2020 5:54:40	Adam	McDaniel	Myself	Elkhart	Please support the order, it only makes sense!
7/21/2020 5:54:47	Lindsey	Peterson		Burlington	I think that the last six months is more than enough time for a plan to be developed. My children want to go back. They are bored, depressed and have been less active. They miss interaction with their peers and miss challenging themselves and learning new things. I am a nurse. I have been going to work non-stop since this has happened. I wear a mask everyday. I have not nor has my family gotten Co-vid 19. Wear masks and have the children go to school.
7/21/2020 5:55:06	Tabatha	Welch	My children	Cherryvale	I have no issue delaying school. It's just a few weeks. - so far anyways. I do have an issue with mandating masks and hourly hand sanitizer. They are kids. Let their immune systems do their job!
7/21/2020 5:56:18	Marshall	Kolb	Family	Overland Park	Please don't delay. The students need to be in school to learn. They need to be in school for their education, emotional and mental health. Give the kids hope by opening schools! Be BRAVE! ... not cowardly.
7/21/2020 5:57:40	Carrie	Miller	USD430	Everest	Kids wearing masks is useless. They will not be cleaned or worn correctly by most students or staff. This mandate of waiting until after Labor Day is useless she will just keep pushing back the date to start. Next it will be blamed on travel over this holiday. Each school should be evaluated individually not all counties have a lot of active cases. She should NOT have the say it should be made at the local level.
7/21/2020 5:59:14	Barbara	Kolb		Overland Park	Please consider opening schools on time. I believe students need structure for growth and learning. There needs to be a balance between the fear of the virus and the social emotional well-being of the children.
7/21/2020 6:00:37	Deana	Stroer		Wichita	It is negligent to reopen schools before we have control of this virus. Do not be negligent with the lives of children and staff.
7/21/2020 6:02:25	Alisa	Whitacre	OUR FAMILY	Olathe	I am grateful for the delay. I am concerned for everyone's health in the schools. The stress involved to keep social distance & cleaning is going to be overwhelming. I see a teacher shortage in our future. I see children full of anxiety they will become sick.
7/21/2020 6:04:23	Christina	Roberson		Cherryvale	I have a few thoughts- either leave this up to individual schools/districts to decide what to do, or don't require the hours to be made up. I teach kindergarten/first grade at a Catholic school. We only have 70 kids K-8th grade. We will not have the difficulties social distancing that larger schools will have. There are also counties that only have 10-15 cases total since this started. I see no reason why they couldn't go back as well. If we can't go back to in person teaching, allow us to do something educational with our students. Let us send home packets, do zoom meetings, etc. I don't understand why we couldn't do things online and on paper from home during this time. Again, I would like this part of the decision to be left to the local decision makers. I don't want to fight the parents every step of the way like we did last spring so I think allowing individual schools to decide how to proceed would help . If you insist on keeping us from teaching and going to school don't require the hours to be made up. We are going to have a difficult enough time this year, don't add this to it. Thank you for giving us a way to express our thoughts on this matter.
7/21/2020 6:04:39	Sean	Hayden		Eudora	I agree with the order in regards to the delayed start of school. On the other hand- sports have been operating all summer safely and this is a smaller percentage of student population. We should be able to begin sport practices before school starts so that our fall seasons aren't cut short. We have already been doing it all summer.
7/21/2020 6:04:59	Madison	Rogers		Leonardville	While I understand the concern for starting school at normal times with the raising questions on if we will have another spike in the virus this fall, I also see and feel personally the need to start school as usual. Our kids need this structure and direction that they are looking forward to. Not every parent has the opportunity to take the time off work to provide elearning for their student, myself included in this. Each child has the right to a well rounded public education.

7/21/2020 6:05:49	Joanna	Nickson		Overland Park	Please open schools as scheduled! My son has not had his IEP assessed since February. Waiting till after Labor Day will mean over six months of no services! How will he catch up and recover!? He needs face to face services as soon as possible!
7/21/2020 6:05:50	Jennifer	Clark	Christian Learning Cent	Girard	Please allow schools to open on their original start date.
7/21/2020 6:06:00	Elaine	Parker	Mission Valley USD330	Harveyville	Please open schools and let the students be in the classroom. The kids need school, sports and the other clubs.
7/21/2020 6:07:15	Shannon	Hendricks	Lyons USD 405	Sterling	I agree with the governor's mandate. School districts need time to plan and provide professional development for all staff. We want to have a safe plan for both our students and staff members.
7/21/2020 6:07:52	Rebecca	Heiman	Parents	Garden City	I don't mind that we wait until after Labor Day to start classes because I feel we start too early normally. I do feel strongly that students need to be in the classroom and not learning online at home. If it's decided to go online, I will probably use Khan Academy, or another proven online platform, to teach my child (8th grader).
7/21/2020 6:08:47	Cory	Clausing	Family	Topeka	School should start on time in August with kids being present in the classroom. K to 6th grade should have NO mask.
7/21/2020 6:09:06	Joy	Schmidt		Pratt	I have already emailed my district representative regarding this matter, but my views have changed. I still do not feel a one size fits all model is what is best for Kansas communities. With that being said educators are in a loop of not knowing or waiting for a decision. Guidelines were made and then we had to wait to get them, then Governor Kelly announces a delay on the 17th, it is now the 21st and we are still waiting to know what will happen. Some schools are planning on starting in 3 weeks. As an educator being in the middle of all this limbo, I feel strongly that the delay will give us all time to help our students be the best. I have always been told that if you do what is best for the students then you will never go wrong. Is that getting them back in the classroom ASAP or giving the schools, teachers, and faculty time to get their rooms ready and curriculum being taught 3 different ways ready? When teachers are at their best then students will feel safer and have a better learning environment. I thank you all for your time and dedication to education in Kansas. I pray for each of you as you make a decision regarding this matter, as I am sure it is no easy task in these unprecedented times.
7/21/2020 6:09:21	Marlene	Lira	Parent	Lenexa Ks	Please make our schools safe. I work in healthcare and Covid is real! Look at the science, not the politics
7/21/2020 6:09:38	Melissa	Straus		Lenexa	Please follow the Governor's order as that is in the best interest to our public health. The virus will continue to spread rapidly as we don't have a handle on it and we can't all agree on public safety. Masks need to be mandatory for all citizens.
7/21/2020 6:10:10	Jaimie	Clausing	Family	Topeka	Kids should be present in school full time. K to 6th grade NO mask. The kids could not concentrate with masks on.
7/21/2020 6:11:32	Lindsey	guillen	Shawnee Mission School	Overland Park	please uphold Governor Kelly's decision to delay the start of the school year. With cases rising this is one of the best things we can do right now. We can't even buy hand sanitizer or clorox wipes at this point. Our best option right now would be to do virtual school for the first semester. There are too many people involved, with too many uncontrollable variables.
7/21/2020 6:12:16	Tammy	Thompson		Caldwell	Please start school as normal! My son needs to be back in class. Virtual learning is not best for all! Give us the choice!
7/21/2020 6:12:41	Kit	Blackwood		Overland Park	Even considering in person school right now is completely irresponsible. I don't have children, but this affects so much more than just the families with kids. The students, teachers, and staff would be in danger. Their families as well and our communities as large. I have several friends that are teachers that I am downright terrified for.
7/21/2020 6:13:03	Bret	Goter	USD 259	Wichita	Please vote in favor of the executive orders. We NEED the time to prepare!
7/21/2020 6:15:19	Brenda	Diederich	Usd320	Wamego	Online school only this fall. Don't want to die.
7/21/2020 6:15:29	Jennifer	Wahrman	USD 382	Pratt	I'm a high school business teacher at Pratt High School, and I feel the school year needs to begin as normal as possible. Masks should be a parent choice, and using hand sanitizer is dangerous, especially for children, and so often during the day. You've already provided many options for parents to choose - classroom, remote, or virtual. Don't take these options away from families by continuing to push the school start date further and further back. I do have many questions for my district such as remote teaching and sick leave, but I believe those are local decisions. Every district in KS is different, and we need to do what's best for our facility, staff, and students. Thank you for all you've done during these trying times.

7/21/2020 6:15:58	Hallee	Piechocki	I am a parent and a teacher	Olathe	What kind of lifelong therapy will be provided to students that lose teachers and peers to Covid-19? Dealing with the loss of precious children and valued community members that have dedicated their lives to helping children and families is an absolute certainty if we ignore experts and medical professionals.
7/21/2020 6:16:43	Anna	Cyr		Buhler	<p>Please continue to do the best by our state and allow our local districts to make the final decisions regarding their individual start of school plans rather than enforcing a statewide mandate that likely does not reflect the true needs of the students in our great state.</p> <p>It feels as though our state's leading office has no trust in our local educators. We understand the risks involved with returning groups of students to classrooms. We also understand the great risk involved in not returning students to the place where their mental health and progress to being the future leaders of our great state is best addressed.</p> <p>As a parent whose children desperately desire to be in school and also as a special educator, I understand we are in the midst of a crisis in which physical safety is in jeopardy. I ask that you also consider the ongoing impact on the mental health of our students after not being in their safe place for nearly 6 months. Keeping our hospitals within capacity to care for the physically ill is crucial. However, keeping our already stressed social services, foster care and mental health organizations from breaking is also crucial. Physical safety is of little benefit if the mental health of our state is in extreme jeopardy.</p>
7/21/2020 6:17:00	Denah	Jensen	The United States of America	Lincoln	The school year needs to start on time... no delays.... NO MASK NO SHIELDS, NO SOCIAL DISTANCING...and NO DEATH WAVIER EITHER!!!! most of these kids have already interacted with many other kids throughout the summer, most of the teachers and school staff have as well. There will be no fake SCAMDEMIC POSITIVE test that shuts down the school and hold the children hostage from their parents! NO MORE COMMON CORE indoctrination education! NO MORE PEDOPHILE EDUCATION!!!! NO GENDER IDENTIFICATION EDUCATION EITHER!!! TEACH OUR CHILDREN TO READ, WRITE, DO MATH and SCIENCE!!! THAT IS WHAT OUR TAXES ARE PAYING FOR!!! If this is something that is refused... then my taxes and the taxes of my fellow citizens need refunded! and the School Board of Education and All entities related need to be dissolved. With no school YOU are NOT NEEDED!!!
7/21/2020 6:17:23	Terri	Luebbers	USD 480	Liberal	Kids need to go back to school! Kids need socializing, learning & a consistent environment.
7/21/2020 6:18:22	Robert	Schofer	Teachers	Lansing	The delay is a very necessary tool for preparations of Covid safety: the ordering safety equipment/supplies and the creation of new lessons/procedures to keep our students safe while learning high quality content. We NEED this time for training and for making sure we are consistent in following the guidelines adopted by the Kansas State Board of Education.
7/21/2020 6:19:36	Becky	Weaver	USD 348	Baldwin City	I'm in favor of not opening schools until they can be a safe environment for all attending and working in them.
7/21/2020 6:20:08	Laci	Lewis		Edgerton	Please do not do online schooling, parents will not be able to work and provide for their families and monitor their kids school. If schools can do strength and conditioning like they currently are then we can have school
7/21/2020 6:21:10	Karen	Bishop	Olathe Schools - both parents	Olathe	Please support the governor's order to delay the start of school so the state has time to get cases under control and the schools have time to prepare.
7/21/2020 6:21:49	Catherine	Horton		Atwood	Please consider the full well-being of our children & let them begin the school year as soon as possible..
7/21/2020 6:22:03	Kimberly	Lewis	Concerned grandparent	Wichita	No school til after September
7/21/2020 6:22:31	Abbie	Wells	USD-457	Garden City	I am very in favor of delaying school opening until after Labor day
7/21/2020 6:22:47	Debra	McElroy		Wichita	Delay start until no new cases!

7/21/2020 6:23:11	Jessica	Lang	Valley Center USD 262	Park City	Delaying school until Sept. 9th is fine, but after that these children need to be back IN PERSON to school. I have a daughter who fits that "perfect student" mold, 3.7-4.0 GPA and this has effected her emotionally, mentally, and physically by not attending school. On-line is a joke, you lose EVERYTHING school represents. My son has and IEP and being without physical attendance in person has done nothing but drive him farther and farther behind. We are losing him if I can't get him back to his routine with teachers, SPED, support staff. We have NEVER shut schools down for a sever influenza season before or viruses until now and it needs to stop. We are risking ruining this next generation because further delay will only weaken their mental health, physical health, and knowledge. Please make the right decision to get schools rolling again in person and mandate school districts to do so. If people are afraid to send their kids, fine, make a virtual school available for them. But, don't make all the kids suffer since a few voices are louder than others. Our school district took an online survey and 78.8% of parents request in person learning at school to reassume. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 6:23:11	Cris	Altman		Overland Park	We have been fighting this since March. Shouldn't schools have been working all this time to secure items needed and prepare plans to begin school on time. I am not sure we are sending our children to school. I don't think rules will be observed to distance and wear masks. Honestly, we are unsure what we will do. However, we have been sitting in limbo all summer waiting to find out and just when our district is close to releasing a plan, the governor pulls this move, which not only delays the start of school, but also delays the plan, which will give parents the information they need. This order should have been issued no later than May, allowing schools to plan appropriately. Further, I believe that schools have been planning to include most, if not all items needed to meet the requirements of her order. If not, they are delinquent. This order seems superfluous to me and more of a political move than anything. If she wanted to provide the most benefit, she could have relaxed bureaucratic rules that will undoubtedly handcuff local school districts. My children, starting school in September, now will likely not see school end until some time in June, which will affect their ability to attend camps, visit family, work, etc. all of which also provide them important educational opportunities because summer next year will be a month shorter at a time when they will be again able to do these things as a vaccine should be in place by that time. It seems that with ample planning, schools should be able to start on time, even if it be in an online situation, had they been given the information needed early enough.
7/21/2020 6:23:17	Leroy	Lewis	Concerned grandparent	Wichita	No school til after September
7/21/2020 6:24:27	Gabrielle	Radford	None	Kansas City, Ks	We should absolutely delay the opening of schools until it is sad for teachers and students. I actually don't believe the governor's executive goes far enough. We know from experience that people are going to gather on Labor Day. The incubation period for this virus is two weeks. I do not believe our kids should be in school buildings before that incubation period is complete. We should do online school if possible.
7/21/2020 6:25:09	Karen	Vlamis	Teacher	Wichita	I do support the Governor's school start delay until after Labor Day. I believe this gives our district staff time to acquire supplies and to digest the State Board's document in order to implement appropriately. I also believe that this delay gives us a better chance of implementing in-person school quicker. Thank you.
7/21/2020 6:25:17	Amanda	Riggs	USD 305	Salina	We need to precede with school as planned in August whether it be remote or on site. Our students need some normalcy and routine back, especially our special education students.  As a parent I feel safe sending my daughter back and I know she is longing for her routine to return.  As an educator with an Autoimmune Disease, I feel protected by the measures CKCIE/USD 305 are implementing. I understand all districts are not prepared and this is where they can start off remotely.  We also have IEPs that are due prior to September and currently the state is still requiring us to have them completed on time. We cannot thoroughly do this without interaction with our students.
7/21/2020 6:25:18	David	Pollak		Overland Park	Stop putting the kids mental health at risk by keeping them out of school. The science backs the kids being in school. Stop making this a political decision. Do the RIGHT thing Governor Kelly and get the kids back in school.



7/21/2020 6:25:32	Laura	Armstrong	Usd 233	Olathe	Vote yes to follow Governor Kelly's mandate. I keep hearing about how this is the school board's decision and some of you are afraid of what will happen in the future. This is a pandemic. We need to deal with the future now. Keep is safe.
7/21/2020 6:27:29	Brenda	Nicholas	Brenda's Child Care	Olathe	No way should school be held for this first semester! Reevaluate in November/ December to consider for next semester! You should never risk a child's life with a virus that has killed so many! And the child could take this virus home and expose parents, grandparents or daycares to it! If my child or grandchild were made ill because if a choice the school made I would hold the school liable. There is no reason why you can not keep kids safe and have elearning at home with the teachers teaching the kids! Please keep all our kids safe!!!!
7/21/2020 6:28:22	Scott	Schechter	Myself and my family at	Hugoton	Leave us alone, we have always taken care of ourselves. We can do it now. We are intelligent enough to take care of one another and social distance when necessary. We do not need the state or federal government to tell us how to do it. We are independent.
7/21/2020 6:28:31	Brandie	Sliger		Baxter springs	I truly feel like it should be delayed due to all the new cases that keep coming up.. And i don't feel virtual school works being the kids aren't learning anything. And some parents are doing the work for their child. Which is hurting them more than helping. So delay the yr till after labor day and see how its going then.. My son is a senior at Baxter springs high school and on the football team there. This is supposed to be his best yr..but we understand completely about the unprecedented times right now. We'd rather be healthy and alive then push school openings and several of our own children getting sick and possibly dieing.
7/21/2020 6:28:53	Wayne	Carter	School transportation	Highland	I feel we should base decisions on returning back to school by district. Having a district with low Covid cases shouldn't be compared to a district with higher numbers. Also returning virtual for the first 9 weeks would be a much safer approach than taking the chances of infecting the whole school. Small, safe and gradual steps to reopening schools. Our kids need learning even if it means virtually. We can't let this be political.
7/21/2020 6:29:28	Heidi	Thies		Augusta	Please keep our schools open. Our children need to be in school learning in-person amongst their peers. I have seen first hand, how the social and emotional affects are taking a toll on my children. I also strongly encourage you to not make masks required for those under 12 years of age. My 8-yo can't even keep it on for church or a doctors appt without playing with it and trying to eat it. He will not be the only child that struggles with it. They will be a huge distraction to their learning. Thank you for taking consideration for our thoughts. May God bless you all.
7/21/2020 6:29:43	Alexandria	Curtisbush	305 district	Salina , ks	My son has a lung disease and if he were to catch coronavirus, he would not make it. I have an immune condition, I would be the same outcome. Starting school is not something we are prepared for with how things are right now.
7/21/2020 6:29:43	Julie	Kichler	Sek interlocal rise center	Mecune	I Believe that delaying schools is a great idea because this will give schools time to get the proper supplies needed to keep the students and teachers safe. I dont think delaying schools is a big problem right now.
7/21/2020 6:29:45	Meg	Pilla		Valley Center	I support the delay of schools. Please consider ALL who are in the buildings. Students, teachers, paras, admin, cooks, custodians, and so on.
7/21/2020 6:30:03	Troy	Fischer		Wichita	Thank you to the board for reading these comments. As a 5th-12th grade educator for the past 12 years, here are my thoughts on the decision to delay the start of school to after Labor Day:  Yes, this is the right thing to do. School districts need more time to prepare social distancing / mask guidelines in their buildings and more time to train teachers on procedures for this pandemic year. The advice in Harry Wong's "First Days of School" rings so true here—the first few weeks of school are HUGELY important to the effectiveness of each teacher over this entire year. A rushed, half-hearted, roll out of Covid 19 regulations and guidelines in KS schools will leave teachers, and students, in awkward, uncomfortable, and ultimately risky positions.  The goal is to keep our society as open as possible and normalcy to return. A few extra weeks for district's leadership to get procedures and directives to each teacher and classroom is the right thing to do for the longevity, and effectiveness, of this school year. Help keep students, teachers, and at risk family members safe from this potentially deadly virus we are still learning how to fight.
7/21/2020 6:30:24	Jennifer	Potter		Girard	Although I'm very excited to get back to "normal" and see my school kids, I'm very worried about what opening up too soon could cause. I think pushing school opening back until after Labor Day would be the best and safest route as of now. Thank you.

7/21/2020 6:30:30	Cory	Graupmann		Goddard	I am a mom of 3 public school kids and I am also a para. I think school should be left to start after Labor Day. Kansas kids have dealt with so many changes since March. We all know what the Governor said last week, our kids know that and I don't feel it's good for Kansas kids to reverse what the Governor said. That would be another change. We need school, we need to be back in the building and this also gives Kansas schools plenty of time to prepare.
7/21/2020 6:30:33	Crystin	Domsch		Goodland	School delays and measures taken to prevent Covid-19 should be left up each individual district school board. We have many small schools in Kansas in which students are basically social distanced already due to the small nature of the school. Covid-19 has a 99% survival rate and studies are showing that asymptomatic carriers do not infect others at high rates, if at all. I have attached a link for reference. <a href="https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32513410/">https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32513410/</a> Delaying school only hurts our children mentally. Myself, as a Mother, of 4 have seen the effects first hand. My children are stressed at the idea of homeschool (they love school) and are sad about not seeing their friends. Social distancing has directly effected their happiness. In a fast paced world with constant stressors our children deserve to feel safe and as stress free at school as possible. Implementing masks in schools will only harm our children further. Rebreathing CO2, your bodies natural waste, can have many negative effects on the body. As a Mother of two children born with lung issues and another with severe allergies I will not subject my children to anything that could further harm their bodies and enhance these issues. I, for one, will not be sending my children to school if this happens. We have very competent school boards in Kansas and I fully believe that each district will make the best decision for their schools due to the schools size, number of cases in the area and the precautions they deem necessary. After all, many of the board members where I reside also have children in the schools they oversee. Our childrens safety should be something discussed us, as parents, and board members we trust, not a governor that thinks "one size fits all" in every situation. Thank you for your time and allowing the public to comment. I look forward to hearing your determination.
7/21/2020 6:31:55	Amanda	Glotsbach	USD 330 Mission Valle	Wamego	I think extending the start date will give Admistration, staff, teachers, and parents the much needed TIME to get in person, online, AND hybrid models created for the beginning of the year. I am an educator, I know some responsibility for sanitizing will fall on me, I feel it will be necessary to have proper training on how this should be accomplished. A single day for professional development on sanitizing is NOT enough when we are talking about 100+ students who will be in my room daily without a schedule change. I feel that if staff goes back at our normal date this will give us three weeks to practice, prepare, and set up essential programs and practices we will need to provide when school is back in session, regardless of what model will be best for students.
7/21/2020 6:32:15	Christina	Long	Self	Wamego	I support both of Governor Kelly's orders - requiring masks for kids in school and pushing the start of the year after September. These are common sense approaches to a public health crisis that center on the health and well being of kids (not to mention teachers, parents and grandparents). Thank you.

					<p>I implore you to support Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of our public schools until after Labor Day. I also ask you to support any efforts to implement remote instruction until it is safe to return to school in person. Believe me I need to return to my classroom to teach. It is my job, it is part of my identity, and it is what brings me joy; however, at this time it is not safe. I will do whatever it takes to teach this year, but I cannot and will not do it in person until it is safe to do so.</p> <p>I am a full-time, high school teacher, and this will be my 21st year in education. I am also a parent of a middle school student, a wife, and a daughter of elderly parents in the high risk category. For selfish reasons I do not wish to put myself or any of my loved ones in danger. I also would not know how to live with the idea that I could potentially cause the illness to spread to a student, a colleague, a staff member, or any of their loved ones.</p> <p>I'm sure you have been bombarded with all kinds of questions and requests, and I'm sure you will carefully consider each as you decide.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration and for your service.</p>
7/21/2020 6:32:16	Shelley	Moran	None	Overland Park	
7/21/2020 6:32:22	Claudia	Oehmler		Lacygne	<p>Please vote DOWN the governor's orders. It is major overreach. Many counties are ready to open, which is why one size fits all doesn't work. We need to let local boards decide!</p> <p>Good morning</p>
7/21/2020 6:32:31	Kelly	Byrd		Leawood	<p>My husband is an oncologist and I am a pediatrician. I wanted to comment of school openings. I cannot understand medically how delaying school opening for 3 weeks will accomplish anything (aside from confusion and angst for kids, decreased education, difficulty with parental career stability, etc.). Clearly, COVID did not just go away after the first peak and will likely be dealt with in one way or another for a while now. However, the whole point of "flattening the curve" was to keep the medical community from being overwhelmed. I can tell you this clearly never came close to being reality in Kansas, and really questionably never happened in the U.S. (i.e. no patient ever died due to lack of ventilator). The details of that are important because one must ask what is the point of delaying schools opening. While we have seen a spike in COVID cases (some, but not all, is related to increased testing), the cases are clearly less severe overall. Most importantly, daily deaths from COVID has not significantly increased with the latest increase in cases. Also, clearly kids rarely become very sick from the illness and not a single person under 29 in Kansas has died from it. The only case I could see being made for delaying school openings is if the hospitals were about to be overwhelmed, but they are not. Therefore, delaying school openings for three weeks does nothing more than delays the inevitable. Clearly more people will get COVID. That will be true if schools open in August or at Labor Day. We must do what we can to reasonably mitigate risk (i.e. NOT taking temperatures on site of all students daily and NOT having kindergartners wearing masks at school), but schools must reopen and it makes most sense for them to open on schedule.</p> <p>With all the said, I think COVID statistics must also be kept in perspective. We live in Johnson County, so I have looked mostly at their data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Johnson County is a county of 600,000 people. In JOCO, 96 people have died from COVID. In the same average 60-day span, around 1700 people die from all causes in JOCO (assuming daily US deaths are distributed equally around the nation)</li> <li>- Another way to look at it is that daily COVID deaths in Kansas is recently less than 2 per day. Each day in Kansas there are 74 all cause deaths.</li> <li>- In Kansas, not a single person under age 29 has died of COVID. Of note there are tragically over 9,000 all cause</li> </ul>
7/21/2020 6:32:42	Tamara	Piccone	Usd 482 and 303	Dighton	No to both masks for everyone not just students and no to delayed start.
7/21/2020 6:32:51	Cassie	Nech		Lawrence	I stand by Laura Kelly and her Executive Order to delay the start of schools. This will give both schools and parents time to better prepare.

7/21/2020 6:33:18	Wanda	Thill	Mulvane Kansas	Mulvane	I am for this delay! I have a lower immune system child and waiting to go to school till we have a immunization I am for.
7/21/2020 6:34:00	Angela	Wagoner		Olathe	It would be acceptable to open schools after Labor Day, as long as there is a plan / direction for what will happen if we still cannot do all in person learning after that. These kids need to be in school.
7/21/2020 6:34:11	Wendy	Elmore	My grandson (2nd grade	Derby KS	We need to keep our school Employees and students safe. Covid has effected all of us in some way. Starting school late is not much of a price to pay to keep people safe. Our numbers are climbing in part because people don't follow guide lines. Our health care workers are publicly pleading with us to wear masks and social distance. My message to you is follow the guide lines. We aren't taking any of your rights but you are taking away the students right to go back to a safe environment. We are all in this together if all work together we can beat this thing businesses can open up and we all can get to some kind of normal. WEAR YOUR MASK and SOCIAL DISTANCE!!!
7/21/2020 6:34:15	Briana	White	Parent	Great Bend	I feel like school needs to be delayed here until everyone is comfortable with the plan moving forward. Our number of cases is higher now then it has ever been. We are one of the families that have a child with special needs (weakened immune system) and we are very worried. To outright deny what science is telling us is absurd. Everyone does need to take this virus seriously.
7/21/2020 6:34:18	Frankey	Schmidt		Ingalls	We need time to prepare for the start of school - waiting until after labor day would help us accommodate our students/ teachers. Getting the PPE needed will take some time, preparing for the many changes that will likely occur - we need the extra time.
7/21/2020 6:34:58	bryan	wiese		Leawood	I'm in strong support of Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of school for two reasons - 1) safety of our teachers, admins, and students and 2) gives our teachers adequate time to fully prepare to teach in this environment, with state/district guidelines turned into actions
7/21/2020 6:35:06	Rhonda	Willome	USD 259	Wichita	Please delay school so we can have few more weeks to get past rise in virus and have more time to prepare for safe return of staff and students. Wichita especially needs this, but to drop rates of virus in ALL of Kansas, we need a uniform decision. I know smaller districts are ready to roll, but most Wichita parents will send kids regardless of illness symptoms and ability to keep kids home. Thank you.
7/21/2020 6:35:10	Debra	Hamilton	Parent	Pratt	World Health Organization released April 6. says healthy people don't need to wear face masks.  1. Schools had all summer to create safe environments for students. They do not need another 3 weeks to continue to create safe spaces. 2. What is to stop the governor from repeatedly delaying and forcing more E.O. On schools? 3. Will the next E.O. Or forced decision be forced vaccine to attend school with no opt out options? 4. Why are school districts not being allowed to not make the proper determination for their size and outbreak status? Rural VS metro have different needs. JO, LV, DG, SH, FO, FI, SE & SG have larger population/outbreaks therefore different needs. 5. Were masks used during flu season? No! But now they are being made mandatory for the children just in case someone might be carrying the virus without symptoms. Dr. Raszka, a pediatric infectious disease specialist at the University of Vermont's Larner College of Medicine, said children are not good spreaders of the virus to adults.  Does this include every school in Kansas? Every child required to wear a mask regardless of age? Is there no opt out? Parental rights are no longer allowed/respected at school??

7/21/2020 6:35:13	Erica	Shook	Educator	McPherson	<p>I am writing to you today as a concerned educator--one who is begging you to follow Governor Kelly's executive order to hold off the start of school.</p> <p>Here is the reality: we all want to be back in our classrooms with our kids. I do not care for teaching online, and my own children do not learn particularly well online. The problem, though, is that there is absolutely no way that going back to school can be done safely following CDC guidelines at this time. Class sizes are too big. Staff numbers are too small. Competitive salaries to employ enough custodial help to keep things adequately sanitized are non-existent. Many districts don't have the technology or infrastructure to successfully pull off simultaneous in-person and remote learning. While school funding has begun to look better under Governor Kelly's leadership, it was so inadequate for so long that funding to purchase the supplies that are going to be needed to come close to pulling this off won't be available. And if they are, it will again be at the expense of appropriate teacher raises at a time when teachers are working exponentially harder with less than they ever have. Teachers can not keep supplying these things out-of-pocket.</p> <p>Here are my other concerns:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I am hearing very few conversations about the safety of Kansas teachers. I am certainly not seeing anyone trying to gather data on how many Kansas teachers have their own health issues that put them at high risk. I am not seeing anyone trying to gather data on how many Kansas teachers have loved ones at home with health issues that put them at high risk. Why are our lives and families less important in these discussions?</li> <li>2. I am not hearing anyone talk about the safety of our pregnant teachers or brand new mothers with infants at home.</li> <li>3. I am hearing very few conversations about the logistics of meeting IEP requirements when many of our paras are older and at high risk.</li> </ol> <p>BUT, here is the big one for me. I am hearing A LOT of arguments about students not receiving adequate meals at home, or worse yet, that many are being abused at home and school is their safe haven. This breaks my heart. Every</p>
7/21/2020 6:35:17	Carol	Lipke-Hyle		Haysville	<p>Let them go to school. They have already missed out on so much with closing school last March. It is not any worse or better than any other viruses or flu that we have had to overcome in last 100s of years. If you want to keep your child home do it but let everyone else let their kids go to school. They need the socialization. And masks for k-5th is insane. They will not leave them on.</p>
7/21/2020 6:35:20	Craig	Koehn		Montezuma KS	<p>I don't think we should delay from starting school on normal time. I do want students to be safe. I accept the hand washing needs to be more often, the masks on every student, teacher and staff when in close contact (no mask when social distancing or eating. I don't see how it's feasible to take temperatures of every student before school starts. Especially standing in line at 1 or 2 main entrance. Seems like that should be parents job to make sure their children are healthy before heading to school. I just don't see how delaying the start of school changes anything. The stay at home orders flatten the curve. After things opened back up the number of cases went up again and that was expected. Unfortunately we need to learn how to live without being forced to stay home or delaying school or school activities.</p>
7/21/2020 6:35:51	Devin	Scrogum	Self	Prairie Village	<p>With a growing number of CoVID cases, it would be irresponsible to start schools as normal. Since we can not mandate distance learning, we have to delay the start till cases go down for 2 weeks straight.</p>

					<p>With over 25 years in the field of education, I implore each of you to agree to delay the start of the Kansas school year. It is imperative that the BOE follow the guidelines and data provided by our health professionals and infectious disease specialists.</p> <p>Do not be swayed by political agendas. As BOE members, you all have a sworn duty to protect the lives of Kansas students, teachers, and staff whom will be placed in environments conducive to Covid-19 exposure.</p> <p>Keep in mind there are a number of US school systems that normally do not begin the school year until after the Labor Day holiday. These school systems have just as many school days as Kansas schools. They simply start later and end later.</p>
7/21/2020 6:36:04	Holly	Milkowart		Louisburg	Thank you.
7/21/2020 6:36:15	Kelly	Jenkinson	Student	Difhton	Please allow school to start on time and no masks. My child will not keep it on all day and it's not good to keep them on all day.
7/21/2020 6:36:49	Holly	Engel		Halstead	I do not support the delay of the start of school. My 12 year old daughter commented to me the other day that her reading and vocabulary skills had declined. That was devastating for me to realize that she is acutely aware that not having classroom instruction has not benefited her in any form. The kids are yearning to get back to learning. I don't feel the delay will change the transmission of COVID. We can not be scared of what might or might not happen with the transmission of COVID. I am 100% not concerned about my children getting COVID at school.
7/21/2020 6:36:54	Amber	Montgomery	Sun	Salina	Yes, delay opening schools.
7/21/2020 6:36:58	Jami	Reever	NA	Emporia	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order. Waiting a few more weeks to start school gives us a better chance to decrease the cases and be able to stay in school. The date that classes start shouldn't be the issue, the issue should be making sure we can safely. Masks should be required.
7/21/2020 6:37:04	Katy	Hendry	KCKPS	Merriam	Please approve these measures as it will help ensure the safety of all staff and students! It will give us more time to prepare for whatever school will look like. Cases are out of control and our number one job is to keep kids safe. You need to keep us safe so we can in turn keep them safe.
7/21/2020 6:37:37	Aaron	Chiappetti	USD 259	Wichita	Kansas BOE, keep your political views and sides out of your decision and vote to delay schools so we have time to prepare. The safety of the children and staff of Kansas should be your number one priority. Your priority should not be doing what "conspiracy politics" would do.
7/21/2020 6:38:33	Kendra	Heinen	Parent	Everest	I do not believe a one-size-fits-all approach is appropriate in KS; therefore, the Governor's executive orders regarding start time and masks for students should be negated. Pushing back the start time to after Labor Day, giving schools more time to plan, in itself is a fine idea, but how do we know the push back ends on Sept 9? What if there are schools who have worked on their plan all summer and feel confident reopening as regularly scheduled? What if there are schools (rural KS) where social distancing and other measures are easily accomplished? Should they not have the right to open? Should they be required to wear masks? I do not want anyone (staff, student, citizen) to be infected with Covid (or any other illness for that matter) if it can be avoided; however, I believe there are other considerations besides physical health which need to be considered. Many of our students did not, and even with better plans in place, will not receive age/grade/learning level appropriate course work through remote learning. What about those requiring special education services such as speech/OT/PT? Have you weighed the mental health concerns for all children, but especially those in unstable, at-risk families? I believe a segment of our population will choose another option this year, so children don't have to participate in this roller coaster of uncertainty. Have you considered that some of those will have a successful experience with homeschool or private school and will not return to public education? Going back to school sooner, rather than later, is the right choice! A choice I hope you make!

7/21/2020 6:40:08	Meaghan	Coble	Teacher in KCK	Kansas City	It is irresponsible to open school when protections can't be guaranteed for students or staff. I understand opening if we had the necessary funding for PPE (including N95s for teachers, not paper masks), abundant cleaning supplies, etc, but our district has only proposed 2 masks per person and maybe some face shields. This doesn't protect us. I am a music teacher who is high risk for the virus. I will come in contact with 500+ students per week with virtually no protection. Please do not ask your staff to risk their lives to teach. It isn't safe. The wise thing would be to start after Labor Day when protections can be in place.
7/21/2020 6:40:29	Beth	Skalsky		Olpe, ks	Rural schools can open safely on time, not delayed
7/21/2020 6:40:42	Kendra	Bringman	Tax Payer, Mother of St	Overland Park	Gov. Kelly recommended schools close Wednesday, July 15. KSDE is voting A WEEK LATE! 7 days where parents could have been arranging child care for back to school or prepping for back to school. Instead we are in a purgatory of waiting. Please make a decision and confidently walk in that choose path. The lack of confidence from the districts, school boards and the wishy-washy statements are annoying. Everyone in the education field has lost credibility with my tax payers. I would like my kids to go back to school. I would not like the NEA to instill fear of death into the teacher. Resources are available if someone puts forth the effort.
7/21/2020 6:40:55	Mike	Kelso	Kelso Family Farms	Eudora	I am writing this to encourage your support of the Orders from Governor Keny in regards to the start of the school year. As a current member of the Eudora USD 491 School Board, I take my responsibilities in regards to Public Education in Kansas very seriously. I do understand how important the education of our young people is and how important face to face education is, but I also know we must do it the right, safe and correct way. Delaying (not cancelling) for three weeks will allow districts across the state to gather the necessary supplies, train their employees, and craft and implement their own individual plans on opening our schools back up.  I have many other concerns that hit really close to home for me. •My wife is the Assistant Principal at Fort Scott High School. If school starts without the three-week delay, I am absolutely concerned for her health and safety. It is extremely difficult to have to sit down with your loved family members and discuss wills, and what to do just in case. If she comes down with the Virus – with the hospital rules that are in place I may not even be able to see her. •My wife is also the co-guardian of her 60-year-old developmentally disabled brother, who lives in a group home in Lawrence. We are having to visit with an attorney, to see what would happen if she is unable to make critical decisions for her brother's health and safety, if she is possibly on a ventilator or in a coma. •My wife and I are primary care-givers to her 86-year-old mother, who lives in a nursing facility in Eudora. My wife hasn't been able to give her mom a hug since March. She is horribly worried, she may never be able to do so, if something happens to either herself or her mother.  I do want all of our students to be able to get the education that we as Kansans should give them. There is no doubt in my mind, that this is best in person, but it needs to be done correctly and safely. There is no way we can safely bring all of our school aged students back into the buildings on the current schedule. We as a district have to create our own plan, purchase the necessary supplies, line up the substitutes that we will inevitably require, hire the extra people we will need to keep everyone safe. Delaying is not closing schools. We still have our state mandated requirement to meet the minimum number of hours. If that means lengthening days or going later in the sprint, so be it. We aren't asking for schools to be closed, just to delay the opening a small amount of time.
7/21/2020 6:41:10	Joan	Gilson		Olathe	A delay for public health and safety is absolutely necessary
7/21/2020 6:41:37	Sarah	Weltmwr	USD 270	Plainville	I want my child to be able to go back to school. Last year was really rough on her. I don't feel masks are necessary either. We have immune systems for a reason! Sometimes they work, other times it doesn't. I don't want to risk losing the immune we have built over the years. Please at least let the kids go back to school when scheduled. We are in a smaller community and hardly have any cases.
7/21/2020 6:41:59	Kari	Bell	My family	Hutchinson	My husband and I both work. Our kids want to be in school. I work in special education and I can do my job more effectively if I am WITH my students. The governor doesn't know what's best for MY kids and MY family and she certainly doesn't speak for us. Open schools!

7/21/2020 6:42:01	Emily	Sewell	Parent	Bucyrus, KS	<p>If schools are going to be kept close until after Labor Day then our kids need to start virtual school On the original start date (our district Aug 13). They have been out of school since March. If this is upheld we will have been off for 6 months. Q4 was a joke, our teachers didn't teach anything new. My kids have defiantly regressed in their reading skills (elementary), even though we continue to review at home.</p> <p>I fear Gov. Kelly is making pawns of Kansans.</p>
7/21/2020 6:42:14	Damian	Johnson	Myself	Eudora	<p>Please do what you feel is best for the kids and adults who learn, teach and work in Kansas schools. We elected you all to see beyond politics and to make decisions on teaching and learning in this state. I am quite sure making a decision like this is not what you had in mind...me either, quite frankly. But I just ask that you take in all the evidence, the work you have done and make the decision so we can all move on. Thank you for your work.</p>
7/21/2020 6:42:37	Travis	Evans	Usd 435	Abilene	<p>I do not feel that delaying the start of school is a good idea. It has been proven by epidemiologists, and studies from other countries have shown, that there is little to no transmission child to child or child to adult. Let the older students and staff wear masks. We can take safety precautions. But the students need to be in their seats in their classrooms sooner rather than later. Let's not go down the slippery slope of delay, delay, delay!</p> <p>First, thank you for your service and time as you serve on the Kansas State Board of Education.</p>
7/21/2020 6:42:41	Tami	Schepmann	USD 428 & USD 112	Holyrood	<p>I'm reaching out to you today as a parent and local school board member of USD 112-Central Plains. I am also an Instructional Coach for Great Bend Middle School and serve in numerous leadership roles in my building and district. I have not only made education my career...it is my passion. I am urging you to accept and approve Governor Kelly's Executive Order next week. It is imperative that districts, schools, and teachers have appropriate time to prepare for the 2020-2021 school year. We need to continue to provide top-notch education to our students. However in the middle of a pandemic, education must look different for the safety of our students and staff.</p> <p>In March, districts and schools were provided with guidance that was put together in a mere 72 hours. That guidance was needed and appreciated, and schools/teachers did the best they could given the abruptness in the course of education. The brick and mortar buildings may have been closed, but SCHOOL and education continued! Was the education the level that most were accustomed, probably not.</p> <p>Throughout the month of June, many teachers and administrators worked to provide a more comprehensive guidance for schools to continue--still in the middle of a pandemic! The guidance is needed and appreciated! However, please allow for districts, schools and teachers to peel back the layers of the 1100 pages and put well thought-out plans in place for our students. Students deserve the best we can provide, and we need TIME to prepare for our students. Our students deserve more than a quick band-aid type approach to the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>I spent all yesterday morning reading through the Navigating Change Document. While the Operational guidance is not lengthy, there are many factors that need to be addressed with staff. Schools need to have the time to provide training so the protocols are implemented effectively and efficiently. Classrooms and materials and typical daily operations and most importantly curriculum needs to be modified for the 20-21 year. I am more concerned with the academic implications of school this year. Leaders and teachers need time to develop the best models (of on site, hybrid, remote) for our students. By delaying the start of school, you are providing districts, schools and teachers the gift of time to adequately prepare for opening school buildings in the middle of a pandemic. Kansas kids deserve the very best!!</p>
7/21/2020 6:42:51	Cheri	Ruff		Hanston	<p>I am asking you today to please vote against the governors executive order to delay the start of school. These decisions need to be left up to each individual district and county ruling boards. What's right for a large city in eastern Kansas, is not what's right for a small rural town in western Kansas. Those in control locally, can do what's best for the students in their districts. I also would ask you to please look at the mask mandate she has placed on all students in grades K-12. There is no way to make children of any age sit in a mask for 8 hours. I fear we will see an increase in illness of all types from this. Thank you for your time.</p>
7/21/2020 6:42:52	Lucas	Moody		Emporia	<p>I fully support delayed opening, abbreviated/hybrid weeks and mandatory masks. Keep making decisions that protect kids, their families and the educators that support and educate our children.</p>



7/21/2020 6:43:30	Cassie	Isaacson	Parent	Olathe	Delay the start but be well prepared with options...preferably hybrid option for students AND a very challenging online learning option. Last spring was an absolute joke in my opinion. I was spending more time trying to find other resources to supplement my kids since teachers weren't allowed to give any suggestions or help.
7/21/2020 6:43:57	Kelsey	Metro	Students (my children)	Marion	Allow school to start prior to Labor Day. The likelihood of a child contracting/spreading COVID-19 is extremely low. These students need their friends and education. I feel we are harming students more by keeping them home. For many students, school is their safe place.
7/21/2020 6:44:02	Marcia	Barber		Lenexa, KS	Keep schools closed through Labor Day. Even then, our children will do distance learning.
7/21/2020 6:44:19	Samantha	Anderson	Myself but I am in the N	North Newton, KS	I think that the extra time will be incredibly valuable to those districts trying to plan out their year. The state guidance wasn't released till last week, so the more time that can be given the better the plans will be and the safer the students will be. Additionally, waiting the extra few weeks will give us a better idea of what the virus is doing.
7/21/2020 6:44:30	Ruth	Harder	USD 493	Cassoday	We are ready to open school back up. Please stand up to the governor and open schools. Our kids need school this year. Please put down her order on face masks in school. Our kids will not wear a mask and need to be able to have a choice. We tired of being told what we should and shouldn't do. Please let each school district make there own choice I trust my school board they know what the majority of our school thinks and wants. Govnornor kelly has never spent a day with my children or me. Defend our rights make our voices heard. Praying for you all.
7/21/2020 6:44:40	Eric	Magnus	Shawnee Mission Schoo	Roeland Park	It is not safe to open schools for in-person classes at this time. The pandemic is too infectious and potentially dangerous to subject students and adults to exposure in a setting that cannot support social distancing. It would be irresponsible to reopen schools before we can be fully prepared to protect ourselves, our students and their families.
7/21/2020 6:44:49	Chelsea	Britain		Emporia	I feel with numbers still not going down, opening schools is a horrible idea. Remote learning is definitely not ideal but having a bigger chance of our kids getting exposed to Covid is not a risk I'm willing to take.
7/21/2020 6:45:16	Chrisy	Owens		Overland park	Take temps at the door , wear masks , Have hand sanitizer available, and send them back to school. Maybe sports count for PE cresit. Or walking at home. Or club sports. To free up the gym for choir to use it. Be creative. We can do this.
7/21/2020 6:45:27	Brenda	Sharp	USD 265	Kingman	I support Governor Kelly's EI delaying the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 6:45:28	Mindy	McDonald		Emmett	The masks in school mandate is absurd. No child can learn from a teacher who has their face covered. Likewise, no child can learn well from the distraction of a face covering on themselves. I am concerned about their oxygen levels wearing a mask all day. This is not physically or mentally healthy for our children.
7/21/2020 6:46:22	Michelle	Mitchell	Mom/parent	Overland Park	Please take some time to analyze the COVID data among children and weigh the very slim risk of a COVID death to young people against all of the resulting complications created for our children when they are not being educated in person (academic, physical and social). If I can get my teeth cleaned in a safe manner, then teachers can protect themselves in a classroom. These kids were forced to stay home for two months this Spring and now are socializing and cross contaminating in club sports, HOA pools and each other's basements. If they are already sharing space outside of school in mass numbers, and the mortality rate is near nothing, the decision to education them in person should be straightforward. Bear in mind that school districts have online-only options for anyone who is concerned or compromised. Please give parents the opportunity to take informed risk and decide whether or not to send our children to school in person. Give us a choice.

					<p>I have two concerns.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. My son who had learning disabilities is falling further behind. He is already significantly behind. We have already been out 4 months and he his getting further behind. He needs daily intervention and is not getting this now.</li> <li>2. I work at a behavioral school and the kids there need the routine, guidance, and social aspects of school.</li> </ol> <p>I guess I don't see why we can't start school and give the parents the right to choose to stay home and do virtual or send our kids to school.</p>
7/21/2020 6:46:30	Briana	House		Leon	I feel we need to start school in August like we are suppose to.
7/21/2020 6:46:52	Diana	Evans	Parent of students	Eudora	I think school should be delayed. Ideally, no new COVID cases in our area for 14 days.
7/21/2020 6:47:14	Teresa	Tosh	Myself but I am a KS su	El Dorado	<p>While I realize this has become a political issue, I want to take that off the table. I am a registered Republican. That shouldn't matter, but just in case it does, it's there. Before that, I am a wife, mother, daughter, and a superintendent. My support lies in supporting Governor's Executive Order to delay the start of school.</p> <p>I opened Facebook this morning to read of someone in my community who lost a 28 year-old to COVID and they are concerned. Staff and parents read these things every day. We were having conversations about delaying our year BEFORE the Governor made her announcement last week. I am aware of a district in the Metro area that was planning on Sept.9th. The delay provides us time to prepare staff and parents. Keep in mind, teachers have not been on contract all summer. They have very little idea of what these changes will entail for them. They deserve that time to be adequately prepared. Our students deserve our teachers being prepared.</p> <p>Yes, a local Board could make its own decisions and many will. I think it's time we provide that united leadership to tackle this problem together instead of working in isolation. Our state deserves it. We are better together!!</p>
7/21/2020 6:47:47	Meghann	Finlay	Usd 402	Augusta	Keep our kids and families safe. Including teachers and school staff. Don't rush this but don't make this a political move. If it's safe to go back we'll go back but if not don't force us all back.

					<p>for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas.</p> <p>Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</li> <li>•No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</li> </ul> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>I am one of the over 6,200 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall and winter without delay.</p> <p>We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know that you have our support.</p>
7/21/2020 6:48:02	Brandy	Thomas		Olathe	
					<p>Thank you for the gift of time so that our school leaders, teachers, and all stake holders can have time to prepare both mentally and physically for a safe , confident, and ready learning environment for our kids.</p> <p>We need to make sure we come back to school as safe and flawlessly as possible. With the unknown being a reality and an ever changing world daily, please take the responsible amount of time to adjust and be ready.</p> <p>As a teacher we need time to learn/create new platforms and procedures. The logistics of a school day must be thoughtfully planned out at every level.</p> <p>Please honor the governor's recommendation of starting after Labor Day.</p>
7/21/2020 6:47:54	Julie	Williams	Olathe teacher and olath	Olathe	
7/21/2020 6:48:24	Alex	Supple		Atchison	Support the governor!
					<p>The lives of our students and staff are so important. It isn't worth the risk of opening up. Our numbers in Kansas are rising QUICKLY. As a teachers, I don't feel safe going back to school with our numbers rising. I would hate to see staff members or students die because we opened up too quickly.</p>
7/21/2020 6:48:26	Jessica	Carey	USD 402	AUGUSTA	

7/21/2020 6:48:32	Caitlin	Neneman		Olathe	Thank you for taking the time to read my comment. I am an educator for almost 10 years, and I am writing in support of Laura Kelly's executive order to delay the start of the school year until after Labor Day. Right now, cases have soared higher than many of us thought possible. If schools do not have ample time to get proper supplies and work through plans to the best of their abilities, it puts lives at risk. At first, many did think this virus was relatively harmless to children; however, it turns out, that is not the case, as Gov. Kelly explained with the South Korea study. We can also attest that this information was probably delayed because many schools closed early before kids were able to get exposed to it on a massive level. We also do have to think of not only the deaths that could happen with reopening schools too early (and the mental health implications on students who lose a teacher or a classmate), but also the long-term health implications that could happen as well. There have even been scientists recently who have found that asymptomatic COVID-19 patients could have long-term health implications, such as lung damage. So, if we have students who get this, it could also impact them for the rest of their lives. The fact is: cases are rising in Kansas. Educators are scared, for our families, for our students, for our own lives. Asking school to delay three weeks to make sure we can be as safe as possible and watch the cases increase or decrease in that time is honestly the best course of action. I am sure many of you are considering allowing school districts to choose on their own local level, but please do remember the community impact all of this will have. Kansas is not a bubble. When people go to the doctor, they do not ask if we have traveled out of the county; they ask if we have traveled out of the state recently. Cases in one can severely impact cases in another. Another thing to consider is the pressure school districts are under to appeal to everyone, including parents who still do not believe this is a real virus. Please do not make everyone suffer because of ignorance. Thank you again for reading my thoughts on this matter.
7/21/2020 6:49:24	Ashley	Brown		Olathe	Please uphold the delay of starting school. As a high risk family, this delay allows Kansas the opportunity to get our numbers under control before sending our children to the petri dish of school. I would, in fact, like a longer delay to start in person school and only have the option for virtual until Kansas numbers go in the other direction. There is no reason to put our teachers, administrators and children as test subjects for a virus that we really don't know much about. Just because the death rate is not increasing exponentially doesn't mean that there are not long term damages that could happen. I don't want my kids to be test subjects. Please delay!
7/21/2020 6:49:31	Jeff and Brooke	Potucek	Individual	Peck, KS	Please open our schools per the original calendar. Parents need to work and children are not learning at home, they are falling behind. We need our kids back at school. Our districts are going to lose kids (and money) to homeschooling if they don't get back to normal ASAP. Thank you for considering our comments.
7/21/2020 6:49:32	Jackie	Betteridge		Goddard	I support Governor Kelly. As a nurse dealing with the surge of cases in Kansas, we should do all that we can to protect our children, our loved ones and ourselves. Please vote in support of the delay.
7/21/2020 6:49:47	Chelsea	Fuller		Olpe	Please start school like normal. I am a medical professional and increased mask wearing and hand washing is sufficient to help spread covid. Kids need to be at school and learning by certified teachers. My child suffered last semester with online school and I believe there should be an in person option and a virtual option for those that need it.
7/21/2020 6:49:52	Damien	Page	The Post-Secondary Edu	Emporia	The delay of schools is necessary to prevent the spread of COVID-19. We really should be pushing for remote learning in the majority of these schools to soften the blow of the second wave of this virus.
7/21/2020 6:49:54	Patricia	Chandler		Bonner Springs	Please support Governor Kelly! We need a chance to flatten the curve before risking additional lives. If you're meeting virtually, then we shouldn't be opening schools.
7/21/2020 6:50:33	Shannon	Lutz		Andale	I am a second grade teacher and while I miss my students desperately, I do not think it is safe to open schools yet. So many of my students have asthma or other underlying health issues, I do not want them to be put at risk. I also don't want to be exposed and put my family at risk. This is such a touchy, political subject but it shouldn't be: please keep our kids safe and delay the school year!
7/21/2020 6:51:04	Megen	Rodvelt		Troy	I respectfully agree that we need to delay starting school until after Labor Day to safely allow teachers and schools to make the best plan possible. I do not agree with masks being required. Thank you.

7/21/2020 6:51:08	Laura	Mozingo	Parent of school children	Olathe	While the benefits of in person instruction are clearly apparent, the current case rate and risks supports the order to delay school. I am especially concerned about middle and high schools being able to open safely. At the minimum, the delay will allow extra time to develop plans and train educators.
7/21/2020 6:51:12	Lauren	Cody		Leawood	I agree schools should wait to open until after Labor Day. It will give them more time to plan for a successful reopening. As it stands, full plans have not been released despite a "date" of school starting in just a few weeks. It is responsible to push the start date back a few weeks but a decision does need to be made so parents can plan. Thank you for your work on this very important matter.
7/21/2020 6:51:49	Kim	Hibbert	Elementary Schools	Auburn	Yes!
7/21/2020 6:52:03	Suzie	Shepherd	Elementary school	Overland Park	Please resume school on the adjusted date of the 17th of August I believe it was.
7/21/2020 6:52:13	Holly	Tittel	USD428	Great Bend	I totally support our governor's decision to hold off on starting school. I believe she has the best interest of not only educators, but students and families at heart. I have a son starting Kindergarten this year and I am so scared for his safety. I know that no 5 year old is going to keep his mask on all day, and again am frightened for his safety. We had summer school this summer with all the precautionary measures in place, and we still had a student test positive for Covid. The student showed no symptoms (never had a fever, answers to questions didn't indicate any illness, etc.) All that they displayed was a sneeze that was very similar to allergies. I would like to see a totally online model for schools right now.
7/21/2020 6:52:14	Rebecca	Gutzmann	Parent	OLATHE	I very much support the governor's action to delay school until after Labor Day. This will hopefully give us additional time to suppress the rising cases in our community, as well as give schools and staff -- especially those who are underfunded -- extra time needed to set up safety measures to help keep students, faculty and support staff safe.
7/21/2020 6:52:15	Lynsi	Giles	Buhler kansas	Hutchinson ks	I don't not feel school should be delayed but if it is sports and other KASHAA events should continue but only in a delayed schedule....she first football game would be mid September
7/21/2020 6:52:21	Karen	Barron	Washburn University	Alma	I'm asking that the state school board NOT overturn Governor Kelly's order.
7/21/2020 6:52:25	Sheri	Graham		Moundridge	Please over turn Gov. Kelly's executive orders and allow local school boards to decide what is best for their community.
7/21/2020 6:52:38	Melissa	Reed	Teachers	Colby	I feel each school board knows their area. Let them decide as we have no idea what the rest of the year may bring.
7/21/2020 6:52:53	Danira	Fernandez	A citizen of the state of	Lawrence	I support the Governor's decision for a later start of school. This will ensure all district can plan for whatever lies ahead and gives time for the rate of infection to become more manageable and traceable.
7/21/2020 6:53:01	Kristalyn	Shinn	Parent	Maize	I am against delaying all Kansas schools reopening. It may never feel or be safe for kids to physically attend classes this year. If we delay the reopening of schools, we may be at the same impasse after Labor day. We should let each school district decide what's best for their school depending on the number of cases in their county. Parents should be given the choice to send their child to school or to stay home with online learning. Schools have known online schooling was a possibility for many months. Delaying school officially for all children in all classrooms will stop those children and parents who are ready to proceed with online learning because the school districts wont offer online curriculum until after labor day. The children are already behind, why delay them further? Give those people who want to start school the option to start school. If it's not physically safe, start with online and transition to in class later. In addition, it puts those who have custody agreements in a lurch because the wording of their agreements may make it vague who physically has the kids until Labor day, creating more legal issues, legal filings, and legal fees for those parents. It may also keep that child in a physically abusive situation with one parent for additional weeks. Domestic violence is on the rise during covid. If schools are in session, those kids without food will be fed.
7/21/2020 6:53:13	Holly	Nickel	USD 410	Hillsboro	We need to get the kids back in school! The delay doesn't bother me as much as the requirements this bill sets forth. We as parents are capable of making decisions on whether our children are safe. Putting in place a mandatory mask and 6 ft social distance is not acceptable and will never work in a school setting. Putting those requirements in place is hindering everything for these students.

7/21/2020 6:53:36	Meghan	Fischer	My children go to Cunn	Cunningham	We need our children back in school. They need a normalcy in the midst of this election year. I have no concerns for health issues from the virus. I feel it's just another sickness and has been blown out of proportion for political reasons. One of my children thrives on a schedule. Without school that is something hard to do. They need their friends and teachers. There is no logical reason to keep them from school any longer!
7/21/2020 6:53:54	Aspen	Rank	Mcperson USD 418	Mcperson	If we are too go back in person, which I don't think is safe or ideal yet, We NEED the extra 3 weeks and time to be able to train and fully prepare ourselves, our rooms, our families, schools, communities, and more for the new school we will be experiencing. We are NOT trained as custodians, in the medical field or in any way to fully protect our students and ourselves yet. This time is crucial for teachers and school staff.  That being said, I believe remote learning is the only safe way to go back right now. We can re-learn skills if needed, we can not re-learn life. And just one loss among students or staff is far too much.
7/21/2020 6:54:04	Christina	Nelson		Topeka	Keep closed until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 6:54:20	Misty	Carreno		Topeka	Please delay schools till numbers are down. My husband works IT in a high school, I also have a grade school son and 2 teenage daughters in High School, one being a senior. While I want her to have a great Senior year, not at the cost of her health, our families health and the teachers health. Please consider Gov Kelly's executive order and keep politics out of the decision. Thanks for your time.
7/21/2020 6:54:38	Joell	Ransdell	KCPS	Shawnee	Students carry the same viral laid and spread the disease just as much as adults, according to studies from Australia and South Korea. With the massive increases in cases in KS and MO, along with many people choosing not to wear a mask, schools cannot safely open without exponentially expanding exposure and risk of causing illness and death to our students and educators.
7/21/2020 6:55:01	Letitia	Kneuper	USD 460	Hesston	Please delay the school year! More time to prepare is crucial.
7/21/2020 6:55:02	Melanie	DeRousse		Lawrence	Please approve the Governor's delay of the start of school until after September 8, and later if she so determines. There is no possible way to prevent children and teachers from contracting this deadly disease if they are placed indoors, together while cases are still spreading throughout Kansas. We do not know what devastating, lifelong effects our children will suffer, and I hope we don't have to find out. We cannot afford to lose our teachers, paras, and other school staff, and I am not prepared to walk my kids through grieving for teachers and friends and friends' parents. I am not ready to raise them to the constant reminder that they can lose so many people so quickly. We don't have to. Please exercise leadership. All of this is so preventable with simple statewide adherence to evidence-based recommendations.  I work full time. I don't have good child care options. I desperately want a return to normal. But sending kids and teachers back to school before science supports it will not be normal; it will be a devastating change from all we tried to protect them from as the disease spreads and takes hold on our communities. We simply cannot take this risk.  Please support the Governor's attempts to protect all of us.
7/21/2020 6:55:07	Raqlrl	Anderson	Teacher	Topeka	I want to go back to school and in person learning. I need to see my kids and be with them! However, I don't believe it is possible to social distance children all day long.
7/21/2020 6:56:00	Bonita	Hayes		Medicine Lodge	Children should be able to go to school on time. They need to be in school. No masks as it has been proven they don't work and are a health hazard. Let the children go to school as normal. Here in Barber county we have had 2 or 3 cases.
7/21/2020 6:56:15	Sondra	Moore	Nyaelf	Ozawkie	Please keep our students and staff safe at home until Numbers go down
7/21/2020 6:56:20	Chris	VanGilder		Arkansas City	While I am a firm believer that kids should be in schools, I believe that now is the time to be cautious and delay the start date.
7/21/2020 6:56:36	Victoria	Metzger	Public school	Oskaloosa	Please support governor Kelly's executive order delaying the opening of schools until after Labor Day.

7/21/2020 6:56:37	Darrell	Stewart		Caldwell, KS	I do not tend to agree with Governor Kelly's position on many state issues. This time, however, I think she's got it right. Delaying the start of school will give teachers time to prepare for the new realities of masks, social distancing, and classroom cleaning when they meet the students in person. It will also give districts time to develop policies and teaching strategies that will be more effective than the online mess that was the experience last spring. Shorting teaching hours and extra curricular activities are a real concern that I believe can be mitigated through schedule changes and compromise on the part of all stake holders. Finally, a post-Labor Day start date for students used to be common place in agricultural communities and would not be as inconvenient as closing down schools all together.
7/21/2020 6:56:41	Katie	Kohman		Abilene	We need to be cautious of the virus but not fearing it. We need our students back in school. Back to a routine. I have a 4 year old that has been in her daycare/preschool since April 1 when I had to return to my work. They have not had any issues with getting the virus and there has been a rise in cases in our county. They keep the students in their classes and don't mix age groups together. Follow strict cleaning and hand washing throughout the day. No issues. My fear is we won't start after Labor Day as cases will rise from the long weekend. Why can't we get them started then off for a couple weeks. They can still work on school work. Also, each school has to have a certain amount of hours in a year. I hope with this late start we are not going into June later. We are a rural community like a good percentage of this state. These farmers/families rely on kids to help with farming in the summer. We need to be mindful of our rural state what keeping kids in school into June will do to some communities and some students. They might not be able to attend school because they are needed to help their families provided for them and this country. Please think of the whole state not just those bigger communities when deciding on the fate of these students.
7/21/2020 6:56:43	Beth	Tindell		Topeka	Send the children back to school.
7/21/2020 6:56:45	ryan	gregoire	none	Leavenworth KS	As an educator, I believe we need to get the schools open now and not delay. Hands on with an educator is very important and distance learning with a parent isn't always a very good answer. DO NOT DELAY REOPENING
7/21/2020 6:56:58	Carrie	Augustine	USD 495	Larned	Kids need to be in school ASAP. Our county has had only 7 cases. I'm not a strong supporter of mask wearing all day. I have been forced to wear mask for several hours and end up with headaches and angry sinuses. Cleaning the buildings and encouraging our kids to wash hands and cover sneezes and coughs. Please don't group our school district with big city districts.
7/21/2020 6:57:24	Kathy	Minor	Teacher	Shawnee	I teach in KCK. These kids must be in school! The lack of parental supervision and structure is evident. The students have already been out of a structured environment long enough. Online education proved to be a disaster in the Spring and won't improve in the fall. Give the families the option if needed but my vote is let's start on schedule and implement cleanliness and masks if needed. The mental state can definitely outweigh this virus in kids.
7/21/2020 6:57:24	Sam	Dollins		Live in Atchison teach in	I am fine with any decision the state school board decides because I want to teach. however, if you(state school board) are not willing To meet in person without being socially distanced, why do you think it is okay for students and teachers? That being said, I want to be in person with students but at what cost
7/21/2020 6:57:25	Kennedy	Brown	USD 383	Manhattan, KS	I have serious doubts about the ability of Kansas schools to begin "on-time" this year. While we all would like to return to school and see our students, we would rather the delayed gratification of knowing we can do that safely. We can and will make up the deficits of missed learning but safety is the utmost priority. We don't know the long-term effects of this virus yet but we do know that people who recover have symptoms for months after they've had it. I'd rather our students be educated from the safety of their homes, while receiving food support from the school, social emotional support when they can, services in small, regulated groups if deemed possible. Give our schools, state-wide, time to prepare ourselves for the school year. If we aren't going to be safe about reopening, at the very least, let us be prepared.
7/21/2020 6:57:27	Brooke	Pfeuffer	My family	Olathe	Please reject the proposal. Our kids need school and need it now. They need people and socialization for their mental and emotional well-being.

7/21/2020 6:57:29	Sarah	Hoffmann	Parent of student	ElDorado	I don't think delaying is going to be better. Kids are losing time in the classroom. We know what precautions need to be taken and schools with a plan should be allowed to begin as scheduled if they are ready. Many smaller schools are already ready.
7/21/2020 6:57:48	Mandy	Adcock	Cedar Creek Elementary	Olathe	Please support the governors executive order to protect teachers and staff in school buildings. We need the extra time to be prepared to teach during the pandemic.
7/21/2020 6:57:51	Jennifer	Middleton		Salina	School does NOT need to be delayed. Students, atleast elementary age need to be in classes getting an education. It's completely ridiculous to allow daycare facilities to remain open, allowing those teachers to be exempt from wearing masks and delaying the start of school or forcing kids to wear masks. Since march, my daycare facility has been open with NO issues regarding the virus. The teachers are/we're exempt from wearing masks and gloves. The only thing they changed was increased hand washing and increased Sanitation measures. Those daycare teachers would have been exposed to kids whose parents were essential workers especially during the SAHO. Delaying school and requiring kids to wear masks is an absurd requirement from the governor who isn't living the lives of the Kansans she represents.
7/21/2020 6:57:56	Heather	Kirchner		Mulvane	My kids are eager to go back to school. They felt like they didn't learn as much staying home!
7/21/2020 6:58:11	Jamie	Pflugrad	Community member	Basehor	If the State Board of Education has to meet via Zoom because it is not safe to meet in person, that gives you your answer on whether students should be attending in-person classes. NO! They should not! Delaying the student contact days by a few weeks gives the teachers and staff time to navigate this unprecedented school year. Teachers are so desperately underpaid as it is, they should at least be given more time to figure out a plan for the school year.
7/21/2020 6:58:20	Mitch	Garner		Pittsburg	Do not change the school calendar. Open school on time. If this requires preparation in advance to make this happen, call the required staff back early to make the preparations. Do not make the kids suffer because the preparations have not been made. If the kids' education is truly a top priority then we need to act like it and do whatever it takes to meet this challenge.
7/21/2020 6:58:43	Molly	Newell		Wichita	Schools have been preparing for this before the Gov. got involved, let them open at their scheduled start time.  Masks under the age of 12 goes against recommendations and for good reason.  Lastly, there are options for online & in person learning available (and have been for some time). If someone feels uncomfortable there is always still choice in the matter of their child(ren)'s education.
7/21/2020 6:58:50	Tarah	Fricke		Basehor	I am 100% against delaying school. My fear of delay is that the kids will never actually begin in-school schooling. The more we delay, the closer we get to actual "sick season." If we're looking to do the greater good, why are we sacrificing our children's education? Teachers are essential, therefore they should be required to do their job at 100%, in-school, not online. Focus resources on PPE for teachers. Look at the statistics. Look at what we know. Look at how childcare was handled and the outcome in NYC during their peak. You can't look at the exceptions or anomalies. You have to look at the statistics. Look at what is measurable. COVID-19 IS NOT A HIGH RISK FOR CHILDREN. COVID-19 IS NOT A HIGH RISK FOR AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF TEACHERS AND STAFF. Look at the statistics. Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/21/2020 6:59:31	Nikki	Morgan		Assaria	We have a child going into 2nd grade and would like to see us resume school with as much normalcy as possible. We do not want masks in the classroom for teachers or students. We understand having lunch in the classroom and limiting kids outside for recess, if necessary.
7/21/2020 6:59:41	Lindsey	Keating		Overland Park	Governor Kelly has been an excellent decision maker through these difficult times, leaning on science and the facts to guide her decisions. I totally agree with her decision to delay the start of school. Our children will not be safe in a normal school setting and teachers need time to prepare for whatever is to come.
7/21/2020 6:59:45	Dana	Jewett	El Paso Elementary	Derby	Please allow the order to remain to start school after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 7:00:10	Bj	Smith	I am just a teacher.	Lyons	School district have been preparing for many scenarios of what re-opening school could look like. Have faith in your local leaders to do what is best for their communities. Let the local school districts decide.
7/21/2020 7:00:19	Kerri	Kemp		Garden City	I support governors mandate delaying start of school until Labor Day. I think we have to think of safety of teachers, students and staff. This 3 weeks gives the time to become prepared for students returning.



7/21/2020 7:00:34	Elisa	Horinek		Colby	As a mother of two speech delayed children, I stand firmly against the governor's mandate to force masks upon elementary aged children. My children (and many others like them) desperately need school to receive proper services under their IEPs. This mandate is a violation of the services my child is legally guaranteed, as there is no way my children will make the necessary gains in their speech if they are forced to wear a mask all day. My sons' classroom teachers AND speech therapists agree that the masks will prohibit crucial progress. Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/21/2020 7:00:52	Heather	Swanson	USD 263(parent) USD 2	Mulvane	Please allow Governor Kelly's EO to start school after Labor Day.  The districts all set their current schedules pre-pandemic and need the extra time to get staff adequately trained and protected. Especially with the state coming out with their recommendations so late.  This isn't about her taking away local control. She is trying to save lives and has the best interest of Kansans at heart. Please see it for what it is. This isn't a political game. This is public health and safety. These are real lives of Kansas children, parents, and teachers. Three of the 4 members of my family will be spending time at a school daily. Any one of us can bring it home to the rest of us and share on from there to a new classroom. This will grow exponentially fast once it gets into a school. We need to have everything possible in place to limit its ability to do that. Rushing into the school year isn't what is best or safest for our teachers, children, and their families.
7/21/2020 7:01:10	Alicia	Julian	Elementary teacher	TOPEKA	Please approve the delay. We need schools to be as protective as possible, and I think smaller districts and private schools may not have had plans in place for temperature checks, masks for everyone, and meeting the social distancing guidelines. Thank you.
7/21/2020 7:01:15	Julie	Stull	CSW	Wichita	Open
7/21/2020 7:01:30	Kristina	Egan	I am a special education	Derby	I believe that we need to continue with the plan to open after Labor Day. When all of the restrictions were removed in June, numbers began with an exponential trend. I realize testing also increased so some of the data is likely a tad skewed, however the trend of the data does not change. We are at an all time high. I personally, am high risk and so is my son. I don't have a choice to return to work or not if I want my own children to have a roof over their head. Therefore I want to return safely. I want to allow additional time for plans to be in place so that students and staff are safe. Please consider your teachers in this right now. We won't have substitutes readily available as there was a shortage before the pandemic. We need to be healthy. Which means safety precautions in place. We are trained to do the same with a shooter drill, fire drill, tornado drill or any other crisis in a school. Why are we treating this any differently? Safety precautions have to be in place. We have to have adequate cleaning supplies to sanitize after every student. We have to have appropriate PPE, proper ventilation and the ability to social distance. Classrooms of 25+ for over 90 minutes is not following any of those demands. Please make the right decision. Protect teachers and students.
7/21/2020 7:01:52	Dena	Befort		Topeka	Schools did start virtually online on time. Our district already has a plan for the first 6 weeks. Then we could start paying students to in person classes. We could make an exception for K students to return to alternating days or half days.
7/21/2020 7:02:18	Lindsey	McFall	None	Overland Park	I support Governor Kelly's order as it is guided by science.
7/21/2020 7:02:32	Rhonda	Lanier	Parents of Derby School	Derby	We cannot choose to live in fear; more importantly, we need to TEACH our children how to LIVE life even during the most challenging times. Yes, be cautious, take precautions - wash hands, use hand sanitizers, wear masks if necessary, but DO NOT SHUT DOWN or delay the start of school and especially those extra curricular activities (which keep so many kids emotionally & mentally stable). Especially given the drastic DECREASE in the hospitalizations & deaths. I am the Mother of high school senior & a 22 yr old substitute teacher (who is also pregnant).
7/21/2020 7:02:40	Lisa	West		Wichita	I support the September start date. With the release of the KSBOE document just last week, the extra time can be used to better adapt and adjust in order to best serve the students. Also, this will give our cities & towns the opportunity to refocus efforts to slow the spread of COVID. Giving the mask recommendation a few more weeks and giving the state time to get the spread under control, will hopefully mean that once school starts it won't have to be interrupted again.

7/21/2020 7:02:57	Marshall	Kolb	Family	Overland Park	Don't take anything the NYT says at face value! Their agenda is obvious. The Korean study is not anything to hang draconian decisions on.
7/21/2020 7:03:06	Cailley	Crenshaw		Colby	I really think it isn't going to make a difference keeping them out two more weeks and think they need school. I feel if we follow the masks and other guidelines then it benefits the kids more to be at school or their new normal won't have as much structure and all of these kids will lack socially and emotionally.
7/21/2020 7:03:16	Anna	Luna	Kansas schools	Plainville	My thoughts are, every county is different. We need to get the kids back in school, on a routine. Right now Rooks County has kids turning to vandalism, theft, and so much more because their families are not watching and the kids have become bored! They seek the classroom, peers and most of the approval of the educators. We continue to say this is best for the "kids" but is it truly? Time for all students to return to classrooms and get started. Covid is not going away but we need to return to a normal and give these kids something to look forward to.
7/21/2020 7:03:33	Tiffany	Kennedy		Luray	It is time to let our kids go back to school.
7/21/2020 7:03:27	Joyce	Nichols	Self	Lenexa	In-person school is dangerous for the staff and students. Even with masks, students won't comply and will spread COVID-19 to each other, the adults in the buildings and then bring it home to parents and grandparents. The children may have non-life-threatening symptoms, but too many adult lives will be lost. Also, the expense of paying teachers sick leave or paying them when they have to be quarantined for 14 after exposure is outrageous. Also, to the same point, as children test positive, the other children who were exposed will need to be quarantined and within weeks of school starting, it will be unmanageable trying to educate children online in quarantine while at the same time in the school building. Best solution is to start online and hope that by the spring the numbers of COVID-19 cases will drop enough to lower the risk. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 7:03:44	Janelle	Reese	None	Valley Center	I have two teachers and one student in my household. This rush to open schools against the recommendation of health professionals while community spread is increasing is dangerous and will cause long term harm to our community and economy. This is a blatant attempt by Republicans to try to pull a rabbit out of a hat to improve election chances. The result will be a short term reopening followed by widespread closings once clusters develop within the schools. Reduction in spread, testing and tracing must be in place first!
7/21/2020 7:03:51	Lana	Webster		Overland Park	Please uphold the Governors Kelly order. My uncle and aunt just came down with COVID 19 after attending a small party in someones house. Having our kids, teachers, staff, parents being exposed everyday in the buildings that some of them have poor ventilation and windows that don't open is irresponsible and playing with peoples lives. If you have to have a meeting virtually to discuss opening schools in person, then we are not ready to open schools. My preference would be if the schools be online for the first semester or longer, but if that is not possible, at least give it time for the mask order to work. Thank you
7/21/2020 7:03:53	Amber	Carlson		Kansas City, KS	I am a special education teacher in the Kansas City, KS school district and I would feel much safer at school if we waited. I support Gov. Kelly's decision to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. I want to be back in my classroom with my students but would feel safer and more comfortable doing that of given more time to make sure the necessary precautions are in place to keep both students and staff safe. While I will return to my job whenever I am told to, I would feel much safer and more comfortable waiting until after Labor Day to return to the classroom. COVID-19 cases have been rising in Kansas and placing students and teachers back into the classroom too soon is just asking for an outbreak to occur. This is another reason why I think we should delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 7:04:28	Tony	Dornbush		Wichita	The schools need to be opened. I f teachers are afraid to teach. Fire them. We need strong courage people teaching our children, not people lead by irrational fear.
7/21/2020 7:04:49	Alan	Gales	USD259	Wichita	I will support whatever the Governor thinks is safe for us, as I believe she has better access to critical information than I do, and she seems to really care. Like anyone else, I'd like to be able to work as soon as I can, but safety of kids and staff should always be the first priority. I do believe when we start school, we need to be provided with cleaning and sanitizing materials in each room, along with masks that are safe, so we can all be sure our rooms can be as safe as possible, without having to rely strictly on custodians to take care of it.

7/21/2020 7:05:31	Justin	Linot		Derby	I, like many others in Kansas have an autoimmune disease. My autoimmune disease requires drug therapy to treat, requiring that I take a medication that suppressed my immune system. In my case if one of my children comes home with the corona virus, I have a much greater possibility of dying from contracting the virus. By waiting a few weeks or simply by returning to distance learning this entire scenario for my family and I can be entirely avoidable. There should not be a rush to get back to normal when the consequences are the possibility of more needless deaths in our community.
7/21/2020 7:05:43	Ronald	Turner	Myself	Belpre	If your not going to let the schools open then quit taxing me for it.
7/21/2020 7:05:46	Kim	Olson		Louisburg	We do not need a delay in the public school system shut down. Kids need to be back to school with OPTIONAL masks. We do not need extra mandates other than keeping kids from arms reach of each other. There is no overwhelming data that says our kids will be at risk if they go back to school. Only rare cases will be affected, the rest need to be in school
7/21/2020 7:05:50	Christel	Parsons		OVERLAND PARK	This virus is new and the long term effects are unknown. More time to allow our schools to be safely prepared for our children should be allowed. Please put politics aside and listen to the science. Our children do need school, but three weeks is going to negatively affect them in the long run. Please vote to push back the start of the school year and allow more time for schools to prepare.
7/21/2020 7:05:54	Lopez-Goldstein	Socorro		Overland Park	Our children need to start school on the day BVSD had planned, Aug 13. I have 2 daughters, elementary and middle school age. They are both counting down the days to return to class. The extended time period out of school is affecting their mental/emotional state of being. They miss the routine of going to school, interacting with their friends but most importantly applying themselves to the learning process. Many of us parents have made plans to return to work it's not fair for politicians to keep moving dates which have impact on plans that affect our families. Schools had plenty of time to prepare and pushing school openings additional weeks out is inconvenient and appears political in nature.
7/21/2020 7:06:15	Peter	Bastian		Valley Center	Please vote in favor of delaying school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 7:06:17	Chere	Jackson	Usd 259 teacher	Wichita	I support online schooling only until there is a vaccine that can be received By anyone attending public school.
7/21/2020 7:06:29	Kevin	Farlow	Parent/ teacher	Newton	If you expect us to teach using evidence based practices then use that same standard in your decision. Open later when it's safe. How many teachers and/or students need to die before it's too many?
7/21/2020 7:06:49	Kelley	Stewart		Olathe	The districts need time to implement changes. Give them that chance to do!!!!
7/21/2020 7:07:07	Amy	Gulley	None	Olathe	<p>Please follow the Gov's executive orders for delaying the opening of school. Her reasons are based on science and advice from medical professionals. The amount of cases were much lower when school was closed in the spring so why would we open it now? This should not be a political decision or a decision based on what is most popular. It should be based on what the people who are educated in science and medicine feel is best for the teachers, school staff and the children.</p> <p>I want to provide an example; I work in a correctional facility. We were proactive at the beginning, following the Gov's orders, and saw no COVID cases in our facility. As soon as everything was lifted or left up to individuals to decide what to do people went "back to normal", because you know that is what a lot of people think the lifting of Orders meant, we got a case and then another, and another etc. and it spreads like a wildfire. So in a matter of a couple weeks we are now having to move backwards in to a lock down again. And, it is causing a lot of 'unrest' and fear among both staff and inmates because, people are more frustrated when the rules keep changing than they are if they are given a set of restrictions to follow and those restrictions are slowly lifted. Are they still going to complain, yes, but they at least feel like sound decisions are being made rather than randomly thrown out there.</p> <p>If you don't delay school and give them time to prepare for the new guidelines, or if you don't wait until the spread is slower, the same thing is going to happen with schools. It is going to be harder to move the public backwards than it is to have them upset now and slowly move forward.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>

7/21/2020 7:07:09	Krista	Tankoano	Self as a parent of a first	Lawrence	Please uphold the governors decision to delay school opening. We are less that a month from when we were supposed to go back and have seen no plan that takes into account the safety of the students AND the teachers. I understand there is no easy answer but our kids educations should not be driven by economics.
7/21/2020 7:07:15	Sherry	Wellman	USD 430	Horton	I am a teacher. I want school to begin on schedule.
7/21/2020 7:07:50	Kevin	Reese	Just me	Valley Center	Yes, delay until we KNOW it will be a safe, masked, distanced environment for our precious students, teachers, and staffs. Do not use them as guinea pigs.
7/21/2020 7:07:51	Aubrey	Brooks		Eudora	Waiting until after Labor Day to get the classroom prepared for safety is a good idea. We all know the kids and adults will spread the virus and adults will get sick at the schools so preparing the environment to minimize this is vital.
7/21/2020 7:07:52	Michele	Ediger	personal (I am employed	Walton	Please honor our Governor's order and delay the opening of our schools until after Labor Day (at least). Schools need extra time to prepare safety measures, and COVID-19 cases need to start ticking DOWN! Please. We've always said "Safety of our children is our #1 priority," let's put our actions behind our words. Thank you.
7/21/2020 7:07:56	Amy	Wilkens		Saint George	I feel we should follow the governor's orders & delay the opening of schools.
7/21/2020 7:08:00	Brian	Wetta	Former teacher	Andale	Our kids' education has already been disrupted this past spring. We do not need to delay their educational growth any longer. Online education is not nearly as effective as in person classes, especially for the younger students. As a former teacher, I realized that sickness spreads in schools. Teachers, students, and parents are very aware of this and can make their own decisions about the risk of getting sick. We don't need government making decisions about our health. Tax dollars are collected for education and should be used for the purpose of educating students in person. Please don't politicize the closing of schools. Our students are the only ones who suffer.
7/21/2020 7:08:06	Stephanie	Brachtenbach		Olathe	As a public school parent and a public school teacher I am in full support of school being delayed until after Labor Day. The Covid 19 situation in Kansas is constantly changing and not for the better. We need more time to plan and prepare.
7/21/2020 7:08:10	Gary	Humbolt		Mulvane	I don't want to bury my wife because we rush back and she is out in danger along with the children and our grandson we are adopting. Learning is important, but what good is learning in a coffin? Who knows the lasting effects this illness will have either. Schoop never started before labor day when I was going to school and my parents etc. It was only moved up because schools now have Ac...but the ventilation is horrible, worse than an airplane it will be a hot spot breeding ground.
7/21/2020 7:08:15	Jamie	Evans		Olathe	Please push back until after Labor Day! We need time to prepare the facilities and for numbers to stop increasing.
7/21/2020 7:08:19	Emily	Rico		Salina, Ks	Student needs to attend school as planned and not after Labor Day. The schools have had ample time to prepare for the new year and giving them an extra month to purchase supplies to sanitize properly is a poor excuse as to why schools should start late. Schools have had until March and until now (4 months) to prepare for our children to return to school. The social development is crucial for these children.
7/21/2020 7:08:30	Sherry	Treece	Classified employee	Hutchinson	If we do not open schools until September that means all these classified staff are without a job and no we cannot claim Unemployment when really we just want to get back into the school and work whether that is just grant work or if that's where Humiston either way put us back to work I have kids I have to support and I can't go knowing that I may not have a job until October I can't support my family on that I also have children that would be enough I was cold system and I am A-OK with him wearing a mask and social distancing two of my three children do not thrive in an online schooling environment that we need schools
7/21/2020 7:08:36	Kristina	Courbot	Usd 305	Salina	I would like to see the start of school delayed while Covid cases are in the rise.

7/21/2020 7:09:01	Tiffany	Rogers		Olathe	Our children are ready and need to go back to school. Please let the schools open either on time in August or immediately after Labor Day. Please allow the students to participate in sports, music, theatre, debate, clubs, and other school sponsored activities. This are important to their life, health, and development. We also have a daughter in high school who is taking several AP classes. She is missing three weeks of class time due to pushing back the starting date of school. This is time she needs to learn new material so she can be prepared to the AP tests at the end of the semester. I understand COVID-19 is serious. However, it the virus is not going to disappear anytime soon. We need to learn coexist with COVID-19 as we have done with so many other diseases. Part of this includes businesses reopening, adults returning to work, and schools reopening. Several organizations like the Boys and Girls Clubs and the YMCA have been running their programs all summer without significant outbreaks of COVID-19. In addition, the two schools that operate a year round school year in North Kansas City opened in July. Opening schools can and should be done. Students, parents, teachers, administrators, and community leaders can work together to make this happen.
7/21/2020 7:09:19	Shannon	Myres		Shawnee	Please allow our children to return to school. I understand there are concerns with the number of cases but the majority of those are with minimal symptoms. The risk for school age children is so low. Education is essential and any attempt at online learning does not provide our kids with the education they deserve and our tax dollars pay for. Even in Johnson county the number of deaths outside of a nursing home is only 16. We need to return to school!
7/21/2020 7:09:21	Steve	Castro-Miller	My family	Wichita	There are now multiple valid studies from other countries about the safety of opening schools - especially K-8. Child-to-anyone transmission is virtually non-existent and they are at greater death risk from many other dangers. Open the schools.
7/21/2020 7:09:46	Becky	Purvis	Parent	Goodland	Let us go back to school. We have very few cases and we do not want our kids wearing masks. I think of the chicken pox parties. Our kids need to be in school. Please listen to us..
7/21/2020 7:09:58	Sean	Monaghan	Self/parent	Newton	Please allow the Governor's two order to both go in to effect. The order to delay the start of education and the order to mandate safety protocols.
7/21/2020 7:10:13	Rebecca	Khosravipour	USD 423	Elbing	Please follow the governor's timeline. We need more time to prepare for the safe return of our staff and students.
7/21/2020 7:10:13	Danelle	Bieker	USD 489	Hays	My daughter has severe anxiety she cannot handle wearing masks on her face without having a full blown out anxiety and panic attacks!
7/21/2020 7:10:16	Kelsey	Dorian	Mrs	Wichita	We shouldn't be opening our schools yet and putting young children at risk for covid and the effects that it can cause if you survive it. It's not enough to just wear masks or distance. Children will struggle with that and there are still a lot of people and parents refusing to follow cdc guidelines. It's not safe enough. Kids can still learn at home. We shouldn't be risking their lives. They depend on us to protect them so let's do that and keep them home until the numbers are actually flattened.
7/21/2020 7:10:20	Dawn	Rose		Luray	Yes, I feel that for protection of kid's health, wait until after Labor Day to open school
7/21/2020 7:10:25	Carey	Bickford	Mother to 2nd grader an	Prairie Village	As much as I wish we weren't in this situation, and as eager as I am to have my kids back with their friends and teachers in school, unfortunately the viral spread right now doesn't look like that would be the safest choice particularly for their beloved teachers. Pushing back the school year a few weeks gives us some time to get the virus under control and better prepare for a way to take care of each other and get back to class. Please support the governor's Executive Order.
7/21/2020 7:10:30	Leslie	Adams	Self	Overland Park	Please delay the opening of schools per the order issued by our governor. New cases of COVID are being reported daily and so much is still unknown about effects on children. Please keep teachers, staff and kids safe by allowing extra time for the virus spread to slow, and for all schools to prepare. Thank you.
7/21/2020 7:11:15	Hollie	Ankerholz		Lyons	I do not agree with this order. It seems like a delay tactic so that if case numbers are higher at the time school is supposed to start, Governor Kelly can again delay or even cancel in person school at that point. I think it should be left up to each District.
7/21/2020 7:11:16	Amy	Landreth	a parent of children that	Overland Park	School should begin in-person 8/17. If not able to open in-person begin e-learning on 8/17 and do not delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 7:11:31	Curtis	Hall		Gardner	Open school / No Restrictions

7/21/2020 7:11:32	Fres	Britten	None	Hays	Accept the Governor's plan. It makes sense. Protect the kids and the staff. Listen to the proven science on this issue. A few weeks will help schools get better prepared. Do the right thing and don't make this political...we've got to get this turned around and delaying the start of school is a huge step in the right direction. Support Governor Kelly's plan.
7/21/2020 7:11:48	Michelle	Lucht	USD 501 instructional C	Topeka	I strongly support Governor Kelly's executive orders to delay school and then to use safety measures such as masks and social distancing, for the sake of students and staff. As an Instructional Coach, parent of two children going into 2nd and 7th grade, and a diabetic, I am deeply concerned with taking safety precautions and starting school too soon while we are facing huge rises in this pandemic.
7/21/2020 7:11:50	Tiffany	Riffel	Parent	Wichita	I believe that my children will benefit the most from in person classes this year
7/21/2020 7:11:51	Adrienne	Clevenger	-- Year --	OLATHE	This delay is necessary to assure the safety of our children and the staff and teachers. It might create some issues for parents, but otherwise we'd be closed again by Labor Day anyway. This gives us a chance to make it until October without being closed again. Our numbers are rising daily, especially in JoCo. An early return without taking these precautions is sentencing our older or immunocompromised staff to a future of intense lung damage or worse, death. Our schools need this time to be the best environment they can be. As a parent, I thank you for this delay!
7/21/2020 7:12:00	Jennifer	Collins	Myself	Ark City	I support Governor Kelly's decision. Schools are not ready to open safely. This delay gives more time to do just that.
7/21/2020 7:12:12	Becky	Linot	My family	Derby	Hello! I strongly urge you to approve the governor's new start date for schools (after Labor Day). Our school districts just c
7/21/2020 7:12:20	Lisa	Twombly		Troy	These are not normal times. In normal times, I would support leaving decisions to local authorities. Local authorities chose politics over safety in the case of face masks. The same will happen in the case of reopening schools. Please uphold the governor's executive order.
7/21/2020 7:12:24	Nancy	Pickler		Park City	Please open the schools as normal, follow the science instead of the media. The children are our future and they need in school learning. On line learning is not helpful for a large majority of the students. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 7:12:47	Cynthia	Larcom	parent	Shawnee, Ks	Support Governor's 2 orders. Counties with high transmission rates need to be online only. Then as community transmission numbers go down open buildings for hybrid (reduced building capacity 25%, then 50%) learning. If it works for extended periods of time, maybe can finish the year at 100%.
7/21/2020 7:12:58	Sarah	Horinek	St. John the Baptist Sch	Beloit	I feel that a state wide executive order to delay schools is not in the best interest of the children. The social and economic problems that will arise from the implications of this far far greater an more dangerous than the implications of COVID. As Gov. Kelly said in her address COVID is not going anywhere. We need to build immunities to this illness. We can just continue to delay the inevitable until the other problems such as abandonment, child abuse, starvation, increased screen time, obesity, pornography, pedophilia, etc continue to increase and then we realize we better get kids back in school. This decision is so saddening to me.
7/21/2020 7:13:10	Juan	Yin	Parent	Overland park	Please start school on time with online teaching before the school can start in person . Thanks
7/21/2020 7:13:21	Jennifer	Coats	USD 259	Wichita	I am in agreement with bring students back to the classroom; however, I also agree we need the suggested delay in starting school. Due to the number of changes that will need to be made, I believe our District needs the additional time to prepare properly for the safety of our students, staff and community. I don't feel it would be harmful to allow this delay, if anything it would reassure our staff, parents, student we are taking COVID-19 and their concerns serious. I respect all of you and know you will do right by our children.
7/21/2020 7:13:58	Lee	McCartney		Stilwell	There is ZERO reason not to put children back in school; the transmission rate of children is next to null. If schools are not opened 100%, I want my tax \$\$\$ back! By keeping these kids from socializing, you're stunting their development academically, physically and socially...God forbid you create another mass shooter by your lack of responsibility to the children & kowtowing to the left wing mob rule mentality.
7/21/2020 7:14:02	Thomad	Krause		Overland Park	We need to trust Private & parochial schools to be able to decide on their own what is best for their students & parents. Thank you for making this exception to the policy!
7/21/2020 7:14:25	Kristin	Wright		Clay Center	We are blessed to have a governor that supports public education and educators, I believe that the KBOE should reciprocate that support and go along with the governor's orders. If I can plan well for three weeks, my students will gain much more in quality than what they might lose in quantity of school days. Thank you all for your willingness to serve in your positions.

7/21/2020 7:14:32	Laura	Pace		Fairway	I support the delay in opening schools in the state of Kansas to allow for us to manage the COVID 19 outbreak that currently ranks Kansas as a "red zone" according to a White House report.
7/21/2020 7:14:41	Collene	Stucky	Elementary Teacher	Osage City	I strongly believe and agree with the executive order Governor Laura Kelley made on Monday. In order to make schools as safe as we can, districts need the proper amount of time to plan and get things in order for the safety of students and staff. I also feel this will give parents more time to make a decision that will be best for their family.
7/21/2020 7:14:48	Sarah	Livesay	USD 373	Newton	Please delay the start of school so school staff can prepare to safely open for students and staff.
7/21/2020 7:15:29	Sandi	Bartz	Oarent	Larned ks	Let's get started earlier than later withClasses and sports. Our kids need this.
7/21/2020 7:15:50	Jayson	Horton	Concerned parents all lo	Garden City	I urge all board members to leave reopening plans in the hands of the local districts. If they follow your well thought processes they will not be at the whims of the govenor. In study of the science following observation in other countries Ireland/Norway & childcare settings in U.S. such as YMCA's offering care during shutdowns. Transmission in schools/care centers among children is minimal or non existent if care is taken. The governor of our state is not currently following the will of the people, please do not follow her lead.
7/21/2020 7:15:55	Tim	Hansen	None	Milford	I support the Governor's plan to delay school openings until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 7:15:59	Alexis	Ayers		overland Park	I have a daughter who is a teacher who has 2 children. I am not comfortable with school opening at all. It isn't safe. Covid-19 causes laying damage, why risk lives? Are the board members willing to spend time in the classroom teaching kids? Are you willing for your kids and grandchildren to be at risk? If the answer is no, why risk the teachers and children?  Also, we used to start school after Labor Day and get out prior to Memorial Day. We didn't have a spring break. It's not unreasonable.
7/21/2020 7:16:03	Cassie	Banka		Wichita	Leave politics out and please listen to the doctors and scientists.  Please support the governor's executive order to delay the start of school. Districts need time to develop plans for re-opening buildings that encorporate the recently released Navigating Change document, procure supplies, and teachers need time to plan.
7/21/2020 7:16:28	Belena	Brantley		Arkansas City	Sending students and teachers to schools knowing people will become sick and even die is THE most irresponsible and damming thing anyone can do. I could go on and on about this, but, we need to stop making schools fix all of society's social problems. Kids will not die without sports. Then end. They will not even die without friends, although mental health can suffer. That issue is a separate, albeit frightening issue. We need to make sure a return in physically safe and then we need to figure our out the mental health applications that will come up and address them - without someone dying of COVID. If you override this decision, every death that occurs, every long term health effect that ruins someone's quality of of life, every medical bill that breaks a family is on your heads. The governor was right when she shut down schools the first time. Ark City had a long term sub who would have brought the virus into the building because he had it and didn't become ill until three days after he would have exposed our entire high school. He later died. She was right to shut down the state. Only when opening back up did cases in my county grow from 5 to our current 118 total. She was right about masks. Why I'm the world would you think she's wrong about this? Every time the legislature or Kansas have bucked her decisions, it has been a fail. You fail today if you don't listen to her decisions. You fail publicly and you fail knowing that politics and agendas mean more than the job you have been tasked to do.
7/21/2020 7:16:30	Abby	Keith	My children	Goodland	Leave it up to the local school board to decide when to start!!! Goodland is not the same as Kansas City!!!
7/21/2020 7:16:32	Michelleh	Haverkamp	Sts. Peter and Paul Scho	Seneca	I believe that the State Board of Education should give the local school boards control when deciding their school calendar and start date. We cannot take a one size fits all approach. Our kids need to get back in school for their social and emotional well being. Please let our local school boards and district administrators decide what is best for their students. I believe the Kansas Pediatricians group should be trusted in that they believe kids NEED TO BE BACK IN SCHOOL. I am our school's assistant principal and I trust their recommendations more than the governor who has no medical background or experience in the educational setting with students. Please vote NO on Governor Kelly's executive order!

7/21/2020 7:16:44	Michelle	Van pelt		Overland Park	Please allow in person classes this year. An online school year does not allow for a true experience and exploratory opportunities. Many need this for social and mental health. Many need to be in school for personal safety and nutrition. People are exposed in so many other areas, be smart and safe but let them meet.
7/21/2020 7:16:52	Darryl	Irion		Goddard	Please overrule our Marxist Governor and return our schools to local control.
7/21/2020 7:17:00	Amelia	B	parent and teacher	Topeka	The acceptable number of staff or student deaths is zero. Also, students and staff shouldn't be required to make up for loss instruction time due to keeping everyone safe at home. It is unacceptable to risk lives based on whether or not students will be behind on standards. The rigor of the standards have changed for this generation and they are forced to learn things at a younger age and teaching is being done to them and not with them. Teachers should be given the freedom to teach core subjects online with the options of smaller groups for learners that are exceeding or struggling. It is NOT healthy for students to spend multiple hours on a device!
7/21/2020 7:17:04	Samantha	Radefeld	Basehor Linwood high s	Kansas City	Please do not reopen the schools if you cannot even do a meeting in person. These teachers were life changing for me in high school and they deserve a choice and a long happy life. Don't take that from them.
7/21/2020 7:17:16	Michelle	Pankratz	St. Thomas Aquinas Cat	Wichita	I am writing to express my support for mandating online school this fall. Delaying the start is simply kicking the can down the road. There is no way to ensure the safety of our children. They will get this virus and spread it. I believe if our children return to school, the consequences will be devastating. Online is not ideal, I understand, but the alternative is worse. Children will not maintain 6 feet distance just because they are told to. They touch desks that others touch and there is no amount of sanitizing that will keep them from getting this. We should be focusing our energy on making the online experience the best it can be. Please do the right thing for the health of our children and the health of the broader Kansas community.
7/21/2020 7:17:17	Kenya	Patzer	USD 501	Topeka	Please keep students, their families, and their teachers safe by voting to delay the opening of schools. I fear that if we reopen on time, it will be nearly impossible to coerce certified staff to fill open positions and to get qualified substitutes into buildings - and we will most assuredly need subs. There is nothing to be lost by opening late and everything to be gained, especially the lives of our - of your - constituents. Thank you for making the best choice.
7/21/2020 7:17:23	Doug	Ott	Parent	Benton	Science supports kids being in school! From a health and well being standpoint they should be in school. For many kids that is where they are able to eat and be safe! School age children are not at high risk to coronavirus and according to studies in other countries they don't shed the virus either. If their are children or teachers with underlying health issues that make them more at risk then make exceptions for them to educate from home but don't force all kids to stay home because of that. Parents and their kids should decide if they want to attend not the governor. Same goes for playing sports! Kids need that and should be allowed to if them and their parents choose to.
7/21/2020 7:17:30	Keshia	Walden	Cheylin USD 103	Bird City	Our students need normalcy and to be back in school on the regular start date. If schools cannot start until after Labor Day, that will make it 6 months for students to not have received any face to face instruction. Some kids need to be in school for more than just the learning part. Especially in a rural area like Cheyenne County that has only had 2 positive cases, we want to open as soon as possible. For us, the waiting game is not worth our children's education.
7/21/2020 7:17:35	Allison	Hanson		Lenexa	Please keep all school staff and students safe and healthy by delaying in-school learning until COVID-19 numbers have gone down tremendously.



7/21/2020 7:17:56	Jenelle	Korte		Rural Latham	I would like to see the Kansa BOE vote to allow district superintendents to determine the start date of the school year for their respective districts. I disagree with forcing every district to postpone until after Labor Day. There could be many benefits to starting on time for schools where COVID-19 isn't currently escalating. For example, being able to take a break mid semester or end the semester early should virus numbers begin to spike. Also, having even a few weeks of in-person classes would make it easier for students to transition back to online or a combination of in-person/online classes after having such an extended summer break. Our kids go to a small school, where safety protocols and reasonable social distancing can be implemented easier than in a larger district. I don't understand the benefit of taking these important decisions away from local school boards so long as exceptions are made for teachers and staff who prefer not to come back or are high risk and an alternative learning option for students who prefer to stay home. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 7:18:07	Miriam	Krause		Overland Park	I believe that school districts and private/religious schools should have the freedom to decide their schedule for opening school for the 2020-21 school year.
7/21/2020 7:18:28	Darin	Seidel		Olathe	This executive order is a common sense solution to give districts the time they need to prepare for this school year. It also, if people will wear masks in the interim, will allow cases to hopefully come down prior to the kids starting school. I wholeheartedly support this executive order and urge the board to approve it.
7/21/2020 7:18:35	Michael	Fink		Olathe	Please vote to oppose Governor Kelly's executive order on delaying the start of the school year and let that decision be made by the local Boards of Education.  I grew up in north central KS, and this order should not be required of them. Just like a winter storm in KS, there are varying degrees of severity from county to county. Please let their local BOE have their voice heard.  Thank you,
7/21/2020 7:18:50	Michael	Austin	Parent	Lawrence, KS	I urge the State Board of Education to allow the decision to delay the start of school to a local level decision. Doing so allows parents and school districts most impacted by COVID to create a plan that works for them. In addition, areas that are not impacted by COVID can also do the same. This approach both minimizes COVID spread while ensuring education of our children remains a top priority.  Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 7:19:05	Rachel	Snowbarger	Private tutor	Derby	Government is overstepping. The Covid vaccine has not been tested correctly (went straight to humans). Please allow schools to open. If someone wants to wear a mask, let them. If someone wants to do virtual school or homeschool, that's fine too. America stands for freedom! Please allow that to continue.
7/21/2020 7:19:19	Meg	Hoth		Overland park	Please do not delay the school year. That will only increase the exposure to our children!
7/21/2020 7:19:24	Jenny	Anderes		Riley	Please consider the opening of K-12 schools on their original time schedule. Delaying could very well make it so another delay and then another will keep them out for another semester. We have to try. Some schools may have to close but many won't. Many schools have been having summer workouts with no issues. Our kids need to have in person education. Online was a short term fix for the decision last year. It is not a sustainable form of education at a high level.
7/21/2020 7:19:32	Jason	Hoover		Mcperson	Tough times and i understand folks concern, but we need to get back to school as scheduled.
7/21/2020 7:20:27	Justine	Wilson		Colby	I believe that schools need to be open. Kids need to learn how to socialize and be around their peers. The students that learn hands-on will struggle with not being able to perform the task that is at hand if it's online. We all know that Covid is a disease but we haven't had schools canceled or delayed openings because of influenza, which is as deadly as Covid.
7/21/2020 7:20:21	Susan	Rokey	USD 113	Sabetha	Please open schools prior to Labor Day. Allow students and staff to wear if desired (not mandated). Use common sense. Schools don't need a lot of regulations. We don't regulate Influenza this way nor any other virus.
7/21/2020 7:20:30	Jeanne	Bates		leawood	Please hold back the opening of school until at least 2 weeks have passed since hospitalizations deaths and cases have spiked. Cases are still going up and you must wait until they start down and then Give It 2 to 3 weeks before bringing the students back. Teachers are terrified and students can also get sick and have after effects even if they're not hospitalized

7/21/2020 7:20:50	Kara	Herrman		Colby	<p>Please don't treat all of Kansas the same. Not all areas have the same amount of cases. When all of Kansas is treated the same, our kids question why and it is teaching them fear. So much fear and anxiety right now that our kids are taking on but shouldn't have to. The rural areas with lower numbers matter too- don't just look at the places with high Covid-19 numbers and make blanket statements, decrees because of them.</p> <p>Our kids need interaction with their classmates. Our 2 parent working homes need their children in school (for the record, I stay at home with our kids). We all made distance learning work (the teachers were amazing) but Covid-19 is here to stay and we have to learn how to live again. Please don't delay school anymore for those who have low Covid-19 numbers.</p>
7/21/2020 7:21:04	Darcy	Demetre Hill		Olathe	I support Gov. Kelly's executive order to delay school until after a Labor Day. While I'm eager for our kids to return to the classroom, I think schools need additional time to plan and implement a safe return.
7/21/2020 7:21:13	Katy	Fassnacht		Overland Park	I support the later starting date to give our schools time to plan for the proper safety restrictions AND to give our state's overall cases time to stabilize back down to a lower daily case count level. I have children that attend public school in Kansas. Providing families with additional help so that they do not have to rely on schools for daycare would help with the stress of the decision. Demanding companies let parents with kids work remotely or provide flexibility for parents is one way to help.
					<p>Thank you for your time and effort throughout this process, it is a daunting one, I am sure.</p> <p>As a former educator, I firmly believe Governor Kelly's plan to push schools reopening plans back is a very poor decision for all stakeholders. When voting, please consider the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students- they need school. They need it for their emotional, social, mental, and educational health. My own children and I... we can do an extra two weeks. They are in a stable household. Other children.... I worry about them so much. Recognizing that the virus has a high number of cases (or so they say), children have a very low contraction rate and to say they will have long term effects of this (what has happened from March on...) is an understatement.</li> <li>2. Parents- again... I'm a former educator and stay at home/work from home mom. I can homeschool my kids and adjust my daytime routines and we will survive. Other parents, bless their hearts, cannot. Please consider how this affects working parents and those who are not guaranteed a salary. I know you have parental complaints and those who think if schools do reopen will be upset because they claim their children's lives are in jeopardy. With the many plans every school district has worked so hard on all summer, these parents with these concerns and those who have children with poor immune systems can choose an alternative schooling method.</li> <li>3. Teachers- they need and want to be with their students again! While some may be concerned for their own health or the health of their family members that they go home to, I know most are prepared to move forward and be present for their students just like every other business and entity has done over the last couple months. People are ready to get back to their jobs and doing what they enjoy, and with all the many precautions already planned and prepared for, why wait? Those who are concerned should be able to also have an alternative teaching plan developed within their school. Let them work with their administrators on a plan that is best for them, even if it be a different role within the school system for a while.</li> <li>4. Administrators and those on leadership committees- Governor Kelly's order to keep schools closed is a huge slap in the face. She did not forewarn them, she did not give anyone a heads up that this was the direction she was taking.</li> </ol>
7/21/2020 7:21:16	Chelsea	Mellinger	Catholic Diocese of Wichita	Wichita	PLEASE heed the governor's executive order. It is not yet SAFE to return to schools. If you rush this, lives will be lost or endangered.
7/21/2020 7:21:19	Elizabeth	Walter	My family	Prairie Village	
7/21/2020 7:21:38	Becky	Sledd	Kansas City Kansas Pub	Overland Park Kansas	I am 57, my husband 60. I am not a scared most days, but the thought of being in a classroom of 20 kids that may be exposed to COVID and then exposing me terrifies me. I love my students, but the thought of one of them getting sick on my watch terrifies me most. I will teach online gladly until it is safe to go back. I am not feeling safe to teach while our number are rising.

7/21/2020 7:22:10	Michaela	Divoll	my family	Burlington	Makes no sense to delay school further or not have in Kerstin school this year as isolation is not happening in so many other cases. Like shopping at Walmart, csmps, pools, etc. Don't rob my children of their school year!
7/21/2020 7:22:13	Eric	Wilson	Maize USD 265	Wichita	Our family is in favor of delaying the start of school until after Labor Day due to the rising cases currently in Kansas and to allow teachers more time to prepare for what will be a year unlike any other. I have 2 elementary-aged kids in Maize schools and appreciate any steps you can take to protect kids and teachers. I believe a delayed start is best at this point. Please support this delayed start and do not undermine the governor's order. Also if there is surging you can do to reduce the required student contact hours so school can end by Memorial Day 2021 that would be greatly appreciated. Thank you
7/21/2020 7:22:15	Jaida	Mosier		St. George	Delay opening of schools.
7/21/2020 7:22:23	Kendal	Moore	Parent- Trinity Academy	Wichita	I truly believe the CDC recommendations are mentally damaging to children. The governor has overstepped her bounds and we must regulate. My incoming 1st and 4th grader will not be forced into a mask. I can not justify it and will not subject them to it. Stop the ridiculous government overstep for this politically overdriven virus.
7/21/2020 7:22:34	Chuck	Leininger		Hugoton	Not all communities have the same issues and should not be viewed as the same. Give control to the local communities to decide what's best for their schools.
7/21/2020 7:22:39	Trenton	Mart	Parent	Andale	Open school on time.
7/21/2020 7:22:50	Brooke	Woodworth	Parent of HS students at	Enterprise	I agree with the plan to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. That will give our schools LKE ty of time to have a good plan implemented and may allow the virus to slow down in our community. Please don't make this decision based on politics.
7/21/2020 7:22:59	Amie	Parsons	USD 420 Osage City	Osage City	Please vote to back the Governor's executive order to allow schools to start after Labor Day. It is the right thing to do for everyone in our State.
7/21/2020 7:23:05	Jacquelyn	Lindberg	SMSD #512	Overland Park	Yes, The numbers are high and the schools shouldn't open right now anyway. This will give them more time to get tech and/or protective equipment ready.
7/21/2020 7:23:13	Michael	Foxhoven		Auburn	Fully open schools and no masks for grade schoolers please.
7/21/2020 7:23:17	Amy	Hughes	Teacher	Gardner, KS	Do not open schools.
7/21/2020 7:23:28	Jeremy	Bayer	Midland Adventist acad	Shawnee	Please keep schools closed to at least after Labor Day. Thank you for all you do. I am a teacher and I am very concerned
7/21/2020 7:23:40	John	Clark		Olathe	I'd like to go to school in appointments to meet with the teacher or small groups for labs or projects and have online learning for the first quarter. Then if the numbers stabilize we can go to school 2nd quarter or continue with mostly online if we need to until the next quarter.... Either way, I would like practice work and homework to Be done at home so the students learn to Do school work at home so they Are accustomed to doing that. Even if the students go to school they need to be familiar with the online program. There will be days when they have to be home working this year if a class is quarantined.
7/21/2020 7:23:58	Nancy	Carson	Mother of teacher	Olathe	My son, awarded as a "teacher of promise" by the state of Kansas was excited to begin his first assignment as a middle school teacher & coach. Now he's terrified for his life. My son has Shwachman-Diamond Syndrome, a rare inherited bone marrow failure syndrome. He is immunocompromised. Being in a classroom right now is like a death sentence to him. He's hopeful he can be assigned homebound teaching to help kids like himself who cannot attend school in person either, but as first year, unsure they'd do that. Our family is extremely stressed about this! PROTECT OUR TEACHERS & staff! Remember that teens are often silent carriers. Please spare more lives that these students will spread COVID to! Thank you. Nancy Carson

7/21/2020 7:24:24	bob	smith	parent	salina	No matter the decision that is made, there will be people disagreeing with the choice made. These children have been physically out of school since March. Some, have been away from their friends since this started. Most, have been at daycare, out playing summer ball or working (at essential businesses none the less). These kids need to get back into the routine of school. Our school list always includes hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes. Yes, they can be hard to find right now, but 3 extra weeks to get things in order? Starting school after Labor Day means that school will end sometime towards the end of June. Are we going to continue from here on out to always require school to start after Labor Day? If not, think of the short summer these kids will have next year. You are only giving them the month of July 2021 to have a break. Is that fair? Think of everything that has been slowly taken away from these children. It is not fair, nor do they deserve to have these things ripped from them. Schools have already set up alternative means if parents feel the need to keep some at risk students at home away from physically being in school. What happens if you wait until after Labor Day, and more cases continue to rise? Is school going to be delayed once again? How long are we going to keep delaying education from our children? This will always be a part of our lives now, just as the cold and flu season. We are to adapt and live with it, not to shelter our children. Most communities in Kansas have not seen a huge rise in cases. How is it fair to those communities to keep delaying school? Bigger metropolitan cities might have more of an issue, but there are other means of learning besides delaying the school year. We had to end with virtual learning, either start virtual in August for a month (we all know that the first month will most likely be a recap of the end of school anyways) or get these kids back into school. Request parents to provide a mask for their child until the school gets extras in. If we delay now, we will keep delaying. Lets get our kids back to some what of a normal.
7/21/2020 7:24:25	Amy	Sederstrom	Self	Goodland	Schools need to re-open before Labor Day. Children need to be in school and receive the education and resources that they deserve. More harm is happening at many of their homes. Lastly, please look at the rural areas that have very few cases of active Covid19. There is no reason they should not be open. I wish you could see how normal life is in rural Kansas.
7/21/2020 7:24:32	Martha	McDaniel	USD 511	Sharon	The Surgeon General says no children under 10 or 12 should be wearing masks. Why would our governor require that?! I have taught early primary for 41 years and cannot imagine the disaster it would be requiring those young students to mask up. It will be hard enough trying to teach without them seeing the teacher's mouth! But those masks will be everywhere except across their faces. Much worse chances of contamination and germ sharing. Please stop our out of control governor. We have NO active cases in our area. Why demand the same restrictions throughout the state? Allow local boards to set their own requirements. They know what's best for their communities.
7/21/2020 7:24:42	Denise	Stutey	259	Wichita	I believe we should not return to in person classes until it is safe to do so. I support the governors orders but actually I believe we should start with online classes instead of going in person. There are too many lives at stake and in a high school with over 2,000 students it will be impossible to social distance.
7/21/2020 7:25:10	Debra	Ringler	Teacher	Hutchinson	Please delay opening school. It is not safe, with the virus surging, for students or teachers to be placed in large group settings.
7/21/2020 7:26:19	Denise	Sanders		Eudora	Eudora elementary school is a very large school. I am worried for our teachers, staff and children. I feel.. -Masks must be worn by all. -Very limited school visitors (if any) -Classes to eat lunch in school rooms -Limited contact with multiple teachers and other students. -No shared school supplies 1) each child has own cubby area with items that belong to them  -Before coming into the school.... 1) Temp check 2) Asked if given meds (to lower any fever) 3) Asked how they feel
7/21/2020 7:26:37	April	dunker	parent	atwood	no....open schools back up...our kids have been out of school since march and not one case in our entire county...let each school district decide what is best for their areas

7/21/2020 7:27:08	Robert	Craft		Gladstone	Please delay school until after Labor Day. Teachers and children's safety should be considered first. Virus cases are increasing throughout the city, and it doesn't look like it'll get better any time soon.
7/21/2020 7:27:14	Alicia	King		Conway Springd	Please follow the EO by Governor Kelly. As a teacher, I feel it is important to give school districts and teachers time to implement a solid plan for the upcoming school year. It also allows for them to ensure their buildings are ready as well. This is not something that can be thrown together if we want our schools to be safe for all.
7/21/2020 7:27:18	Kaylynn	Singh	USD 321	St. Marys	I fully support the governors orders!!!
7/21/2020 7:27:23	Kara	Holdman	None	Lenexa	If the schools do not open on time they are failing essential workers who will struggle to homeschool their children.  Schools need to open on time or they are showing us that in person public school is no longer essential.  If families cannot count on an in-person option, they will find new options and they may not return. Why would they? Schools cannot be trusted to be there for their children when needed.  When other places like donut shops and liquor stores have never closed for a day, closing schools shows us that donuts and liquor are more important.
7/21/2020 7:27:24	Molly	Kengor	KCK Public School Tea	Kansas City Kansas	We need to delay schools and have schools online this year due to covid19. We need to keep students, families and teachers safe.
7/21/2020 7:27:35	Shirlena	Springmeyer	Delaying the 20-21 K-12	Medicine lodge	Even the warning signs on the box say they do not prevent against covid. I feel the mask is more harmful than good, when worn in hot work environments, when worn for a long period of time.
7/21/2020 7:27:40	Maria	Cicenas	Teacher USD259	Wichita	I appreciate Governor Kelly's order. It gives Kansas time to see its infection rate drop and district leaders and teachers more time fully prepared for what is destined to be an unprecedented academic year.
7/21/2020 7:27:45	Drew	Shirack		El Dorado	Hello, our community has very low case numbers of COVID-19. My child has suffered tremendously not being able to attend school. I'm really afraid he's going to need therapy after all of this and I feel he really needs to start school on time next month. Thank you for all you're doing.
7/21/2020 7:27:50	Beth	Noland	Olathe Public schools	Olathe	I believe the physically buildings schools should remain closed. On-line school is learning and teachers are engaging their students with this concept, the reports of total failure of this are very suspect and most likely not the norm, especially when we are talking about fourth quarter versus each first quarter attitudes for students. Mist districts have worked all summer to prepare for on-line learning of a very high quality. Students are socially interacting with their peers everywhere, if you look around. Risking students, teachers and other support staff is not acceptable. Due to the total failure of the federal government's response to disregard medical professional's guidelines of testing, contact tracing and quarantine. In addition the public's non-compliance with masking wearing has made this the disaster that it has become. Too many have needlessly lost lives and their livelihoods due to this total the politicalization of a biological virus. Without significant financial support from the federal government, there is absolutely no way that having face to face school is at all safe. Kids will be much more involved in distance learning this time due to the excitement at the beginning of the year and kids are resilient. They will catch up, it is called brain elasticity and well proven. Unfortunately most Kansans did not have the wisdom or courage to do the right thing by wearing a mask and we have zero choice but to close schools and stop the spread. Please do not risk more lives.
7/21/2020 7:28:08	John	Indellicate	Parents	Shawnee	Keep them closed. The districts aren't ready to handle the inevitable outbreaks
7/21/2020 7:28:49	Dani	Heinrich	My family	Deefield	I will not send my children into a school that will have such controlling mandates it will seem as if it were a prison. Let the local districts decide for themselves. Our children have been in activities together all summer with no cluster outbreaks....
7/21/2020 7:29:00	Derek	Dillinger	Self	Stevens county	No reason for a delay, implement the safety standard and move on
7/21/2020 7:29:11	Kelly	Urban	USd 431 school board m	Hoisington	We are a very small town with very few cases we need to Open our schools on time. Our teachers and students need to be in the classroom.
7/21/2020 7:29:23	Abraham	Kersting	Andover central	Andover	Comment removed due to profanity
7/21/2020 7:29:39	Denise	OLeary	My children	Wichita	My son has an IEP he also has special needs with a processing disorder requiring him to wear a mask for 8 hours a day is ridiculous and it's also unhealthy and will cause undue behavior problems at school.

7/21/2020 7:30:19	Kaleb	Hale		Olathe	Open our schools. Kids need structure, social interaction, and curriculum to grow. They have been out almost half the year.
7/21/2020 7:30:37	Nicole	Eaton		Caldwell	As a teacher, I feel that it would be beneficial to have the extra few weeks to go over the new guidelines and plan accordingly, so that we can safely reopen. Please give the schools the extra time to prepare our classrooms for students to return. Please vote to uphold the Governor's mandate to delay the school start date until after labor day.
7/21/2020 7:30:38	Deanna	Williams	USD 373	Haysville, KS	School should not start until after Labor Day. It is dangerous for the teachers and the students.
7/21/2020 7:30:41	Jennifer	Savage	Olathe Schools	Olathe	The 20-21 school year should begin on September 9th as the governor has ordered.
7/21/2020 7:31:20	Jennifer	Elliott		Chapman ks	Please have in person school starting in August. We need to get as much school in before flu season. Please look at the percentages of school age children that are sick or have died. Flu is as much a threat as covid. Please consider working parents. This past spring was the worst of our lives. And virtual school was a joke. Our kids need to be with others, not locked away at home staring at screens all day. Thank you.
7/21/2020 7:31:32	Teresa	Denk Smajda	None but live in usd232	Shawnee	I am in complete support of delaying school.
7/21/2020 7:31:42	Sandra	Wilson		Wichita	Please have schools in areas with high virus numbers delay their start until September
7/21/2020 7:31:44	Brandi	Wark	School board member/p	Colby	Let school and ALL activities resume on schedule for the best interest of our children.
7/21/2020 7:32:01	Derek	Sawyer	Sawyer Land & Cattle	Inman, KS	Please get students back in the classrooms ASAP. My "great student" went backwards with online learning and needs social interaction. We will never be completely safe to do any activities in life and the students' mental health and wellbeing, especially at this age, is extremely important. Please disregard the Executive Order and get them back to school! Thank you.
7/21/2020 7:32:20	Rachel	Thomas		Lawrence	Please support this executive order. In Lawrence, cases spiked due to college students visiting recently reopened bars. While our county health department closed bars again, when college students return to Lawrence very little will stop them from gathering together at houses, dorms, restaurants, etc. Plus, several families commute to other counties and cities in Kansas, like Johnson County, Kansas City or Topeka, for work. We need the time Governor Kelly is trying to provide to assess what our situation will be when college students return to school and provide a healthy environment for educators and students in school and their families who will return to work in other counties because of school reopening.  It saddens me to know this will even be a discussion for the state school board. Please do what you are elected to do and protect our school community.
7/21/2020 7:33:03	Carrie	Lindley		Olathe	Schools need to be opened, not just for education but for the mental health of kids. They need to be back into a routine and they need to be around their peers.
7/21/2020 7:33:19	Marjory	Eisenman		Overland Park	Please follow Governor Kelly's Executive Order and delay the start of school to after Labor Day. I know this is a hardship for many as I'm a single parent who works full time too. But the lives of our teachers and children are more important than our inconveniences. Give our schools more time to plan online education. Governor Kelly has had Kansans best interests at heart throughout this challenging time. Please support her order for Kansas schools.
7/21/2020 7:33:19	Robert	Hodgson		Overland Park	So glad school was postponed, though it's not remotely enough.
7/21/2020 7:33:26	Kelsey	Fanders		Atwood	I don't mind the later start- what I do mind is forcing my child to wear a mask for 8 hours. If that will be the case we will probably be homeschooling.
7/21/2020 7:33:30	Jessica	Kimball		Andover	Delaying school is the best option. It gives everyone more time to prepare and gather supplies. The kids will be okay! They'll be okay without sports for a year, they'll be okay without field trips for a year, they'll be okay! The health of the kids is important but also, and maybe especially, the health of the staff at the schools is important! Time is needed to figure out plans for substitutes and quarantine needs, if necessary.
7/21/2020 7:33:33	Rachel	W		Wichita	I support the delay. I want my children's teachers to be prepared and use this extra time to make the best decisions about what instruction will look like, and not rush back in. Thank you.

7/21/2020 7:33:54	Alisha	Gravel		Coffeyville	I greatly appreciate the public being allowed a voice in this matter. It is an issue with many viewpoints and no easy answers. Having said that, I keep going back to a very simple idea - delayed learning can be recouped, but lost lives cannot. I would like to think the decision of school start dates could be made by individual counties and districts. However, with the phases of opening Kansas up and mask wearing, we saw that all too often people will ignore the smarter choice in favor of the easy one. Now is not a time that easy and convenient choices should be at the forefront. Now is the time for the general public to be saved from ourselves by those who have the power to do so. To open schools in August only to have a spike at the K-12 level and have children's and staff's lives in danger is reckless. Please support EO 20-58.
7/21/2020 7:33:57	Elizabeth	Kelly		Olathe	If you don't want the blood of 14,000 dead kids on your hands, don't open the schools. But hey, whatever helps you sleep at night.
7/21/2020 7:33:59	Laura	Rogers	Haysville USD 261 Prin	Sedgwick	<p>I am the principal of a school with approximately 570 Pre-K through fifth grade students and over 80 staff. We all want to go back to school, understand that our children need to be in school for many reasons, and just plain miss them!</p> <p>But please give us time to develop plans for the safety of all. My staff is scared. Many of them have family members that are high-risk. I honestly don't know who will be willing to put their loved-one's life on the line to come back at this time.</p> <p>There are many complexities to figuring out the governors orders and moving forward. My classrooms are very small. We could only fit 10-12 students with social distancing and I normally have 24-27 students. How to move through the building, recess, where students eat - so many decisions have to be made.</p> <p>I know first hand how people screaming in your ear feels. Sometimes we have to make the unpopular decision for the greater good. Delay school and give the schools time to prepare as best we can.</p> <p>I'm praying for all of us in leadership to have wisdom. Thank you for your service.</p> <p>Laura Rogers Rex Elementary Principal Haysville USD 261</p>
7/21/2020 7:34:17	Jennifer	Dilday		Olathe, Johnson County	Please delay our school year as the Governor has proposed. I do not have the option of homeschooling and we do not have any other siblings. I don't know how to protect my daughter health and mental health at the same time. My wish is for her to go back to an actual classroom, but the risk are just to high right now. Please give these kids a fighting chance. We our anxiety is so high right now just leaving the house. Please give us additional time.
7/21/2020 7:34:33	Julie	Ellerman	Teacher	Atchison	Giving schools the opportunity to stock up on supplies and preparing for getting students back in school is never a bad thing. Delay the start will only benefit everyone. It's not saying we are not going to have school just simply allowing districts and communities to better prepare during this Covid time where our state is seeing results above 10% positive results. I want to get back into the classroom just as much as the next but I also want my students, family and myself safe.
7/21/2020 7:34:36	Mandy	Wilcox		Augusta	Please open the schools as scheduled on August 13th
7/21/2020 7:34:43	Stephanie	Eck		St Marks/Colwich	Our kids need to be back in school!! They need to be building their immune systems because this virus isn't just going to go away.
7/21/2020 7:34:46	Amber	Nowels		Olathe	Due to the rising positive cases and due to health concerns we feel delaying school start till September and offering online classes will be best for our children, teachers, and community family members.
7/21/2020 7:34:48	Ike	Uri		Beloit, KS	The start of school should be delayed.
7/21/2020 7:34:55	Kellie	Herndon	USD 470	Arkansas City	I feels masks should not be worn by kindergarten aged students.

7/21/2020 7:35:02	Patricia	Booth	Retired teacher	Topeka	To delay the opening of school is a public health and educational win. The weeks before Labor Day will allow the preparedness of school districts and individual buildings and staffs to be safe and effective environments for both students and staffs. And it allows those staffs to prepare curricula and strategies for all students to provide parents options as they choose the best learning environment for their children whether in a class with other students or online at home.
7/21/2020 7:35:10	Elizabeth	Lane		Olathe	Yes, I think school should remain closed until after Labor Day. I also feel 100% online school for the first semester is mandatory considering all of the Covid cases. Protect our children and their teachers. Liberty makes it possible for 100% online school, why can't we reach out to them for curriculum help and get these kids a good education online. Asking another district for help isn't a bad thing to do. I want my children to live to have their own children, not to mention my husband and I are high risk and my Kids would be heart broken if they brought the virus home from school. Give them a good option with online.
7/21/2020 7:35:13	Cheri	Smith		Topeka, KS	Children need to start school on schedule, and without masks and separation. They need normalcy, and the irrational fear that is not borne out by the numbers needs to stop. You are playing politics with the lives and educations of these babies, and causing their young hearts anxiety for no reason.
7/21/2020 7:35:28	Melody	Bearley	My family	Ludell	Please open our schools on schedule. With regular class room rules and good hygiene practices. As a parent of four boys I know routine is very important to development. I can not at home mimic the wonderful routine and social skills development that the classroom provides. I believe the covid-19 data from Kansas health departments so very little risk in youth and that youth may be dead end hosts. Meaning they do not develop high enough viral loads to shed the virus. Some teachers with risk factors may need to take precautions around their fellow workers or not teach this year. However our children need to get back to routine for their own mental health! Please open schools as scheduled and with usual classroom rules.
7/21/2020 7:35:32	Kim	Schleich	Buhler High School	Hutchinson	The schools have been offering 1-hr skill sessions, under the guidance of KSHSAA since June 15th. As a VB Asst coach, we've taken temps, used sanitizer before & after practice, Sanitized equipment & gyms each night, used no-touch huddles, & worn masks - athletes as well. While I have some issues w/athletes wearing the masks - conditioning is very tough, especially for those w/asthma - I believe that we've done everything asked of us and more in order to have a safe return to school & sports! I may be misinformed, but I don't think the cases surrounding sports have come from this environment. They've come from larger day-long or weekend-long events put on by private entities. Schools have smart, caring people working in them. Please allow them to continue their plans that have been working, for both school and athletics! Schools will likely incorporate more virtual learning anyway, so why not offer that hybrid option to those who are fearful, instead of taking it away from the majority? I've talked to many parents with young kids who have no idea how they're going to continue to work & provide for their families if kids cannot go back to school. They have no idea where child care will come from, or how they will be able to facilitate learning from home when they still have to work themselves. Please allow sports & activities to continue safely & to start sooner! We've done so much to protect our kids all summer - let us continue to do so in the safe manner we have been!
7/21/2020 7:35:34	Kaylee	Busick	Goddard Public Schools	Goddard	I think delaying it until after Labor Day will give teachers/ admin/ districts ample time to review guideline and plan accordingly for the school year. With the cases on the rise here in Sedgwick county, this is a no brainer. The coronavirus affects all people differently and we also have many on staff who are high risk. Not only are you putting kids potentially at risk, you are putting all the adults that interact with them at risk even more. Thank you for your time and the opportunity to voice our opinions! We support you no matter what!
7/21/2020 7:35:37	Colleen	McGuire	None	Pittsburg	Yes! Wait until after Labor day.
7/21/2020 7:35:41	Shannon	O'Connor		Lawrence	I am an educator and a parent. I know the value of in-person instruction. I also know how much we value our children and our colleagues. To delay school is the only course of action. Too many Kansans have forgotten our motto, ad astra per aspera. We (in the collective; I know my family and I have done our individual best) have done a terrible job of stemming the tide of this virus. We need three more weeks at least to have everyone come to their senses and take the virus seriously. Teachers and admins need three more weeks to digest the Navigating Change document and make robust plans. Please understand that we want our children in school and we want to be in school. What we are unwilling to do is sacrifice ourselves and our children for political gain.



7/21/2020 7:35:48	Blair	Hollis	Blue Valley USD229	Prairie Village	Please think about the safety of your students and teachers. Delay the start of school and divide a safe learning environment. If that can't happen, provide an online option until a safe environment can be provided. Last February I asked for two big bottles of hand sanitizer and my principal told me it wasn't in the budget. Hopefully that budget is being reworked.
7/21/2020 7:35:48	Beth	Loosbrock	Parent	Shawnee	Schools need more time to make the necessary adjustments in day to day operations, professional development for teachers, and much more in order for students and teachers to be safe.
7/21/2020 7:35:49	Kay	Howie	USD 444	Little River, Ks	Give teachers the time needed to make sense of the document provided to us by all the teachers who worked a good portion of the summer on it, give administrations time to make sense of it and obtain necessary supplies to keep students and staff safe, give districts time to survey their constituents and to listen to their questions, concerns, and ideas, give school boards time to approve plans prepared by the stake holders. Districts want to do best for their students but going in blind is not the way to do it. Uphold the governor's order.
7/21/2020 7:35:52	Kara	Adams y		Tecumseh	As a teacher and parent, I support governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school. As a teacher, I would like to have the opportunity to plan and prepare for my students, in whatever comes my way.
7/21/2020 7:36:17	Ashley	White	USD 259	Wichita	Delay the start of school or choose the virtual model. There is no other safe option.
7/21/2020 7:36:22	Barbara	Burdick		Wichita	Please support the delay of school starting for 2020-2021
7/21/2020 7:36:32	Samantha	Curtis	Parent	Valley center	I am all for the late start. I personally would like to keep my kids home for the rest of 2020. I know some parents are worried about their children being out of school for too long. Maybe we could start on time just have it all be virtual until our numbers start trending downward.
7/21/2020 7:36:34	Rachel	McClaran	Self and family	Valley Center	As an elementary principal and parent of public school students, I have spent sleepless nights and hours of worry over the past month about the return to school. School administrators and teacher leaders are working right now to decipher the guidance from the state and put a plan in place. Our district operations team is working on protocols to ensure that any return of students and staff to the buildings is as safe as possible. Our district learning team is working to create a cohesive plan that prepares us for the event that the learning environment is digital or hybrid while honoring our district's commitment to educational excellence.  These things take time and delaying the start of school gives us the time to fully prepare. Requiring the wearing of masks protects the countless educators who give everything to their students.  I respectfully urge you to uphold both of the executive orders that Governor Kelly is issuing regarding education. Our educator and student lives depend on it.
7/21/2020 7:36:44	Justin	Crain		Pittsburg	Please consider teachers and their families who have serious health conditions that have been informed if they get COVID, there is a very high chance it would be fatal. Is this political and is the media and social media keeping the issue stirred with a lot of misinformation? Most definitely. Yes, I believe children should be in school learning. Teacher want to teach as they chose the teaching profession as one they love. As I said earlier, no one wants to discuss the health and safety of teachers. Please, for once, put teachers first, especially ones with serious health conditions. Thank you fir your consideration. God bless.
7/21/2020 7:36:52	Jennifer	Shanks	Parent/Teacher	Wichita	Waiting to begin the school year until after Labor Day is a small thing that can be done to help ensure the safety of our community. Please consider delaying the start of school until our COVID cases go down. Thank you!
7/21/2020 7:36:55	Melissa	Camerer		Overland Park	Keep schools closed through Labor Day.
7/21/2020 7:37:09	Kelly	Hale		Kansas City, Kansas	You need to get back in school or start giving me my tax dollars that go to schools back. You Re creating hardships on families that work. And what about students who will continue to lag behind in school? Or the ones on the free lunch programs?
7/21/2020 7:37:08	Katherine	Cook	USD 348	Eudora	Please help protect us. Delaying the start of school is only a first step to protect teachers and students. Governor Kelly supports your work. Please support her.

7/21/2020 7:37:11	Erica	Benson	Teacher	Overland Park	<p>I am a high school teacher in Blue Valley School District and my children attend school in Shawnee Mission School District and I am concerned that schools do not have the staffing and infrastructure to keep students, their families and teachers/staff safe.</p> <p>High school questions/ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Worried about PPE, sanitation, number of student contacts, lack of compliance with quarantines and who is going to keep track of student compliance and contact tracing? One sick student could dismantle an entire school. Many students live with their grandparents and in multigenerational families.</li> <li>-Teachers cannot prepare in class lessons AND effective online lessons to accommodate the inevitable number of students who will be quarantined for 14+ days at any given time.</li> <li>-The school districts do not have the necessary subs or sick leave systems in place for this to work. Our district already doesn't have enough subs to cover our classes in a typical year.</li> <li>-Everyone could do remote learning but essential workers or those who cannot accommodate kids at home should be able to send their kids to school for remote learning under adult supervision (para educators and volunteer teachers) and in a socially distant setting.</li> <li>-Until we have more effective testing it's all going to crash and burn by September anyway, why risk the lives of our children and families?</li> <li>-Our Districts have spent millions securing buildings from an active shooter, why are we now willing to let people die? New York Public Schools lost 75 staff members to COVID 19 in only two months.</li> </ul> <p>Please confirm Gov. Kelly's Executive Order to delay the opening of schools, our districts have not coordinated and they are not ready to keep everyone safe.</p>
7/21/2020 7:37:14	Laurie	Traylor		Johnson County	<p>I'm a mother of Elementary aged children and a teacher of Elementary aged children. I'm 100% for going back to school as normal in August. However, I also know there is a threat to immunocompromised individuals but there always has been. Now that we can manage it better, our education system should be giving people the opportunity to remote learn if that's what they're more comfortable with! Let's give people who want to return that option and those that feel safer at home that option!</p>
7/21/2020 7:37:30	Jena	Gunter	Myself	Lawrence	<p>Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day or longer. Our kids safety should be your priority. Not only that but our lives should be your priority. Kids are going to get the virus and then they are going to bring it home. Someone is going to lose their parent or grandparents. It's foolish to think we should be in a classroom when we can learn online until it's safe to do so.</p>
7/21/2020 7:37:49	Lauren	Niccum	ONEA	Olathe	<p>First of all, please know that we have an awesome governor who is trying to keep us all safe. I believe that you need to support the Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. Please know that I miss the students dearly and want to go back to school, but not at the cost of the students and teachers becoming sick with this deadly virus and spreading it to others. I feel that a lot of the talk has been that students will be okay and it's all for the students. Well, what about the teachers? Are we just a bunch of teachers that can be replaced sickness after sickness? Two teachers have already died while teaching summer school because of this virus. That is two teachers too many! This is not just another virus like the flu and any person that thinks that is being irresponsible and ignorant. Listen to the doctors from KU Medical Center; listen to Dr. Fauci. They are experts in their field. If they say it's not safe to go back, then it's not safe. This week, I'm attending a 4 day conference virtually. I'm doing it virtually because it's not safe for myself and co-workers to attend in person. Therefore, why would it be okay to attend school in person for both students and staff members in 3 weeks? It just doesn't make sense to do so at this time and it's not safe, period.</p>
7/21/2020 7:38:09	Kim	G		Overland Park	<p>We cannot open schools safely at this time as positive COVID cases are higher than ever. Yes other countries have opened but that was only after they had COVID contained. We do not. Also, local doctors have stated that studies now show kids age 10 and over spread the virus at a rate the same as adults. Putting kids in crowded schools is recipe for disaster.</p>

7/21/2020 7:38:27	Carrie	Garraway		Lenexa	Start the kids out online and then take it month by month. This will allow the school year to stay on track for the kids.
7/21/2020 7:38:41	Kathy	Jansen		Wichita	Please support the Executive Order and delay school. It is not safe to open schools right now; not for our children or our teachers and staff! We don't want to send them in just to get shut down!
7/21/2020 7:39:04	Georgia	Brown		Olathe	<p>I am as excited as anyone for my children to keep learning from experts, well trained in engaging young minds, BUT daily new COVID-19 case counts are growing. Delaying the start of school may give us time to reverse that trajectory. If nothing else, it helps us all prepare for what will be a very different learning experience. At least for our family, the potential upside of a three week delay outweighs the downside of a little longer summer.</p> <p>Like most people and educational organizations, upon hearing Governor Kelly's announcement we immediately began evaluating options, put a plan in place, and discussed with our young children (kindergarten and 2nd grade). Why dismantle yet another set of plans? Let's keep marching toward September and take the time to prepare. I cannot imagine being a teacher or administrator and going from planning toward post-Labor Day to having less than a month to start in an environment full of unknowns.</p> <p>I do not have all the facts so perhaps there is something I am missing, but more time to prepare generally helps more than it hurts. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 7:39:09	Tiffany	Wegerer	St Mark's Elementary S	Wichita, KS	PLEASE allow our kids to start their school year! Allow our local districts to decide this, please do not enforce a one size fits all plan for our state as it just isn't right! Each county and district is unique in its surroundings and what is going on in their area, please allow them to decide what is best for their students and teachers. Over and over this virus has been found to NOT target our children, it has also been proven to be very unlikely for children to pass it to adults. School IS a safe environment for our children AND our teachers. Those who are compromised in some way can take the measures they need to keep themselves safe, not relying on others to do it for them. Please, please turn down the governor's mandate!
7/21/2020 7:39:14	Colby	Hudson		Medicine Lodge	No Mask for Our School
7/21/2020 7:39:18	Cynthia	Blixt	none	Merriam	I understand this is difficult but school isn't safe.

7/21/2020 7:39:41	Alex	Benson	Parent/spouse of a teacher	Overland Park	<p>My family and I are residents in Overland Park. My oldest child is a soon-to-be 2nd grader in the Shawnee Mission School District and my wife teaches U.S. History at Blue Valley North. I am a lifelong Kansan having grown up in Salina and attended the University of Kansas. I am of the strongest of proponents for our public education system.</p> <p>I am writing you as Greater Kansas City representatives of the Board of Education and pursuant to Governor Kelly's Executive Order delaying the opening of school's until after Labor Day.</p> <p>My sincere hope is that you'll vote to confirm the order. I applaud the Governor's effort to secure adequate PPE and ready the schools for reentry. I hope you will support this effort to keep our children and teachers as safe as reasonably possible.</p> <p>Every individual will have their own conclusions, but objectively I believe the following to at least be significantly concerning (supporting of the Executive Order):</p> <p>The reporting out of Florida related to infection rates in children is terrifying. There is not a consistent approach across school districts, there is very little Federal coordination or guidance for these districts to benefit from.</p> <p>The Federal response, specifically the Secretary of Education's position that schools should be opening given private sector has opened is reckless. To be clear, the private sector is not going back to work en masse, as it is undeniably unsafe (and I'm sure employers don't want the liability). I work for a Fortune 500 company; we announced our workforce is remaining virtual until early 2021.</p>
7/21/2020 7:39:40	Dana	Ravert	USD 233 Olathe (teacher)	Spring Hill, KS	Please vote yes on 20-58. We are not ready to start school without a safe plan for our students and staff. I am very concerned because I am considered high risk. Thank you.
7/21/2020 7:39:39	Victoria	Brinkman	Teacher	Olathe	DO NOT open schools at all! Delaying is a must so teachers and staff can prepare, but, please consider not opening schools at all! All learning should be online for the safety of our students and teachers. Have you been in a room full of 6th graders lately?
7/21/2020 7:39:47	Jennifer	Stillwell	Usd 273	Scottsville	<p>Please leave scheduling up to local districts. Although after all the governors edicts it is likely our district won't start until after Labor Day, this is a decision best left up to local districts. If covid numbers are low, starting in August may be the best weeks possible for school.</p> <p>I know you don't get to vote on this, but I am also very disappointed with the mandates about hourly hand sanitizer and masks at the elementary level. It's obvious Governor Kelly is not and has not been a teacher in the elementary grades.</p>
7/21/2020 7:39:56	Abby	Sage	USD 501	Auburn	I believe that if most districts are going to be starting online then we should be able to start school at our normal August start date and be online for August. I don't see a difference of starting online in August vs starting online in September. This will also help with districts trying to figure out new schedules to account for the 18 or so days missed since we will be required to make them up. Thank you for your time and hard work.
7/21/2020 7:39:59	Erin	McCormick	Manhattan-Ogden USD	Manhattan	Please consider voting yes, to pass the EO. As a teacher, we need some more time to get things figured out before starting in order to stay safe. The extension would do this. I understand that some counties/school districts are not as affected as others however if you voted yes to keep it consistent across the state then maybe those teachers from the districts not as affected will be well enough prepared as well so that their schools do procedures right and do not end up with all online learning due to outbreaks at their schools.
7/21/2020 7:40:04	Sara	Dick		Newton	Please support enacting all public health best practices in our schools, and delaying the start of the school year to allow districts to prepare for the additional burden of operating during a pandemic--and to allow our state to reduce community spread of the virus. Thank you.

					My kids need and want to go back to school. Please over rule our governor Wednesday.  Based on all the data and the American Pediatric Association- please pass this along! I'm watching them regress daily for a virus they don't catch, pass on, or die from.
7/21/2020 7:40:13	Lynn	Auslander		Overland Park	Get em back in school just like all our neighboring states Iowa, Nebraska, and Missouri!
7/21/2020 7:40:23	Michelle	Iwig-Harmon	My family	Lawrence	I support exec. order 20-58 and request that the BOE approve it to allow districts more time to prepare for the coming school year and hopefully time for the current spike in COVID cases to flatten out. The safety of my children is the most important thing in my life. Please vote to push the earliest start of school to September. Thanks.
7/21/2020 7:40:41	Mindy	Mayfield	USD 315	Colby	What is the point in delaying school? COVID will be around forever now. Can we just get back to our normal lives but keep encouraging masks and frequent hand washing? These kids have been out of the classroom setting for way too long! And it's not ok! Just start school at the normal date please!
7/21/2020 7:40:44	Austin	Belote	Anthony Middle School	Manhattan	I do believe the school year needs to be delayed. It's quite simply too risky to start at the beginning of August considering the limited amount of precautions our district is taking.
7/21/2020 7:41:07	Kristin	Rosen		Fairway	Please delay the opening of school to give our teachers time to make lesson plans suited to remote or hybrid options. Further the covid numbers in Kansas show us that in person school is not safe at this time.
7/21/2020 7:41:23	Aphrodite	Ahmadi	Parent	Overland Park	I'm in favor to delay the 20-21 school year. Our child's health is more important than any school work.
7/21/2020 7:41:32	Kristen	Grove	Parent	Peck	I agree with delaying the start until after labor day.
7/21/2020 7:41:52	Kelli	Sallman	Parent of high school stu	13100 Benson Street, O	This delay is common sense and good policy. With the current rise of COVID-19 cases, opening schools on the original date will only add fuel to the fire, endangering teachers and the parents and families of these students. I am seeing first hand from family and close friends in Texas, a state that opened ahead of Kansas, how these teenagers are bringing the virus home to parents after contact others in structured group settings, even socially distanced. The teens may have had mild cases but the parents are suffering with it. The extra time given by this delay is essential for schools to be prepared with masks and policies that will truly promote a safe opening. And the delay will give Kansas time to assess if we can reduce our numbers such that opening the schools fully will be wise. I say this as a parent whose high schooler would like to sing in his top choir group, play in band, and make the soccer team this year. But mostly, he wants his friends and family to stay safe. The KC Star reported just this morning on Overland Park pediatrician Dr. Natasha Burgert's comments regarding the number of calls she is receiving from teens contracting and spreading the virus in our community. We must delay, reduce the spread, and provide funds and time to get all safety measures in place.
7/21/2020 7:42:00	Karen	Elizabeth	Ms.	OVERLAND PARK	Schools need to be fully open and kid's sports resumed. Teachers are essential workers just as those who work in our food provision supply chains are essential workers. The latter feed our bodies while teachers feed the minds, knowing education and the social interaction is essential to our society.
7/21/2020 7:42:09	Matt	Bell	None	Plains	I believe school needs to start as scheduled for the well being of the students. Many do not have the resources for online schooling, especially those in rural and poverty stricken areas. Many districts found this out first hand last spring, including us. The number of kids that came to bus stops just for food was so high it shows that school is an incredibly important part of their every day lives and they depend on it for their well being, physically, socially and emotionally.
7/21/2020 7:42:15	Stefanie	Lane	Usd379	Clay Center, KS	As a teacher and mom, I fully support Governor Kelly's mandate!
7/21/2020 7:42:18	D	B	Schools	Wichita	Please delay
7/21/2020 7:42:32	Maria	Skiles		Overland Park, KS	School openings should be delayed for the safety of our students, our teachers and the rest of school faculty and staff.
7/21/2020 7:42:46	Tammy	Wachsicht		Junction City	School needs to go as scheduled, a month from now. There is always a fear of my child catching something at school, to me this is no different. We are working parents who cannot sit at home and school him, he is also an only child who needs the interaction with others. If you hold school off until September then what, another discussion another push back. We can't stop what's going on with the virus, but we can give our kids the education they are going to need when and if things get better.

7/21/2020 7:42:53	Mike	Paul		Salina	I feel it needs to be left up to local school boards I'm sure some school district would choose to start late but some have everything in place and Covid-19 are low so they may want to start earlier so they are not in a bind getting their hours in if we have a rough winter and have to close because of weather
7/21/2020 7:43:06	Rae	Carlton	USD 259	Wichita	Let us go back! Even if it's only online, there's not reason why we can't start in August.
7/21/2020 7:43:25	Jennifer	Laflamme	Utw. Usd259 teachers	Wichita	Please delay the start of school for everyone's safety.
7/21/2020 7:43:27	Laressa	Nordgren	Parent	Abilene	Please let this come down to each school board's decision and county.m by county!
7/21/2020 7:43:42	Wendy	Johnson		Lyons	Children need to get back in the classroom. They are out there socializing with their peers not quarantining. Some holdup basements with groups on video games. If they do not get back k to the classroom, America will continue to produce children that are behind in intelligence. Most school districts did not even grade the work that was turned in remotely. Pass. Children have the lowest rate of infection. Teacher's need to take precautions but need to get back in the classroom as well. Do the job you are getting paid for. We cannot live in a bubble of fear.
7/21/2020 7:44:03	Jessie	Robinette		Mission	We are a military family from Kansas, currently raising in Florida, returning in the fall. We see every day in Florida the havoc wreaked by unsound governmental decisions. Don't be a Florida. Delay school opening.
7/21/2020 7:44:37	Lori	Woodbury		Olathe	I agree with the Governor's order to delay school until at least after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 7:44:37	Ashley	Lafond		Lawrence	School should just start online and not in person until it's safer to return.
7/21/2020 7:44:38	Kathryn	Rickley	None/Parent	Olathe, KS	I strongly support the delay to give our schools and parents additional time to determine the best way to safely educate our children.
7/21/2020 7:44:49	Amanda	Frost		Goddard	Pushing back the start date is a step in the right direction. I think this allows for cases to go down and potentially get students to safely return to in person instruction. I also think there will be a time where schools would/should close down again due to the increase of cases that are sure to come with students back in buildings.
7/21/2020 7:45:24	Janet	Green	none	Wichita	I support delay. Actually, it should be delayed until every child and school official has been tested and cleared of COVID19. That along with mask mandates and social distancing practicing should help.  People also must remember that a lot of grandparents watch the after school and maybe placed in vulnerable situations, if every precaution is not initially taken.
7/21/2020 7:45:49	Ann	Mason	Myself	Olathe	I am a teacher. I have social distanced, worn mask whenever I go out, declined invitations to larger gatherings. I believe the districts need more time to safely prep for our return to brick and mortar. After everything I've done to keep myself and others safe, an Aug. return is throwing me and those I care about to the wolves.
7/21/2020 7:45:51	Doug	Mulqueen	My family	Topeka	Show me the effectiveness of a mask before mandating my children Have their learning negatively impacted by being forced to wear one. Please take a common sense approach to what you are going to try to enforce. Also, look at the actual impact of not wearing a mask and weigh it against being forced to wear one.  Finally, if I have to home school my children again, please understand that I will never vote for any increase in school funding again, and will absolutely stop doing anything to support my local schools.
7/21/2020 7:46:19	Ethan	Denton		El Dorado	Executive order 20-58 I believe is necessary to help ensure a safer environment in schools for all parties involved. It's not about being afraid of COVID-19, it is about being smart and doing the right thing.
7/21/2020 7:46:23	Eric	Fassnacht		Overland Park	I have elementary school age children that attend public school. It's important that we get our kids back to school as safely as possible. Minimizing schools as a virus transmission vector is critical. I support delaying the start of the school year to finalize effective virus mitigation and control procedures for schools and to allow administrators to procure necessary supplies. I support requiring masks for all children in public schools, increased distancing, increased outdoor breaks and learning opportunities, and strict adherence to cleanliness best practices. Rules for safe schooling must be strictly enforced if they are to be effective.

7/21/2020 7:46:23	Sarah	Masem	None	Newton	Delaying the start of the school year provides ample time for educators to plan, adjust, and troubleshoot issues related to bringing teachers and students back into buildings. USD 373 teachers haven't been allowed into some schools in the district all summer to prep for the upcoming year. Actually, no plan has been communicated by the district yet. Those students with special needs such as deaf/HOH must be accommodated differently considering many of them utilize some form of lip reading to communicate. With masking, this makes communication a challenge. Delaying the start of school gives educators time to figure out how to accommodate students with individual or specialized needs.
7/21/2020 7:46:31	Jessica	Good	Teacher	Goddard	Please delay starting school
7/21/2020 7:46:35	Kimberly	Nolte		Hiawatha	I feel that the local school districts should be the ones to determine their opening dates. Many districts have already spent time making their plans and they know best what they are ready to handle.
7/21/2020 7:46:36	Theresa	Martin	Lawrence Public School	Lawrence	Covid 19 cases are still rising dramatically in Kansas. Delaying the start of the school year until after Labor Day will give Kansans additional weeks to flatten the curve (assuming that everyone wears masks and maintains their social distance) to make it safer for schools to re-open. It also gives school districts more time to figure out HOW to safely re-open schools.  If Kansas jumps into this school year without a) the virus being under control in their communities and b) without adequate protections for students and staff, then the numbers are going to explode. I've read recent articles about how older children (ie middle and high school age) are just as likely to transmit the virus as adults, and school transmission will turn into a nightmare.  The additional time will help mitigate that.
7/21/2020 7:46:42	Sandra	Macias	Private practice- mental	Wichita	Please support Laura Kelly's executive order.  Please vote against Governor Kelly's order. From the standpoint of a mental health professional, I support children returning to school. Kids are a very low risk with the virus, and it will do more harm than good to continue to keep them out any longer. Please help our children.
7/21/2020 7:46:54	Tracey	Casey		Lawrence	We need to have a plan in place that protects the children, family members, teachers, and staff before we put students in situations that could put so many people at risk for death. We don't even know the longterm effects of this disease and how we could be forever altering these children's lives.
7/21/2020 7:47:02	Chris	Pace		Fairway	Delay in-person classes until it's safer for everyone.  I support this order.
7/21/2020 7:47:06	Tony	Chesney	USD305	Salina	Our demographic will struggle to make ends meet without a regular school schedule. While our city has seen a sharp increase in cases, our hospitalizations have stayed at a manageable rate and deaths have remained stagnant for months. The lack of daycare opportunities and the need for online learning support will stretch families beyond the breaking point. We need our kids in our schools so we can support them and help keep their families employed. I do understand that further distancing and restriction to large gatherings such as the school landscape helps flatten the curve of Covid, the toll it will take on our families might be too much to recover from.
7/21/2020 7:47:24	Aaron	Miller		Salina	I do agree with school being pushed back to the late Labor Day start in hopes of having more time to set up the schools and get the funding for safety for our children! I do not believe we are ready to do that safely in August! Please do the right thing and think of our kids, it's not worth the risk!!!!
7/21/2020 7:47:24	Betsy	McQueen	Turner USD 202	Kansas City	I strongly support the delay of opening school until after Labor Day.

7/21/2020 7:47:32	Kelly	Mooney		Cherokee	Please do not support Governor Kelly's EO 20-58. I have three children who are ready to get back to school (and participate in extracurricular activities) without a mask. Please allow such decisions to be made on a local level not as a state-wide mandate. Education is not the same in Cherokee County as it is in Johnson or Sedgwick County. One of my children participated in the KRR summer boost camp (without a mask requirements). The students (approx 50) were in the building for four weeks and there was not a virus outbreak. My daughters have participated in various sports tournaments this summer from Goddard to Overland Park to Springfield, Missouri with hundreds of other children (and their families). And as far as I am aware, there have been not any outbreaks or clusters associated with those activities. Thank you for your consideration!
7/21/2020 7:47:37	Laura	VanLeeuwen	Olathe West High School	Overland Park	Please vote in favor for this order to delay the start of schools in Kansas. It is the right, responsible decision for all students, their families, and teachers. With three extra weeks, we can, hopefully, flatten the curve and resume school in a healthier, unpanicked environment. If all of these state and district meetings are happening virtually, then without question, it makes no common sense to try and cram students back in classrooms in three weeks putting so many people at risk. The decision should not be based on sports or activities at all. As a choir director entering my 22nd year of HS teaching, I can tell you that we'll do our best to get back to singing when we can. Keeping teachers and students healthy should be the main factor. Thank you taking the time to read this message.
7/21/2020 7:47:56	Carter	Clem		Olathe	I agree with Governor Kelly's executive order. As a teacher, I miss my students tremendously and would love to be back in person, but it does not feel safe right now. While thankfully the students may not be affected too much by the virus, I worry about the more vulnerable faculty and staff. I also worry about the shortage of substitute teachers. There is already a shortage and I can't imagine more substitutes wanting to sign up during the pandemic. Thank you.
7/21/2020 7:48:26	Jennifer	Gaytan		Abilene	I believe we should base our decision on the numbers if we are trending at less than 5% covid cases on a 2 week period then we can proceed to open schools with safety precautions. If our numbers get above 9% in a 2 week period at anytime during the school year we need to go draw back to a virtual based learning. We cannot use our kids as guinea pigs to see what happens. We have already seen what happens when people get together. I have 3 kids in 3 different schools, I feel our family is at a triple threat. Potentially exposing us to 3 times the different amount of families. You can take temperatures, but it only takes 1 asymptomatic person to infect the school. What about bus riders, you would have to check temperatures before they board the bus. Maybe to help with the amount of kids at school at one time, do half a day with 2 grades in the building and the other half of the day with the rest of the grades in that building, or even on different days all together. We could start school virtually on time, and in person at a delayed time. Changes will have to be made to the normal school attendance, because these are not normal times.
7/21/2020 7:48:41	Linda	Piper	Parents at Olathe School	Olathe Ks	Vote NO to this Exec Order. Please vote to get kids to school without delay! Our kids need to get back to school for educational, psychological and emotional reasons. Please put the kids first and vote NO.
7/21/2020 7:48:55	A	Teacher	USD259	Wichita	I'm a teacher in Wichita who is concerned about starting school with buildings full of students. Every time I see a state BOE meeting I see a couple of reps virtual attending a meeting or a big plastic partition between members. If you aren't willing to sit next to a member with just a mask, how do you expect a building full of 1000 students to do the same. Ask teachers how difficult it will be to enforce this in a class. With a class full of 25 students or more, it's not possible to be 6ft apart. But do us all a favor, show leadership remove the partition, wear only a mask and sit as close to you can to other members. Now do this for 7 hours. This is what school will really look like.
7/21/2020 7:49:03	Nicole	Robles	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	Please vote to uphold Governor Kelly's executive order. Keep our families safe!
7/21/2020 7:49:04	William	Wilson		Lawrence	Delay opening schools until after Labor Day. This would be enough time for cases to trend down.



7/21/2020 7:49:13	Jessica	Knight	ESOL Teacher KCK	Overland Park	Please do not let kids go back yet! I'm so scared and have never felt this anxiety before. I am all over the building helping over 140 ESL students. I need my district to have time to think about ALL areas and how we will run school next year) I admire how Governor Kelly is thinking of ALL that help make a building function. Personally, I'm anxious I'm for so many reasons. One being that I don't know what to do with my own kids (4 yo, 2yo) they usually go to our parents and grandparents. Do I send them there if I have to go back to the building and risk their health? Do I send my kids to preschool or do I teach them? (No clue how I will do this if im at work) SO MANY THINGS TO THINK ABOUT. We have not been over to my families since March. Please clarify that teachers will go back later As well but if needed we can hold zoom meetings to help get us prepared. We can not go back when the virus is at it's worse. There are so many reasons to not go back til after Labor Day... If you do not like that order then let's just do virtual learning) losing a life is not worth the risk. Thank you for taking the time to get everyone thoughts. You are doing a great job figuring out our 2020-2021 school year and I'm proud to live in Kansas!!!
7/21/2020 7:49:18	Misty	Peterson		Topeka	There are still places in Kansas that aren't effected by the virus, why should we make them conform to a broad plan that doesn't help them. Some places in Kansas have already met and formed a plan with many options and seem ready to start, let them go ahead with their well thought out plan that was planned by them for their needs. If a district needs more time let them manage it on their own, if they need help let them ask. If we delay school and then delay it again later you will be cutting into hours required to spend learning. Another point that I noticed. Many sports have been played throughout the summer. What message are we sending to kids when they can play sports and do activities at camp but we can't value their education by starting on time? I am all for sports and the benefits it provides kids (my sports scholarship helped me pay for college), but if we need to provide a good education for all kids not just in school but by our actions as well.
7/21/2020 7:49:29	Eric	Eaton		Caldwell	I support the delayed start until after Labor Day. Many schools have done this in the past while I was in grade school, I am now 45. Also this will give the teachers & administrators the extra time to prepare the buildings and figure out how to implement the safety guidelines for reentry. It is important we get kids back into the classrooms and this delay will help make sure that can happen.
7/21/2020 7:49:30	John	Buttenhoff	Buttenhoff Farms	Lincoln	Please do not punish counties with low virus count, less than five, by grouping them with big cities, we are not all the same. We need to have local control of our schools and be able to let our health department and sups decide what we need. Also the mask mandate for kids under 6th grade is going to be a colossal waste of time and when be a huge detriment to the learning environment for our children. It must not be mandated, optional for worried parents but forcing that on teachers and small school districts will cause unneeded expense that at this point in our economy these small town school districts can't afford. Please let us have local control.
7/21/2020 7:49:51	Sarah	Christopher	My children's education	Ottawa	I'm writing you today in concern to the re opening of Kansas schools. I absolutely understand the concern people have and in no way think districts & parents should be forced to go back/send their children if they don't feel it's what's best for their district/their child(ren). The problem I have is that I don't believe it should be just a one size fits all standard for all schools across Kansas. I believe there are some smaller schools that may be in a much better place to open with the safety precautions they have already planned to implement. So I'm begging you to please allow each individual to send their children if they feel comfortable doing so. I strongly believe this should be decided at a local level by the districts as to whether they open or not.  Thank you so much for your time and thank you for all your hard work that you do for the students of Kansas! Have a wonderful day!
7/21/2020 7:50:17	K.	DELARUE	parent	WICHITA	delay school. I like Derby schools proposal. Seems flexible enough to alter if need be
7/21/2020 7:50:21	Dyan	Cornelison		Frankfort	As a special education teacher for preschool age children I feel the governors order is causing undo harm to the population I serve. These students have had limited services due to the school closure and they are missing out on getting services during a critical time in their brain development. Please consider opening school sooner than recommend by the governor. Where I live we could of held school last spring as we had no cases reported here until this summer and now we only have 6 positive cases and all have recovered. Please stop punishing children by not allowing them the in person education and services they need.

7/21/2020 7:50:23	Jeff	Witters	Teacher in Olathe	Olathe	I am a biologist and I do not support schools reopening under the current circumstances. I teach at a school with 2400 people in the building, and without fast (<1 day turnaround) testing and effective contact tracing, schools will quickly become hot spots of community transmission. Mask mandates help, but even with full compliance the masks come off during 2000 kids all eating lunch. And there is simply no way to spread out kids kids enough while they eat. Should we callously discount potential long term complications for even non-hospitalized victims, we must consider that sick kids go home to other people, not just an empty apartment. This means family members at risk of sickness and hospitalization, which then tanks the economy further. I believe F2F learning is vastly superior to distance learning, but until capacity is built for rapid testing and effective contact tracing, opening schools will only lead to closed schools and much more avoidable morbidity and mortality.
7/21/2020 7:50:53	Mandy	Harmon		Andover	If delaying the school year helps teachers and administrators prepare for the year and feel good about teaching our kids, then that's what we should do. If delaying the school year is simply that - a delay - then we need to start at the normal time of year.  Additionally, I hope schools will allow students to participate in extracurricular activities as normal. If other organizations like the YMCA and other sports clubs can hold competitions, gymnastics, swimming lessons, etc. this summer and do so safely, schools can as well.
7/21/2020 7:51:27	Stacy	Randle	USD 389	EUREKA	Should be local control, local decisions.
7/21/2020 7:51:54	Dr. Robyn	Kelso	Fort Scott School District	Fort Scott KS	Good morning - I am contacting you to urge you to support and vote to uphold Gov Kelly's executive order to delay the opening of school buildings until after Labor Day. As an assistant principal in Southeast Kansas, I have been deeply worried about buildings reopening. I am an immuno suppressed individual who is also responsible for caring for my disabled brother. The fact that I could fall ill and be intubated and no one could make decisions on behalf of my brother sent me to bed in tears many nights.  Similarly, my husband is a cancer survivor who is missing a kidney, spleen and thyroid because of cancer treatment. Needless to say, I would have to find alternative living arrangements if school buildings re-opened as I can't risk bringing home covid to my husband.  Additionally mom is 88 years old and lost her house in the May 2018 tornadoes that ripped through eastern Kansas. Since that time, she's chosen to live in a care facility where many of her friends and neighbors reside. She was happy and well adjusted....until March 2020, when her care facility went into quarantine mode - no one in or out of the facility, which continues to this day. Her mental health is deteriorating rapidly and I worry that if she were to go into an end of life situation, I could not visit her if you choose to override Gov Kelly's order to delay schools.  If you choose NOT to uphold the Gov Kelly's order, not only will I not be able to see my husband, but I won't be able to see my mom even if she moves into an end of life situation because of the potential exposure to Covid I will face if schools are re-opened and cases are not trending downward/under control.  This morning I woke up after another sleepless night, worrying about my family - both school and personal family. Yesterday was spent looking for a lawyer to help me navigate guardianship issues where my disabled brother is concerned. As I have mentioned previously, if I am to get sick and become incapacitated, there will be no one to make decisions on his behalf and time is not on my side right now.  Please vote to uphold Gov Kelly's delay of schools so I have time- time to plan for my own personal family, time to plan

7/21/2020 7:52:27	Maria	Black	Black Family	Lawrence	I am a single working mother with a child starting kindergarten this year. My child has an IEP to help with a speech delay and cognitive/social issues. It is vitally important that my child receive the help needed to be success in the future. Schools and what they can offer my child in way of helping accommodate special needs is needed. School has been out for almost 6 months, my child needs to get back to regular lessons and learning in order to possibly have a future. As a working mom there is only so much I can give to my child. I implore you that school starts back within the buildings that are equiped to meet each childs needs and begins sooner rather than later because I do believe my child and other children need to get back to their regular stable schedules. The amount of stress being put on this children is uncalled for and the stress of putting parents in limbo is doing more damage we have to get back to normal. We have to face the reality that by shutting the doors for some children it created a handicap for their future that they will now have to overcome. Please open our schools when they are suppose to open, open the buildings and allow the children back inorder to regain the knowledge they need and finally give us parents back our schedules. I think it is time and we must return to some kind of normalcy.
7/21/2020 7:52:38	Michelle	Thompson		Lakin	Our students have been having basketball camps, summer activities, drivers ed, out of town sporting events and graduation since June and we have not seen significant cases. If those activities have been able to continue without incident why should school be delayed? What is good for a metro area is not the same for rural districts. Please take into consideration the vastly different needs of communities in Kansas and opt for local control and allow our local heath departments and school board to make the choice that is best for each community.
7/21/2020 7:52:43	Brenda	Diederich	USD 320	Wamego KS	Even with masks and 6' distancing, I see no way to stay safe--what about breathing air in windowless rooms for multiple hours? Its not safe in movie theaters and prisons--it can't be safe for teachers!
7/21/2020 7:52:58	Jeff	Neneman		Olathe	I support waiting until after Labor Day per governor's mandate. My wife is a teacher and we have an infant. We do not want to risk the kids and their families on the spread of COVID-19. I support implementing CDC guidelines for schools.
7/21/2020 7:53:07	Jacinta	Carter		Damar, KS	I am about to start my second year of teaching 8-12 English at Palco High School. I am also in the process of writing my will before the age of 30. This might seem like I'm overreacting, but considering how little we truly know about COVID-19, I decided to plan for anything that might happen. Speaking of planning, that's all I've been doing for the past few months, but still feel completely unprepared for the upcoming school year. From March-May, my co-workers and I scrambled to transfer all of our lessons from in-person to online. Since mid-May, I've been alternating between fixing up my classroom and creating lessons that can be easily delivered both in-person and online, just in case we have to shut down again. Despite these weeks of work, my room and my lessons are not ready for the start of the year. Starting the school year after Labor Day would help teachers, such as myself, to finish preparing flexible lessons, make sure our classrooms comply with the safety guidelines, and purchase any additional items to keep our classrooms and students clean and safe. I urge the members of the Board of Education to put politics aside and think of the children and those who teach them, and vote to uphold Governor Kelly's mandate to delay the start of the school year.
7/21/2020 7:53:28	Zach	Dowell	USD 482	DIGHTON	I am a school board member for USD 482, we do not agree with the governor's mandate on masks or the delaying of school. We would support any decision that would limit her powers. Our current county has zero cases and we would prefer to have the control in our local leaders and health professionals. She should not have the authority to make such drastic decisions for us. Please vote down her executive order.
7/21/2020 7:53:32	Rachel	Ryan	Usd 383/KSU/Ryan fam	Manhattan	Closing schools for another month will take away resources for special education students who have regressed over the past couple of months due to being out of school. Pushing school back will also cut a month off of time required for student teachers to be in the classroom, which will affect that I'm getting the best experience and the most training needed before going out into the world and having their own classroom. Also hourly workers who rely on school being in session to be paid will have an additional month off of work. I am a student teacher expecting to do her internship at Bergman elementary when school starts. I am also a para educator that relies on the hourly wage to help pay my tuition fees. Above all of that I am the older sister of two special needs kids who truly need the resources provided by the school, and has seen regression and not only my siblings, but other students that I have worked with. The school district tried very hard to provide resources at home, but it's fell short due to extremely hard to replicate a school setting for a lot of these kids, and especially harder for those in single-parent homes or homes were both parents have to work to provide for the family.

7/21/2020 7:53:45	Amber	Mettlen		Wichita	At this point, I don't care if we open in September or August. Just open them up even if they have to wear masks!
7/21/2020 7:54:14	Katie	Johnson	Parent and teacher	Shawnee	Please delay the start of school until at least Labor Day. I honestly think we should resume remote learning for at least first quarter, but waiting to start until after Labor Day will allow districts to better plan for the returning of students.
7/21/2020 7:54:23	Guillermo	Rodriguez	Teacher at USD 473	Abilene	After hearing that my district plans are not completely formalized and resources that are not available yet. I truly hope for school to be delayed until after Labor Day. Everyone is competing for the same resources, smaller districts in Kansas need more time to secure computers, cleaning supplies, and solidify plans. Large districts have a very detailed plan ready to go, but smaller districts do not. Especially as very important studies are continuing to be done and released that greatly change plans.
7/21/2020 7:54:27	LuAnn	Fox	Teacher	Kansas	Comment removed due to profanity
7/21/2020 7:54:46	William	Meyer		Colby	I do not agree with delaying our children's education for a virus that I not near as serious as the flu. There is no change in school during flu season
7/21/2020 7:55:06	Danielle	Perry		leavenworth	We have to be safe - stay closed at least until then.
7/21/2020 7:55:07	Hillary	Saffels		Lenexa	Don't open schools until after Labor Day and so online. Have the option for in person but only if absolutely necessary for the family, which they have to bring proof of both parents having to go to work in person or their student needing the in person for high needs special education, so that it will cut the numbers down dramatically and make it so the families who truly need to have their kids in school there.
7/21/2020 7:55:16	Tammy	Morriso	ANW COOP USD 257	Iola	Schools and athletics should carry on as scheduled. School personel know how to sanitize for flu/ colds ( covid 1-18). Data has not proven that Covid 19 is any different. If someone is uncomfortable with exposing their student- then keep them at home. If you value your students education and want them in school then sign a waiver and lets move on. These kids have been around each other and other adults all summer. We are doing more damage socially and intellectually by playing into these fear tactics. Our children are paying the price!!
7/21/2020 7:55:49	Elizabeth	Kopfmann		Marienthal	I'm willing to accept a delay, take precautions to protect my children, and make accommodations to make all those work. I struggle asking my kids to wear a mask all day everyday. I'm more worried about bullying, lack of healthy interaction, suicide should be brought to light before mandating a mask. Yes, corona virus isn't good, but my child and other children's mental well being is just as, if not more important. Let masks be optional. Make kindness MANDATORY!
7/21/2020 7:56:16	Melissa	Mitchell	Myself, teach at USD29	Baldwin City	I live in Baldwin but teach in Ottawa and strongly feel we should delay opening schools until after Labor Day. I'm not even sure it will be safe then if the COVID-19 numbers continue to rise. We do not know enough about this virus to have face to face instruction. If each district is given more time, then plans can be made for face to face, hybrid, or all online instruction otherwise I am to report to work on August 7. That is too soon and unsafe for everyone. Thank you for your time and consideration. Melissa Mitchell
7/21/2020 7:56:22	Ann	Pint	Family	Leawood	Schools need to be reopened - the facts don't support further lockdown of schools
7/21/2020 7:56:26	Melissa	Jobe	My family of 5	Olathe	I support Governor Kelly's order to delay the opening of schools in Kansas.
7/21/2020 7:56:31	Jill	Gherardini		Leawood	Please Implement the Gov. Kelly's Executive Order and extend the school year until after Labor Day. I am a Republican and I understand the political pressure that is being placed on the board by my party. I also plan on physically sending my children back to school when in opens (rather than online). However, with the considerable spike we have seen in COVID cases we have seen in the past few weeks, I think that it would be advantageous to push the start date out out a few weeks. Hopefully some of the active cases will subside especially with an increased requirement by big box stores and some smaller businesses to wear face coverings. Thank you for your consideration.

7/21/2020 7:56:37	Kris	Jenkins	USD #309 Nickerson/S	Hutchinson	Our students can be asymptomatic carriers, bringing the virus in to schools and giving it to others who, in turn, take it home to their families, some of whom could be immuno-compromised. I, for one, am not willing to 1. have my classroom be a petri dish or 2. jeopardize our state's greatest natural resource--our children! Our children are not lab rats! Do I want to be with my students? Of course I do! They bring me the greatest joy every single day! Teaching is my passion and I've been doing this for 37 years!
7/21/2020 7:56:42	Jaime	Davis	Parent of students at Cai	Topeka	We are in unprecedented times, and we need to do what is best for our children both physically and mentally. I want to see individual school administrators make that decision for our children. A decision made at a high level for all children does not take into account the individual needs of a school community. I trust our school administrators to make sound decisions. Leave it up to the schools to decide.
7/21/2020 7:56:44	Melanie	Deterding	Parent and also a Kiowa	Greensburg	I am a Kansas educator, as is my husband, and we are ready to return to school with students. I have two school aged boys ready to return to school and sports. However, we support Governor Kelly's executive order. I genuinely feel she has Kansans best interest at heart.  At this point, schools can't continue to be in limbo. A decision needs made, and we need to stick to it so we can get plans in place. The unknowns have made this the most unenjoyable summer break I've ever had because of constant wonder and worry. I finally felt last week like we had a decision and now can move forward to figure out how this will look for us. Then, when I heard that same day that decision can be overturned by the State BOE, I felt uneasy and disheartened again because of more unknowns and waiting.  I feel prolonging the start of school until after Labor Day gives us adequate time to prepare now that we have the KSDE guidance document. With cases of COVID-19 increasing, it also gives us a little more time to monitor the situation and make sure we have all of our safety precautions in place for students and staff both.
7/21/2020 7:56:49	Collene	Hammock		Shawnee	I do agree with the Governor's order. Schools should not open until community transmission has ceased or the Kansas State Board of Education believes it is safe to hold an in person meeting.
7/21/2020 7:56:58	Lisa	willis	parent	pretty prairie	NO MASKS! Let school districts have that control!!
7/21/2020 7:57:02	Devin	Werner	Parent	Cimarron	Please open schools on time. As a parent that also runs a full time daycare I can tell you these kids need to be back in school!!! They are asking to go back at this point. Daycares are over crowded already and parents have to work!! Our kids are going to fall way behind if we are forced to keep them out or do online learning. It's just not fair that the governor can make this decision for everyone. We have very few active cases in our county and honestly very few cases overall.
7/21/2020 7:57:25	David	Thompson	My Children	Haysville	Children's lives should not be politicized. One child dying is unacceptable when there are other options. At some point money and politics needs to go away, and the health and safety of the public need to be the priority.

7/21/2020 7:57:33	Christie	McBride	USD 259	Park City	I support Governor Kelly's delay in starting school. Schools need to prepare as well as teachers. Teachers are scared and making out their wills, which is horrifying to think about. I'm a teacher and parent. The numbers in Sedgwick county are rising exponentially, Sedgwick county schools should all start with virtual learning until the numbers come down significantly. The quality of in person instruction will not be good for kids, if we are constantly washing hands, disinfecting the classrooms, teachers wearing masks and trying to teach, and kids need to stay 6 feet away from teachers. This is not the best learning environment for anyone. If I have to go back in person with the numbers of cases rising, I will only if all safety precautions are met, but the quality of teaching will, not be there. Students will get much better and appropriate instruction from virtual learning at this time. One more thing, we still don't know everything about this virus, we hear every day in the news something different. Thousands of younger kids are testing positive which just a few weeks ago that wasn't the case, and until school starts, children haven't been gathered in large groups, so this is a gamble on lives. What about teachers and their families. Long term health effects of this virus is real even with asymptomatic people. There will be lots of teachers and students who get the virus at school, do you want their lives in your hands, I know I wouldn't be able to live with myself if I unknowingly got someone sick whether it be a staff member or a student, do you want that burden when teachers and students start going to the hospital on a ventilator and dying? Please support Governor Kelly and the lives of all our students, staff, and families.
7/21/2020 7:57:45	Shannon	Wedel	USD 428	Great Bend	I support the delay.
7/21/2020 7:57:47	Terri	Nickel		Colwich	I do not support waiting. COVID is a guessing game as it is. Require masks, distancing and offer virtual learning academy for those that are worried.
7/21/2020 7:58:00	Nicole	Yarbrough		De Soto	As a parent of a Senior and the wife of a teacher, I ask that you please allow schools to remain closed until after Labor Day. I also strongly support online learning after that date. Please help protect our children and teachers.
7/21/2020 7:58:00	S	W	My family of 6	Dodge City	I believe that families should be able to make the right decision for themselves. If they want to send their children to school and feel it is safe to do so, they should be able to. If the families feel that their children should wear a mask, they should and if they feel like their family should not wear a mask, they should be allowed to do that as well. If a Muslim person is not asked to take off their headscarf, then one person should be asked to put on a mask. It goes against our freedoms.
7/21/2020 7:58:25	Rachelle	Webb	Parent	Smith Center	The decisions on when to start and masks need to be left up to each school district or at least each county.
7/21/2020 7:58:27	Adrienne	Rost		Overland Park	Please uphold the governor's order to delay school and to wear masks
7/21/2020 7:58:32	Beth	Smith		Andover	Please give districts the extra time to get things in order to start school by not starting in September. Plus, Starting schools when the infection and death numbers are on the rise doesn't seem like an ideal plan. I am personally for being online for 20-21, but if that isn't an option, give the schools a chance to get everything properly ready.
7/21/2020 7:58:33	Laurie	Spencer	Family	Kansas City, MO. 2 sons	Please open the schools for our children
7/21/2020 7:58:56	Jody	Free		Salina	CDC is not showing children to be primary source of transmission. Open the schools as scheduled as they are already far enough behind. Do not require masks on any age child. Provide medical masks for any staff member who chooses to wear one. Require masks for all adult visitors. Thank you
7/21/2020 7:58:59	Leslie	Pruitt		Shawnee	Please vote AGAINST the Governor's executive order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. The American academy of pediatrics recommends in person school for students this fall, schools in Europe have reopened, and parents need to get back to work.
7/21/2020 7:59:09	Aliasha	Daniels	USD 383	Manhattan	I am a parent and a teacher. I teach a district level program for children with emotional disturbances at the elementary level. My concern is most students frequently spit and bite along with physical aggression. How am I supposed to keep my staff and myself as well as the other students safe? I do not believe they will keep their masks on and they would most likely rip off the adults' masks. I know my students will benefit more with in person since they are on an IEP and online learning was helpful with meeting their behavior IEP goals, but I just don't feel safe going back knowing the risks we all will face with my students known behaviors.
7/21/2020 7:59:41	Kelly	Lonesk	Parent of Shawnee Miss	Lenexa	Delay the start of school
7/21/2020 7:59:43	Linda	Piper		Overland Park	Please vote NO. Let schools open as normal
7/21/2020 7:59:48	Robyn	Fulks	Shawnee Mission School District	Mission	I am in full support of the governor's executive order to delay the opening of schools. The health and safety of our children and our school staff is the most important thing.

7/21/2020 8:00:11	Lisa	Feingold	Maternal Order of Lunch Ladies	Merriam	Public schools need proper funding and time to develop effective plans that can be executed successfully.
7/21/2020 8:00:15	Karla	Kramer		Seneca	Once cold and flu season starts, I have a feeling things are going to spiral downward fast! We need to get started now so that our kids have as much face to face time as possible!! Learning online does not cut it. Our kids NEED to be in school!!! Open things up!
7/21/2020 8:00:33	Jill	Watkins	Prairie Creek Elementary	Olathe	Our 3 kids are ready to be in school! We take risks daily with health as we always have. No school until a vaccine means we will be waiting another year. The people who are uncomfortable can CHOOSE to stay home but the choice should not be taken away from the rest of us!
7/21/2020 8:00:53	Brenda	Gutierrez	Live Well Saline County	Salina	Teachers and staff need time to plan. Nutrition and food service need time to plan and to order food and supplies. Every school in every community needs a plan for substitutes. I am willing to step up and help in our community. Do NOT make a rushed decision.
7/21/2020 8:01:04	Jamie	Clark		CARBONDALE	I feel that the schools need to open up and the children need to start school on time.
7/21/2020 8:01:14	Beth	Payne		Hutchinsonn	I believe school shouldn't happen in person until this virus is over and kids can be normal and not wear masks
7/21/2020 8:01:33	Tennille	Piper	Piper family	Bennington	Please do not mandate masks all day or temperature checks or hand sanitizing. Go back to school as normal
7/21/2020 8:01:39	Debbie	Hagans	Principal of Sacred Heart School / Ness City	Ness City	<p>Dear Members of the State Board of Education in Kansas,</p> <p>I have sent several emails to Mrs. Clifford, my region member, however, I take this opportunity to ask you to grant schools with successful Online Programs to begin school with the same program.</p> <p>As Principal of Sacred Heart School in Ness City, I saw my teachers continue teaching from March 16 to May 15. Our parents were very supportive and receptive and we all feel strongly that we should be given the option to reinstate our Online Learning Program and begin our school on schedule August 20.</p> <p>No child, teacher, or staff member would be placed in danger and quality learning can continue with the use of Google Classroom. Students who need a device to access Google Classroom will be loaned that from the school.</p> <p>We have worked all summer to make sure we were able to open school face-to-face or online. We are ready to begin online! I encourage you to allow us to maintain our educational values and to provide the special services some of our students need.</p> <p>Sincerely, Debbie Hagans, Principal Sacred Heart School / Ness City</p>
7/21/2020 8:01:58	Laura	Lawler	my family	Topeka	<p>Please vote down the Gov. mandate to start school and activities late. She is playing games and was very clear that she did not give a date when school could start, just that it would not be before Labor Day. She will delay again, and again and again. PLEASE allow the districts to do what is best for their communities and get these kids back in school. They need and deserve an education. They are discouraged and depressed and I fear we are going to see the drop out rate and suicide rates increase far faster than the COVID death rate among our students. PLEASE look at the numbers and the facts and not the political agenda.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
7/21/2020 8:02:04	Ryann	Brooks	Parent in USD 253	Emporia	I support the delay in reopening schools. Our children and the teachers and staff in our schools need to be kept safe. I do not believe it is safe. Numbers in Lyon County continue to rise. I realize there are some areas in the state that have not been as hard hit — yet. They have been lucky so far, but we have seen how quickly this disease can spread and how hard it can hit once it takes hold in a community. The Kansas Legislature has used this entire situation as an excuse to play politics, when our governor has shown time and again that her utmost concern is for the well-being of everyone in the state.
7/21/2020 8:02:17	Randi	Ryan		Mulberry	Please do the right thing and support the governor's mandate. You aren't even meeting in person right now because it's not safe. Why would you expect our students to meet in person?
					Start school ASAP - no mask for small kids!

7/21/2020 8:02:23	Fire	OP	EMS	Overland Park	<p>The ordeal started in March with one of Green's daughters, then the other shortly contracted it after they returned from a volleyball tournament in Colorado.</p> <p>"There was no test available for my daughters. They were sick but not near as sick as me and my wife," Green said.</p> <p>Green is also on the Johnson County Emergency Medical Science Advisory Board. It was before the shutdown, but he knew enough about symptoms to wonder if his daughters had come in contact with coronavirus.</p> <p>But soon, for him and his wife there'd be no doubt.</p> <p>"I was on a ventilator for 18 days. I was in the hospital for a month. When I woke up, I was unable to stand or walk," he said.</p> <p>He started physical therapy and about a month later was well enough to thank his caregivers with his family by his side. He returned to work about three weeks ago.</p> <p>"When I got COVID, I actually was working on departmental plans of how we were going to handle this," Green said.</p> <p>And three months later, perhaps because they saw their boss literally on what doctors thought was his death bed, he said the department is taking what he called very aggressive measures to stop the spread of the virus.</p> <p>"One of the first things that we do when we walk in the door, if you don't have a mask on, all of our patients, we are going to hand you a mask," he said.</p> <p>It's what they've always done for respiratory illness, but now it's a policy for patients citywide. The department is doing its own contact tracing for anyone who calls in sick with possible symptoms.</p>
7/21/2020 8:02:43	Sue	Runer	Teachers	Horton	<p>Please support the Governor. She's leading Kansas with her heart, and not her own personal agenda, as it appears so many other Kansans are now doing.</p> <p>Teachers DO need that extra time to prepare, but more importantly.. we need time to see where our COVID numbers are before sending kids and teachers into the petri-dish.</p> <p>Please support her EO. And, if one comes out again to further delay schools, please vote yes on that one, too.</p> <p>Too many of our local leaders do not see this virus as real. So many think it's a hoax, and that is soo dangerous. Decisions like that can mean the difference between life and death.</p>
7/21/2020 8:03:09	Reagan	Parr		Great Bend	<p>Our kids need to be back in school !! How will their immune system ever be strong to fight stuff off when they want us to stay home and not be around anyone ..they need socialization!! my son who has adhd is struggling right now big time !! He needs to be around his peers and back into the classroom !! It is very critical for these kiddos to be back in school and learning !!! These kids have been out since middle of March and it's taken a toll On them !! My kids struggled with the online stuff it didn't work for them !! My main priority and concern is the kids they need to be back to school and get to learning and being with their peers !!</p>
7/21/2020 8:03:11	Lacey	Martin	Saint Thomas Aquinas	Overland Park	<p>I believe kids need to be in school. Simple as that. Studies have shown that kids aren't passing this virus. A delayed start isn't necessary in Kansas. Thank you for all that you do. Prayers for all of the decision makers!</p>



					I sincerely hope that everyone is taking this decision seriously and is thinking in the best interests of ALL involved. While educators and schools understand that, in many cases, we are the multi-faceted system of support to many families (and in some cases, to society as well), we also want to be SAFE in delivering our services and supports to students and families. Cases of Covid 19 are STILL on the rise in most places in our state, and we simply CANNOT say "well, parents need to get back to work and kids need to socialize" as a justification for opening up school buildings when it is NOT safe to do so at this time. Right now, I have many friends and colleagues who are contemplating things we NEVER had to think about before, as the possibility of returning to in-person school looms before us: what clothes are best to wear that can be laundered on high heat to kill germs and viruses, how to manage and police students in mask wearing and social distancing, how to disinfect our shoes and the interior of our cars, how to manage keeping students safe while still maintaining the rigor and fidelity of our lessons, and some who are even updating and/or writing their wills "just in case". In my opinion, the recent surge in cases of the virus should be reason enough to keep the buildings closed at this time. We ALL realize that remote learning is not ideal, but neither is the worry and stress that educators and staff are going through at this time while decisions are being made that directly affect our health and safety and that of our own families. If meetings and professional development sessions are still being held remotely on Zoom "out of an abundance of caution", how can you even think of over-turning the Governor's mandate about the opening of schools? Please do what is right for our educators AND our students at this time.
7/21/2020 8:03:17	Corrie	Stanley	USD 501	Berryton	
7/21/2020 8:03:17	Akilah	Harrold	Washington High school	Kansas City	Hello, I am the treasurer at Washington High school. One of my daughters is a student at Schlagle and the other one at New Chelsea. Please do not open the schools back up. The numbers are rising everyday. It is not safe!
7/21/2020 8:03:41	Emily	Dennis		Lawrence	My name is Emily Dennis. I am a mother of two students in Tonganoxie, current 5th grade Teacher, and wife of a Farmer. I am writing to urge you to vote in support of Governor Kelly's Executive Order to delay the opening of school in Kansas as well as other mandates outlined in her order. School is important to the well being of children but the risks to children, their families and adults who work in schools is too great to open schools any sooner that Governor Kelly outlines. Children won't be able to receive all the benefits of the free quality education they have a right to if they're sick or die from COVID-19.
7/21/2020 8:03:52	Lisa	Sonsthagen	public school Parent and educator	Olathe	With the astronomical rise in infection rates and the progression of how younger students can get COVID and pass on to others, the BOE needs to approve the EO based on the data. The school districts need more time to obtain the supplies needed and train staff. And as a state we must do better to lower the spread, Prayerfully with the additional three weeks, we will see a decline in rates. If the concern is really for the students, the students would do better with a consistent routine virtually than the trauma of having teachers gone for extended times and various subs in to take place. However many subs have said it would not be worth the personal and family risk to accept sub jobs. So what happens when the teacher is sick and the job is infilled? Pack then in another classroom? Have different staff come in for 30-60 minutes chunks who don't know the curriculum nor the students? What is best for kids is delaying the start of school.
7/21/2020 8:04:08	Andrea	Hargitt		Quinter	Since Gove county COVID numbers have not spiked or even gone past 2 positive cases this entire time, we should not delay the start of school. If our numbers spike before August 17, then yes we should delay.
7/21/2020 8:04:08	Joy	Granade		Overland Park	As a parent I ask that you uphold Gov. Kelly's order to delay the start of school. I think it gives our teachers and students the best chance of staying health while still providing much needed social services and education.
7/21/2020 8:04:09	Rebecca	Nordyke		Wichita	I am a university professor who has chosen the option of teaching remotely for fall semester. My four grandchildren in USD 259 need the same option for their health and safety. They are not expendable, and neither are their teachers, school staff or parents. Please err on the side of caution and keep schools closed. Siding with politicians who argue that European schools are open is the fallacy of false analogy. Numbers of infected individuals have significantly dropped in those countries. Numbers have not dropped in Kansas. Put lives, not politics first.
7/21/2020 8:04:09	Rachel	Everhart		Topeka	Please allow schools to open. Our children need to have in-school classes.
7/21/2020 8:04:11	Brett	Wedel		Tonganoxie	Please uphold the Governor's order to delay the start of school to allow schools to gather the proper equipment.
7/21/2020 8:04:17	Vicki	Smith	Education	Lawrence	For safety of students and educators as well as their families, please approve delayed start of school year.

7/21/2020 8:04:21	Marla	Gibson	Teacher	Overland Park	Until it is safe for all involved, students, teachers and staff, the state should be virtual. The world is working on a vaccine, that should be here around the holidays. If we stay virtual many people will still be alive to share the holidays with their family that might have died if we rush back. Kansas has amazing teachers that will do their best virtually. Give them a chance to start preparing now and vote virtual until semester. Why would we open, loose human life and then shut down anyways? People, teachers, staff, grandparents might be gone from family celebrations and our future if we don't stay virtual. Please vote to stay virtual.
7/21/2020 8:04:24	April	Neuman		Cimarron	Open up please. Don't wait until after labor day. Please no masks, or masks optional!
7/21/2020 8:04:29	Julie	Taylor	Parent	OP	I support the decision to delay the start date for this school year and require masks for any in person learning down the line. Thank you for being proactive in keeping our kids, families and cities healthy!
7/21/2020 8:04:52	Shelsea	Terrones	Parent and school employee	El Dorado	Schools should remain closed for now, our children and teachers will not be safe. Especially because you cannot ensure a younger student will wear a mask or social distance. You are giving the option for virtual yes, but what about those teachers who have to work that have children in the school that are being put in a position to endanger their lives and those of others. Or those that are high risk. Who will be responsible when we do have a case or God forbid, a death from COVID, as a result of rushing back before it is safe. I say begin with online with everyone, then once it is safe to return then we could do so. Our children are the future, they are also very resilient and will get through this, even if they have to wait a little longer.. I would rather keep my child healthy and alive then risk catching a potentially deadly virus. Why is now any different from when schools closed, the numbers are worse and still rising.
7/21/2020 8:05:01	Teresa	Spencer		Wichita	I am in support of the governor's order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day, as well as masks for students when we return. I am a teacher with a family of my own and I just want everyone to be safe and healthy.
7/21/2020 8:05:05	Mindy	Fry	USD 232	Shawnee	PLEASE delay school. There are currently no safeguards in place and we need time to implement them. Teachers are not medical personnel and schools are not medical facilities. A simple delay will allow us to do our best to protect Kansas students and teachers. Including installing air purifiers in the HVAC, getting mask shipments in bulk, reformatting our teaching styles to be safer and distanced, adjust scheduling to help with distancing, inform school families, etc. Dont throw us into the petri dish of a school without protection.
7/21/2020 8:05:18	Erin	Kenendy		Lenexa	In-person learning should not occur until the number of new cases has decreased for 14 days. Once that goal has occurred then school reopening should be done in phases just like business we're reopened. Ease into the possibility of having face-to-face learning. Staff and student lives are not worth risking!
7/21/2020 8:05:18	Kim	Mittermeier	The Mittermeier family	Topeka	Thank you for accepting feedback on the Governors order to delay the start of school. I am the parent of a high school sophomore at Washburn Rural High School. His father and I are both over 60, meaning we are in the danger zone for the virus. My son might be ok, but his father and I might not. I urge you to support and uphold the governors order. Pushing back the start of the school year will give the schools and community two things. #1 Time to flatten the curve. The mandatory mask order has only been in effect for a week here in Topeka. Of course we all know the dreaded 14 day window of incubation. This additional time will give the community a chance to get ahead of and hopefully slow down infections. #2 Schools will have time to better prepare. Everyone says they have had all summer to prepare! What in the world have they been doing?! They were preparing for what they THOUGHT was going to be school with the virus on the decline, not for when it was rising and actually WORSE that it was when they left! They need time to train teachers and staff members. Time to read through and implement all of the mandates that the KSBOE handed down just last week. They need time to make a plan for an executive order that was handed down just this week! We all want the safest environment for our children. I have spent six months keeping my son safe from this virus by keeping him home where I know it is safest for him to be right now. He desperately wants to return to school and to STAY in school. Please, let's give the schools the TIME they need to make it safe so our kids and teachers can return to school, and stay there for the whole school year. Thank you, Kim Mittermeier Concerned parent

7/21/2020 8:05:33	Landra	Fair	teacher	Lawrence	As a high science teacher in Johnson County I am terrified about in-person teaching. This virus is not contained and being in groups in enclosed places is the worst thing we can do at this time. I will not feel safe to go back to in-person schooling until the COVID cases numbers in my county are acceptable.
7/21/2020 8:05:31	Amy	Calhoun		Topeka	Support the mandate to keep schools closed to allow the virus to slow down and school staff time to prepare for the year with new restrictions
7/21/2020 8:05:43	Shannon	Schuh		Holton	I either say close down the schools for entire semester or open them back up in full swing in August. And if you are opening them back up and quarantining the teacher and class that has a positive case or comes in contact with someone, you're gonna have a problem in the smaller towns. Say you have a kindergarten student whom get a positive test. Then the whole class has to quarantine. Well then all the siblings of said class has to quarantine. Now you pretty much have the whole school under quarantine. That's a small town school. Just saying. I appreciate you guys very much and pray fo each and everyone of you during this difficult time♥□
7/21/2020 8:05:49	Nicole	Freubd	Parent	Wichita	The delayed start is common sense. It gives everyone more time to figure out how to approach an unprecedented challenge to public health and safety.
7/21/2020 8:05:51	Alyssa	Simon		Dighton	We currently have NO active cases of COVID-19 in our county. Delaying the start of school will merely be hurting the students. If we don't go back to school until September, our students will not have had in-person instruction for nearly 6 months. That is NOT in the best interest of our kids.
7/21/2020 8:05:54	Anthony	Fasl	Student Parent	Lenexa	Resuming schools shouldn't be delayed nor should school activities be delayed. Cases are rising but have seen little impact on serious conditions for children and the need for education, social interaction and structure outweigh the low risk factors. Additionally if these student don't return to school they will still be engaging with other students outside of the classroom so closing schools will do little to impact impacts on students, controlling conditions in the classroom will benefit the overall health of the students. For the long term health of the students the schools need to be open.
7/21/2020 8:06:03	Leslie	Smith	parent	Prairie Village, KS	Gov. Kelly's delay of the school year was a VERY good thing. It gives more time for teachers to prepare for the inevitabilities of hybrid learning and to help get our soaring Covid-19 rates down with a few more weeks of mandated mask-wearing.
7/21/2020 8:06:53	Jenny	Havermann	Olathe USD 233	Olathe	I support the delay of the start of the school year. I ask that you also support the delay.
7/21/2020 8:07:20	Erin	Gibson		Hays, KS	Delay is fine but if my child is made to wear a mask we will be home schooling
7/21/2020 8:07:11	Jacob	Weston		Wichita	Let individual districts decide what is right for them. Local leaders have been working on plans since schools were closed. Ditch the one-size-fits-all approach. Districts in a county with thousands of COVID cases should not be doing things exactly the same as districts in an area with a dozen cases.
7/21/2020 8:07:28	Linda	Piper		Overland Park	Please vote NO. Let schools open as normal
7/21/2020 8:07:33	Emily	Reimer	Parent	Lawrence	Please abide by Governor Kelly's executive order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. This gives teachers more time to prepare and offer a solid education plan for our students.
7/21/2020 8:07:35	Stephen	Webster	Citizen	Great Bend	With any plan to resume schools, why is there not a mask requirement for students but there is one for teachers? It makes no sense not to try an protect teachers who will be the most vulnerable. With no teachers there are no classes. I feel everyone understands the importance of getting children back in the classroom but please include teachers in your concern.  Whatever decision you make, I hope it is based on the best information you have available and not which side of the political isle you lean to.
7/21/2020 8:07:35	Danielle	Pippitt		Shawnee	Tough decisions. Thank you for your efforts.  I support the executive order. At a time when the number of COVID cases are increasing in our area, I think it is wise to delay school openings. In September we will hopefully be at a better and safer place in our state.

7/21/2020 8:07:36	Candi	Chay	Usd 259	Wichita	<p>Online only please we don't need teachers and kids dead for teaching or going back to school make it simple and just do it online maybe face to face in the spring ? If covid cases are 14 days no cases.. cases are going up each day in Wichita this is not ok.</p> <p>Online is the only way right now.</p> <p>School might be longer after May into the summer we will have to see ? But I think ☹️ it would probably be good.</p> <p>I also think a lot of the paras working in the schools some of them are one on one or a group but you have some you still have to be right by them to help them they are also more able to get Covid. On top of that a lot of school don't have air conditioning that works all the times or no circulation of air or no windows bathroom with no ventilation that is all asking for problems.</p> <p>Kids are going to be more restless with probably no outside time and no pe or music out of the class I see more kids having problems.</p> <p>Some kids are very social and it will be very hard for them to be apart from friends most of these kids haven't seen any of there friends at all</p> <p>It's sad</p> <p>Online Only</p> <p>14 days no Cases of Covid</p>
7/21/2020 8:07:59	Jessica	Eggleston	Olathe USD 233	Overland Park	As a teacher, I feel it is very important for students to not go back until after Labor Day. The numbers are rising and we need to gather the important resources before we can begin. I would rather be prepared and go longer than jump too quickly back in the classroom.
7/21/2020 8:08:29	Brigitte	Gray	Teachers	Kansas City Kansas	We should follow the executive order.
7/21/2020 8:08:29	Kelly	Sullivan	Myself-retired public school teacher	Wichita, Ks	Delay school until virus threat is controlled.
7/21/2020 8:08:30	Leah	Mehl	Usd475	Junction City	Please support EO 20-58 , open schools when the numbers of positive cases show a decrease. Keep our communities safe.
7/21/2020 8:08:34	Glen	Sharp	Private citizen	Baldwin City	Sustain the Governor's order to start schools after Labor Day. Not the time to vote ideology.
7/21/2020 8:08:42	Jenny	Duld	USD 233	Shawnee,	<p>Please consider upholding the governors delay in the start of schools until after Labor Day. While some counties has not seen the spike, Johnson County has seen and continues to see growing cases on a daily basis.</p> <p>I want my child to be able to go back to school and interact with teachers, classmates, etc. Remote learning is a temporary fix that can work in the short term but not for the duration of the semester or school year. Also, please consider the teachers at all levels who risk exposure stepping into a classroom.</p> <p>The bottom line is this delay is not forcing us to go remote, go in person, etc. but gives a chance to catch our breath and approach this with preparation and planning.</p>
7/21/2020 8:08:42	Tresa	Burger	Teachers	Sabetha	This decision should be left to individual school boards. Not every place will have outbreaks at the same time, and each school district needs the flexibility to stay home or attend in person according to whatever their particular community needs dictate. One size does not fit all!
7/21/2020 8:08:47	Dana	Gering		Spring Hill	We have two children and we want them in school. If people don't want to risk it then they can do at home. I do have questions that I will need answered if you all decide no in school option. Since we are working parents how do you plan for us to be able to do school at home? And will there be money given to working parents when we have to hire a nanny or tutor to teach our children? Im not trying to be rude but these are all real life questions we will have to answer and figure out. Thank you

					<p>Schools SHOULD NOT open until after labor day. Please consider the following questions and concerns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If a teacher tests positive for COVID-19 are they required to quarantine for 2-3 weeks? Is their sick leave covered, paid?</li> <li>• If that teacher has 5 classes a day with 30 students each, do all 150 of those students need to then stay home and quarantine for 14 days?</li> <li>• Do all 150 of those students now have to get tested? Who pays for those tests? Are they happening at school? How are the parents being notified? Does everyone in each of those kids' families need to get tested? Who pays for that?</li> <li>• What if someone who lives in the same house as a teacher tests positive? Does that teacher now need to take 14 days off of work to quarantine? Is that time off covered? Paid?</li> <li>• Where is the district going to find a substitute teacher who will work in a classroom full of exposed, possibly infected students for substitute pay?</li> <li>• Substitutes teach in multiple schools. What if they are diagnosed with COVID-19? Do all the kids in each school now have to quarantine and get tested? Who is going to pay for that?</li> <li>• What if a student in your kid's class tests positive? What if your kid tests positive? Does every other student and teacher they have been around quarantine? Do we all get notified who is infected and when? Or because of HIPAA regulations are parents and teachers just going to get mysterious "may have been in contact" emails all year long?</li> <li>. Does every classroom and/or Office have an air purifier? Do every bus that transports students have air purifiers? Does every bus driver and school staff have PPE equipment? What equipment and/or materials have been purchased to sanitize every bus and school?</li> </ul>
7/21/2020 8:08:49	Donisha	Hoffine	Parent of 6th grader	Wichita	
7/21/2020 8:08:52	Abby	Ryan		Overland Park	I have three kids — one in elementary, one in middle school and one in high school. They need to be back in school with their friends and teachers. Being out of school has had a negative effect on all of them — I've seen increased sadness, depression, anxiety and weight gain. Teachers and administrators are essential workers. Please get our kids back in school ASAP. The numbers show that kids are not "sick" with Covid. I feel like we're sacrificing the mental health of our kids for the older population that is at risk. Virtual school did not really work for our family.
7/21/2020 8:09:00	Mark	Nelson	None	Courtland	I support Governor Kelly's current request to delay the opening of schools. I would even prefer that schools didn't open back up until a vaccine is available to stop the spread of Covid 19. We will not be sending our child back to school this fall. Distance, or online learning is the only responsible approach at this point.
7/21/2020 8:09:10	Ginger	Scripsick	Buhler USD 313	Buhler	Give the decision to each individual school district! This is not a one size fits all situation. Whether school starts in 3 weeks or 6 weeks the virus will still be here, it is not going away no matter what restrictions are in place. That is a fact! We have to learn to live with it, kids need to be in school, districts can decide what is best for their children!
7/21/2020 8:09:11	Rachel	Jones	my family	gardner ks	open the schools. Sooner, rather than later. Ditch the masks-at least for the Elementary schools.  This is such a hard decision. I don't envy you your position. Regardless of what you do, we will support your decision and our teachers.
7/21/2020 8:09:12	Mary	Vanausdall	Teachers	Shawnee	I think that we need to start school after Labor Day, to make sure Covid numbers go down.
7/21/2020 8:09:22	Don	Johnson		Minneola	We don't really know how it will affect children in the long run. Let schools open now. Let faculty and students wear mask if they want to, do not force them to wear it.

7/21/2020 8:09:30	Debi	Bazzel		Shawnee	<p>As you consider your vote to allow our governor to delay the start of school for the coming academic year, I implore you to consider all stakeholders, but most importantly, students &amp; staff. I believe that the best place for our students to learn is in the classroom, but these are unusual times. In my opinion, the plan to delay the start of the school year accomplishes two very important goals with one common factor - time.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Delaying the start of the school year gives this global pandemic, having a very real effect right here in Kansas, a little more time to play out. Maybe we can make some headway and feel confident in decisions to reopen schools. Or, maybe we see this crisis continue to worsen, and it will be apparent that we can't safely reopen our schools.</li> <li>2. Delaying the start of the school year gives administrators time to plan and, even more important, gives our teachers time to plan and train for what is bound to be another historic year. The demands on our teachers will be greater than ever before. My children attend school in the Shawnee Mission district. I understand that our district has purchased a new online learning platform, one that most of our teachers have no experience with. Let's give our teachers every opportunity to have success teaching students at home or in the school building.</li> </ol> <p>I am asking you to vote to approve the governor's plan to delay the start of the school year. Thank you for your service.</p>
7/21/2020 8:09:46	Maureen	Engen	Bishop Miege High School	Roeland Park	<p>I am the principal of Bishop Miege high school. While we agree with the September 9 start of in school instruction, we have great cause for concern that there cannot be online learning taking place in August. Our teachers are going to return on August 10 and have two weeks of professional development. They will prepare to be able to teach online as well as in class. We need to bring in our students for orientation beginning August 24 and begin to teach online August 30.</p> <p>It is the opinion of our administrative team that the decision for reopening schools should be made by our Archdiocesan office rather than an executive order.</p>
7/21/2020 8:09:45	Kami	Brady	Parent	Olathe	<p>For the safety of students, teachers, staff and families, please vote yes to support the delay of school until after Labor Day. Please ensure schools are equipped with PPE, social distancing policies and mask requirements if in-person school is offered.</p>
7/21/2020 8:09:51	Christina	Barkley		Salina (Saline County)	<p>I am in support of Governor Laura Kelly's plan to delay the start of school until after the Labor Day Holiday. The extra time helps ease some parents anxiety as well as teachers and staffs anxiety and allows superintendents the added time they need to get supplies and implement the guidelines to the best of their ability. It also allows us time to see if we can get the numbers trending down with the mask mandates. I live in Salina and I have 3 children whom attend USD 305 and our cases have been on a steady increase for 4 weeks now and this decision will ultimately help me decide which way I choose to enroll my children. If you choose to decline Kelly's recommendation, then I will have no choice, but to enroll remote because my children are not guinea pigs in all this and politics needs to stay out of it. We need to do what is best for these children, teachers, superintendents, janitors, and staffs health.</p>
7/21/2020 8:10:14	Adam	Kengor		Kansas City KS	<p>Schools are not safe to reopen. Any attempt to do so will be reflected on voting day when those responsible will be swiftly voted out of office.</p>
7/21/2020 8:10:15	Dave	Clapham		Burdett,KS	<p>Personally I am not a fan of wearing a face mask. However, I believe while at school, students, staff, and visitors should be required to wear them. The risk of people coming to the school infected are great since we don't know where they have been or who they might have been in contact with. The spread of the covid-19 or any other contagious infection are great and in a small school it can spread like wildfire. Thus the school may have to close for a couple of weeks to quarantine and to be cleaned. We need to keep everyone safe and healthy the best the schools can do.</p>
7/21/2020 8:10:13	Amy	Schreiner		Tescott	<p>I support the delay of school until after Labor Day.</p>
7/21/2020 8:10:22	James	Wilson		Wichita	<p>Delay the school year because we are a hotspot in a pandemic.</p>
7/21/2020 8:10:26	Susan	Raleigh Rome		Windom	<p>START UP SCHOOL! Our kids need structure. They need an education. THEY NEED A LIFE BACK!</p>

7/21/2020 8:10:50	Megan	Major	Manhattan Catholic School	Manhattan	deny late start. Continue to keep our kids in school with appropriate safety measures. Do NOT go remote!! Our children should not suffer from our lack of knowledge and fear!
7/21/2020 8:10:52	Anne	Collins	Public Schools	Olathe	Please delay the start or opening of schools and reconsider if numbers continue to rise through August. Academics can be made up, lives cannot be recovered.
7/21/2020 8:10:55	Nicole	Leonard		Salina	I think the decision on when to start back at school should be on the district. I feel that our district has been preparing for this for months now and seem ready to go. Kids should get established back in the classroom sooner rather than later even if it is in a hybrid design to begin.
7/21/2020 8:10:56	Melody	Johnson	Teacher/Parent of 3 School age Children	Cimarron	I am okay with school districts attending school after Labor Day, but I think it should be up to each district to decide when it will be safe for everyone to return to school. School districts can work with their School Board, Health Department and Co. Commissioners to make that final decision. If a school district chooses to start before Labor Day and a parent isn't comfortable with that date, then their children can start online. I don't think the decision to start later is right for every school district in Kansas, however we do currently have school districts that traditionally start school after Labor Day, so it is doable. Thanks for listening.
7/21/2020 8:11:04	Jackie	Stancil	Parent and school psychologist for USD 450	Lawrence	I support Governor Kelley's order to delay the start of school and hopes the school board does also.
7/21/2020 8:11:27	Pam	Dankenbring	USD 364 BOE	marysville	We're prepared to open and invite students back in. There is a definite population that are more harmed by not being in school than the risk of virus offers. We need kids to be in school for the future of our state and for the kids in unsupported and abusive homes.
7/21/2020 8:11:34	Sanja	Bajic	Parent	OVERLAND PARK	COVID-19 is a disease that we never dealt with before. It will take time to get to understand how it works.  Sending kids and teachers to school right now is like making willing decision to sacrifice 5% of students and teachers' population of Kansas. I worked in Kansas school for two years. I had inside look into how teachers take amazing care of our kids. Based on my experience, it will be impossible to have all kids keep their masks on for even a part of the day, not to mention full school day. What will you do when first cases of COVID-19 occur at just opened schools? It will not take long for that to happen (maybe 3-4 weeks into school). What is your plan?  I cannot even believe that we are at this point when we are discussing if kids should go back to school before or after Labor Day! I sincerely hope that common sense will prevail. These are unprecedented times and they call for genuine leaders.
7/21/2020 8:11:38	Rachel	Pierce		Kansas City	How come your meeting isn't in person, but you want teachers to go back to teaching in person?
7/21/2020 8:11:48	Patricia	Palmer	KSDE students in household	Leawood	Please approve the Gov. order on delayed start
7/21/2020 8:11:50	Karissa	Hoag	Arkansas city high school	Winfield, KS	I agree with the order, and am not hopeful that schools will even start then. There are too many what ifs, and not enough funding to reopen at 100% brick and mortar capacity. I truly think our best option is online/hybrid learning.

7/21/2020 8:11:51	Tracy	McCurley		Overland Park	<p>We support schools opening on time and working (as quickly as possible) on resuming "normalcy." We all agree that we should make strong efforts to protect the elderly, but the death total across the state for those individuals under 65 years old is 39 (there are almost 3 million people in Kansas). There is so much loss to students and families by not opening our schools/extracurriculars.....the cost to benefit ratio doesn't make sense.</p> <p>Please support our kids returning to schools. We expect all other essential workers to return to their jobs and teaching our kids is definitely on that category.</p>
7/21/2020 8:12:20	Paige	Vulgamore	Scott Community High School	Scott City	Counties like Scott County should not be in the same boat as counties such as Wyandotte. It is not fair for us to not get to go to school and not have sports when we only have a few cases in our whole county. If the coronavirus suddenly gets much worse in our county, then that is when we should consider taking more precautions; however we are not even close to being there yet.
7/21/2020 8:12:30	Jana	Elkins		13020 El Monte Street, Leawood	Please vote in favor of the delay of Kansas schools. This would allow districts, schools, and staff time to make decisions and preparations for a safe restart. Thank you
7/21/2020 8:12:32	Abbigail	Epperson		Overland Park, KS	As a teacher, I wholly support the decision to delay the start of school. At this time, we are not yet ready to implement the necessary safety procedures in school to create a safe environment for our students and staff. It is important to have a few extra weeks to better understand the necessary procedures that will need to be taken this year to ensure the safety of our schools. I urge you to consider the ramifications of opening schools before teachers and administrators are completely prepared. We are educators and we will jump head first into whatever situation we need to for our students, but we need your support in order to ensure a successful and safe school year for all across the state of Kansas. Thank you.
7/21/2020 8:12:33	Michelle	Wilson	Parent of high school student in Kansas	Oakley	We need our students back in the classroom. This virus is a virus with less death cases than Influenza. I understand you are not able to override EO #20-59. I am for the hand washing etc BUT I am strongly opposed to my child wearing a face mask only because it is FAR MORE DANGEROUS to wear a mask than COVID-19. Our children and our country's future is depending on you to make the best decision. 🙏 Praying for my state and country right now like never before!!!!
7/21/2020 8:12:35	Jesse	Werner	Just myself	Salina	Please do online only. Some kids want to go back in person and some parents aren't comfortable with that. When teachers are updating their WILLS, we probably should stay online.
7/21/2020 8:12:48	GINGER	BAERG	Usd263	Mulvane	I believe we should not start in person until our numbers are way down
7/21/2020 8:12:50	Mercedes	Schlapper	Parent	Lawrence	We delay for weather, tornados, storms and heat - how is a virus not also an act of god we must be patient with? Delay school until we are prepared or we are more foolish than sending a child to school without a rain jacket in a thunderstorm.
7/21/2020 8:12:51	Nick	Long	Future America	Valley Center Ks	I do not agree with the continual delay of education for our children any longer. The hardship that this is causing is 2 fold, both on the children and the parents. We have one parent who can no longer work due to this situation, and 2 children who are receiving sub-par online education that we are acting like is equal to what they would be receiving in a school setting. The teachers have put together the best online education package possible given the situation, but in a home setting, being pushed by a parent, they dont seem like they are absorbing it as they would be in a school setting. Do not postpone education longer due to covid 19.
7/21/2020 8:13:11	Katelyn	Austin		Pratt	I do not think mask are necessary in school for students or staff. Nor do I believe that delaying school is necessary. Let's quit being afraid of a virus and get back to living a normal life!!
7/21/2020 8:13:32	Caitlyn	Sample	Student	Olathw	Both of my parents are teachers. Please wait until the day after Labor Day. I want my parents to have time to have the proper safety precautions in place for themselves as well as their students like myself. I want to get back to school like everyone else but want safety ensures so that I don't get ill and my parents and sibling doesn't get ill. My family knows 3 people who have been hospitalized with this disease and 1 passed away from it.
7/21/2020 8:13:36	Jami	Schurr		Goodland, ks	School should resume for children, they need the normal schedule and learning.



7/21/2020 8:13:36	Erika	Kramer		Lawrence	Please do not open schools up for in person learning this Fall. I implore you to think about the lives of our children but just as importantly the lives of teachers, paras, custodial staff and others AND their families. COVID-19 must be respected, our virus numbers are continuing to rise and will do so until a proper vaccine is available. No amount of safety precautions you implement in brick and mortar schools will have the same curve flattening effect as staying at home. Hybrid scheduling, delaying of reopening only partially delays the inevitable spread throughout our schools. Do no make this about the economy, politics or simply because some cannot bear to distance learn again. If we as Kansans don't take a stand together we will not snuff Covid out, it will snuff US out. Our children and the people that we entrust them to care for and nurture while they are at school must not be used as a testing ground.
7/21/2020 8:13:36	Nancy	Davis	Myself	Linn Valley	I see nothing unreasonable about delaying school until until September 8 after Labor Day. But I do think for the students social, mental and educational stability it should NOT be delayed any longer than that.  However I do think it's unreasonable and unrealistic to expect students and staff to wear masks and etc.  FYI: I grew up in Iowa and we never started school before Labor Day. School was also dismissed before Memorial Day. Winter break in Iowa is also shorter than here and school was never cancelled everytime a snowflake fell! I've never understood why Kansas resumes school in the middle of summer and has such a long winter break!!!
7/21/2020 8:13:41	Michael	Viser		Olathe	Please, in God's Great Name, exercise some wisdom and support the Governors Executive Order to delay the start of school. Put the health and safety of the teachers, staff and kids at the forefront and not politics.  This is the easiest decision that you can all go on record as making and should have been made days ago.
7/21/2020 8:13:47	Jennifer	Perry	Parent	Salina	I am a mother of a middle school student in Salina, Kansas. I, like many, want nothing more than to see our children back in classrooms this fall. What I don't want, is our children to become political pawns in this fight between Republicans and our Governor. I am appalled that Kansas has failed to take common sense steps to control this outbreak. Had we phased in reopening and mandated mask wearing statewide, we may not be in this situation. Your job is to help provide a safe and appropriate education for our children, not to play political games at the expense of our teachers and children. School should only reopen in person with solid requirements for protecting both students and teachers. Our community is currently in an uptick of cases and I, in good faith, could not send my child back to the classroom. Delaying the start of schools is the responsible choice. If the case count has not improved, it should only start remotely with a few exceptions for children that need additional services not available out of the school setting. There should be a required trend of new cases decreasing or stabilizing before students are allowed in the classroom. Counties should not be allowed to choose politics over safety. I am currently being asked by USD 305 to enroll my child blindly without knowing how school will function or what remote learning will look like. As a parent, I will not make a choice without clear facts. As of right now, I am choosing to enroll my child in a virtual school out of district. It is not my first choice. I would rather my student be with friends and the wonderful staff at his middle school, but with no real plan or guidelines that will not happen. I will not risk his health or his grandparents' health. I will also not contribute the risk of teachers that have no choice, but to return to the classroom. I implore you to make the right choice. Protect our children and delay school. Mandate safety requirements so parents, students, and teachers can return to school safely and with confidence.
7/21/2020 8:13:58	Shannon	Cannon	My kid	Hoyt	The governor is the only one listening to science. Asymptomatic people are losing parts of their brain to this disease. Maybe kids don't get it as bad, meaning they don't die but they are likely to suffer lifelong health problems. No one wants that for their kids. Not even the people who don't believe the scientists. There is no good way to keep kids safe in school. Online or hybrid with only partial kids in school.

7/21/2020 8:14:08	Jeannie	Koehn		Galva	I feel educators need the time to plan and gather all materials necessary for reopening. So an after Labor Day start will give time. As a teacher with Asthma, I do Worry about a room of kids coughing and sneezing all over EVERYTHING will increase the spread. I have read lots of comments about starting and the support to start. One main fight to open is the kids mental health. Has anyone considered the kids mental health by having their temperature taken and being encouraged to maintain distance from others? What are we going to do about the parents that give Tylenol so they can pass the temperature screen in the morning? This happens all the time in elementary classrooms. Young children are honest and tell teachers they took medicine so they can come to school. Schools will have to have procedures rewritten to cover all these scenarios. So an after Labor Day start is better to allow time for educators to discuss and prepare for various things including how to deal with mental health issues that kids may feel with all these new mandates.
7/21/2020 8:14:31	Shanee	Steinmeier		Overland Park	I support the delay in opening the schools until after Labor Day. With the increasing number of cases, I do not feel as if it is a safe option for neither families nor teachers and staff to open up. A recent study from South Korea of 65,000 people demonstrated that while COVID-19 does not transmit as easily from children to adults ages 0-10, it still transmits just as much as adults in children ages 10-19. Also, there are cases of children who have tested positive for COVID-19, been hospitalized and died. Not only that, schools are a community of adults. Social distancing will be difficult. Teachers are facing the tough choices of returning to work or not because of fear of contracting the virus. This is a difficult decision with no good solutions. My first grader wants to go to school and see her friends. I want her to be able to go to school, but I don't feel like it makes sense as a community at the moment. Thanks for making the hard choices.
7/21/2020 8:14:41	DAVID	JUMPER	david jumper	Newton	i fell we should wait till after labor day for safety of everyone and to make the time up shorten winter break
7/21/2020 8:14:44	Molly	Campbell		Overland Park	I am a teacher in Johnson County. I am immunocompromised. I am not comfortable going back to school with students in August. We do not have the time to get our rooms or our procedures ready. We have just been given our district plan and our plan written by the state board of education. Our district's plan is 54 pages (with a specific building plan to follow). The plan from the state board of education, which we will be following especially as our district plan is not specific with academics like the board's plan, is over a thousand pages. We do not yet have our building plan. We are only scheduled to have 3 days to prepare our classrooms and ourselves to implement these plans. We need to push back the start date to give all educators in the state the time to do prepare for students. Cases in our state have been rising dramatically. We need time to get those numbers down so we can see students in person. When we see students in person, our entire teaching strategy will need to change. I cannot use cooperative learning strategies. I need to change so many of my lesson materials and instruction to be prepared to teach in a socially distanced way. We need to be ready for this, and to be ready we need time. If we can't see them in person, we will be able to teach remotely with a higher quality of instruction than we did in the spring. Regardless of individual county case numbers, all teachers in the state need this time to prepare. Give us the time to do our jobs well, instead of rushed and confused like the spring. Please, give everyone time.
7/21/2020 8:14:54	Colleen	Harrington		Cheney	I believe you should be looking at the number of children with positive tests in KS under the age of 18, not the total number across all age groups. It's my understanding that kids are the least susceptible age group. Also, if masks are so effective as claimed, then what's the problem? What happened to the mantra "masks save lives" that led to them being mandated? Now it's masks save lives but not at school? Masks save lives but only after labor day? C'mon! Put whatever safety measures in place you feel are necessary but open the schools and get our kids back on time. Thank you!
7/21/2020 8:15:05	Ashley	Weldon	Parent of Elementary student	Wichita	I support the mandate to close schools through Labor Day.
7/21/2020 8:15:08	Heather	McKee		Topeka	PLEASE err on the side of caution and keep schools closed until after Labor Day! It is in the best interest of all involved. Thank yoj

7/21/2020 8:15:26	Kori	Crouse		Overland Park	<p>It is more than safe for students to return to school FULL time - precautions can be taken and life must go on. We cannot continue to live in fear. We cannot continue to hold our children back socially, emotionally, mentally..... Why can we gather in restaurants, churches, stores - but we can't send our kids to school?</p> <p>Delaying school solves nothing. The economy will continue to struggle until parents can return to work. The impact falls disproportionately on women to stay home and teach their kids.</p> <p>And where are my tax dollars going? Why am I paying to fund schools and pay teachers when I am getting none of those benefits. Delaying school and/or moving to only virtual learning creates IMMENSELY more problems than it solves.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 8:15:32	Melissa	Kautz		Wichita	I have no problem with school starting after Labor Day. When I was a kid, school started after Labor Day and ended first week in June. However, I do have a son with autism who needs to be in school. Those with autism and other special needs, needs the classroom environment.
7/21/2020 8:15:37	Starla	Nelson	Parent	Jamestown	I fully support the governor's executive order to delay the opening of schools. We live in a rural area and most of our nearby hospitals are 25 bed facilities that cannot handle a mass influx of patients. School will only increase the spread among households and our community. Many at risk individuals need us to do our part to slow the spread. Inconvenience is acceptable during a pandemic.
7/21/2020 8:15:36	Rachel	Hyatt	USD 253	Emporia	I believe a delay may be a step in the right direction, but in person classes should not take place while positive case numbers continue to rise. My county is one with very high numbers and as a teacher and single parent, I am terrified. I made a will this week after my six year asked what happens if I die. I hope I live for many more years (I am in my thirties), but I need to be prepared. This who chose the medical profession knew they would face disease and death regularly. This who chose law enforcement knew they would be placed in life and death situations. I chose teaching because I am a wimp. I wanted a job where people would generally like me, I wouldn't be placed in dangerous conditions , and my work schedule would allow me to be an involved parent. I am no longer parenting if I become hospitalized or die.
7/21/2020 8:15:40	Trissa	McCabe	USD 309	Buhler	I urge you to support the EO. I am a middle school teacher eager to get back to the classroom but with all the unknowns that need to tackled, it will need time. I understand and support local control within in the districts but these are unprecedented times where unity seems to make sense.
7/21/2020 8:15:43	Jeff	Shaw	teacher	Arkansas City	I support Governor Kelly's executive order 20-58 delaying the start of the 20-21 school year. It will give time for all districts to have a safe return to school plan.
7/21/2020 8:15:47	Sheryl	Musfelt		Salina	<p>First it was 15 days to flatten the curve to mandated mask with threats of being fined.</p> <p>Now Kelly is hinting at closing the economy this fall over the rise in COVID cases.</p> <p>From the ages of 0-24 ZERO children have died from COVID19.</p> <p>Open the schools, stop all the testing, live life. STOP the masks! STOP the LIES! Enough is enough. Schools should not be a political tool.</p> <p>We can't get immunity without being exposed!</p>
7/21/2020 8:15:47	Camden	Vulgamore	Koch	Jim minnix	Don't open schools till at least October!
7/21/2020 8:15:50	Danielle	Farr		Medicine Lodge	Please reconsider supporting the governor's executive order to delay school openings. This is not a one size fits all solution. What is going on in my community and county vs. Wichita and Sedgwick county is no where near the same. Have enough trust in the individual school districts to guide the reopening based off of our current situation, not a statewide perspective. Our kids need and want to be back in school!

7/21/2020 8:16:12	Terri	DeWerff	Central Plains USD 112 Teacher	ELLINWOOD	It is important at this time to put politics aside and children's lives at the forefront. We must stay safe! The Covid 19 cases are higher in the state of Kansas than they were in March so please think of the state's future and their safety in this decision. As our principal tells us at each faculty meeting--GRACE and PATIENCE. Thank you
7/21/2020 8:16:14	Savanna	Clark	My children go to school	In St. John	The kids need to get back in school and have some normalcy back!
7/21/2020 8:16:16	Ryan and Emily	Bradbury	We are writing as parents of two students in Wellsville USD 289	Wellsville	We are writing to ask you to support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school until September 8.  The rise in cases of COVID-19 in Kansas is a point of concern for us. For many, this decision has become one of politics not science. The science is clear - the best decision for our students, staff and community is to delay the start of school until September 8.  Not only will the delay allow us to (possibly) flatten the curve once more, delaying the start of school will allow educators additional time to make the necessary adjustments to create an educational model that can be safe for all students.  Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 8:16:34	Heidi	Stevens	Usd 466 Scott County parent	Scott City	Please reject the governor's mandate. Every community and school district in Kansas is different and unique. Please allow local school districts to make a safe plan for their own districts. A blanket mandate is unfair and unnecessary. No school district in Kansas wants to see students or staff gets sick. We will all do what's necessary to keep our own schools safe when the time comes in our own community. It is ridiculous to expect small communities in Western Kansas to follow the same guidelines as the urban schools on the east side of the state. When our small communities are eventually affected by this virus, we need the freedom to make the decisions that need to be made at that time.
7/21/2020 8:16:53	Amber	Rusche		Baileyville	Please do not delay the opening of schools..how much further do the kids need to possibly fall behind or be more scared of coronavirus... I think we need to open like normal... yes I know it's a pandemic but at the same time do we freak out when it's influenza? No... if we delay the opening of schools kids are going to become more scared of even going
7/21/2020 8:17:07	S	N	Teacher	Wichita	If delaying school openings until September 9th saves one life, then it's worth it. One death is too many. Please keep politics out of this and listen to the real experts. I invite you to visit the smallness of my classroom with a one rectangular window pane that opens about 3 inches. My room where I can only physically distance 7 students. This will be after I remove my desk. I invite you to come sub in any room where a district has not been allowed time to create a safe environment.  I challenge you to hold your meeting face to face in a room that's 3 times smaller than the one you normally meet. Also 3 of you should remove your mask or show your defiance by wearing it beneath your nose or looped on one ear. No plexiglass to serve as a shield between you and the next person. And before leaving? Grab a Lysol wipe that can't be found anywhere and clean up.  As you leave, look for your school bus that holds 10 - 109 other people packed 2 and 3 to a seat. And when you get home, sleep in those same clothes you wore today only to get up and do it all over again.
7/21/2020 8:17:10	Jon	West		Kansas City	This is the reality of where I teach.  Great job! Keep it up!
7/21/2020 8:17:11	Lindsay	Drees	Parent	Wichita, KS (Goddard USD)	I support postponing the school year start date to get case numbers regulated and to give districts and teachers time to implement any required changes for the safety of students and staff. Safety has to be the priority and I don't think any district in the state can start on-time with a high degree of certainty that they are doing the best for their staff and students.

7/21/2020 8:17:19	Matt	Pankratz		Wichita	PLEASE do not open schools to in-person attendance until a vaccine is available.  Our children and our teachers are the most valuable resources we have as a country. Putting them in peril for the sake of commerce is a mortal sin.  Stand tall and firm in the face of insanity. And I will stand right along side of you.
7/21/2020 8:17:22	Emily	Barnes	I'm a parent and i own Barnes Childcare	Olathe	Please vote IN FAVOR of the executive order. Our communities have not worked hard enough to reduce the spread of the virus. It is irresponsible to send children back into school without putting in simple measures like washing hands, wearing masks, and avoiding large gatherings first. We have enough time with this order to make a positive effect. Please show that Kansans can make responsible choices to care for each other.
7/21/2020 8:17:25	Jami	Tabor		Andover	Masks should be optional to those wanting additional protection, not mandatory.
7/21/2020 8:17:34	Carla	Lauber	Usd 266	Wichita	All schools should be hybrid. Not just high schools. Covid 19 does not know your age, race, sex or religion- everyone is at risk. What happens if a child get it's and gives it to their parents/grandparents/daycare provider. Furthermore, if a child does get it we are saying that 24-28 kids plus their teacher would need to quarantine- hybrid all schools to make to impact less great. Schools should be cleaned nightly for the next set of students the following day. Unemployment is high- enhancing nightly might require more hands which would help with unemployment. Mandate masks- if you don't want you kid in a mask the alternative is remote learning for your child. Keep everyones health in mind.
7/21/2020 8:17:50	Vergie	Opdycke	Myself	De Soto	Please support the governor's decision to delay the start of school until after Labor Day, providing parents, students, and school faculty more time to make plans for the education of the children. Thank you
7/21/2020 8:17:56	Alicia	Utley		Hutchinson	As a medical professional and a mom of two kids, I think we should follow the recommendation to start in-person school in September. I also think in September schools should only start if the health department officials agree that community spread is decreasing or decreased enough to do so. Understanding that this is a trying time for parents, children, and communities... things will be worse if we open too early. While the majority kids may not be as negatively affected by this disease widespread, there are plenty that will be affected by its potentially long lasting side effects or death. In addition to the kids, the staff and teachers will be making a major sacrifice to teach these children. So, unless you have sufficient N95 respirators to supply to everyone on a consistent basis, I beg of you to start when the time is right. I also ask that you give schools and athletes direction on sports practice as those things are still occurring in our area and we have had teams exposed as a result. Thank you for your time, hard work, and consideration.
7/21/2020 8:17:59	Jenny	Newberry	My child	Scott City	There are no scientific studies showing that masks actually protect us from viruses, which our world is full of, some germs, some not. There are multiple studies showing multiple layers of harm being done to our children by keeping them out of school and isolating them from peers.  There are already fantastic options in place for those that choose online schooling. There are fantastic options for those that choose to homeschool. I choose public school. I have carefully weighed the risks on this for 25 years, it is still my top choice. Let them go to public school, social distance them, if you must, but please let them breathe freely. Sincerely, Jenny

7/21/2020 8:18:04	Amy	Maddy	I am a parent of 2 children...9th grade and 7th grade for the 20-21 school year	Chanute	I am in favor of schools delaying opening until after Labor Day. With the increasing number of cases, I think this is a necessary measure to keep students, teachers, and school staff safe and healthy. I do not think schools need to do online only as we did in the spring; that was not helpful for either of my children. And while I feel teachers and staff did the best they could with what was thrown at them, I think overall it was a flop. I also think that if schools delay opening and all Kansas districts start on the same day, then all districts should end on the same day as well and school should end before Memorial Day (and ONLY go the number of days required by the state). Our school district starts earlier than any other school in our area and ends AFTER other area districts that start later than ours (and we go more days than what is required). In the midst of this pandemic, the 2020-2021 school year will not look the same as a typical school year and I think everyone just needs to realize that. Once the number of cases begin to level out or decrease, then we can go back to a more normal school year. However, this is not the year to go back to "normal." Let's think of the best interest for our students, teachers, and staff. I believe that Gov. Kelly's Executive Order 20-58 to delay the start of schools is in the best interest of students, teachers, and staff, and will allow for everyone to be prepared for what this school year will bring with masks, social distancing, extra cleaning, etc. Please do the right thing and delay school opening, while also mandating a set end date for all Kansas school districts that doesn't have anyone going to school after Memorial Day.
7/21/2020 8:18:22	Lisa	Pelton	Usd443	Dodge City	I am a teacher and have 4 kids in HS, MS and elementary. I understand the need to delay the start. My concern the time. Pushing back three weeks makes us go into June. Taking time away from needed breaks to absorb some time is difficult as I know how bad we will need them. It is inevitable that at some point a large portion if not the whole school will be shut down again. I would like to see some guidelines about the amount of time so we do not end up losing out on next summer and our much needed breaks for family time. Thank you for all you are doing to keep us safe!
7/21/2020 8:18:36	Carl	Rowles		Salina	Though many parts of the state do not have inclining cases, it would be respectful of you to defer to representatives who represent districts where corona virus cases are on the rise to allow them necessary time to SAFELY reopen schools.
7/21/2020 8:18:56	Gerardo	Perez		Wichita	I agree for the safety of our students and staff, including teachers, bus drivers, and any other person who contributes to our students education.
7/21/2020 8:18:51	Kelli	Lauritsen		Blue Valley school district	Our kids need to be in school. I don't agree with the delay as I don't think three weeks will change anything. Everyone has a choice to either to virtual or in person, so allow those that want to be in person to start school. What I am afraid of is the governor continuously delaying the start and thereby negatively impacting the education of our kids - especially those in Kindergarten-3rd grade where reading and math is important for their future development. Keeping our kids out of school is not fair to our kids or our community.
7/21/2020 8:18:57	Tom	Johnson		Derby	I am not in favor of a delay. Our kids have been out of school for too long. In many cases they are at least 6 months behind academically. There is a social cost as well. The science clearly informs us that the 18 and under age group is the least vulnerable. They are no more in danger with COVID then with the flu. We have never shut down schools because of the flu. Most of the parents of these children are not in the high risk category either. There should be an option available for those parents that want to send their kids back to the classroom. For those parents who wish to do all of the learning on line there should be option for that as well. (or possibly a hybrid program) The state school board needs to show some courageous leadership and push back against Governor Kelly's mandate.
7/21/2020 8:18:58	Sonja	Stice		Stockton, KS	Keep class size under 10. Masks. Hand sanitizer and disinfect tables, etc. 1/2 online
7/21/2020 8:19:02	Kalyn	Waller	Usd 259	Wichita	As a teacher I think it is imperative that we delay the start of school until cases are low enough that it is safe for everyone to attend. Please support the governor's mandate in this matter.
7/21/2020 8:19:06	Hana	Dreiling		Lawrence	Schools need a delay to the start of the year to prepare for hybrid/remote instruction and operational strategies.
7/21/2020 8:19:16	Penny	McAnulty	Substitute teacher	Newton	Please vote to pass the governor's executive order to delay the opening of school until after Labor Day.!
7/21/2020 8:19:19	Darrell	Harris		Wichita	No school until this is under control
7/21/2020 8:19:21	Brandy	Goetz		Cimarron	Please allow our schools to open on time this August. I truly believe we can do this safely, and most importantly, we will be looking out for our children's mental health. Also, in SW Kansas most parents are back to work which is leaving children home alone, sometimes without meals. We need to get back to school.

7/21/2020 8:19:22	Amanda	Mendoza	Parent and teacher in KS school	Emporia	We need to support Gov Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school so that schools have time to procure the needed essentials for cleaning, temperature checks, and configuring social distancing as recommended by the KSDE guidelines. Kansas COVID cases have increased in the last week alone, which is also worrisome. As a relative of a "recovered" COVID-19 patient, I know that this virus has long-term effects. Why would you choose to put Kansas children, teachers, and staff at risk when we don't even know the full spectrum of long-term effects of this novel virus? Why would I or should I, as a teacher and parent, choose to remain a teacher when I am being forced to be a sacrificial lamb? We don't know who will die when they catch this virus. One child, one teacher, one custodian, one bus driver; even one is too many to die when you can do what's right to prevent it. If you truly care about our children and all of the people who keep Kansas schools running, you will support the executive order to delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 8:19:30	gina	lawson		Olathe	Hello! I am very concerned on my 9 year old son returning to school. For many reasons. We do not know the long term affects of the virus. How will we prepare our kids if the teacher, principal, best friends mom or even there mom gets covid 19. These situations stay with our kids for life espicaly if one of these cases becomes deadly. We need to think about the safety of our teachers, staff and our children. This is a very uncertain time right now. We do not know facts still. Please do not open our schools up. Thank you!
7/21/2020 8:19:33	Rodney	Peterson	Self	Salina	I am in favor of opening schools immediately. The financial burden of extra daycare is too much. The socialization the kiddos are missing out on is too much. Grades k-5 online learning does not work. Last year was a night mare. Daycare providers had no clue.
7/21/2020 8:19:37	Susan	Allen	Myself	Olathe	I feel that the order is correct for delaying the start of in person. I think we should start online and then re-evaluate in person.
7/21/2020 8:19:39	Amy	Garza		Bel Aire	Give schools time to get things organized. Give them grace and patience to get things in order to keep everyone safe. This isn't a matter of schools opening or not, it's a matter of safety, listening to the numbers, and taking precautions even in areas not highly affected. The sooner we rush into school, the sooner remote learning will need to be implemented. Schools will open, they won't remain closed so that matter isn't even something to think about. Teachers make magic out of little, give them time and support to implement changes so they can do as much as possible given the circumstances for our children.
7/21/2020 8:19:40	Ron	Wilson	USD 489 Hays	Hays	Please Support the Governor's order! The forest is on fire and we still need time to get the fire under control before we send kids and staff back into the forest! It is that simple! Do not make this a political game, please!
7/21/2020 8:19:47	Amanda	Foskuhl		montezuma	Starting late doesn't affect us to much, our starting date is Aug 26th. My concern is mandating masks, we have done practice, our swimming pool has opened, our kids have been around their friends, we had prom, graduation! How do you have all this and then mandate masks? There are schools having summer ball programs and have not heard of a major break out! If we can do all this and still be healthy, then why mandate masks! Our school is pretty clean, our teachers have hand sanitizer on their desks, the kids wash their hands after recess And before lunch. We are a small town of maybe 1500 and have a total of 400 give or take kids in our school, I know if we don't have some normalcy there will be several kids home schooled and that will hurt us! It should be up to the district on what they think is best for them. If parents want to send their kid to school in mask then great and if we don't want to then that should be fine also. If teachers feel they need to wear them, then go ahead! I have worn a mask a couple times and I struggled for the short time, I don't think our kids will do well having to wear them all day! Get our kids back in school, they need this and parents need this so they can go to work!!
7/21/2020 8:20:13	Stephanie	Young	Young's Auto Sales	Little River, KS	I am a parent to a child entering high school. He is totally devoted to and passionate about sports. They help him physically, emotionally, socially and intellectually. I. Completely disagree with taking that away from him. In person school is critical to our kids' development. They will be harmed in many ways the longer they are out. It affects their social development, physical and mental health, and learning. Please get them back ASAP
7/21/2020 8:20:18	Tina	Smalley	BV	Overland Park	Open up our schools! Please..
7/21/2020 8:20:24	Constance	Buller	Grandparent	Piqua	Please uphold the governor's plan and delay the start of school for 2020-2021.

7/21/2020 8:20:29	Kelly	Gofus		Olathe	Given the rise in positive cases, it only makes sense to delay opening school buildings until we can do so more safely. Please consider the health and well-being of school staff in this decision. We know the virus affects adults worse than children. Teachers and school staff are not disposable. They are essential. There are also a lot of unknowns of COVID when it comes to children. I don't want my children or any children to be an experiment. We can overcome COVID but not without strong leadership sharing a united message. This is not a political matter. It is a public health matter. Thank you.
7/21/2020 8:20:50	Mac	Knight		St. John	<p>I am a music teacher, but the science (or lack there of) in this situation is telling. The preliminary results of the NFHS aerosol study for music classrooms indicated numerous procedures and changes should be implemented to assist in the mitigation of the COVID-19 spread. The final results of this study will not be determined until December, which implies we don't know what we don't know. A few additional weeks of planning, strategizing and implementing change for the safety and security of our students staff is not unreasonable.</p> <p>While I wholeheartedly agree that the best instructional environment for students is in the classroom, the best students to instruct are the students who are not sick at home in quarantine or worse, dead. The same thoughts apply to the best teachers - they teach best when they aren't in the grave.</p> <p>I wish what I was saying was hyperbole, but 318 deceased Kansans say otherwise. What does the COVID-19 death toll need to be before we decide to take the advice of experts in the medical community? The research done so far, while incomplete and ongoing, indicates a massive shift in the normal routine of school operations. Additional recommendations based on the continuing research may be made over the coming months, so flexibility and adaptability will be a key component to the successful operation of our schools. More time is needed before opening schools to make these initial changes and help ensure the safety of students and staff.</p> <p>Kansas was once the scientific joke of the United States for the adoption of the Critical Analysis of Evolution science standards. Regardless of your feelings or beliefs on the subject of evolution, the results of that BOE decision only impacted our state's reputation in numerous scientific communities around the globe. The decision in front of this current BOE on whether to delay the start of this school year or not could result in the deaths of children, school staff and community members.</p> <p>I strongly urge the Kansas BOE to support and abide by Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school openings until after Labor Day. Thank you for your time and attention.</p>
7/21/2020 8:20:55	Dorine	Cunnningham	USD	Marquette	I believe school and activities should be start as normal. This is not a pandemic and as a parent and educator we are falling into the belief it is.
7/21/2020 8:20:59	Andrea	Rottinghaus		Wichita	I am fine with delaying school until Sept 9th. However I am not fine with anything after that. Students need to be present in buildings and learning! With the mask mandate this can happen safely! Please don't let the governor continue to keep our student from learning in person. Thank you!
7/21/2020 8:21:04	Emily	Boedeker	Lawrence public schools	Lawrence	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's order by giving schools time to start educating children again- SAFELY. As a parent and a teacher I ask you to take my life and the lives of my family seriously.
7/21/2020 8:21:17	Lauren	Sanders		Manhattan	Open before Labor Day at the usual time. Children need to be back in school.
7/21/2020 8:21:24	Marcia	Fiorentino	Citizen, Parent of 2 College Students, Taxpayer	Topeka	As a parent of two college students I believe that local districts need to make the decision for their students. For many families the financial hardships and emotional stress leading to emotional breakdowns are just as important as the risks of the CoVid19. A work colleague of mine had his 16 year old son walk in front of a train in late May, another friend lost her elderly mother to CoViD(She already was ill and 79 with diabetes complications), many friends have had CoVid and all have recovered within a short time frame, and my oldest son who is 24 and lives and works in the hospital system in SC had CoVid and was only symptomatic for a day. Please leave the choice for school to local district leaders, trusting that they will absolutely consider the health and well being of their community both from CoviD and from life going on for emotional stability.



7/21/2020 8:21:30	Stephanie	Nall		Goddard	I support returning to in-school instruction, but I don't have an issue with delaying the start of the school year by three weeks. I have more of an issue with the mask mandate for children under 10 and think that wearing a mask for approximately eight hours seems like an impossibility.
7/21/2020 8:21:38	Leslie	Simpson	Retired counselor from BlueValley	Overland Park	My thoughts are that schools should be closed until after Labor Day for the safety and health of the community. It will give all districts time to make the buildings safe for staff and students.
7/21/2020 8:21:44	Debra	Smith	Manhattan-Ogden USD 383	Manhattan	Wearing the mask makes sense, but delaying school by starting 3 weeks later is not going to prevent the outcome. Students, teachers, and parents need to get back to some sort of normal routine.
7/21/2020 8:21:44	Jill	Kearn		Concordia	School needs to start on time as scheduled. Kids need in-person classes and school resources such as counseling and school lunches. Virtual classes are not getting the job done. We've tried it. It's a bandaid and not for long term. Please vote to start school on time. Thank you for your time and hard work.
7/21/2020 8:21:45	Leann	Sanchez	My family and friends	Emporia	The goal is to keep people safe. We need to keep our children safe, our teachers safe and the district staff safe. I want my children back in school but we don't know everything about Covid19 and it is best to err on the side of protecting the most people possible. Politics or personal gain must be put aside. We are discussing the potential of loss of life, any amount of loss is unacceptable. It is your responsibility to make the best decision for the safety of our children and your staff.
7/21/2020 8:21:53	Erin	Tompkins	SMSD	Prairie Village	I think the delay is needed to make plans to safely reopen or establish alternative plans that are appropriate.
7/21/2020 8:22:04	Crystal	Walter	Mrs.	clearwater	Feel free to delay the school year. We want our kids safe. Requiring masks when in session is also perfectly acceptable.
7/21/2020 8:22:24	Jennifer	Deamos	Myself	Shawnee	I support a later start to the school year but NOT the wearing of masks for elementary school kids. The EVIDENCE suggests that COVID is not spread among children easily and the wearing of masks is detrimental to their social and mental well-being
7/21/2020 8:22:27	Angie	Seibert		Overland Park	Please DO NOT delay start of school, kids need structure and in person interaction! Covid numbers for children do not support delay/closure.
7/21/2020 8:22:31	Meagan	Costantini		Pittsburg, KS	If you would not be willing to teach a class and have a student come up to you that is Covid-19 positive, you have no right to vote to put our teachers in that position. If you would not send your child to sit next to a Covid-19 positive child all day in a classroom, you have no right to vote to make other children do this. Protect our kids, our parents, our teachers, our grandparents, and our communities. Delay school! Or come up with an all telecommute mandate for this semester!
7/21/2020 8:22:32	Darren	Needham	Parent	Andover	I support delaying the opening of schools until 9/8. The foundational changes that school districts are trying to implement to keep students, teachers, and parents safe and healthy can't happen in such a short time frame. With cases spiking across the state, especially in the larger school districts, delaying opening will hopefully give Kansas a chance to level off the infection rate or reduce it. I would support rural school districts opening sooner if there isn't a significant Covid threat in their area. I fear opening the larger districts will cause a large spike in COVID cases in these areas. The Kansas education system covers a large diverse area with varied needs and challenges. There are no good, quick fixes for this mess. I do believe the Governor's plan is a good first step.
7/21/2020 8:22:46	Kelsey	Holguin		Kinsley	Let the smaller districts open! Our kids have been out of school for 7 months that almost a full year! These kids need to get back to some normalcy in their lives. If we wait to open til September who knows if they will get to go at all things could be worse by that point so at least get them started and go from there. Kids in rural farm districts are already behind some of your larger schools waiting until September is just hurting the kids more!
7/21/2020 8:22:55	Lori	Pierce	Usd 259	Wichita	Please delay the start of school and make sure our students and staff are safe!!! Our COVID numbers are out of control right now!
7/21/2020 8:23:02	Amy	Kelley		Overland Park, KS	Please delay the start of the school year to allow more time for data collection on Covid-19 and for the schools to better plan and prepare for public health issues that will arise once school is back in session.
7/21/2020 8:23:06	Lori	Maxwell	USD 467 - Wichita County	Leoti	Each school district has unique circumstances, and for that reason, I believe each community should have the opportunity to assess their situation and make the most informed decision about the safety of their students and staff. Please give the authority back to the local level rather than a "one size fits all Kansans" approach.
7/21/2020 8:23:13	June	Entz	Parent of a 2nd grader and 5th grader	Whitewater, KS	Please vote to open schools after Sept. 8th.

7/21/2020 8:23:16	Brian	Higgins		Wichita	I am not supportive of requiring masks at school and we will seek options within private school, online, or moving to another State, if this is passed. Clear and effective communication between teachers and students is very important. Schools already have return to the classroom guidelines when coming back from an illness. Children have been successfully playing sports all Summer, without wearing masks. Masks should be an individuals choice and responsibility to wear. Masks do not filter out the COVID-19 virus with its tiny micron size, so it is an ineffective solution being forced on the population, mainly to “make a social statement that we have a virus...” per the CDC.
7/21/2020 8:23:19	Christine	anderle		Olathe	I feel that giving staff and teachers this extra time to prepare the things iis necessary to keep everyone safe. If they or the buildings are not set up it could be devastating in the spread of this virus. My biggest concern is that it is not ready. Kids go back , numbers go up and we need to start at square one again. I know it is important for kids to go back but, their safety and the staff safty is way more important. You can make up school but, people's health and well being should be top priority. Thank you for your attention in this matter.
7/21/2020 8:23:19	Kendra	Otterman		Bonner Springs	I truly believe that it is best we wait to open the school to children till a later date or we cut the first semester short. Putting all those kids in one place is just a bad idea over all.
7/21/2020 8:23:30	Sarah	Bowlin		Overland Park	Please follow Gov. Kelly's EO regarding delayed school start for the safety and health of our communities and state as a whole. The teachers and staff need to be educated and prepared to take care of themselves and their students as the pandemic continues.
7/21/2020 8:23:33	Kay	Burns	USD 428	Great Bend	I hope you accept Governor Kelly's mandate. I work at the high school and I will be in a school with around 1,000 people. I feel the extra time will be well spent preparing a plan and putting it into place before students enter the building. I am concerned for my well-being as well as our students. Thank You
7/21/2020 8:23:37	Tamra	Quinn	Student	Andover	Kids need to be back in school without masks. It's a must for the well being of our children. They are struggling both physically and mentally.
7/21/2020 8:23:43	Michelle	Burt		Topeka	Please uphold the order to delay the start of school. Those few extra weeks will enable us to see what the virus is doing and to make plans for quality education for everyone.
7/21/2020 8:23:48	Andrea	Fournier	Teacher	Kansas City Kansas	Please delay school until September 9th please! This is not safe for anyone.
7/21/2020 8:23:59	Mary	Heble	Individual voting citizen and resident	Olathe	I fully support Governor Kelly's order.
7/21/2020 8:24:08	Geraldine	Heil		Hays	For health safety for all follow Govenor's recommendations to delay start of school
7/21/2020 8:24:19	Emily	Smith		Bennington	Please give our teachers more time to prepare for this upcoming school year. They need additional weeks to prepare the building and flush out all the safety protocols for our students. Not the mention adjusting the curriculum for the new grade-banded standards. Let's not rush our kids and teacher back into an environment that isn't safe.
7/21/2020 8:24:44	Megan	Paceley		Lawrence	Follow science and delay the start of school until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 8:24:48	Catherine	Cedeno	preschool paraeducator	Lyons	It is NOT safe to return to school yet. Our elementary principal issued a rule yesterday that the only people allowed in the school building during summer school the next two weeks are the contracted teachers and paras (less than 15 people) and the children enrolled (approx. 25 kids). He did this for everyone's safety! The health threat will still be as great on Aug. 13th when our school is scheduled to resume. Please approve the governor's executive order. The adult staff need as much consideration as the children. Delaying school by a few weeks will not have that great of impact on learning. Contracting the virus will have a huge impact on my family and I.
7/21/2020 8:24:51	Holly	Henderson	Mother of two school students	Olathe,ks	Please consider starting in school learning On time. Please offer online learning to families that aren't ready to return.
7/21/2020 8:24:54	Grahm	Whitley		Winfield	School should happen completely by distance learning or not at all until we're past the pandemic. Anything less is irresponsible.
7/21/2020 8:25:04	Marti	Bauer		McPherson	Please uphold the governor's decision to delay the opening of schools. There is no excuse for safety not to be the most important goal in moving forward. Three weeks could make a huge difference, and if even just 1 life is saved because of it that would be priceless! We are watching this situation closely and am not opposed to home schooling if health and safety are not put first.

7/21/2020 8:25:06	Traci	Gaultney	Starside Elementary PTA president	DeSoto, KS	Please do not send our kids back to school until Labor Day. The schools need time to gather and organize resources.
7/21/2020 8:25:13	Kelly	Jones	USD 497 Board of Education	Lawrence	Dear Kansas State Board of Education Members, I am the President of the Lawrence School Board and am respectfully requesting that you delay the start of school until after Labor Day. Our district needs additional time to safely prepare to provide high quality teaching and learning for all students. This includes time to enable the Douglas County COVID Response and Recovery Coordination Team to procure CARES Act Funds, which will help us secure the necessary safety supplies to mitigate health risks for staff, students, and our community. As we stand today, many of our staff and families do not feel safe returning to schools under the current conditions.  Teachers have shared with me that they need more time to adopt remote learning approaches. Even in cases where we anticipate in-person learning, we must prepare for periods of remote learning due to upticks in County COVID cases and/or exposure to an individual who tests positive for COVID.  Thank you for your service to Kansas public education.
7/21/2020 8:25:19	Mindy	Sullivan		SENECA	Please allow the Governors order to stand. Unprecedented times call for us to strive for the best we have. The best we have is to protect our students and teachers. It will be OK. We will be OK. It's just 3 weeks. My 3rd grader and teacher spouse would truly appreciate it.
7/21/2020 8:25:24	Alyssa	Mendoza		Don't open the schools	Being a kid myself I feel it's not safe to go back to school. Cases are back up and we don't know what's going to happen when it starts to get cold. I would rather postpone the opening of school than to go back now and then have to go back for a little now and then have another shutdown and have school cancelled all together.
7/21/2020 8:25:41	Aimee	Boudreaux	Blue Valley parent	Overland Park 66223	I am for delaying the start of the school year if it means safety measures can be put in place for the students to be able to attend in person. I am also in favor of continuing sports in a safe fashion.
7/21/2020 8:25:42	Sara	Gillespie	Self	Kansas City	As a teacher over 60 that just happens to be changing districts this upcoming school year, I would like to actually be in school to meet my kids face to face. But because I am over 60, coupled with my husband having health issues and the county my new school is in not having mask requirements as the number of cases is getting larger rather than smaller, I do not feel returning to the school building for classes is best for the entire learning community at this point in time. Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.
7/21/2020 8:25:54	Tina	Jackson		Wichita	Open schools full time as normal in August. Special needs students have fallen so behind and should be allowed their normal routine and therapies as needed. Open up our schools ASAP!
7/21/2020 8:26:11	Cindy	Sheldon	USD 309	Hutchinson	I love my job! I love my students! However, I am now considering a new career; teaching in person scares me to death. Please don't make me choose.
7/21/2020 8:26:12	Emmy	Pratt		Lindsborg	Please do! Uphold Gov. Kelly's executive order.
7/21/2020 8:26:15	Monique	Marquette		Overland Park	I strongly believe we can safely return to school, sports, and activities with masks in school. Conditioning has proven to be safe! BV has done a fantastic job! Kids need sports. Suicide and depression rate is going up. My kids are both suffering missing sports. They are living for conditioning every day!!!! Thank you BVW for doing such a great job with keeping our kids active and safe!
7/21/2020 8:26:24	Jennifer	Grabbe	Parent and teacher	Hays	It is time for students to get back in the classroom. This disease has put fear and anxiety in front of basic needs. There are so many students that are safer at school than in their own home. I as a teacher am ready to get back to school. I am not afraid of this virus but I worry everyday about my students. Also it is unreasonable to ask grade schoolers to wear masks. There will be more germs and issues than any benefit to wearing them. Also there will be some older students who will not be able to wear them .

					I sincerely hope that the board votes to approve the governors executive order. I have started reading through the navigating change document, and I believe that the extra few weeks will give teachers more time to plan and prepare to implement the changes. It will also give more time for COVID-19 numbers to go down throughout our state. I can not wait to see my students and I miss my job so much, but I'm concerned for what I'm going to bring home to by family being stuck inside a small classroom for 7 hours a day with 20 kids. I have 1 tiny window in my classroom and the ventilation is not the best. My parents and in-laws provide child care, and they are in a very high risk category. Another aspect to consider is those of us that go to school that will have to find alternative childcare because our childcare providers can not risk being around our kids. I know we are not as big of a group as parents who rely on school for childcare, but we are there nonetheless. I have watched your meeting on the navigating change document and hope you consider that since your meetings are done remotely and not in person, that should be an indication it's not safe to be back in the classroom. I do not know a teacher that isn't anxious to go back. But we want it done as safely as possible. I know you have many different viewpoints to consider and I appreciate you taking all of them into account when making your decision.
7/21/2020 8:26:41	Valerie	Ortiz	Classroom Teacher	Wichita	
7/21/2020 8:26:49	Erin	Schulte		Wichita	Please. For my husband's life. For my kid's life. For the people I work with and alongside everyday.
7/21/2020 8:27:00	Jada	Lobmeyer	Usd457	Garden city	Yes I agree! Start after Labor Day, shorten breaks and no inservice days! Also no sports for now! I just don't see how we can open safely, there is not enough man power to keep schools sanitized correctly. Kids don't wash their hands on a normal school day. Teachers rarely clean and now we want them to sanitize things in their rooms. Probably not going to happen.
7/21/2020 8:27:25	Dawn	Bankston	USD 260	Derby	School should start after Labor Day.....as well as return to normal with no masks or social distancing. This just adds anxiety to everyone, and creates an environment and culture of unrest something that can create more problems than solve. I think we should give the government the time to collect the correct numbers on COVID as they have just turned it over to our military and out of the hands of the CDC due to the inaccuracies in reporting.
7/21/2020 8:27:27	Pam	Williams	none	LAWRENCE	If even one life is lost due to reopening too soon, it is one life to many. Districts need the extra time to plan for the safest return possible.

					<p>Thank you so much for all of your hard work and countless hours you have put into this situation. It is appreciated.</p> <p>I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education vote regarding the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>As a parent of three children - one each at the Elementary, Middle &amp; High School levels - I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that includes no delay of student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</p> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>As a Registered Nurse of 19 years, I have continued to work full-time through the pandemic. Because of this, I know that the number of positive cases had no where to go except for up. Initially, citizens were unable to obtain a COVID-19 test unless they were ill enough to be admitted to the hospital. In June, that rule changed to anyone and everyone - symptomatic or not - can be tested for COVID. Of course the numbers went up! Subsequently, the fear and panic set in. You cannot change the variables of your data collection and still call it a reliable measure. Yes, COVID is here, but halting all school, sports and activities is not the answer. Appropriate cleaning, sanitizing, and masking is sufficient in the control of this virus. I work for Children's Mercy Hospitals &amp; Clinics. As of today, we have a 0.02% positive test rate for the pediatric population of the KC area. That covers children from birth to 22 years of age. I cannot fathom delaying the start of school, sports and activities for a 0.02% rate.</p>
7/21/2020 8:27:42	Allison	Juneau		Olathe	
7/21/2020 8:27:47	Angela	Whitebread	Usd475 parent	Junction City	I AGREE with this order, school needs to be postponed
7/21/2020 8:27:57	Norma	Pando	USD 102	Dodge City	It is of a high interest that we protect all children and staff from a pandemic that hasn't reached its full affect in our area. We need to take the PPE requirements necessary once school does commence. We are taking the notion of the illness too lightly. Districts are already counting on county commissioners being able to reverse any orders. We need an order in place that actually protects our teachers especially those with underlying conditions and our students with chronic illnesses. Once all is set in place and we can go back safely with precautions, then we can go back to school fully practicing what is needed to keep us healthy. Please do not let politics define the order but a clear plan of consideration for all at stake.
7/21/2020 8:27:58	Taylor	Burson	USD 232 Teacher and parent	Shawnee	I urge you to vote in support of the Governor Kelly. Schools need more time to prepare for the upcoming school year. The 1100 page document for schools is overwhelming and school is not going to be normal by any means this year. I do not feel safe sending my high schooler, middle schooler, and elementary schooler in August because I don't feel that our school is prepared or safe at this time. As a teacher I'm terrified of getting this virus. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 8:28:00	Erica	Sims	Kansas teachers	Overland Park	Schools should be delayed for now and only reopened for in person class when the rate of infection cases is 5% or below in the area where the school is located. Anything else is unsafe. We do not know how serious the disease can be for children because most kids have not been exposed to it. If you reopen in person schools now you are rolling the dice with their health. Not to mention staff deserve to be safe. It is mandated that employers provide a safe workplace. You cannot ensure safety at schools right now even with best practices. Thank you.
7/21/2020 8:28:02	Jeanette	Ische	Teacher	Chapman	As a high risk teacher I agree the school year should be extended. I would like to go to work and not have to worry about easily getting sick. 3 extra weeks might allow for schools to finalize plans

7/21/2020 8:28:05	Robin	Embry		Overland Park	This state and country has got to get back to some sense of normalcy for the benefit of all parties. The death rate from COVID continues to go down and the risk to the younger generation is small. If there are teachers that don't want to work or be at risk then so be it, stay home, don't work and don't get paid! Do you think all the essential medical workers have wanted to go to work and do their job everyday?? At some point decision makers like yourselves have got to take into consideration the mental welfare of students. They need friends, socialization, structured learning, a guaranteed meal for many and a sense of what it means to be a kid. Furthermore, many dual income parents will have great difficulty and additional stress to have the school year delayed which leads to unhappy homes and the potential of greater risk to kids. This country needs to stop living in fear and get back to life. Have a little faith!!
7/21/2020 8:28:09	Hillary	Davis	Parent of SMSD student	Overland Park, KS	I support the governor's EO to delay the start of school. It's important for the health of students and staff to have enough time to prepare for additional steps to keep all of our families safe. Thank you for this consideration.
7/21/2020 8:28:13	Jim	Metz	My Family	Lincoln, KS	I have a 6 year old and the governor expects him to wear a mask all day? I thought the initial guidance said 6th grade and up? 5, 6 and 7 year olds do not know how to wear masks???. And, have you thought about how they will pick their noses??!!  Temperature checks to enter the building? Can you be more specific governor on how this will work? What constitutes sending a child home? 100.3? 101.5? Please clarify!  I am ok with the 3 week delay. It's logical and follows the covid-19 data. But the other order with the mandates is preposterous!  Also, here is what will happen when I assume it will be decided that there will be no activities. Communities will form their own activities and people will gather, not wearing masks, not social distance, just like people have been doing all summer. I hope you know what you are doing governor!
7/21/2020 8:28:16	Kelly	Kirk	My kids	Stilwell	These kids need to get back to school and in person!! Precautions measures can be placed to reduce the transmittal of COVID. I'm assuming that's what the school district has been working on for the last four months. It is completely ridiculous that you are considering keeping these kids from in person learning. Families should have the choice on online learning if they have underlining health concerns but those families that need in person learning should have the option.
7/21/2020 8:28:13	Maria	Boothe	Private school	Goddard	Have a soft start and open aug 19. Start remedial learning. Kids didn't learn a whole lot last spring.
7/21/2020 8:28:21	Kathy	Martin	Self - current substitute teacher in 3 local districts - former KSBE member - retired elementary school teacher in both parochial & private schools in Kansas	Clay Center	Our students and their parents are counting on your decisions. Please don't "throw them under the school bus"! Open our classrooms & schools again. Kansas has been a local control state for education and we need to allow that to continue. Local teachers, administrators and school boards are more in tune to the special circumstances and needs of their districts than a governor in Topeka. Please leave it a decision that they will make based on their best judgement. The thing it would be good for the KSBE to do as a body is to approve the legislature's limiting of executive power & to promote the legislation that would limit liability during this pandemic. Please show your collective courage and common sense and approve the opening of schools and classrooms.
7/21/2020 8:28:27	Davia	Krupa	Parent	Fort Riley	Please reject Gov Kelly's executive order requiring schools to remain closed until after Labor Day. Our children have been out of the buildings for almost five months. If we do not allow them in until Sept, they will be out of the building for half a year. For those like my sons, who have special needs, every day delayed is more time for social regression. If you do choose to accept her order, please adjust the requirements for state testing and instruction hours. Thank you.
7/21/2020 8:28:34	Caroline	Seals	SELF - TEACHERS	Topeka	The number of cases in the state continues to rise. Putting so many people close together in one building all day long makes no sense at all. More time to get the number of cases down in the state is critical. Please support the governor's executive order. This should NOT be a partisan issue. It is a matter of life and death.
7/21/2020 8:28:40	Jay	Marquette		Overland Park	Miss NEED to return to school IN PERSON!! They are struggling in so many ways!!! Masks are fine!! I also think we need all sports and activities. These kids need their outlets. Too much has been taken away from them!! Please let them have a normal school life w accommodations of masks!

7/21/2020 8:28:53	Lisa	Ochs		Salina	Please support the governor's executive order to delay the start of school. Now is not the time to take a "let's see"-expeimental approach. Strong leadership is needed and guidance to move forward with primary emphasis on safety and health of students and staff. Thank you for your strong consideration. As a school based PT, I am terrified to return to work.
7/21/2020 8:29:04	Leslie	Boe	Parent	Overland Park	I support the Governors executive order postponing the start of school. We need the time to bring the Covid numbers down.
7/21/2020 8:29:06	Jo Ella	Hoye	My third grade son	Lenexa	Please UPHOLD the Executive Order and delay the start of school. It will give school districts more time to figure out how many students will attend school in-person and adjust safety measures to meet the needs of all students. We all want our children to be able to go to school in their school buildings—but not at the expense of the safety and well-being of our children, teachers, and school staff. We need this extra time.
7/21/2020 8:29:22	Matt	Nelson	Olathe schools	Olathe	I feel that in person school attendance should be restricted until this country has a better grasp on the pandemic. Rate and method of spread for this virus need to be better understood before allowing students, teachers, and faculty back in schools.
7/21/2020 8:29:23	Bobby	Lorg		Scott City	Not all counties are the same, let counties decide when to start and let parents and counties decide on mask.
7/21/2020 8:29:27	Kelli	Ridgeway	USD 259 Teacher	Wichita	Please respect Gov. Kelly's delay of school. Too many lives are on the line. Children will get sick, staff will get sick. We do not have enough guest teachers to fill openings in a non-pandemic time. This is not political, this is protection.
7/21/2020 8:29:36	Molly	Williams	USD 259	Wichita	I believe we should be given some kind of metrics for how and when we should open that is based on our current case count. Until we see our case count going down for 14 days, I do not think we should return to school buildings. Organize some small site schooling and encourage schools to operate using a hybrid model. Put middle school and HS kids in the same class everyday with the same kids and let them learn remotely from their home room if they must be in a school building. Mixing hundreds of kids in the hallways and amongst different classes is asking for an outbreak that will be difficult to pin down. You should not sacrifice school teachers or school staff or the health of these already suffering families for the sake of normalcy. If we do plan to go in person, staff needs protocol training. We need more counselors in school to help kids deal with the trauma they are experiencing and you need to have an adequate plan in place to deal with the loss of any human life taken by this virus. We all need to be aware of the predetermined criteria that will result in further closure or pivot to online. It should not be about how any of us feels about it. The decision should be based on number of cases and whether they are trending up or down.
7/21/2020 8:29:44	Erica	Vaughn		Wichita	More than appropriate to delay. Remote learning is the way to go this year. Perhaps we could shift the focus to how we can address the challenges of remote learning and keep all kids safer at home instead of forcing in-person. Frankly, we signed our kids up for an e-cademy two months ago. We love our school, but there is no way we're going back yet.
7/21/2020 8:29:48	Hope	Buessing		Colwich	I believe in our Administrators and teachers that are willing to return to the classel room, to open safely following guidelines suggested by KDHE. This is not a one size fits all situation. Allow parents to choose to send their children to school or have their children learn remotely. Trust your local Administrators to make the best decision for their communities. Open up!
7/21/2020 8:30:10	David	Bloyd	My children	Wichita	I believe the board should agree with the executive order delaying the start of school. The COVID numbers in Kansas are increasing too quickly right now to safely start school.
7/21/2020 8:30:12	Barry	Schwien	Sacred Heart School	Bazine	I agree with the Governor's decision. A later start will hopefully lower our numbers by then.
7/21/2020 8:30:16	Jennifer	Mc		Wichita	We would like to see school open in August. We think delaying serves little purpose for the health and well-being of our children. At this point, their mental health is our largest concern.
7/21/2020 8:30:25	Dianna	Rottinghaus	blue valley schools	overland park	Please do not put our community at such a health risk! Children are resilient and will bounce back academically and physically. The adults who work with them and care for them may not.
7/21/2020 8:30:26	Heidi	Henson		Holcomb	No mask!!

7/21/2020 8:30:50	Shannon	Duncan		Overland Park	For consideration: If the district is considering in-person class then schools should provide regular testing for students, teachers, and staff. I'd also like to know how the schools plan for continuity with course lessons in the event teachers are sick or have to quarantine as a result of contact with someone infected. Is it in the students' best interest to have in-person class if there is a constant rotation of substitute teachers?
7/21/2020 8:30:50	Jessica	Burche		Olathe	I am so grateful for the executive order delaying the start of school. The Kansas School Board had only just approved the document explaining guidelines for schools in the fall, giving school districts barely any time to decide what kind of model they could use to keep kids and families safe in the fall. Additionally, the numbers of infected just started going up in Kansas. This has led to a lot of confusion and uncertainty. Nothing about this situation is ideal, but it seems to me the end goal is to keep children, teachers, staff, and the community at large safe. There is now evidence that teens and tweens spread the virus just as much as adults--this changes how we can handle school for these children. Additionally, I fully support the other items outlined in the executive order calling for temperature checks and use of hand sanitizer or handwashing once per hour. I'm so glad our governor is showing real leadership instead of going along with the party line.
7/21/2020 8:31:18	Luciana	Thrash	USD 333 Concordia Public Schools	Concordia, Ks	I believe that schools should be delayed only in areas with high populations of COVID. There are other areas that have little to no cases, and I feel that these school districts should open on time and not be delayed. IF/WHEN school does open back up all staff should take the proper precautions in order to prevent the spread of COVID. As far as school athletics, I believe they should be postponed until next year, because kids traveling into other districts could contract the virus more easily depending on the cleaning procedures in other counties and schools, especially in locker room settings and bathroom facilities. I do not believe that kids should wear masks while exerting themselves physically due to the lack of oxygen intake due to the mask blocking adequate air flow during high stress workouts. Football, for example, is a close contact sport that requires a mouth piece and a helmet, and to add a mask to that equation will be distracting to the players. The same goes for wrestling. They have a mouth piece and a helmet on, and with a mask that can easily be removed during a wrestling move is putting kids at risk. It's for the safety of all involved to have less movement of large groups from county to county and from state to state until there is a vaccine available or a medicine that can help people recover quicker with less difficulties.
7/21/2020 8:31:18	Jennifer	Lehman	USD 352	Goodland	Please do not approve the order to delay the start of school. Goodland does not currently have any active cases and has only had 9. Our kids need to be in school. They need a sense of normalcy. So many of our students are at-risk, and being out of school in the spring was bad for these students. Our students need to feel the love, caring, and encouragement of face-to-face school. They need the structure. They need all of this soon. Even my own teenagers - who live in a loving, encouraging, and supportive home - need school to start soon. From a counselor's perspective, my kids are hurting, and I know so many more students in my district who are as well. Please do not delay school. Allow districts to choose their own start date. If local districts want to delay, allow them to do so. I firmly believe a delay in starting school is not in the best interests of our students in Goodland.
7/21/2020 8:31:22	Karen	Rawlings	My family	Olathe	Open schools up fully, and on time. Look at the science, not politics and fear. Our children's overall health is critical to it. Incentivize teachers who come back. We all have at-risk jobs. Let's get our kids back to a productive and healthy place. And next time send a survey out BEFORE you make such an astounding announcement.
7/21/2020 8:31:28	Molly	Drimmel	Myself	Auburn	The kids have to go somewhere. Sending them to daycare is just as much risk. Leaving them at home alone is not the answer. The stress of it is not good on parents or family life. If people aren't comfortable they have the option to do online but don't make a decision that leaves no options for parents that work outside the home.



					<p>Please accept Governor Kelly's executive order. Following is an email sent to the state BOE earlier this week.</p> <p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>I am sending you this email from the perspective of a parent to a 6 and 3 year old who attend public schools as well as a veteran educator who has worked in schools for 13 years. This email is my personal opinion and does not reflect the opinions of my employer.</p> <p>"What is best for students?"</p> <p>As an educator, this is our driving question every second of every minute of every hour of every day. It's a question I take extremely seriously while developing lessons, creating routines, and establishing relationships with my students. This should be our focus question as we look to this school year. Not what is best for the economy and not what is best for our local, state, and federal government. What is best for our students.</p> <p>Many arguments have been made that to keep our students out of the building means they will be scarred and stunted in their mental health, and that we must open buildings immediately to preserve their mental well being and give them an opportunity to socialize. However, the public needs to realize that bringing back students physically does not mean we are going back to a "normal" school year.</p> <p>Per recommendations and guidelines, I am supposed to keep my students six feet apart. As a teacher that normally utilizes group work, collaboration, and physical movement in their classroom of middle schoolers, this will be impossible. I do not have the physical space to achieve the recommendations while simultaneously utilizing these best practices of teaching. My classroom will not look like it normally does this year. Students will have to remain in their seats, socially distanced, and work mainly independently. In essence, we will be remote learning while physically in the same four walls. Is this what is best for students? According to my education degree and countless hours of professional development of teaching best practices, that answer is simply no.</p>
7/21/2020 8:31:29	Katherine	Wiechman		Wichita	
7/21/2020 8:31:29	Lindsey	Rimmel		Abilene	I agree whole heartedly with postponing the school year. I even think that it needs to be online learning for the first part of the year so we can see how this is going to go. Cases are increasing and no matter what you do to try and keep the kids from getting sick, it's not going to be 100% effective.
7/21/2020 8:31:33	Kylie	Kinman		Hoisington	Schools need to open on time. It has been long enough. Three weeks will not accomplish anything. The kids need to get back to "normal" before they really start to fall behind. The spring semester was already a loss. My kids gained nothing from online learning & hated it. If parents do not feel comfortable sending their children back, they can opt for the online option. It's not a one size fits all scenario. Not all communities are in the same situation. Therefore, reopening should be determined by each school district & their situation. If we wait for the ideal time to reopen, we'll be waiting a forever. In my opinion, things will not improve until we stop being afraid of something that is not any more life threatening than the flu, which schools deal with yearly. If more stringent cleaning/disinfecting procedures are implemented and a few new safety precautions are added, things will be fine. The numbers for this virus are so flawed to begin with. We cannot base decisions off of deaths & cases. The common flu claims just as many lives per year, yet schools have never been ordered to shut down for the flu. I beg of you to please veto Gov. Kelly's order and reopen schools on time. It's time to stop being afraid.
7/21/2020 8:31:39	Samantha	Grimm	Parent	Overland Park	this virus is here to stay, we have to learn to live with it. We can't keep hiding for the rest of our lives. We need to get back to some normalcy in our lives for these kids!!! Teachers are acting like it's a death sentence for them. Buck up and do your job! I'm in healthcare everyday and not once was I off. We need to start back and gave the normalcy for our kids.
7/21/2020 8:31:39	Kevin	Chesney	My Student	Salina	Please do not delay the start of school. This will serve no purpose, will be detrimental to our children, 20 days of delay does nothing but disrupt the entire year for our children. This will also create such an incredible hardship for working parents that depend on their children going to school, children that depend on the school lunch program, and total disruption of the students extra curricular activities. Our kids are ready and willing to go back to school, practice all safety measures, and they want to Learn!!

7/21/2020 8:31:43	Shelly	Swayne	USD 407	Russell	The mandate to start school on Sept. 08 is one that USD 407 can deal with, but not without attention to KSA 72-3115. To be quite honest, no matter when we begin school, USD 407's planning cannot find a way to log the needed 1116 ours and keep health and wellness in tact. Without the opportunity to flex the 1116 hours or 186 day requirements, USD 407 cannot maintain operations under our current contract or budgets. We are 100% committed to our children and staff who need the opportunity to join us in classrooms, hallways, and activities. We are also 100% committed to the priority of doing that with wellness and health at the top of our list. Starting school on Sept. 08 vs. August 26 for USD 407 really is not the issue for us. KSA 72-3115 however is a larger challenge that we need your help with and we need it BEFORE we begin the semester. We don't need much help to get there, but we need some...
7/21/2020 8:31:55	Nicole	Smith	Forestview Elementary	Olathe	Please delay the start of school to help numbers go down and for school and staff to have a chance to make plans for safety in school. Very scared to return to school now and teachers need time to prepare classrooms and any changes that will be coming. Time will help!!
7/21/2020 8:32:02	Corbin	Stevens		Scott City	Please vote to not delay school opening.
7/21/2020 8:32:05	Kerry	Kuplic		Dodge City	I fully support Gov. Kelly's thoughtful and science-based decision. It is imperative that we listen to scientists and scientists alone. You must prove that you care about the safety of students and teachers by implementing her orders. Anything less would be an abdication of your responsibility.
7/21/2020 8:32:09	Chris	Korb	My family	Olathe	I believe in the facts like number of cases in our area. Those are facts. It is disgusting that some have made this political. In our area, there is no way I would support students returning to classrooms. We have a 15 year old daughter that is a Sophomore at Olathe West High School.  I SUPPORT THE DELAY to start school so the district can get things lined up for successful online learning. There is no way our district will be able to have in-person learning in a safe manner.
7/21/2020 8:32:09	Noelle	Tesmer		Olathe	Please approve the delay of school. Our teachers, admin and kids deserve a 3-week pause in the hope our community can slow the spread and schools can open as safely as possible.
7/21/2020 8:32:11	Amy	Disbrow	Parent	Garnett ks	First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas. Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening. I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following: Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities. In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions. This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense. Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time. I am one of the over 6,200 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay. We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know that you have our support.
7/21/2020 8:32:15	Nicholas	Rawie	SMSD	Overland Park	Listen to science. Look at what happened in Israel. They had things under control, trending way down before they made the decision to open schools. Then it blew up again within the first couple of weeks. This is not something to take lightly, people will die, grand parents, parents, teachers, staff, students. There is no chance we can open safely with the numbers going up. Do everyone a favor and make remote as solid as you can and find solutions for those families that have parents that must work outside the home.

7/21/2020 8:32:25	Shannon	Allen		Shawnee	I think we need to start after Labor Day. Schools need time to figure out the best way forward.
7/21/2020 8:32:39	Leasha	couchman	self	scott City	No delay, No masks! Stop it! Stop scaring our kids. Let our kids have normalcy back in their lives!
7/21/2020 8:32:50	Michelle	Dunlap		Salina	Ridiculous. Send the kids back to school so they can learn and continue their education. They missed the end of last year and they NEED to be in school! What is delaying it a month going to solve?!!
7/21/2020 8:32:57	Doug	Penner	Retired from Kansas Independent College Association	Topeka	Please endorse the Governor's policy regarding conditions under which public schools should open. This is an absolutely critical issue in the lives of our students, our teachers and in the health of our community.
7/21/2020 8:32:58	Annette	Sosa	Hugoton High School	Hugoton, KS	We need the extra time to prepare safety measures!
					<p>Please approve the Governor's delay of the start of school until after September 8, and later if she so determines. There is no possible way to prevent children and teachers from contracting this deadly disease if they are placed indoors, together while cases are still spreading throughout Kansas. We do not know what devastating, lifelong effects our children will suffer, and I hope we don't have to find out. We cannot afford to lose our teachers, paras, and other school staff, and I am not prepared to walk my kids through grieving for teachers and friends and friends' parents. I am not ready to raise them to the constant reminder that they can lose so many people so quickly. We don't have to. Please exercise leadership. All of this is so preventable with simple statewide adherence to evidence-based recommendations.</p> <p>I work full time. I don't have good child care options. I desperately want a return to normal. But sending kids and teachers back to school before science supports it will not be normal; it will be a devastating change from all we tried to protect them from as the disease spreads and takes hold on our communities. We simply cannot take this risk.</p>
7/21/2020 8:32:59	Melanie	DeRousse		Lawrence	<p>Please support the Governor's attempts to protect all of us.</p> <p><del>The proposed order to delay school opening is simply unwarranted. It is supported by neither reason nor science. The delay is troubling because it relies on only one metric – number of cases.</del></p> <p>An examination of the most recent data from the KS Dept. of Health shows a much different picture of the impact of COVID on both the spread across the state and the impact of the virus of school-age children.</p> <p>Consider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There have been zero deaths of school-age children (the youngest in the state is 29).</li> <li>2. Only 20 people under the age of 19 have been hospitalized due to the virus.</li> <li>3. Half the state's counties have reported fewer than 20 cases (3 still have 0 cases).</li> <li>4. Only 58 patients were in ICU statewide due to COVID on July 17.</li> </ol> <p>While other states are working on reopening schools, we seem to be going the opposite direction, instead focusing on how to keep them closed. To what end? When there is no substantive COVID-related data to justify denying hundreds of thousands of students an in-person education that many of them crave (mine are demanding to go back, post-haste), what is the true purpose?</p> <p>The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine published a report stating that states should be focused on reopening schools. According to the authors, "(w)eighing the health risks of reopening K-12 schools in fall 2020 against the educational risks of providing no in-person instruction, school districts should prioritize reopening schools full time, especially for grades K-5 and students with special needs." Furthermore, "(o)pening schools will benefit families beyond providing education, including by supplying childcare, school services, meals, and other family supports."</p> <p>Students most vulnerable would likely suffer disproportionately from a delay. There will undoubtedly be academic impacts, potentially increasing already unacceptably high achievement gaps. There are indicators that low-income kids are already more than two years' worth of learning behind their more affluent classmates. Students have been</p>
7/21/2020 8:32:59	Marc	Elton		Olathe	

7/21/2020 8:32:59	Steve	Bock	USD232	Shawnee	I believe we should go all in on bringing our COVID-19 numbers down. Halfway isn't the answer. Therefore, I agree with the decision to delay the start of school. I'm very concerned about the safety of teachers and staff.
7/21/2020 8:33:00	Michelle	Shopteese	Myself	Osage City	Keep schools closed until after Labor day and make masks at school mandatory.
7/21/2020 8:33:18	Shanae	Gooden	Parent - USD345	Topeka	I already emailed all of you, but this is too important. Please reject the Governor's Executive Order. Kansas districts are too different for a one size fits all approach. If our district is ready, our kids need to return to school. We have had plenty of time since March to get the precautionary measures in place. Most districts already have plans ready to go. Please vote no!!!
7/21/2020 8:33:19	Timothy	Terrones	No organization	El Dorado	I support the governor's decision and believe the board should too. At a time when covid 19 is on the rise I believe being cautious is a better decision. The start date is only pushed back a little anyways. Sometimes the right thing to do is not always the most popular.
7/21/2020 8:33:29	Kathy	Wichmann	none	Manhattan	Support delaying school & offering hybrid model of in-person 1-2 days/wk & online
7/21/2020 8:33:35	LuzVanessa	Matthews	USD 475	Junction City	I agree with the delay but only because I feel that our districts need more time to successfully plan for the school year. If another delay is required past the September deadline, can we please have all students start remotely.
7/21/2020 8:33:36	Megan	Tyner		Newton	This entire conversation has gone back and forth and back and forth. The public needs consistency so that we can enter the school year with a positive and focused energy. Stick with the Gov's orders. Encourage ALL districts to consider what teachers need moving back into the classroom (if that's what is safest). Districts will have more time to communicate with students and families so they know what to expect. The entire state will have an opportunity to show care for our children and communities by slowing the spread. It makes me so sad that this has descended into political football. We have seen what happens when communities are left to make decisions on their own - too often politics win over common sense. The Gov is trying to protect all Kansans and it shameful that she is being undermined by partisan politics. Support the order.
7/21/2020 8:33:54	Kelly	Bradford		Lawrence	I support Gov.Kelly's efforts to keep Kansans safe. Wagle and her minions simply do not care about Kansans' well-being.
7/21/2020 8:34:11	Christine	Splichal	Parent	Olathe, KS (Spring Hill Schools)	Please ensure that school starts after Labor Day to help ensure children and teacher safety. In addition, encourage flexible scheduling to minimize concentrations of students.
7/21/2020 8:34:16	Kristin	Whitlow	my family	Wichita	The way schools are reopened needs to be left up to the individual districts, with parent input. Districts have been working and planning all summer on how to safely and effectively open schools. They have surveyed parents and teachers, and although their plans differ from each other, they have made the best choice for THEIR district. There is no ONE best way for every school and district in the state. The governor is railroading the education system in Kansas, and it will only do harm. There are many families who will not return to the public school system in Kansas if her executive orders go through. My children will not return to school if masks are mandated.
7/21/2020 8:34:36	Alison	Boles	Boles Christian Academy and Maranatha Christian Academy	Shawnee	Schools who have been preparing all Summer for online or in-person education this Fall are prepared to start on time. I don't see any reason to force them to start later. Some schools were online schools prior to COVID. Why should they have to delay their start? Makes no sense to force the Online and Private schools to delay their start dates. Are we trying to punish these families for not going to public schools? We appreciate the Board of Education and are glad that you have the opportunity to vote on whether to accept this over-reaching executive order or override it. Thank you!
7/21/2020 8:34:45	Dale	Wolgram	USD 386	Madison	Open schools at the normal time. The schools have had 6 months to prepare for the opening and students need to be in the classroom. The effects of not having face to face school for our students far outweigh the possible infection from the Covid virus which is far less deadly than earlier estimated. We need to stop the political games and get our students back in the classroom. Why are we wearing masks? There is not one study that verifies the effectiveness of wearing masks. Are we wearing masks because of China? As a teacher, I anticipate having more issues with students not wearing their masks properly than any other issue. Please make research based decisions before you mandate anything on the population that is the least effected by this virus. I am tired of being lied to by the government officials. Thank you for asking for the public opinion on this issue.
7/21/2020 8:34:49	Jessie	Reimer	USD 232	Kansas City	I agree with Governor Kelly. It's smart to wait. It allows Administration to finalize plans, gives teachers time to prepare, and hopefully we can see numbers decrease. The only way to go back is SAFELY and we are not there yet. If you have to meet virtually, then why would you send students and teachers back??

7/21/2020 8:34:52	Ron	Nichols		Tonganoxie	Absolutely support delaying until after Labor Day. It gives school boards and schools the needed time to make final preparations. I also would look very closely at extra curricular activities and the allowance of spectators.
7/21/2020 8:35:01	Melissa	Drummond	BVUSD	Overland Park	We should let school boards decide...one size does not fit all.
7/21/2020 8:35:09	Megan	Glenn		Olpe/Emporia	<p>As a parent and a teacher, I see many sides of this situation. However, the ever-looming issue right now is COVID-19 and our changing understanding of how it affects the human body. Even as adults with proper precautions - masks, hand-washing, social distancing, we are spreading it to one another. My own teenage boys have rarely left the house since March and just recently have been able to see family outside of our home.</p> <p>I have been so thankful that, up until this point, the state-wide school plan has been driven by teachers from every field and from a variety of communities representing the entire state of Kansas. There are no good answers right now - so many unknowns. There are students, even in my small rural school, who I worry about being at home without a good support system. This virus has brought to light so many things that we need to work on as a society when not having kids in school has been so difficult.</p> <p>I know some of my fellow teachers will disagree with my stance, but I believe giving schools 2-3 more weeks to better prepare for masks, temperature checks, and rearranging of schedules will allow them to keep open longer and better avoid an outbreak. As teachers, we have been working all summer on our "break" to prepare for multiple scenarios this fall, so giving us 2-3 weeks as a school team (rather than individually) to prepare will bring us back stronger.</p>
7/21/2020 8:35:20	Jennifer	Keene		Junction City	Since there is doubt of the safety of our children. Go to full online schooling to start. And yes, delay starting till after Labor Day. Please put our children first. Please there is so much unknown about this virus and we need to protect the children as best we can from the unknown. Our city hasn't reached a peak yet and it would be foolish to think we are out of the woods and completely safe.
7/21/2020 8:35:29	Jane	Alsop		Salina	<p>Please put aside partisan politics and support Gov. Kelly's executive order 20-58.</p> <p>In this time of COVID-19 we need our leaders to pay attention to science, doing what you can to protect Kansas children, teachers and ultimately Kansas families.</p> <p>If a short delay in school opening could help lower the numbers of COVID-19 cases, why would we not do that?</p>
7/21/2020 8:35:35	Anne	Biram	USD 475- Seitz Elementary	Manhattan	I believe closing schools until after Labor Day is the safest measure we can take at the moment. I am in a school district in which safety measures and protocols have yet to be shared with me- a 5th grade teacher. With the original start date, that leaves little time for me to prepare make sure my classroom is. It only safe but also welcoming to all my new students. I am also hoping this delay might give more time for the mask mandate to take place and therefore hopefully help lower our number across the state.
7/21/2020 8:35:36	Sheena	Pfeil	My family	Phillipsburg	The governor is a quack and with this BS won't be re-elected. She is NOT thinking for the people, nor does she have the people's best interest or health at heart. I don't care what she says, i won't listen to her and my kids will not go to school if this becomes mandated. They WILL NOT be forced to wear a mask!!!!!! Period
7/21/2020 8:35:52	Sarah	Heironimus		Lawrence	Please delay school until after Labor Day! Don't rush into anything! Keep our communities safe!
7/21/2020 8:36:00	Jenna	Eshleman		Salina	Please hold off on school until labor day!
7/21/2020 8:36:02	Jandee	Oard	Buhler schools USD313	Hutchinson	I have four kids in public schools and I am for delaying school until after Labor Day. It gives everyone a chance to put the brakes on heading into school and prepare to do it safely.
7/21/2020 8:36:10	Jennifer	Pearson		Wichita	My 12-year-old daughter attends public school in Wichita, and as difficult as it has been for her to be so isolated and for us to juggle work schedules, we are absolutely not willing to put her back in school until it is safe to do so. With the number of cases and deaths continuing to increase in Kansas, we strongly support the governor's decision to delay school and to require masks and other safety protocols when schools do open.
7/21/2020 8:36:13	Shawna	Gilbert	Kansas Teachers	Saint Joseph Missouri	Please follow Governor Kelly's school pushback for after Labor Day. Our district has not made any decisions on how to return to school and we need more time to plan for this new year and the changes it brings. Allow us to fully prepare for whatever it is that we need to do, safely, and not rush the process. Thank you.

7/21/2020 8:36:17	Talia	Brown		Ottawa	You need to open schools as normal! No masks! No social distancing! To not allow our children to live in a fear free environment, to get the education they need and we pay for is unjust and wrong! There have been all kinds of viruses that have gone through the communities since the 1800's and we have never done something as oppressive as this. The government shorted our children last year out of an education for NO reason. Covid was in the US as of January last year but we didn't shut down then. Other countries are open, providing education and there is no evidence that we should not do the same! Wake up and stand up for the kids and the families that you swore to protect!
7/21/2020 8:36:30	Micaeh	Tice		Wichita	We don't need to delay the start of school! Our kids need to be in school- socializing and learning. No masks, no plastic barriers, and no forced hand sanitizing with chemical products that kill good bacteria. Let the teachers that want to teach teach and let the parents that want to send their kids send them. Offer a virtual option for those (teachers and students) who don't want to be in the classroom. Viruses don't just "go away". Waiting a extra few weeks to start school does absolutely nothing to protect anyone. Let us make our own choice, INCLUDING staff and teachers.
7/21/2020 8:36:31	Katie	Korte		Lenexa Ks	In person school SHOULD NOT resume yet! It is dangerous and poses health risks to our kids, teachers, and families. Please uphold Gov Kelly's mandate to delay school!
7/21/2020 8:36:33	Allyson	Brumley	Myself	Tonganoxie	As a teacher I am being asked to start school on the planned schedule. This means if school does not start for students I do not have childcare for my school age kid. To pay for this is an unexpected expense In addition to the lack of available care. I want to be safe. I want my students to be safe. I want my children and coworkers to be safe. I know there are no good answers to this situation but I support not starting school until September.
7/21/2020 8:36:55	Petrina	Campbell	Parent	Hugoton	I would like to wait until after Labor Day so that schools have time to prepare and be safer for students, teachers and staff.
7/21/2020 8:36:58	Ruthann	Harris	UTW member/USD 259 Teacher	Wichita	I SUPPORT Governor Kelly's Executive Order to delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year.
7/21/2020 8:37:04	Nikole	Zegunis	Parent/teacher OLATHE DISTRICT	Lenexa	Please allow time for schools to open safely while allowing sports to continue for HS kids. Mental health is as important as Covid fears.
7/21/2020 8:37:25	Sherri	Nelson		Hiawatha	Yes stay closed and then get the kids to school! And masks are dumb! No one is going to be wearing the ones that actually filter the air and will also be touching their faces all day long!!! And teachers won't be able to be heard... I for one am a lip reader. Learned that during all of this when I can't see people's lips!!
7/21/2020 8:37:26	Sara	Turvey		Kechi	I appreciate that Governor Kelly is watching the numbers and realizing that schools across the state must take efforts to prevent the spread of disease during the pandemic. As a parent and a school district employee it is comforting to see common sense precautions made mandatory. It is also reasonable for the districts to need additional time to put these measures in place. Please vote in favor of delaying the start of school so we can keep kids safe.
7/21/2020 8:37:33	Richard	Johnsen		Republic	Follow the Governor's order. The safety of our children should be top priority, and I haven't heard a plan for keeping teachers and support staff safe.
7/21/2020 8:37:34	Yolanda	Reo		Auburn	Start school on time, bring back sports, let kids have a normal life, NO mask just wash hands. This is getting out of control.
7/21/2020 8:37:48	Miriam	Khan-Kitson		Hutchinson	By all means, please please please delay as long as possible.
7/21/2020 8:38:07	Josh	Lowrie	Oakley Middle School	Oakley, KS	Please do not allow the governor to require masks for K-12 students. I have no problem with temperature checks but masks are not a healthy answer.
7/21/2020 8:38:07	Jennifer	Traffis		Kansas City	I support Governor Kelly's Executive Order to delay the start of school. This will allow for the potential slow of cases to make it safer for our children and the staff to return to teaching in buildings. It also allows for the school districts to plan accordingly to best meet the needs of their students and families.
7/21/2020 8:38:19	Heather	Hanson	Blue Valley and Desoto Public Schools	Shawnee	I am a mother of 4 and a teacher. Forcing students, educators, support staff and other school personnel to go back to school in person during a pandemic is reckless and irresponsible. Virtual learning from home should be the only choice.
7/21/2020 8:38:21	Jill	Mateljan	Kckps	Shawnee	Do not open schools

7/21/2020 8:38:23	Debbie	Stull		Natoma Ks	Please, the children need to get back to school and some sort of normal. They need organized and structured daily routines. An education is the most important thing you can give a child. One size does not fit all in this situation. Please encourage board members to consider the School, Covid cases in Osborne country. ( and all others with a few to no cases of virus) My little community is almost gone and we can't afford to lose people, even to home schooling. We will surely shrivel and be done for good. For the good and the future of the children do the right thing.
7/21/2020 8:38:27	Elliott	Adams	adams4Kansas	goddard	I do not support the reopening of schools at their normal time of the year. I vote to DELAY!
7/21/2020 8:38:32	Amy	Rouse	Blue Valley	Overland Park	PLEASE accept Governor Kelly's request to delay the opening of schools until after Labor Day. As a teacher I am fearful to go back. I take care of my elderly parents and am afraid of what the exposure of being around 100+ students would cause my family. Please consider not only our students but just as importantly the staff. Last year I covered classes for teachers who could not get a substitute by doubling up my classroom. We cannot do that now. Are you prepared for sub shortages now? What is the plan if I am exposed to COVID-19? My classes? Do all 100+ students quarantine? Is online learning what is best for most students? No. However with the Covid numbers still rising yes online learning is what is best for EVERYONE! I not online pray you accept the delay but will start school online! Good luck with your decision and thank you for letting me share my voice!
7/21/2020 8:38:38	Mary	Nielsen	Self	Wichita	Please support Gov Kelly's executive order to delay the opening of Kansas schools until after Labor Day. This will give schools time to prepare fully to address all contingencies about the outbreak, for the safety of our children, their families, the teachers and other school staff, and our communities.
7/21/2020 8:38:51	Isidro	Marino	Kansas Democratic party	Garden city	I believe schools should not be opened until after Labor Day. I agree with Governor Kelly's decisions since she is probably the only leader Kansans feel like they can trust during this global pandemic and actually take action instead of standing by and watching our people die. If you vote to open schools back up before Labor Day you can expect hundreds of students in the Finney County area to not take their kids to school until it is safe so. Whether you vote for it or against it my younger siblings will not be attending in person whatsoever
7/21/2020 8:39:01	Meranda	Hoose		Horton	Please follow the Governor's guidance and delay school start till after Labor Day. Cases are still accelerating, rural areas are not following any medical recommendations, and schools do NOT have the ability to restart this school year on schedule safely at this point. My kids have special needs & IEP's & even if it causes regression, I want them, their teachers/staff/families to be safe! We do *not* have enough educators in this state to make it through in person schooling without strict adherence to medical advice at his point; please make thw best decision based on medical science and NOT political agendas!
7/21/2020 8:39:03	Britt	Lagemann	Parent	Olathe	Please vote to support the executive order. Support the safety and well-being of our children, their families, teachers, and staff.
7/21/2020 8:39:05	Kathy	Cooper		Basehor	Delay school opening
7/21/2020 8:39:10	Valerir	Mann	Parent	Kansas City, Kansas	I believe that learning should be virtual until the pandemic has reached a lower level.
7/21/2020 8:39:10	Lisa	Maziar		Lawrence	I have been working in education for over 20 years, first as a high school teacher, and currently as a Para. It frightened me when our roles grew to include being trained on how to handle a gunman, but that is nothing compared to the anxiety I am having about Covid19. I've read that students under 12 will not be required to wear a mask, and that 3 feet of space may be sufficient. I have also kept myself updated on the research around this virus. Three feet of space is NOT anywhere NEAR sufficient. Children over 10 are as contagious as adults, and children under 10 are about 50% as contagious. Imagine a scenario with just 15 unmasked students and one who is unknowingly sick. Research shows speaking in a normal tone just a few words can release airborne infected particulates that float around for 8-14 minutes. Will we be enforcing complete silence in our rooms? If not, the potential for mass infection is staring us in the face. I am over 50. My husband and son are both in high risk groups. I miss working face to face with kids. I LOVE my job, but it am not willing to risk lives over it.
7/21/2020 8:39:19	Katie	Salsbury	Maize USD 266	Wichita	Please leave politics out of your decision and do what you truly believe is best for our kids. Give our teachers the time and resources to do what needs to be done that is best for all involved.
7/21/2020 8:39:27	Jodie	Barnett	Bodyworx Health Care	Wichita.	No, it's unfounded that it should be delayed. With the data we need to focus on the at risk children and not expect children to mask and do it properly. The at risk teachers and students need to be at home and isolate.

7/21/2020 8:39:30	Mary B	Wright	USD 473	Junction City	We are not ready to start school safely. Our school district is struggling to get the necessary PPE equipment. If the State Board Of Education wants schools to open then they need to provide every school the necessary PPE for every student and staff plus the money to sustain it till this COVID thing is past us. Sports teams, Hollywood etc are providing the necessary PPE, quarantining everyone in one location to keep them from bring in COVID to others, and testing them daily. Educators and schools are expected to do everything on their own. Students and staff are expected to be the test group for everyone else. Our kids are our precious future. We need to protect them. SUPPORT GOV KELLY, she wants to keep our students and teachers safe.
7/21/2020 8:39:46	Siri	Campbell	Usd232	Lenexa	Delaying is fine until after Labor Day but please allow schools and students back to school
7/21/2020 8:39:51	Scarlett	Sherretts-Risley	Northwest Middle School	Overland Park	My students often don't have parents that are able to come get them when they are ill due to lack of transportation, so how will a student with a temperature safely get home? Our classes are 50 minutes long, so if students have to wash their hands every hour, it will be a huge disruption to the educational process. My students all receive a free lunch so I am uncertain about families being able to afford masks. Hallways will be a nightmare! How can you keep students 6 feet apart as they change classes? If we modify passing periods to reduce the number of students in the hallways, it will decrease our minutes of instruction, and our students lose out. Many of my students live with grandparents so I have a concern about them spreading COVID19 to them.
7/21/2020 8:39:55	Crystal	Plante	Teacher	Hill City	My county did not have our first case until July 4. It has quickly spread since then. At one point, we had over 100 in quarantine, mainly children, due to community Vacation Bible School. We need more time to reverse this trend. I beg you to please support the governor's order.
7/21/2020 8:39:55	Christy	Smith	I'm a parent	Saline county	Please delay the start of school for everyone's safety.
7/21/2020 8:39:57	Kristen	Stiles		Neosho County (Chanute)	Please reconsider opening the schools! Some of us are Paras and really can use the paycheck! Also look at what all has still been opened! Softball/Baseball travel leagues, tournaments, and regular ball! Cheer Camps. Church Camps. Summer School! And lots of other things! I understand the social distancing but surely we could figure out a way! Besides the fact of the kids that need the school time. That is their way out of maybe an abusive family member or maybe they need the meals cause some parents can't afford a lot!
7/21/2020 8:39:57	Ashley	Sanem		Olathe	Do not delay the opening of schools and make us go into June of 2021. Instead, have us start online on Aug 13th and move to in person school when it is safe. Please. Thank you.
7/21/2020 8:40:01	Morgan	Gottesburen		Lawrence	I support the EO keeping schools closed until AT LEAST Labor Day and support them remaining closed as long as it is deemed necessary by the scientific community.
7/21/2020 8:40:02	Grant	Adams	My family	Overland Park	I have been very disappointed with the way the State and County have handled the school reopening process and the current proposal to delay school an additional three weeks after Labor Day has to be one of the worst decisions I have heard of thus far! They say it's to give schools more time to prepare yet we have been dealing with this Pandemic since March. I see teachers complaining about the safety aspects of having kids back in school yet I see them posting pictures of them and their kids not wearing masks and hanging out in large groups while not socially distancing as suggested by the CDC! This is a dangerous standard we are setting with our children's education at risk and neither me nor my wife know what else to do other than keeping our kids in our Daycare Kindergarten program as they seem capable of continuing to educate our kids while maintaining the CDC safety standards. Instead of defunding the police maybe we should defund our public school system so parents like ourselves can absorb these additional costs??
7/21/2020 8:40:02	Bradley	Davis	Kansas City Kansas Public Schools	Kansas City	Opening schools will result in mass death and sickness among staff members, students, and their families. It is impossible to socially distance and protect against infection in a school building, period. KSDE will have blood on its hands if they attempt to open schools while the community spread of the virus is still so out of control. This pandemic also disproportionately affects people of color and people of low socioeconomic status, categories in which the majority of the students and families in my school's community fall. Forcing schools open would further impact the people within these demographics, which, in my opinion, constitutes racist and classist violence. It is an open attack upon these groups of people. As a result, I will not hesitate to participate in whatever collective action, up to and including striking, is necessary to protect the lives of my students, their families, and my colleagues, if KSDE cannot guarantee their safety by postponing the start of in-person schooling until the spread of the virus allows schools to open safely.



7/21/2020 8:40:13	Makenzie	LaGue		Lawrence	Please uphold the governors order to delay the start of school until September 8. This is the most appropriate course of action to ensure the safety of our students and teachers.
7/21/2020 8:40:15	Heather	Merino	Teacher and Parent	Springhill	I feel very strongly as a teacher and a parent that schools should not open till after Labor to be able to give the schools more time to prepare and also to watch and see if all of the cases of Covid in Kansas start going down.
7/21/2020 8:40:25	Andrea	Slagle-Abrams		Manhattan	I urge you to pass Governor Kelly's recommendation to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. School districts need more time to come up with a safe plan for our students and staff. This needs to be done for the safety and health of everyone.
7/21/2020 8:40:26	Robin	Miller	KCKPS (As a teacher)/BV Public Schools (as a parent)	Johnson County	Between three people in my family, we have diabetes, asthma, and autoimmune disease. Politicians and scientists both acknowledge the risk for meeting in groups, especially within enclosed spaces at this time. In this attempt to make learning "top" priority, what will happen when my daughter is without her parents? Or when her parents are spending weeks in a hospital? Is the (slight) benefit with in class instruction going to be worth THAT? Dear Board members,
7/21/2020 8:40:29	Nicole	Conner	Myself and my family	Shawnee	I write today to implore you to stand by Governor Kelly's proposal to postpone the start of school and/or implement virtual learning. Teachers and children are counting on you to do what you can reasonably do to keep them safe.  As Kansas City is currently a "hot-spot", it simply doesn't seem prudent or reasonable to open our schools in-person right now. Hopefully, the addition of the mask order will help get our numbers under control. Until that time, I support a delayed start and/or virtual learning. In my opinion, we either start virtual or push back the start of school until the requirements for phase three are reached in our locale under the federal guidelines. We must rely on facts and take care to prioritize safety over inconvenienced parents.  On a more personal note, my daughter Adison will be entering Kindergarten at Clear Creek this fall. We moved to this neighborhood expressly because the schools are so wonderful. I mourn that her introduction to public school will be "strange" no matter what happens. While I was initially concerned about what learning virtually would mean for her social skills, it occurred to me last night to consider what attending in person would mean for her social skills. What will the long-term effects be of having to stay at least 6 feet away from everyone around you on a 5 or 6-year-old? Of washing your hands every hour? What will the effects on their speech development and emotional/nonverbal queuing be when they can't see the full expressions and formation of words on their peer or teacher faces due to masks? What would it be like to explain to my Kindergartner that a peer or teacher is seriously ill or, God forbid, dies? As I consider these points, it just seems irresponsible to send children back in person at this time.  I don't envy your position as a board member, and I certainly appreciate your willingness to listen. Please vote to act prudently and follow Governor Kelly's mandates as she presents them. At the very least, please provide virtual options so that those who share my concerns have appropriate alternatives.  Thank you again for all you do,
7/21/2020 8:40:32	Mickey	Bogart	Educator	Manhattan	Please uphold the Governors order to delay school openings until after Labor Day to give Local School Boards the time needed to plan for safety of students, faculty and staff. Please make this about the health and safety of all and NOT a political ( Conservative Republican) issue.
7/21/2020 8:40:35	Robin	Baker		Oakley, Kansas	I feel masks in school is going to take away from children getting an education. Anyone with children should know this is common sense that they will be messing with their masks way more than paying attention in class. Also, starting school later does the kids no good at all. Especially out here in western Kansas where we have very MINIMAL cases of Covid19. The Governor is being absolutely ridiculous with all of these rules. We have kept schools open, without requiring masks, for how many years with influenza being spread every single fall/winter?? Quit letting the media scare you, Covid 19 has a very high survival rate!! Don't let the media or governor take away our children's education that they deserve! Start school at regular times in August and no masks required!
7/21/2020 8:40:36	Jennifer	Gay		Lawrence	Kansas

7/21/2020 8:40:36	Michelle	Johnson		Olathe	PLEASE for the safety of our children and teachers postpone until after Labor Day! Thank you!
7/21/2020 8:40:39	Stacie	Steong		Pratt	Please allow control to be given to local districts. One size fits all just doesn't make sense here and quite frankly isn't fair. 1A-6A is very different and can't be under the same restrictions. I completely understand why larger schools or unplanned schools need this extra time, but we were ready and had a good adjusting plan depending on our numbers. Not letting a school start educating in a low case area because there are large case numbers hundreds of miles away in a large school area, is like closing every lake in the state because 1 or 2 have confirmed blue-green algae in them. Instead we watch and change recommendations as needed. This along with study after study coming out that children are actually a break from the virus and very very low rate of transmission to one another and adults. I also know many, many families that will be homeschooling if their children are forced to wear masks all day, not only is that detrimental to their mental health but will be a contributing factor of why they get sick with a hundred other things besides Covid. Please quit sacrificing our children. The narrative doesn't fit justifying these mandates!!!
7/21/2020 8:40:43	Donna	Maskil	Self	Bonner Springs	Support Governor Kelly's plan for re-opening schools. As a grandparent, I want my grandchildren to be safe. We can always bring them up to speed educationally but we can't bring them or those they come in contact with back to life. Quit playing politics with our lives!! Governor Kelly has done a great job in leading Kansas during the pandemic despite the ridiculous antics and interference by Wagle and her cronies .
7/21/2020 8:40:47	Susan	Wellman		Hutchinson	I am in support of being cautious and keeping our students and teachers safe. I have two parents that are both teachers along with medical conditions they put them at a higher risk of complications from Corona Virus. While I want our students to not have their education interrupted, keeping them safe and healthy is the top priority. Delaying the start of school is essential while we are still seeing the worst of this pandemic.
7/21/2020 8:40:48	Jonathan	Hein	Self	Lawrence	No child or teacher should die because school reopened without a strong plan in place with adequate PPE. Children deserve better than to be lab rats. Until we have 2 straight weeks of decline in Covid19 cases keep schools closed
7/21/2020 8:40:50	Tim	Plante	Parent	Hill City	No school or sports until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 8:40:51	William	England		Overland Park	Delayed start - or online only, especially in Johnson and Wyandotte counties - is a good idea. I support, and ask you to support a later start to allow the current peak in cases to decrease.
7/21/2020 8:40:56	Brenna	Hipsher		Olathe	I support the Governor's order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. The pandemic is nowhere near under control, and children, especially young ones, cannot be expected to socially distance in their current school facilities. Furthermore, it is common for both students and teachers, especially in Pre-K and elementary settings, to get sick at the beginning of the year. I certainly do not want to see the "first day plague" be COVID19, especially when my asthmatic mother is a Pre-K teacher for the Olathe district and my youngest sister is in her senior year of high school in Olathe.
7/21/2020 8:41:06	Krista	Holcomb		Liberal	I am okay with schools starting after Labor Day. However, I am NOT okay if they keep pushing it back. We have got to get kids in school. Also, my 6 year old kindergarten student cannot wear a mask! This is something we should not even have to deal with
7/21/2020 8:41:12	Linda	Featherston	myself	Overland Park	I support the governor's order to delay the start of schools. Our COVID numbers are out of control and we need time for the public to take responsibility and get things under control. Additionally, schools need more time to obtain supplies to make classrooms safer and develop fully formed virtual learning plans.
7/21/2020 8:41:20	Nikole	Zegunis	Teacher/coach/mom/parent	Lenexa	Please take some time to analyze the COVID data among children and weigh the very slim risk of a COVID death to young people against all of the resulting complications created for our children when they are not being educated in person (academic, physical and social). If I can get my teeth cleaned in a safe manner, then teachers can protect themselves in a classroom. These kids were forced to stay home for two months this Spring and now are socializing and cross contaminating in club sports, HOA pools and each other's basements. If they are already sharing space outside of school in mass numbers, and the mortality rate is near nothing, the decision to education them in person should be straightforward. Bear in mind that school districts have online-only options for anyone who is concerned or compromised. Please give parents the opportunity to take informed risk and decide whether or not to send our children to school in person. Give us a choice.
7/21/2020 8:41:22	Jacquelyn	Hancock		Leawood	I support Governor Kelly's order to push back the school start date. Cases are rising in Johnson County and we need to keep our kids and our teachers safe until we can get this under control.

7/21/2020 8:41:22	Lyle	Sobba	Personal	Garden City	<p>No one wants to go back to school worse than I. As a band Director, I want to see my kids and rehearse. I want to travel across the state for band competitions. I want to see the joy in their faces when they've achieved something they didn't think was possible.</p> <p>As a realist I understand it is not safe for students, teachers, or families to return to school at this time. The numbers are not encouraging long-term. And while I quite literally cannot teach what I teach virtually as large group rehearsals are not a possibility in an online setting, I will gladly continue redesigning my curriculum to keep people safe.</p> <p>It seems to me we have two options as schools, to remain shuttered, or to open. My fear as we open is schools become the next driver of the infection. If everyone who interacts with Garden City High School were to contract COVID-19, and the current rate for mortality were followed Somewhere around 40 people could perish.</p> <p>I urge the state school board to err on the side of caution. I understand it is not popular with all. But if we err in the side of caution and the scientists are wrong, then no one has died, no one has gotten sick, no one has contracted the virus due to our schools. Should our schools lean the other way and the scientists are correct, we lose life, we hand students and families a lifetime of scars from coronavirus.</p> <p>Please take the steps needed to protect our students, our families, our staff members by shuttering schools until we have a vaccination. To all members of the board, thank you for your time and thank you for reading through my full comment.</p>
7/21/2020 8:41:21	Griff	Hawkinson	Myself	McPherson	<p>Dear Board Members,</p> <p>You simply cannot require K-5 students to wear masks while in school. I also seriously doubt the value of masks worn by 6-12 students. They will interfere with learning and have negative psychological impacts on the kids far more than any hoped for mitigation of virus spread.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <p>Griff Hawkinson</p>
7/21/2020 8:41:26	Joetta	Glessner	Manhattan High School	Manhattan	<p>Absolutely not! Delaying the inevitable is no way to run a school district or state. These kids need to be in school. Not only for educational purposes but for some children the ability to have a safe place to go. So many of these kids voices go unheard. My child is more than happy to wear a mask and follows all of the CDC rules and state mandates if it means she can be back on a schedule and with her friends and teachers.</p>
7/21/2020 8:41:38	Erica	Burns		Wichita	<p>Please keep the schools closed till after Labor Day. If you really have the children's interest at heart, you won't risk their lives or the lives of our educators to please those that don't agree. Delaying school a couple of weeks may not seem like a lot but it could make a huge difference. Our children's lives should not be used as a political pawns. Economic recovery shouldn't be placed solely on our teachers. Do the right thing.</p>
7/21/2020 8:41:43	Megan	Johnson	USD	Pittsburg	<p>I support the delay. The safety of students and staff, as well as the larger communities they live in, should be paramount. Schools will be epicenters of outbreaks. It is not right to ask teachers like myself to be society's sacrificial lambs.</p>
7/21/2020 8:41:51	Kevin	Edwards	Kansas City Kansas School District	Kansas City	<p>How will everything get disinfected each time students come in room? Passing period are 4-5 minutes. Teachers are required to be in hallways moving students to class. How will this disinfectant work on technology? Will the state provide funds to continue use purchasing supplies to replace those broken because of the constant cleaning? When will the state politicians stop playing politics with something so serious? Will they come and take over the classes they seem to know so much about but are ignorant as hell about the reality? How will masks and social distancing be enforced for those who act like the selfish adults refusing to think of others? There are too many questions to pose, especially to politicians that will think only of themselves and supporting their party, not the safety of students and teachers.</p>
7/21/2020 8:41:52	Barbara	Holmes	Teachers	Wichita KS, state BOE district 10	<p>I definitely think we should delay the start of the school year.</p>

7/21/2020 8:41:52	Angela	Montoy		Ellsworth	Please keep our kids and school staff safe. We are in the middle of a pandemic. Rules are out the window. We are dealing with new circumstances. No one is safe right now. 3 weeks isn't going to hurt anyone. It should be longer. Please approve the extension. It's not worth sickness or worse death.
7/21/2020 8:42:03	Brittney	Johnson	Parent	Colby	I don't feel there is any need to delay the start of school. The kids have already missed 2 months of being in school this year, while in our county, 0 cases were reported during that entire time. These rules should not be state wide - they should be decided by county. Our situation is much different than those in Wichita, Kansas City, Dodge City, etc. The mask mandate is much worse, in my opinion, and will cause many families to home school. You will be losing lots of numbers this year in the public school system.
7/21/2020 8:42:11	Brenna	Scott		Topeka	Students need to be in the classroom and school shouldn't be delayed. Three weeks of NO learning is not acceptable.
7/21/2020 8:42:20	Rebekah	Alexander	Wellington Middle school	Wellington	Please delay the start of school to after Labor Day in hopes that mask mandates will assist in lowering the amount of active spread in our communities. Being a rural community, we are just now seeing the active community spread that has ravaged higher population centers across the nation. This is not the time to expose our students, district staff, and resulting families to a virus that we still know so little about. Thank you so much for the compassion and care you have dedicated to our schools during this unprecedented time of uncertainty.
7/21/2020 8:42:20	Amy	Gilbertson	Parent of Elementary/Middle School Students	Gardner	I fully support delaying the beginning of school until after Labor Day. The additional time would allow us time to evaluate the learning options provided by our School Districts and our school districts to find additional PPE to keep our in-person returning students. Right now, with the unknown nature of so many components of the virus, I do not see the need to rush back to returning some of our most vulnerable citizens and their extended families to such large, daily gatherings.
7/21/2020 8:42:22	Tena	Stoppel		Wichita	I believe it's important to get "on top" of the COVID spread throughout our state before sending our children back to school. The opening of schools should be delayed and re-evaluated after Labor Day. The sooner all of our residents start doing their part by wearing masks the sooner our children can return to school.
7/21/2020 8:42:28	Leah	Stotts	family	Derby	Please approve the executive order delaying school until after Labor Day. Students need to learn in a safe environment. The best way for that to happen is to give the district time to gather supplies and allow teachers to organize their classrooms and prepare effective lessons to be safe for our students. The top priority for the 2020-2021 school year should be safety. The orders presented on Monday make our schools safe.
7/21/2020 8:42:35	Somer	Van Pelt	Parent	McPherson	Delay!
7/21/2020 8:42:40	Kate	Roth		Olathe	As a Kansas parent, I support governor Kelly's decision to delay the start of school. Please vote to uphold this order. I would like to see COVID 19 numbers trending down before children and teachers start school in person this fall.
7/21/2020 8:42:42	Quentin	Meyers	Parent	Plainville	Please think beyond your own fears and into the reality of the strength these children have. They have been together all summer without masks in closed and open environments and successfully avoided the spread. Not to mention every daycare in the state has no restrictions whatsoever. Common sense wins out here if we allow it to work. One person should never be able to dictate to an entire state how to think or act.
7/21/2020 8:42:44	Lucinda	Kuhn	I am a social worker employed in the Catholic schools	Lenexa	I believe delaying the start of school would benefit students and teachers and INCREASE the likelihood of in person classes taking place successfully. Teachers are unpaid and not under contract during the summer. Allowing them to come back without students for a few weeks would allow them to prepare for in person school, remote learning, or a hybrid of the two. Asking teachers to prepare now while they are not being paid is unfair. Bringing them in to buildings to collaborate and plan will decrease their anxiety and increase their sense of well being. Teachers are amazingly hard working professionals. They should be able to plan for this unprecedented year and they should be paid to do so. I know that some districts have few cases and aren't as impacted by Covid-19, but starting after Labor Day will also increase the chances that their community will continue to have low infection numbers and will not significantly impact the school year for them. Thank you for an opportunity to share.
7/21/2020 8:42:45	Cassidy	Maples	N/A	Salina	Please support Governor Kelly's plans to delay the opening of school! This gives time to ensure schools are prepared.
7/21/2020 8:42:57	Kimberly	Chambers	Parent of K-12 student in Kansas, BVSU High School	Overland Park	Please allow our students to return to in-person school with the original start date of August 12th. There are other options available for parents and students who are not comfortable returning to a live classroom and building in mid August.

7/21/2020 8:43:02	Melanie	Ohlson	Ohlson family	ottawa county	Kansas students are failing behind in education and socialization. We are oozing valuable time in the classroom and in extracurricular activities. These years cannot be replaced. We have to stop living in fear of a virus whis risk has been blown out of proportion.
7/21/2020 8:43:05	Gary	Hageman	None	1511 SW Birch Ln, Topeka, KS 66615	I support Gov. Kelly's proposals to keep our children safe in school.
7/21/2020 8:43:11	Conor	Goodness		East Wichita	Opening schools is dangerous for students, staff, family, and the city. It should be handled with extreme caution. The extra time is necessary to prepare. In-person schooling should definitely be postponed, if offered at all. Ideal would be online only.
7/21/2020 8:43:13	Gretchen	McGraw	Blue valley parent	Overland Park	Please allow our kids to resume in person school for the 2020-2021 year. The teachers and education they receive in person can't be replicated at home. As a single working mom it is also difficult for me to create the time and learning environment needed for home school. Thank you.
7/21/2020 8:43:13	Jennifer	Nolan	Kansas parents	Dodge City	I support Governor Kelly's mandate on science backed safety. I support mandated masks, cleaning and social distancing as well as the late start date if needed to prepare.
7/21/2020 8:43:16	Cynthia	Carr	Public School Employee - USD 257- Iola	LaHarpe	I support Governor Kelly's Executive Order delaying the opening of schools until after Labor Day. Given the current circumstances, and all of the unknowns that we may be facing in the future, I believe that our schools, with some additional planning, can put together a plan that will provide us with several options as we move through the school year. With such a plan in place, we can navigate smoothly through the school year, making adjustments as needed, rather than close our schools and try to devise another plan.
7/21/2020 8:43:28	Tiffany	Riffel		Salina	I don't believe this is beinifical to continue to have our children out of school. This is not good for not only their learning but their social development that is needed. We may possibly start to create more mental health among our younger generation as well. We need to allow this children back in school they need some sense of normal in their lives.
7/21/2020 8:43:29	Nickie	Lee		Overland Park	I support the proposed delay of school starting until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 8:43:37	Diana	Evans		Wichita	I support Gov. Kelly's decision to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. Your vote to support her decision is a vote to show concern for kids, their families, teachers, and support staff in the schools.
7/21/2020 8:43:46	Sandra	Ifland	I support Governor Kelly in postponing school until after Labor Day. Please don't use our children & teachers as a testing project	Junction City	Follow Governor's guide lines
7/21/2020 8:43:54	Kendra	Mitts	Special needs parents and regular parents in Olathe District	Olathe	We need to keep with the delay. It's not going to harm our kids but it could help protect our kids and staff. We haven't even had registration. How will the schools have enough time from registrations to start date if we do not delay. It's not safe for our children, teachers, and staff. My special needs child needs OT, Speech, and one on one para. There is no way for them to social distance. Especially if my son needs to be restrained which happens every other day. I am immune compromise. My kids need a mother to raise them not a mother dead.

7/21/2020 8:43:55	Jeana	Mayfield	Douglass USD 396, Douglass, KS	El Dorado, KS	<p>I support Governor Kelly's proposal to extend the start of the school year to after Labor Day for adequate planning in this current public health crisis. I appreciate the fact that she has shown true leadership, has followed the science and data and has made smart, non-political decisions for public and school safety up to this point. Honestly, we are foolish to think we can safely enter school buildings any time soon when many members of the public refuse to follow public health guidelines, such as wearing masks. They call this intrusive virus a "hoax", a "plandemic", and ignore science. In WWII, I believe companies provided child care so women could build necessary products to fight the war. I am not a "child-care" provider, I am a teacher. I will not put myself in a position to contract this virus. There are doctors and nurses, who are well-trained in the proper use of PPE, who have contracted this virus and have or are experiencing varying degrees of impact from it. They barely have adequate PPE for their purposes. How in the world can employees and students be adequately protected?! I've learned enough about this virus and its spread to know it's foolish to think we can congregate in school buildings in any fashion in the near future and not start an outbreak in our respective communities. It's all just "happy talk" to suggest otherwise. We'll be the next nursing home, meat-processing plant, church, funeral gathering, Logan, etc. As I understand it, Kansas is a "1 to 1" state in technology provisions for students. Let's use it and stay safe!!</p> <p>I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts on this issue. I appreciate your leadership on this issue and please know I do appreciate how challenging your jobs must be for you at this time.</p> <p>Sincerely, Jeana Mayfield</p>
7/21/2020 8:43:59	Megan	Cicero		Prairie Village, KS	I fully support the delayed starting of the 2020-21 School Year. This gives our school districts and our teachers more time to ensure a safe and effective plan is in place for reopening. Thank you.
7/21/2020 8:44:00	Jesse	Lobbs		Lenexa	Gov Kelly is absolutely doing the right thing. It is dangerous to send our children back to school without the guarantee of safety as prescribed by medical professionals. this is doubly true for teachers, many of whom are older and in higher risk populations.
7/21/2020 8:44:07	Lindsay	Weiss		Overland Park	I believe we should delay the start of the school year for in-person classes, but allow districts to begin as planned in a virtual manner if they choose.
7/21/2020 8:44:09	Valerie	Brown-Kuchera		Quinter	I hope we can begin the year (even if that start is a bit later than usual) and stay in school, avoiding a shut down. If delaying a couple weeks means we can have better protocols in place, I certainly support the decision. A solid plan, adequate funding to implement that plan, and prepared personnel will go a long way toward ensuring safety for everyone in our schools.
7/21/2020 8:44:13	Hannah	Burns		Gardner	I absolutely think delaying in person school is a good call. I even worry that starting in person late will be unsafe. If the decision to start late is overturned, I urge you to consider online instead of in person or at least a hybrid model. There is no way school can safely operate as usual even with masks.
7/21/2020 8:44:14	Jeffrey	Watson	Citizen	Wamego	As a former school administrator, I worry about all those involved in having school and their families at home. I believe the extra time to plan effectively to open schools in some type of way gives all communities the opportunity to educate and protect its citizens. Politics should not have a voice in this. The extra weeks gives us a chance. Please consider this for the good of all Thank you
7/21/2020 8:44:14	Stacy	Rezac		Onaga	It's only about 2weeks later than it would normally start. Give the districts and teachers a couple more weeks to get this figured out and be fully prepared to welcome back students safely!
7/21/2020 8:44:16	Katie	Taber	Usd232	Shawnee	Please give the extra time for teachers and staff to make sure our kids can return safely! Let us watch other states open and adjust to their failures. 3 weeks could save lives!
7/21/2020 8:44:17	Mary	Coplen		Hutchinson	As a retired teacher I strongly encourage the KSBE delay the start on the 2020 academic school year until after Labor Day. I have examined the strengths and weaknesses of Governor Kelly's plan and have read the recommendations of the KNEA President Farr, who articulates extremely well in support of the delay. Please vote to support the Governor's recommendation. She has the best interest of all citizens and recognizes possible increase of COVID-19 cases and deaths if we open too early. Thank you!

7/21/2020 8:44:21	Caitlin	Schwanke	educator	Topeka	Please vote to AFFIRM EO 20-58. Between local politics and people with their heads in the sand, we can't count on our districts to keep us safe. We have seen with the mask mandate that when it was made "optional," people didn't follow it, or not as thoroughly, and cases have been rising ever since. We can't take that risk with our schools. We need the extra time to prepare for the changes in schools as well as to get our out-of-control cases down across the state. We need a statewide order to protect EVERYONE, including those who cross district and county lines every day.
7/21/2020 8:44:23	Patricia	Hileman	Parent	Wichita	Please give local School Boards the support to make the best decisions for their locations. Please do not affirm the EO, but instead encourage schools to take time if their disease rates and hospitalization rates justify it.
7/21/2020 8:44:27	Ashley	Washington	KCKPS USD #500	Kansas City	PLEASE delay the 20-21 K-12 school year.
7/21/2020 8:44:32	Gretchen	Aerni	substitute teacher and parent	Shawnee KS	Please delay opening to give KS- 1. Time to get the # of cases under control. 2. Time to plan for all the scenarios if students, teachers, staff contract the disease. Thank you for listening! Let's stay safe!!
7/21/2020 8:44:32	Jen	Koerner	Kansas educator and parent	Gardner, KS	Please vote to keep our educators and children safe by supporting Laura Kelly's decision to postpone the start of the school year. Governor Kelly clearly supports science and has made solid decisions to keep our communities safe. Please continue to support her leadership. We are incredibly lucky to have her.
7/21/2020 8:44:40	Julie	Serati	Blue Valley School District	Overland Park	It's time for children to return to class, in person! Our governor closed school state wide in March with few or no cases of COVID-19 in many counties. Now delaying school seems to be more fear mongering. Our children need normalcy, in person education, socialization, and mental stability. Delaying the opening of school only prolongs a fear of the unknown. Governor Kelly presented a plan for schools to reopen in May. It's time to implement that plan. We've done due diligence, closed schools, shut down the economy, and flattened the curve. Of course there are more positive cases now. We are open and trying to function normally and more people are being tested. This virus isn't going away anytime soon, but it's time to get back to living. I feel that continuing to delay the opening of schools is far more detrimental than the virus. Our kids need this, our economy needs this! If school does not reopen, I will not be able to work and do the job that is expected of me because I will need to be teaching my children. Delaying the opening of schools impacts every facet of life and our economy. I appreciate the opportunity to voice my concerns and I hope you will thoughtfully consider the long term harm keeping schools closed will cause. Thank you
7/21/2020 8:44:42	Season	Schwind	myself and my children	Wichita	Please allow children to go to school without wearing masks. This is a huge physical and mental distraction. Do your own research on the CDC site and you will find the virus is not nearly as bad as the media is telling people, especially for school age children. Listen to the parents and students. I haven't found one parent in my large circle of friends, neighbors and church who has had or knows someone who has had the virus. And all of these parents do not want their kids wearing masks. Quit listening to scary numbers and do what the parents want or you are going to lose excellent students in the public schools. We will send our kids to private schools where they are taught to think on their own. Thank you for your consideration and please make the right decision for our kids in the long run, not just to appease those who are scared in the short term. If scared, do online school. If you can think for yourself and are comfortable sending your kids without restrictions, go to school. Thank you.
7/21/2020 8:44:42	Ruth	Wise		Emporia	Please support governor Kelly in her effort to delay school starting until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 8:44:46	Dianna	Stenzel	Myself - I am a school counselor	Shawnee	Please vote to uphold the Governor's order!! I do not believe schools have an adequate plan to address social distancing in schools and other means of infection control. Infection rates are high and going up. Protect our students and staff!!
7/21/2020 8:44:49	Lisa	Otter	Self (parent)	Newton	Uphold Gov. Kelly's executive order! It is based on scientific data. The COVID numbers in Harvey County are increasing, as are the number of cases in youth ages 10-19. Delaying the start of school allows for a potential decline in COVID numbers AND time for schools to make necessary adaptations to keep students and staff safe.

7/21/2020 8:44:56	Sally	Ledford	A citizen	Wichita. Grandkids in Andover	I agree with school delay til sept 9. That would be the safest & smart thing to do. Grandparents play a role in schools as well - taking & picking up the kids after school & staying with them until parents get home. We don't need kids getting sick & missing more learning & grandparents getting sick. Just approve it.
7/21/2020 8:44:59	Carrie	Littrell		Clay Center	Please support the governor. Covid cases continue to rise.
7/21/2020 8:45:00	Connie	Coleman	Teacher....USD 253	Emporia	I'm an elementary teacher in Emporia getting ready to start my 27th year of teaching and I have had a lot of anxiety about starting school face to face because elementary students have a hard time social distancing and they tend to spread germs pretty easily. I know how important it is for students to get back into a school environment but I have a lot of fear for my own health as well as for the health of my colleagues and students, especially since the virus cases continue to rise. I'm asking you to support Governor Kelly's executive order to start school after Labor Day so that we can have time to make a plan that will best help our students academically, social/emotionally and with good safety and health procedures that will protect everyone involved in a school setting. We, as educators, need this extra time to prepare and hopefully by September we can start to see a decline in the case numbers. Thank you for your time and I hope you vote to do the right thing for Kansas schools to keep us safe.
7/21/2020 8:45:04	Kimberly	Dennis		Wichita	Opening should be delayed due to the increasing number of coronavirus cases. The few extra weeks will allow us to better access situation that our children face.
7/21/2020 8:45:07	Jana	Deters	Basehor Linwood	Basehor	Please open schools on time! My children, I have 4 in the Basehor Linwood School District, have been out of school since March 6th. They did not do well being home schooled and are missing the daily interactions with friends and classmates. My kids mental health is just as important. As a future teacher, it is imperative these kids are in the classroom learning. Education is essential to the well being of these kids. We have played competitive ball all summer and everyone is fine! They need to go back to School... unmasked!!! Please, I ask you to think about this. Laura Kelly does not have the best interest of our kids in mind, she has made that clear time and time again. Don't make this a political statement with our kids caught in the middle. Enough damage has been done! Let them go back to school!!!! I will say it again, in classroom learning is essential.
7/21/2020 8:45:08	Rita	Wood	Parents	Leavenworth	I agree with Governor Kelly
7/21/2020 8:45:11	Ashley	Hampel		Pratt	School should not open for in person school until the numbers go back down.
7/21/2020 8:45:14	barbara	gingrich		Wichita	I support Gov Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. At that time, I hope the order will be extended if warranted (we haven't seen significant decrease)
7/21/2020 8:45:15	Patrick	Koerner	Kansas school parent	Gardner, KS	Please vote to keep our educators and children safe by supporting Laura Kelly's decision to postpone the start of the school year.
7/21/2020 8:45:18	Jessica	Humphries-Winfrey		Andover	I'm writing to ask that you vote to support the Governor's order to close schools until Sept. 9th on Wednesday. As a 259 employee and parent of two elementary school-aged children, I do not feel it is safe to open schools while our state is experiencing a virus surge. While the virus may generally have mild effects on most small children (although there are exceptions to this) our teachers, bus drivers, administrators, custodians, and many other adults who come into contact with literally dozens, if not hundreds of children every day, will be put at unnecessary risk. It's estimated that over 20% of our nation's teachers are at greater than average risk due to underlying health conditions. In addition, reopening schools will contribute to community spread, which is already increasing in our state. I urge you to support the Governor's order to delay schools until school can be opened safely. Thank you, Jessica Humphries-Winfrey
7/21/2020 8:45:19	Dustin	Hawks	USD210	Hugoton	Sent from my iPhone
7/21/2020 8:45:23	Ashley	Floberg		Topeka	Do not post pone school and no mask in school as it will only be a distraction to the younger ages
7/21/2020 8:45:23	Ashley	Floberg		Topeka	Dont start school until after Labor Day. It allows plenty of time to hopefully get numbers after the mask orders
7/21/2020 8:45:35	Rhianna	Nelson		Manhattan	I am a teacher and after school program Director. Please start us on time. With the mask mandate and other KSDE recommendations, we will be able to start school as normal In-person in our town, safely.



7/21/2020 8:45:34	Ryan	King	Parent, Teacher, & Coach	Conway Springs	I am backing Governor Kelly's mandates as a minimum. As a parent who teaches in the same building that my kids attend, I am seriously considering a online option out of district. I don't get the perception that my district will do enough or allow for enough flexibility. I am a teacher in district and have not even been communicated with about options that we could be doing. All we have been told is the superintendent and the BOE is working on a plan. None of which will be out and around the # of students that teachers will or will foresee issues that are unique to each positions situation. I am very concerned because I come in contact with over 180 students daily, I seriously doubt this is going to be addressed and know that I have not been contacted about any change how this will be corrected. Thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion
7/21/2020 8:45:36	Devon	Bernica		Olathe	Accept
7/21/2020 8:45:50	Michelle	DeWeese		Topeka	These kids need to start school on time, their lives have been turned upside down by all of this and they need that consistency that school brings to them. They need to have the daily interactions with their teachers and their classmates, they need to have their activities that give them that reason to do well in school. The schools have been working very hard and have things in place for them to come back, at least give them the option to start on time. I have faith in my school to make sure our kids and teachers will be in the best environment they can be in this situation. Please give these kids a chance to flourish again and not be at home for another 3 weeks, they and the schools are ready for school.
7/21/2020 8:45:51	Ryan	Wiehl		Spring Hill	I agree with Governor Kelly's EO delaying school openings in Kansas.
7/21/2020 8:46:03	Traci	Crow		Pratt	We need to stop fearing something that's never going away! Look at this from outside of the box because we need a different perspective on health. We need to be proactive in our actions by helping everyone build better immune responses with diet & exercise. Viruses will never go away for us to see because if they do then we will be gone also. Our kids need life again! Our kids deserve better then this! We are teaching them to hate others because of how they feel on something. The very thing our fore fathers worked so hard to push out. This is nothing but discriminating against healthy individuals! Move it from one thing to another. This is discrimination. Our district has worked hard to get a great plan in place. Let's move forward with school!!!!
7/21/2020 8:46:04	Karen	Arokiasamy		Overland Park	I strongly support Executive Order 20-58. We have already been asking for the impossible from our educators for years - as we put the burden of feeding, sheltering, parenting, emotionally supporting, etc, etc on our education system - and now we are asking even more, with the threat of reduced funding and the enormous health risk to teachers, staff and administrators. It's RECKLESS AND CALLOUS to send our students and teachers back when covid cases have not dropped or even stabilized. Cases and numbers are PEOPLE - sons, daughters, mothers, grandpas. I do not support ill-advised decisions in support of the economy with flippant comments like that of the Missouri Governor about children getting covid and getting over it. What a privilege it must be to say such a thing when you've put federal funding toward TOURISM in the time of a pandemic. Thank goodness for Governor Kelly and this order. She is listening to science and medical experts and the BoE should UNANIMOUSLY support the order. Full stop.
7/21/2020 8:46:18	Kristi	Loftus	Olathe USD 233	Olathe	Please follow Govenor Kelly's tilling. Delay start of schools!

7/21/2020 8:46:20	Anna	Hamilton		Leawood	I am a rising junior at Blue Valley North High School. Throughout the governor's press conference regarding her executive orders, she claims that she cannot, in good conscience, open schools in mid August this year. On the contrary, how can the Board of Education, in good conscience, make the decision to continue jeopardizing the education of Kansas students. The decision to eliminate, in essence, an entire month from the school year would have significant implications on the amount of material that students are able to learn in the academic year. I am a student with a rigorous schedule, filled with 6 AP classes out of my 7 class schedule. Each of my classes are so content heavy, that missing even a week of those classes means missing a piece of it that we cannot get back, due to the tight schedule we must keep in order to get through all of our content before the AP exams in early May. I feel that with online learning last quarter, I have missed a fourth of each of my classes, as there is no way to replicate the in-classroom experience from home. It is crucial that we students go back to school this fall, not only for the educational aspect of our lives, but for our mental health. There are certain relationships that exist within the school setting that do not necessarily exist outside of it. The extension of our time away from school will most certainly be met with an onslaught of mental health issues within our teens, and sadly, the continuing rise of teen suicide rates, as students will not be able to access their school's mental health resources in the same way outside of school. I beg you to consider the students and how much we NEED school in our lives and send us back to school, with the necessary precautions to keep us and our school staff safe. Thank you.
7/21/2020 8:46:25	Liz	Darling		Pittsburg	How can you even consider putting our babies back in school when you're meeting VIRTUALLY? If this is really safe for our kids, their teachers, and their families, then put your money where your mouth is and meet in-person (with 6-foot spacing waived, like it will be for kids.) Wait until cases decline!!!! Uphold Gov. Kelly's order!!!!
7/21/2020 8:46:30	Steven	Maples	Parents	Salina	Protect our kids, teachers, staff, parents, grandparents and our communities by delaying the opening of schools and coming up with a real plan.
7/21/2020 8:46:46	Tammy	Wallin	self	Wabaunsee	Please take in to account both the safety and social emotional well-being of our teachers and our children. Safety requires masks, social distancing, and other such measures. Social-emotional well requires teachers to have support and needed materials when starting school. Teachers can not teach well if they don't feel safe and they need to be in the best mind-set as our children go back to school. Our children have been through a lot over the past several months and teachers will need to be at their best in order to support them. Please allow schools the extra few weeks to ensure both the safety and emotional well being of both the children and the teachers.
7/21/2020 8:46:49	Lisa	Ball	USD497	Lawrence	Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day. We need time to make sure our schools are safe for teachers and students!
7/21/2020 8:47:02	John	Orvis		Winfield	This is a good thing. Not the best.
7/21/2020 8:47:07	Jennifer	Crane	Teacher	Hutchinson	I think the Executive Order to leave schools closed is the best idea for students and staff. It gives teachers the necessary time to adjust their curriculum and have the best lessons prepared while being safe. Plus, maybe the cases will stop increasing if we wait the three weeks.
7/21/2020 8:47:08	Tammy	Jennings	My grandsons	Overland Park	School needs to get in session. I cannot school both boys and work from home.
7/21/2020 8:47:28	Deanne	Korsak	None	Emporia	Please support the Governor's executive order!
7/21/2020 8:47:30	Susan	Mayberry	USD 458	Overland Park	Employees in education are the lives of which you hold in your hands regarding a decision to implement a late start this Fall. How does the KS BOE meet virtually and expect us to be physically in our classrooms. Who will be on the news when the first school related employee death occurs? You folks. I hope you consider the severity of this virus. We can all LIVE through a semester of online teaching. Support Governor Kelly's informed decision to delay school. Thank you.
7/21/2020 8:47:36	Bethany	Howard	USD 457 teacher	Garden City	I think we should start at our normal start date but do online learning first.
7/21/2020 8:47:39	Kelli	Hansard		Wichita	I am a parent and a teacher. Please sign the order delaying the start of school. It gives us time to come up with a plan and time for the spike in Covid cases to flatten.
7/21/2020 8:47:40	Kay	Gehring		Oxford	Please vote for the governors executive order to delay the start of school. By voting with the governor you allow the schools to have more time to assure as much safety as possible for students and staff. This would also allow parents more time to weigh their options for the education of the children without having to rush into their decision.
7/21/2020 8:47:40	Emily	Cable	USD 303	Ness City	These kids need to get back to school ASAP! It is vital to their mental health. Masks should not be mandatory in a town where there are no cases...a blanket policy is not right for the entire state. Mask policies should be left up to each district!

7/21/2020 8:47:43	Kevin	Lee		Olathe	I'm in support of delaying the start of the school year until the number of cases of COVID19 comes down.
7/21/2020 8:47:47	Jennifer	Worley		Wellington	I am in support of the order to delay the start of the school year until after Labor Day. As a teacher, it gives me more time to plan for both online and in person instruction. As a parent and a teacher, it gives us time to see if our county continues to have a spike in cases or if they begin to drop. Right now, we have too many positive cases each day and I don't feel it would be safe right now to be back in school.
7/21/2020 8:47:49	April	Schlenker	Parents of USD 259 students	Wichita	Dear BOE MEMBERS, I urge you to vote yes for the executive order that delays the start of Kansas schools until after Labor Day. I am a parent in the city of Wichita and I am concerned for the wellbeing of my family, the staff and students if they return to school before the rate of infection for COVID 19 decreases. I believe that Dr. Lee Norman presented more than adequate data to show you how Kansas communities are negatively impacted by COVID 19 right now. He further stated evidence that shows that we have the opportunity to lower the rate of infection to bring us back down to flatten the curve before September 9, 2020. Additionally with the mask mandates now being implemented in the the Wichita area, I feel that our numbers could start improving making our schools safer to open. Lastly, this executive order needs to stand and be approved by you and the other board of education members so that we can protect Kansans lives from further decimation from the COVID 19 virus. We must all work together to end this. Sincerely, April Schlenker
7/21/2020 8:47:51	Julie	Battaglia	Lawrence Public Schools	Lawrence, Kansas	Please allow educators more time to prepare for this school year. We want to make sure teachers, students, and all of their families are as safe as we can possibly be in this unprecedented time while still providing the highest levels of education to our students. Please, please extend the beginning of the school year until after Labor Day. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 8:48:00	Elizabetn	Patterson	Marion schools	Florence	I believe that as long as the virus is out there schools should not open back up an if they do I will home school because I myself an one of my children are at very high risk
7/21/2020 8:48:01	Elsa	Evans		Lawrence, KS	I support the efforts of the governor to keep school staff and children/families safe by delaying the school start date and requiring additional measures to protect them. I am in favor of virtual school for those who are able. We need to stop this virus! Opening schools too early will only delay the opening of our economy. Thank you.
7/21/2020 8:48:01	Shawna	Cortez		Andover	I support delaying the opening of schools.
7/21/2020 8:48:06	Scott	Miller	Self	Wichita	I would like to see our schools open and kids back in them, I believe keeping things as normal as possible is the best. Kids being social and around other kids and teachers is a very important part of education that cant be replicated online, I feel the risks are very low.
7/21/2020 8:48:08	Kiley	Wakeman	USD #219	Minneola	Our students have been out of school for nearly 6 months and they deserve to be back in the classroom. Their social and emotional needs need to be met. Our schools are the only safe place for many of our students. Putting off school for 3 weeks is only going to hinder our students further.
7/21/2020 8:48:08	Christine	Ross	None	Wichita	Hello, all scientific research, including research from other countries has shown the virus does not spread between kids as much. I believe we need to look at the data that is available and make decisions off of that. Also, parents know what's best for their children-we should be given a choice what we would like. We pay for a private school education and we do not want to be forced to do thinks we feel like are unnecessary . Thank you for your time!
7/21/2020 8:48:11	Jay	Lemino		Salina	I think prudence in this time is important. There are conflicting studies, opinions, etc. plus many unknowns. I think a delayed starts will give schools more time to prepare, and hopefully take a closer look at how they can proactively implement anything else that will help bring the community together.
7/21/2020 8:48:12	Tina	Wardlaw	Parent of Olathe School district students	Olathe	If a delay of school must happen, let extra curricular activities start: Sports, band, choir, etc. Let them have their seasons for the Parents and children that are comfortable with it. Have a Covid waiver families must sign to protect coaches and school district. Our children need to run and play. They need to socialize and have some normal times.
7/21/2020 8:48:15	Sarena	Roubideaux	Family	Clearwater	Schools need to go back to normal. Life needs to go back to normal. This is ridiculous!
7/21/2020 8:48:23	Jennifer	Schields		Lenexa	Please do what is right to keep our kids safe. Delay school opening. Their health is in your hands!

7/21/2020 8:48:37	julie	eastlick	myself	wichita	don't open schools until after labor day
7/21/2020 8:48:43	Sarah	Ramsey		Wichita	Please go ahead and delay the start of school until September 9th. While it is important that students return to school, it is also important that everyone be safe.
7/21/2020 8:48:50	Connie	Hummel	USD 402	Towanda	Schools should start as what was planned by the calendar set last Spring and take necessary precautions.
7/21/2020 8:48:51	Rachelle	Depew	USD259	Wichita	Please keep us safe. Delay in-person classes until the numbers are declining for 14 straight days.
7/21/2020 8:48:53	Ana	Colbary	Personal	Modoc	Please do not delay schools. Do not require masks etc. Let us chose to get back to normal. We should be able to decide for ourselves how we want to address personal medical needs and beliefs. We should not be ordered what to think, say, do or wear. Our children need an education. The public school system is supposed to be free and available for the public. That's why we pay taxes. If you want to make rules that violate personal freedoms, than work for a private organization. The people have the right to choose what is right for their individual needs and families, not the government.
7/21/2020 8:48:55	Riki	Kisner		Shawnee	I support the delay.
7/21/2020 8:49:01	Amy	Hall	Myself-substitute teacher	Manhattan	Please delay school to give more time to prepare. I know too many high risk staff and students to take this lightly. I have had zero communication with USD 383 (zero-from day one) so I assume that means they haven't even gotten around to thinking about how they will protect me, as a substitute. I (and others) do not make enough money to be able to miss weeks or months with no pay.
7/21/2020 8:49:07	Katie	Ballew		Olathe	Please support Gov. Kelly's decision to not open schools until after Labor Day. As a former 2nd grade teacher and parent to 2 young children, I am extremely worried about sending kids back into school buildings with cases as high as they are. Please give teachers, students and parents a fighting chance by allowing extra time for cases to decrease, parents to make extraordinarily difficult decisions, and for teachers to prepare for the most challenging school year they will ever have.
7/21/2020 8:49:08	Jessica	Hanvey	usd 382 pratt teacher	pratt	open school and leave decisions to local school boards
7/21/2020 8:49:09	Kelly	Watson	Shawnee Mission School - Hocker Grove	Merriam	I agree that postponing school is probably the best decision. I do think that physical school is important for the well-being of a lot of children.  I do not have confidence in the online schooling program. I know they would do better than the spring, but without knowing what that looks like I can't in good conscience let my daughter's education be pushed to the way side because SMSD can not provide education online or tell us what that would look like. If it ends up needed to be online only this fall I worry for the education.  We have supplemented math and reading to ensure she doesn't fall behind standards wise. But it is doubtful other kids/families have done the same.  My daughter is also enrolled in classes that need heavy collaboration and people (theatre), journalism, etc  So if by us waiting a few more weeks to ensure they can go back to school I'm all for it.
7/21/2020 8:49:12	Bubba	Dowling	My family	Smith Center	I'm indifferent on the start date, but get them to school ASAP. These kids need it. I am NOT ok with the forcing of masks to be worn. If masks are mandated we will be removing our children from the school and homeschooling.
7/21/2020 8:49:14	Carol	Zarda		Shawbee	I fully support Govenor Kelly's decision to hold off opening the schools until after Labor Day. In the past schools always waited until then to open. I also agree to the students wearing masks and using sanitizer. These are guidelines set by her that fully make sense. Anyone that says differently isnt thinking of the children and teachers they're just trying to oppose Gov Kelly.
7/21/2020 8:49:17	Deb	Wertin	Retired Teacher-substitute	Olathe	Thank you for your work to make the school year safe for children , teachers, substitutes and all support staff working in the buildings.
7/21/2020 8:49:23	Carole	Kindt	Maize South High School	Wichita	Start school after Labor Day and require masks for older kids.
7/21/2020 8:49:24	Christina	Hibarger		Wichita	I think that delaying the start of the school year is the right choice for our community.

7/21/2020 8:49:25	Emmy	Murphy		Augusta	Please give control to the local school districts. They know what's best for the kids in each area, vs a one-size-fits-all approach. Overturn the Governor's executive order, and get our kids back in school.
7/21/2020 8:49:28	Christy	Fell		Belle Plaine	Because we have waited so long to decide anything- we should wait until after Labor Day. Families have to be able to make plans for the upcoming school year and will need time. Why didn't we start planning after the last school year was over?
7/21/2020 8:49:39	Dana	Regehr		Buhler	We understand the difficulty of this situation; please know that we are praying for great wisdom for you! We also know case numbers are not what we would like, but we hope that you will make the decision to open schools at least by September 8. If we wait until we are closer to flu season, numbers will only continue to increase. Our kids desperately need school; they at least need to get started before we have to move to virtual learning. Physical health is important, but there are many other kinds of health we must consider. Thank you for your service to our state!
7/21/2020 8:49:47	Angela	OKane	Parent	Shawnee	As a middle school parent, I urge you to make the scientifically sound decision to support Governor Kelly's mandate of starting school after Labor Day. Covid cases are still trending upwards. Why would we put our children's health at risk?
7/21/2020 8:49:48	Kelly	Heide	Parent in the Shawnee Mission School District	Leawood	Please uphold the governor's order. We need to slow the spread and pouring 2000 high schoolers into a building will not help. Teachers and administrators need time to implement the KSDHE recommendations which were just issued. I recognize that individual districts can change their own schedules, however, it sends a strong message that the state of Kansas will listen to science and not politics when we all stand together to do what is safest for Kansans.
7/21/2020 8:49:48	Sara	Smoker	Parent	Moundridge	Thank you Governor Kelly for creating this mandate to keep our communities safe! Students and staff should NOT meet in person until we see Kansas COVID cases sharply decrease!
7/21/2020 8:49:50	Lara	Cotte	Self	Madison Kansas	I think delaying the start of school until after Labor Day is a good idea. The numbers of infected folks are going up. Seems not smart to gather our children together in a high risk situation when we know the infection is spreading right here among us, right now. I also think that masks should be mandated for all to wear at school and every other public place. Just like the Governor said. Go state board do the right thing. Keep us safe with the only tools we know about so far 1. Physical distancing 2. Wearing masks Thank you for your time. Sincerely.
7/21/2020 8:49:51	Kelsey	Hastings		Valley Center	I am not sure that we should delay the start of the school year - I think that we start by virtual education or blended education to get the kids back on track. Several kids are not in good situations at home and they need to be back in school. For some, school is the only escape. Pushing back the start of school keeps these kids in an unhealthy environment for longer. I am fine with the kids wearing masks, distancing, etc. - I truly do not feel there should be a delay in the start of school because kids need to be in school or learning, they need interaction with peers, teachers, counselors. I am so worried about kids getting left behind or not being able to catch up.
7/21/2020 8:50:07	Kristen	Sells	Kansas mother	Lenexa	Thank you for doing this. Until we see a decrease in numbers my children will not be attending in person. I also think the protection of our teachers is ever is important. Thank you for keeping us protected!
7/21/2020 8:50:14	Jennifer	Hayes		Overland Park	This is ridiculous, my children did not learn anything from online learning and should be starting school in August. I will not be making them do distance learning at all this year, they will only be doing in person school. The death rate for kids from Covid is pretty much nonexistent, so why are they not starting school?
7/21/2020 8:50:22	Lana	Ayers-Kirkley		Topeka	Many children, especially younger ones, may not be capable of social distancing and there are too many children in schools for adults to watch everything they do.

7/21/2020 8:50:22	Mary Susan	Simpson	Kansas City Catering	Shawnee	I believe children must be back in school at the earliest date. They are losing ground academically, socially, and even in some cases, physically, on a daily basis. While I appreciate teacher's position about their health issues, the children must come first. In the same way that medical personnel and policemen and women, bravely go where they are needed, teachers must navigate through the risks. If their health concerns prevent them from doing so, let them work from home or step out of teaching. Everyone has been hurt by this pandemic, including us (losing all business). Perhaps teachers will have to lose a year of teaching before retirement. We can not let teacher unions or governors push us to put children at educational risk. We are at war against a virus. Everyone in our nation must take a loss in order to save our children.
7/21/2020 8:50:24	Aaron	Bridges	My family	Quinter	Kids should be learning face to face with a teacher in school.
7/21/2020 8:50:32	Danielle	Albert		Madison	I support the governor's mandate to start school after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 8:50:34	Rachael	Garcia	USD 475	Fort Riley, KS	Please strongly consider moving the start date of school to after Labor Day. As a school district employee and as a mother of a student in my district, I implore you to give our district a few extra weeks to ready their staff and buildings to give us all a fighting chance to stay as healthy as possible. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 8:50:35	Heather	Kauk	Paola High School	Paola, KS	Dear members of the BOE,  I urge you to uphold Gov. Kelly's mandate in regards to delaying the opening of schools until after Labor Day 2020.  I can assure you there is no place I would rather be than back in my classroom, but when I listen to my colleagues in my home district, and across the state, the fear that they feel is justifiable and understandable.  The delay in starting will allow us critical time to plan for what may be one of our most challenging years as educators yet. As it stands, my district has two days of inservice before we are set to see students. This is no where near enough time for us to implement safety standards and protocol on top of what we normally do with our students at the beginning of the year.  I know these times are unprecedented. I know these decisions are hard to make. Please help us. Please delay the start of school.  Thank you, Heather Kauk
7/21/2020 8:50:39	Alexis	Sanchez	Parent of Olathe students	Olathe	Students need to be back in school ASAP. Masks should be optional in classroom!
7/21/2020 8:50:41	Cindy	Schooler		Edgerton	I agree with her decision. Hopefully people will start wearing masks and social distancing so we can get the numbers to go down, between now and then. Between now and Sept. 8 will give schools more time to prepare. So sad that this has become political. Let's take care of our students, teachers, and elderly!
7/21/2020 8:50:41	Sally	Ledford	Citizen	Wichita	And another thing: governor jelly should also declare a tax holiday for back to school supplies and clothes and shoes--- all that stuff. Due to the virus & fed unemployment ending. The tax holiday would help lots of people getting back to school. Please bring this to her attention. Thank you
7/21/2020 8:50:56	David	Wood		Manhattan	I believe the BOE should UPHOLD the Governor's order to delay the start of school until AT LEAST after Labor Day. This will give schools longer to plan and a chance for mask orders and other preventive measures to hopefully decrease the instances of COVID-19 around the state. We need to protect our teachers, staff, and students, along with all of their families by not putting them at an unnecessary risk of infection. We don't have appropriate data to plan for children and teenagers to be in schools for 7+ hours a day and teachers also need a longer time to prepare for the online options that will certainly be part of the planning.
7/21/2020 8:51:12	Jamie	Redic	Kckps	Kansas city	Delay
7/21/2020 8:51:23	Jennifer	Myers		Lawrence	Please keep our children safe! The school districts need more time to plan and prepare for our children to safely return to school. I work as an RN in the Covid unit and I know how devastating this virus is. If our children and teachers/staff are expected to return to school, it has to be a safe environment.

7/21/2020 8:51:24	Megan	Dischinger		Overland Park	Please open our schools! As a parent to four - 3 elementary, and one busy toddler, the spring edition of virtual learning was stressful for my kids as well as the parents who also were trying to manage full time work while (unsuccessfully) facilitate and manage online school for Kindergartener and 1st grader and keeping a 1 year old occupied and safe. (I'm thankful my 4th grader is at least able to manage on his own, although that also feels unfair to put that on him alone)
7/21/2020 8:51:20	Eric	Ward	my family	Manhattan	I respectfully urge you to let LOCAL school boards make decisions on when/how to open schools. You all put a tremendous amount of work into guidelines to make it safe already. Every community is different. No doubt some should delay, but many rural communities have low population, few or no active cases, and no need to further traumatize kids and stagnate their economies by delaying school. Let those elected to make these decisions make them. Once again, our governor's "one size fits all" solution creates more problems. Thank you.
7/21/2020 8:51:26	Jenny	Lamb	My family	Ozawkie, Kansas	I am in support of Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. Please support her in this effort. Furthermore please consider encouraging all school districts to start online for a period of 2-4 weeks before phasing students into the buildings. Thank you for your service on the state school board.
7/21/2020 8:51:34	Terrie	Meade	Parent of a high school freshman athlete	Overland Park	<p>First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas.</p> <p>Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</li> <li>• No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</li> </ul> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>I am one of the more than 6,200 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay.</p> <p>We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know that you have our support.</p> <p>To view the petition: <a href="http://chnng.it/7LG6GzBjqM">http://chnng.it/7LG6GzBjqM</a></p>

7/21/2020 8:51:36	Meghan	Wells	Myself and my child	Manhattan	Please open up our schools! I have watched what an isolated summer without children and sports have done to my son. Children MUST go back to learning and most importantly interacting with other children! Do not force our children to go back to an environment filled with masks, plexiglass, and social distancing. Do your research on cloth facial masks and children. They will serve as moist petri dishes on their faces. Take their temperature when they come in the door, and let it be. There is little data to show that children spread this virus to other children. The death rate alone, does not warrant these extreme measures. We cannot keep delaying the inevitable and making our children a social experiment. This virus is going to run its course whether or not our schools are open. If daycares can be open, schools can be open. At the very least, you need to leave the decision up to the local school boards and private schools. Some of the schools have had plans in place all summer to handle this. It is not fair that because some schools are not prepared, all other schools should suffer. Public education will suffer if you decide to close or delay schooling. I for one, will no longer be substituting in public schools, and we enrolled my son in a private school. I know of countless others who have enrolled their children in private school, along with numerous people who will be homeschooling. Do the right thing and leave the control up to individual schools/school boards. Also, please implement new and current nutritional models for children. What better way to change the health of our schools, then by starting with what goes in our bodies. The fact that we are not focusing on our immune system's right now it's a shame. Thank you!
7/21/2020 8:51:52	Kelly	Blackburn		Lawrence	It is imperative, for the safety of our children, teachers, and families, for the school year to delay starting until after Labor Day as indicated in Governor Kelly's executive order. This simple measure will allow districts more time to adequately plan for multiple learning formats in this quickly changing environment. This delay will also (hopefully) allow residents to follow safety protocols so the infection rate decreases. It's unfair and cruel to expect teachers to risk their health and safety, and that of their families, in a haphazardly fashion. This is not political - this is common sense. It is everyone's moral responsibility to care about each other.
7/21/2020 8:51:52	Todd	Allison		Pittsburg	I think the governor is doing the right thing. Kansas needs some time to get its infection rate under control. We also need some more time to plan. I'm not against opening schools, but we have to be smart about it. There have been other countries that had classes this summer and the virus ended up spreading to both students and teachers. That could pose a real risk to older teachers and people at home. While I personally think the science is clear, even if it is not, it is only prudent to error on the side of caution. Thank You.
7/21/2020 8:51:56	Christopher	Garnica	USD 259	Wichita	I think the delay is necessary for a large district like WPS to pivot and implement the requirements per executive order. I'm less worried about spread if we implement those requirements and feel we can attend in person school, on a varied schedule, after labor day.
7/21/2020 8:51:56	Karen	Wallace		Osborne	Please support the governor with the delay of opening schools. This will give the necessary time (3 incubation periods) for school districts, administrators and teachers to make the safest environment for the children of our state. This is a health and safety issue. Our governor has taken a stand that some will support and others will scoff at, but she is taken a leadership role and is not passing this off to another group of people to try and figure out. We need more leadership during this crisis and people willing to be the ones to say this is our plan to keep Kansas kids, teachers, janitors, cooks, bus drivers, parents, etc... safe. Normal will never look the same. We as Kansans can grow and become stronger with positive leadership. We used to start after Labor Day because it was too hot for students in the buildings. Can we not start late because we do not want to gather in large groups that have the potential to make others sick? When you make your decision, please do not make it about a political party. Do not make it about the dollar because no amount of money can bring back a life. Make it about the health and safety of our future. I am not a big fan of virtual schooling (but I'm glad it can be done) and I feel that our kiddos need to be around their peers and some students just need that personal interaction to learn. I just want it to be as safe as possible for the kids.
7/21/2020 8:52:07	Reagan	Tofflemire	Teacher and parent in USD450	Topeka	I encourage the members of the State Board of Education to vote in support of the Executive Order to delay the opening of schools.
7/21/2020 8:52:08	Amanda	Smith		Augusta	Please delay the school year or move to virtual education. Please keep the educators, staff, and administrators at our schools safe with PPE when they do reopen. Please trust in and follow the science! We cannot open when cases are as high as they are in Sedgewick county.



7/21/2020 8:52:10	Alan	Sunkel		Leawood	I think schools are not prepared to reopen safely. Opening without adequate testing or the ability to enforce safety measures will endanger not only students (we don't know what long-term effects of virus might be, even for asymptomatic carriers) but also for society at large.
7/21/2020 8:52:21	Kayleen	Weber	USD428	Great Bend	I have 3 elementary age children. I am classified staff at an elementary school. I am happy with staff wearing masks or face shields. Adults can handle it. Children should not be expected to wear masks. They will pull, touch, and play with a mask, throw it up in the air, trade among each other, brandish as sling shot, lay their mask on the bathroom floor and put it back on their face, kids will lose track of whose is whose, take them off at lunch and accidently throw it away, lose it, draw on it, drool on it, chew on it, forget it, wear one they found in the hall, fight with their friends over it, pick their nose through it, ETC ETC. All this positive attitude stuff is not going to work. I have seen ALL of these things done with a simple PENCIL on a daily basis. And yes, teachers and staff do everything in their power to prevent and stop abuse of pencils. Kids still do it. Can you imagine all of this and more being done to a mask, then expect them to breathe through that germ encrusted piece of cloth? Children are disgusting disobedient disorderly disasters. That's just the honest truth. Ew.
7/21/2020 8:52:30	Anne	Billman	Blue Valley	Overland Park, KS	Please, please vote to pass Gov. Kelly's order to delay school opening. As an employee of Blue Valley and parent of a HS student, I am very concerned about trying to open schools with our COVID spread so high! I think the students need to get back to in person school.
7/21/2020 8:52:34	Lori	Williams	parent of student	Halstead	I disagree with the pending "executive order" interfering with local governments and school boards regarding the school opening timeline. I believe that our local school board and their communities, parents, students and local leaders should be able to do what is best for their students, schools and employees with guidance from you, the State Board of Education regarding these school openings.  If I can't count on you and our teachers who I consider public servants to provide the services that they are employed to do, my family may need to work towards an alternative learning situation for my child who has basically been not educated by the public schools system since March 2020 and the Governor wants to extend that time to September and perhaps further.  I am a health care provider. I have been working directly with some of the most vulnerable, cancer patients. My clinic and the hospital systems that I work with have been communicating, planning and executing their plans very well and I think they have provided a safe environment for our patients, staff and family members.  EMS, fire and police have shown up to do their work as public servants. I am not sure why teachers are any different. Even the private sector workers have been working in modified ways. In health care, we have been able to modify our practice flow and protective gear and still have been able to provide services safely for our patients.  The pediatricians have recommended that students get back to work.  My school district is USD 440, Halstead-Bentley. We have classrooms, gyms, and outside places to space kids. We have multiple doors they could enter and exit from to limit traffic flow and be able to sanitize and temperature check. I would hope that teachers and administrators don't need 2 more months to get ready to go back when they should have been working on contingency plans since March 2020.
7/21/2020 8:52:39	chelsea	Lentfer	Manhattan Catholic	Manhattan -Salina diocese	Please allow schools to reopen at MCS, we have smaller class sizes, my kids had to be home schooled at home for 7 weeks and that put them behind 7 weeks. We cannot allow their education to be Pushed out of anymore. There education is essential for their wellbeing & their health. I am OK with all the precautions put into place( mask, etc) but we need to get our kids back to learning & being social. My kids education academic/religious is so important to me which is why I send them to MCS. Please allow them a full education. This is about the kids.  Sincerely Chelsea LentfeR
7/21/2020 8:52:48	Sharla	Smith		Ingalls - Cimarron	Open them now and get our kids back to the business of learning!

7/21/2020 8:52:48	Terri	core		Wichita	Open the schools, our kids need socialization with their peers. If places like Walmart and Target can stay open so can our schools they are essential.
7/21/2020 8:53:10	Sue	Crowl		Arkansas City	Please follow Governor Kelly's Executive Order. Instead of having a knee jerk reaction and making this political, help the districts prepare for a safe opening. Have a plan in place that will not only protect our children, but teachers and all employees working in our educational facilities. Yes, children do need to be back in school, let's do it safely.
7/21/2020 8:53:12	Melia	Patterson	Usd364	Marysville	Please don't start in person classes until a viable solution to keep our educators and students safe is reached.
7/21/2020 8:53:24	Amanda	Mykins		Olathe	<p>Governor Kelly announced her plan to delay the start of school and today I am writing to encourage you to support her decision. I am a parent and former elementary educator and I understand the importance of in-person instruction. However, we are facing a challenge that we have never seen before. I have watched the numbers climb in Kansas and the status of our state was moved to a critical level placing our state on a quarantine list for parts of our country. The health and safety of my family and my community is my highest concern.</p> <p>As more cities open and children participate in activities, we are seeing more children affected by this virus. Our children were protected through this by shutting down schools in March, canceling sports and practices, and closing playgrounds. I have to wonder if the low number of affected children correlates with these actions?</p> <p>Please support our Governor and delay the start of school. This will give districts time to review the plans, locate the proper equipment to keep our kids healthy, plan how to pay for this equipment, and most importantly allow the state cases to decline. Please show that you care about Kansans by taking care of our children and their families. Education will happen, I guarantee you teachers, parents, and school districts will make sure of that. Right now we need to adopt a growth mindset and be flexible with our vision for education.</p> <p>Thank you for your time!  Amanda Mykins  Olathe School District Resident  Former Blue Valley Educator (6 years)  Parent of 2 children</p>
7/21/2020 8:53:25	Dustin	Schwind		Wichita (Goddard USD 265 district)	<p>Families should be given 2 options; one, go to school as normal with reasonable accommodations for prevention, such as hand sanitizer and regular hand washing or two, online school. Any scenario in-between and we are kidding ourselves. It's not feasible for working parents to do alternating weeks are partial weeks of school and it does nothing to prevent virus spread. Regarding teachers, they can wear masks if desired, or if a teacher is not comfortable doing their job they are the ones assigned to online education. The CDC data barely supports this virus at epidemic levels (as its dipped below that level several times) and the data also tells us that kids under 18 are the lowest risk of the entire population. If families have members that have health concerns, they can elect their kids utilize the online option for school.</p> <p>I do not want to see our kids schools turned into "prison" camps with forced face masks, mandated isolation, formation lines for hand washing, and no group lunches or physical recreational activities. The CDC data and common observation does not justify it, plus when will it stop. This cannot become the new normal as we all know another virus will emerge in the future.</p>
7/21/2020 8:53:28	Jennifer	Rosenbaum	SMSD and USD232	Shawnee	Delay the start of schools, if you can't meet in person safely why rush to open schools. Cases are increasing why not wait before opening
7/21/2020 8:53:31	Derek	Rothstein	Home	Olathe	<p>I would expect that the state and the schools should already have the plan in place! I mean what have they doing for the past 6 months!!</p> <p>And the kindergarteners wearing mask? Really for 8 hours of the day !!</p> <p>Put a mask on a dog and see how long that last!</p>

7/21/2020 8:53:32	Afton	Lopez	Elementary School	Whichita	I am an administrative assistant and I have some major concerns about opening schools. The nurses office is attached to mine and when she goes to lunch, meetings, etc, I am the one who takes care of sick kids. I have 2 daughter's with health issues, one who had croup multiple times last year and she's only 2. Please let us take this extra time to prepare. I appreciate what our governor is doing and fully support her decision. Thank you
7/21/2020 8:53:35	Brian	Anderson		Overland Park	For the safety of our teachers, students and families, please keep in person schooling closed until we get our community spread under control. Thank you!
7/21/2020 8:53:43	Maura	Coleman	My two children and my entire family.	Prairie Village, KS	If businesses are finding it unsafe to work in person it is ridiculous to put children and teachers in a situation where they are working and learning in close proximity to each other. School should NOT be in person until there is a strict and clear plan for safety.
7/21/2020 8:53:51	Amy	Kidwell	St Marks School (Renwick USD 267)	Wichita	No school delay. Open as usual.
7/21/2020 8:53:54	Pam	Gassmann		Lawrence	Please don't open schools earlier than Labor Day especially if cases are still increasing. Children's safety is what's important and maybe if we delay opening we won't have to shut down again.
7/21/2020 8:54:03	Erin	Siemens		Holyrood	What's a couple more weeks going to help? Covid 19 will be here Aug 20 or Sept 9. Open schools when they were supposed to open. And wearing masks is not possible with little ones. They need school, friends, learning. Not online. Too many mental disorders are forming because of all this.
7/21/2020 8:54:01	Laura	Geist	Mother	Jackson County Schools	OPEN our schools fully and on time. No mask and No restrictions. Let our kids be kids! Stop the Political nonsense. Enough is enough!
7/21/2020 8:54:15	Jim	Renyer	USD 113	Sabetha	The science is saying, that kids are not at risk. If teachers are at risk, then place a tv in the class room, let the teacher zoom into the room with the help of volunteers. The schools must reopen as normal as possible for the kids sake, physically and mentally. Every person must remember what school, especially high school, meant to them as they make this decision. Never forget, in this debate, you will be taking something from kids you can never give back. If you decide to open after labor day, then what, it is just a step towards shutting it all down the whole year because 3 weeks will not make a difference with this virus, according to CDC, has little to no effect on kids. This note is being wrote by a 51 year old man that did not understand what school meant until after he graduated. I have encouraged my kids to enjoy school to its fullest. Proud to say my wife and I have had 2 top 7 in the class graduates and a valedictorian with 2 more on the way to finish in the top of their class as well. They are involved in sports, plays, band, musicals, student council and all school can provide. I am asking again open the schools as normal as possible. Thankyou. Jim Renyer
7/21/2020 8:54:19	Michelle	Rowe		Junction City	Please delay school. Also, it would be extremely helpful if there weren't snarky comments when we ask questions on Facebook. I also would like an answer the question this district has been avoiding. Will you push back the deadline for e-learning? You guys are close to demanding flexibility from your patrons (another word for customers, which please do not get me started on that) but yet will not allow flexibility for us. We have no idea how you're planning e-learning but we MUST make an "informed" decision. I'm very close from pulling my child from this district, as are several parents.
7/21/2020 8:54:23	Cynthia	Lanterman	Salina schools	Salina	If the fact that administrators won't meet face to face, but rather through Zoom meetings to protect themselves is not enough reason to support Governor Kelly, then think of this. You have a virus whose only purpose is to feed itself so that it can replicate and you want to open the "all you can eat buffet". Perhaps we should pull back a bit and be online the first semester to see if we can get a handle on this thing before we offer up children and school staff.
7/21/2020 8:54:24	Christine	Campbell		Wichita	I support delaying school until after Labor Day and masks worn by everyone in classrooms
7/21/2020 8:54:27	Caren	Corneliusen	Mize Elementary	Shawnee, KS	Kids need to be physically in schools!! Especially title 1 schools. In some situations students are safer at school. Also, high school sports make students feel confident and give themselves motivation to do well in school.
7/21/2020 8:54:28	Makenzie	Boltwood		White City	As a teacher, I think pushing back until September is a great thing. We should want every schools faculty, students, and families as safe and healthy as possible during this time.

7/21/2020 8:54:45	Colleen	Beason	Goddard High School	5602 W Franklin St Wichita Ks 67212	I think our schools need to open up like normal with adjustments like wearing masks in the high school and middle schools. Younger kids will not understand or keep their masks on properly. There are things that can be done to maintain safety without shutting down or delaying education!
7/21/2020 8:54:56	Kara	summer		Derby	Delay opening schools. Stand with science, our Gov.and protect our schools' staff. Don't let the hyperbole of describing a child as dying to learn become a reality. Live to Learn!!! Delay
7/21/2020 8:55:01	Lisa	Brown		Topeka	Schools should be closed until AT LEAST after Labor Day. Please do not bow to political pressure.
7/21/2020 8:55:07	Carrie	Cummings	Parent	Sedan	I believe it is NOT in the best interest of the students to delay school or delay the start of student athletics or activities. Even if we agree to delay school, students could still hold practices, just make adjustments (smaller groups/alternating days etc.). These kids are ready to begin school and a large majority of their focus lies on their extracurricular activities. I believe it should be a local decision, as we are not all affected in the state in the same ways.
7/21/2020 8:55:08	Lauren	Wood		Sedgwick	Unless schools have online options available please remain closed. We have an elderly individual in our household who is at risk and its already difficult enough keeping the child safe between two homes.
7/21/2020 8:55:11	Shelby	Simpson		Leavenworth	Delaying the start of school is a great idea because schools can watch other schools in the country to see what their spikes are like, we have more time to plan and implement the guidelines, and more time to get our school year online in the event that we have to do remote again. Yes, there may be some spikes after Labor Day, but it's better to have two full cycles of COVID run it's course instead of allowing that to happen inside a classroom.
7/21/2020 8:55:12	Jenny	Kleinmann	Parent/teacher	Overland Park	Open schools after Labor Day
7/21/2020 8:55:13	Kathleen	Feld		Shawnee	Uphold the governor's mandate delaying the start of school. Follow the science and don't send students and staff into a situation where there is a very high probability of getting COVID-19. I am both a teacher and a parent. I am terrified for my safety, my child's safety, my students' safety, and my colleagues' safety. Please don't make us go into a dangerous environment.
7/21/2020 8:55:17	Ronda	Smith		Hiawatha	I believe the largest issue regarding wearing masks and the start of school is a LOCAL CONTROL ISSUE! Most people I have spoken to are not against wearing masks or delaying the start of school, but do not want their liberties taken away. If those issues were presented in a manner that these are recommendations I believe people would accept them better. The outbreak of the virus looks much different in rural Kansas than it does in urban Kansas. Don't lump them all together! I'm a school teacher. The best learning takes place in the classroom NOT VIRTUALLY!!! I'm concerned that the divide between the haves versus the have nots is going to continue to increase. Allow students to go back to school at the regular locally assigned time with masks being optional based on local dept of health's opinions! Thanks!
7/21/2020 8:55:21	Ruth	Hanvey	Grandparent	Greensburg	Leave opening up to local school districts
7/21/2020 8:55:22	Jan	Cyr		Overland Park, Kansas	Please support Governor Kelly's executive Order 20-58. . .As a former teacher, I can attest that the time to plan for a safe opening after Labor Day is crucial to success!
7/21/2020 8:55:22	Erin	Gibson		Hays Ks	Yes delay!
7/21/2020 8:55:24	Lerin	Combs	Parent of USD 231 Student	Gardner	I would like to see schools open at regular time to get our kids back on track and learning.
7/21/2020 8:55:25	Caitlin	Wohler	Public comment	Sedgwick County	I am in favor of staying closed until after Labor Day or even longer if needed. Especially if we can avoid masks in schools.
7/21/2020 8:55:31	Rhonda	Lefferd	USD 450 Teacher/USD 337 Parent	Hoyt	I am asking the board to please vote in support of the EO. As a traveling teacher that attends three schools, my job is changing greatly and I need time to work with my schools to figure out how perform my job safely. Starting after labor day, will allow my schools and district to work together to gather the necessary supplies (our masks are on back order) and procedures to open school with the safety of the students at the forefront. I miss my students and job and will work diligently those three weeks in August to prepare my schools for September opening.
7/21/2020 8:55:32	Jessica	Schasteen	USD 450 Shawnee Heights	Lawrence	Delaying the start of school is something that is teachers will need to get the school year started. It will give us the time to get what we need to open our classrooms a little more safely but will also give us the time to get some professional development that will allow us to be more successful this year.

7/21/2020 8:55:39	Amanda	Meyer		Wichita	It's Disheartening to hear this virus being so politicized. I'm thankful Governor Kelly used science to make her decision and I support the decision completely. KS is the new hot spot in the country for Covid. The numbers (hospitalizations) are going up exponentially. Our community is at risk, and teachers should not be turned into first responders.
7/21/2020 8:55:46	Carolyn	Ramsey	KCKPS	Kansas City KS	As a first year teacher and residing in Wyandotte county I ask for the order to delay schools to be approved. I believe this will allow the mask mandate to take greater effect at lowering cases and will provide teachers and staff adequate training and preparation time for a school year unlike any other.
7/21/2020 8:55:47	Wayne	SUMNER		Derby	please delay the opening of schools
7/21/2020 8:56:03	Trisha	Logan	Parent	Wichita	Requiring children to wear masks hurts children instead of helping them. They are not passing the virus. We must value their mental health too. I think a quote in the July 12, 2020 Wichita Eagle made by a child currently in summer school speaks volumes. He said his favorite part of the day is when he can socially distance from his peers & take his mask off. I hope you can appreciate how significantly harmful this is to teach kids to stay the heck away from each other. And that getting away from their peers will be their only relief from the dangerous confines of a mask. I believe strongly that requiring masks K-12 will be more harmful than good. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.
7/21/2020 8:56:05	Debi	Corrigan	Community member	Wichita	Schools need to open
7/21/2020 8:56:07	Kian	Williams		Hutchinson	As a student, I fully support the Executive Order. My friends and I should not have to risk our lives as pawns in the partisan chess game. Please, protect the lives of Kansas's kids and delay school opening.
7/21/2020 8:56:11	Jennifer	Schwisow		Olathe	Please delay the start of our 2020 school year and allow our districts more time to implement COVID safety protocols. By doing so, I can assist my school in providing a safer classroom environment for my 20 students. Their safety and that of my family is of the highest concern and we need additional time to be prepared. Data shows the infection rate of the virus is not trending downward yet, further indicating that having students gather with lax protocols in place will be a dangerous situation.
7/21/2020 8:56:12	Shannon	Rothchild		Smith Center	Decisions should be made at the local level. That is why we elect public officials. Let the local school board decide when school starts. Let the local school board decide how the school should allow students to attend school. One size never has, nor ever will, fit all. Schools in Johnson County should not be managed the same as schools in Smith County.
7/21/2020 8:56:24	Mary	Turner	Parent	Hays,KS	Children and teachers will die if schools are opened. That is unacceptable. There is no justification for the preventable death of a child or teacher. Period.
7/21/2020 8:56:30	Bri	Frisby	USD 483	Plains.	Our school district sits in 2 different counties, both have voted that masks are not required due to the low number of cases and lower population compared to larger cities like Wichita, Topeka, and Kansas City. The rural communities should NOT be required to have our students and staff wear masks simply because larger populations do. If they choose to because that's what they feel is best for their household, that's one thing, but a blanket mandate is not what our area is in support of. Each time is has been given to our counties to vote on, they have voted against the mandate. One of the MAJOR reasons we live "all the way out here" is because of the space and the bubble this area provides verses the big city. Most people in Topeka think there is nothing past Wichita, or atleast nothing past Pratt, however, since the tornado, I'd give some the benefit of the doubt that they would say there is nothing past Greensburg. With that said, it's frustrating when we are forced into mandates that have nothing to do the size of our population. We chose to live where we live for a reason. Our town is less than a 1,000 people. Our school district has less than 700 students in 4 different buildings in 3 different towns/locals. We are capable of making the best common sense decision for ourselves. We do not need BLANKET mandates for an entire state when the states population has such a large variance. We are praying for you and our country, state, and local leaders. Please, let the locals in each area hear from their own people and make the decision that is best for their people.

7/21/2020 8:56:33	Amy	Tighe		Manhattan	As an educator I support this order 100% I don't want to have to worry constantly that I am going to be home without pay and have used all of my personal time that I am saving up for maternity leave in the future (since ours is unpaid) because I was exposed to the virus prematurely. This give our district more time to be prepare and our area to get the outbreak back under control. We opened up the bars too early in our area and went from 8 active cases to over 130. The mask order is helping bring that down, but I think these extra 3 weeks will give the masks more time to work. I want more than anything to be back with my students and guiding them to learn which I value greatly! But I also want to be set up for success rather than fearing for my life and my students lives and wellbeing.
7/21/2020 8:56:37	Paul	Fibelkorn	Myself	Edgerton	Please share with the KS State Board of Education to support the Governor in not starting school attendance until after Labor Day. Leaving politics aside, COVID-19 cases and deaths are increasing, and the possibility of future student and school deaths is real. Please consider the danger that our teachers, students and their families are in by rushing to open schools before the coronavirus is under control and/or a cure is found. Sincerely, Paul Fibelkorn Edgerton KS Teacher
7/21/2020 8:56:52	Julie	Weishaar	Just family	Abilene	Please delay school. Teachers need time to plan.
7/21/2020 8:56:55	Rebecca	Wilson		Halstead	I support Executive Order 20-58. We are all anxious for our children to return to school, but it is in their and the school personnel's best interest to delay the start of the school year until after Labor Day. If the majority of Kansans follow the recent mask order for at least the next six weeks, I believe that we can again flatten the curve of COVID-19, and we can then begin the back to school process. In the meantime, a delay will allow school districts to better plan for the reopening of schools as safely as possible for all involved.
7/21/2020 8:56:58	Jennifer	Slater		Pratt	I agree that the state should implement certain rules/restrictions that must be followed by all districts, but believe that local leaders should be able to most decisions in how school will operate in the time of COVID.
7/21/2020 8:57:04	Reed	Uthe		OPKS	In favor. Please give school staff the extra time to prepare and train to bring students safely back into the classroom.
7/21/2020 8:57:11	Chris	Lyon	My Household	Ovelrand Park	My family is not concerned about the virus. Please reopen schools and leave them open.
7/21/2020 8:57:19	Judy	Bosshard	Shawnee Mission	Overland Park	Please accept Governor Kelly's request to delay schools.
7/21/2020 8:57:23	Carolyn	Green		Mulvane	schools should delay. Please follow Gov. Kelly's lead.
7/21/2020 8:57:34	Phyllis	Chapman		Effingham	Yes children should be back in school they be out long enough and getting very bored not seeing other kids
7/21/2020 8:57:38	Katie	P		Lansing	I suggest remote learning is the best option. But at least this the school year needs to start at the earliest in September.
7/21/2020 8:57:40	Nick	Grummert	USD 262	Valley Center	Please make the decision to keep us safe and delay the opening of schools as the governor has ordered. As an administrator and parent, I'm walking the line of keeping my family, myself, my staff and my school families safe while also remaining optimistic and excited about being back in the building. Please keep safety in mind. We can always adjust the school year and requirements. We can't bring back lives or reverse the terrible effects of COVID when one contracts it.
7/21/2020 8:57:47	Michelle	Cunningham		Oakley KS	I do not agree with kids wearing masks. I have 3 boys enrolled in our school district and refuse to force them to wear a mask and live in fear. It's time to get life back to some sort of normal for them and stop letting our governor put mandates in order so long after this pandemic has been going on. We live in such a rural area and most of us feel we've already had some wave of this virus. Late start means late sports and my boys thrive off being on the field and court!
7/21/2020 8:57:48	Christopher	Lounsbury	491	Lawrence	I am very concerned about going back to school without testing, mask requirements for kids in elementary school and a massive lack of substitutes available.
7/21/2020 8:57:49	Micah	Veatch		olathe	we must uphold the executive order to buy our schools and teachers time to prepare to keep our children safe
7/21/2020 8:57:56	Cheryl	McFall	USD233 and USD231	Gardner	Open schools

7/21/2020 8:57:55	Sarah	Keller	Shawnee mission school district	Prairie Village	Please support the delay of the school year. This is a gift of time to help our teachers/schools/districts prepare to accept students and also gives us time to get the current outbreak in our state better controlled. Why are we in a hurry. We all want to get children back IN school and I intend to send my children to in person learning when it is permitted but right now we are rushing and we don't have proper systems in place since districts are just receiving the guidance now. Thank you. Please support a healthy, planned school year for our children beginning after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 8:57:57	Heather	Inich	My family	Basehor	I strongly agree with delaying the start of the school year until after Labor Day, if our district chooses to send children back to physical school. I have a child going into 8th grade this school year. I think it will be best for the delay so that the schools can make sure that all precautions are in place to ensure the safety of the staff, students and teachers. I also am in favor of the option to have online school again. While he misses seeing his friends and having some sense of normalcy, we all know that things will never be the same as they were last year. It will be hard for teenagers to keep social distancing practices in place and the masks will most likely be a distraction to the kids which will in turn distract teachers from teaching.
7/21/2020 8:58:03	Elizabeth	Durkin	Parent	Eudora	I fully support delaying school opening and providing schools with the necessary resources to open in a safe manner. While schools are a critical part of our society, it is imperative that the state supports and leads schools in keeping students, faculty and staff safe.
7/21/2020 8:58:06	cathy	kidd	blue balley west	overland park	open school asap. the kids are the helathieat & least likely to have issues with covid. they NEED school. NEED sports. NEED socialization. stop looking at postivie covid #s and start looking at those ill enough to be hospitalized!
7/21/2020 8:58:08	Cheryl	McFall	USD233 and USD231	Gardner	Open schools
7/21/2020 8:58:08	Kennedy	Sumner		Derby	schools should delay
7/21/2020 8:58:18	David	Sharp	Family	Caldwell	School needs to get back to normal as quickly as possible. This farce needs to end.
7/21/2020 8:58:36	Cooper	Sumner		Derby	schools should delay
7/21/2020 8:58:41	Erin	Loose	Parent of a Shawnee Mission Student	Overland Park	I agree with the Governor, this gives our schools more opportunity to get ready for more in person time and hopefully allow for our cases to decrease prior to school starting.
7/21/2020 8:58:42	Julie	Stielstra	myself	Ellinwood	We are nowhere near able to keep students, teachers, and their families safe at this point of the pandemic as cases and deaths continue to rise, and I can personally testify that compliance with masking and distancing is ignored by many. Many states begin school after Labor Day anyway. This small delay is only prudent (and probably not prudent enough). Pushing kids back into classrooms is foolish and dangerous; one sick teacher will force quarantine for dozens of kids and other teachers. Be sensible, be safe. Keep our KIDS safe and delay reopening. Alternatives are already in place - rely on them for now.
7/21/2020 8:58:39	Sarah	Legleiter		Salina	I think that school needs to resume in person. I have personally seen the detrimental effects on our youth through lack of structure and hope throughout this pandemic. I believe that if we take necessary safety precautions, we can provide our kids with a healthy learning environment on a normal timeline. Please consider the mental/emotional/social consequences of delaying school any further.
7/21/2020 8:58:56	Kristen	Hummel	Parent USD475	Fort Riley	I support the Governors order to delay the opening of school. This provides school districts and parents more time to prepare for the opening of school. The number of Covid-19 cases are rapidly growing across the state. This also allows time to see what will happen in the next couple of weeks. Delaying the start of school is not only wise for preparation but it is the safest option. The priority should be the safety of not only the students but the teachers and staff. If an outbreak occurs and our teachers become sick our kids can't learn anyways. Health and safety should always come first. The lives of students and teachers should be the priority. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 8:59:00	Terrance	Saunders	Blue Valley West Parent	Overland Park	I believe schools can safely and effectively start up with school and sports after labor day (Sept. 7th) as governor Kelly stated. We/ our kids need in person contact and sports (for those that want to participate) in activities due to social & emotional wellbeing.
7/21/2020 8:59:03	Daniel	Klinger	Kansas resident	Phillipsburg	With the virus increase all around us it is a very risky move to send students and teachers back to school. There has to be other options at least until the virus cases begin drop.

7/21/2020 8:59:03	Kerry	Perrier		Wichita	Delay school until Labor Day to help provide time for the virus to be better under control. Remember we are 2 weeks behind seeing what is going to happen due to the incubation time of the virus. The teachers & administrators will have more time to prepare & create strategies for productive teaching. Also, if the virus is better controlled the staff would be less at risk.
7/21/2020 8:59:03	Ashley	English	Teacher	Topeka	Please allow school buildings to remain closed so that staff and be properly prepared for the guidelines that were just recently released but much more importantly so that students and staff can be safe.
7/21/2020 8:59:08	Ann	Lounsbury		Lawrence	Please support Governor Kelly's Executive order so that schools can open safely. There are too many unknowns with this virus. Delaying could help us be able to stay in school longer and avoid interruptions. Protecting the lives of students and teachers should be the number one priority. Thank you.
7/21/2020 8:59:09	Danielle	Young		Eudora	We shut down school in the spring for very few cases in our county and now that cases are spiking we are going to open schools? Student health may be impacted mildly by the virus, but what about staff and those they take it home to? There is a large number of students raised by grandparents or have grandparents living with them not to forget the possibility of parents with underlying health issues. The 2nd highest group of positive cases in our county is 10-19 year olds. Opening schools and then spikes will only result in another shut down why start out face-to-face only to end up going remote
7/21/2020 8:59:11	Erica	Waters	None	Arlington	I agree with the Governors decision. Our counties chose to disregard any recommendations given by medical professionals and we are now in worse shape than when we shut down schools in March. We have to get a hold of the situation before sending kids and staff into classrooms face to face. Had political slanting not taken place, we probably wouldn't even be having this conversation right now. This is a public health issue, not a political one, and I am not a fan of politicians using Kansas kids as bait to try and force a return to "normal" when it's is not safe to do so right now. It is not fair that we ask school staff to put themselves on the front line of this pandemic when we don't even have a handle on the situation. I have a sister who teaches in Wichita. She and her husband are making sure they have wills and last wishes in order should she contract Covid and it hit her really hard. That is what we are asking staff to face should we return before it is safe to do so. The first decision to close caught many of guard and districts had to scramble to come up with lesson plans for distance learning. Having already done that for half a year, many districts are better prepared and have seen what works and what doesn't. I believe school can be done distance or hybrid without losing quality of education this school year. We have to let educators and health professionals work together to do what is in the best interest of students and staff and not force them into an unsafe situation. Otherwise we will see an even steeper shortage of teachers in Kansas. A problem we've been facing for a while.  If we want kids to have any kind of normalcy by the end of the upcoming school year, we have to be proactive now instead of just responding when our poor judgement results in big clusters. I have 3 kids high school and middle school age who want desperately to return to school. But, they also understand science, and know that it may need to be modified for everyone's safety. Masks and social distancing work, we have to be ok with that. At least for time being. If we don't follow suit now, I fear we will regret it. Please don't buy into the political spin on any of this. You are all educators. Trust science, facts, and the experts who are giving recommendations. It's your job to keep Kansas kids and school staff safe, please do so.
7/21/2020 8:59:11	Lori	Doolan		St George	Open school on time. We are ok wearing masks during school time. We need the option of starting in August not September.
7/21/2020 8:59:12	Carter	Sumner		Derby	Delay starting
7/21/2020 8:59:13	Chris	Sprague		Gardner	It is your responsibility to protect both the children AND the faculty of all the schools you govern. If medical professionals say it's not safe for everyone to return, you should not ignore this.
7/21/2020 8:59:21	Penny	Massing		Cuba	I am a teacher and a mother who supports the delay in reopening schools. We need time to plan according to the Change documents and mandates. And we want school to happen in the safest way possible.



7/21/2020 8:59:22	Kelly	Jorgensen	Citizen	Ottawa	I don't believe there is a good decision for school reopening. All options are bad. Having said that, I believe the governor's order is valid for the interests of public health and I support her decision. I am very frustrated that politics has thrown reasonable health precautions out the window, and put everyone's health in further jeopardy. Thank you.
7/21/2020 8:59:36	Susan	DeVore	Retired teacher	Lawrence	Please do not reopen schools until after Labor Day and even then only if there is a downward trend of new COVID 19 cases during the entire month of August.
7/21/2020 8:59:39	MK	Jones-Peterman	My family in Shawnee Mission School District	Overland Park	Delaying the school year's start is the right response to our current situation of rising COVID numbers. Gatherings of large groups of students across the state when our COVID numbers are peaking everywhere is a bad and entirely avoidable idea. Teachers need more time to prepare for contingency plans once districts finally hear your ruling and can choose how to proceed.
7/21/2020 8:59:46	Feiyan	He		Overland Park	Please start the fall semester on time, but I would like have my kids attend online class
7/21/2020 8:59:46	Craig	Tennis		Spring Hill	<p>First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas.</p> <p>Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote on the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <p>Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</p> <p>No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</p> <p>In response to the mandate delaying school opening statewide, please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>I am one of the over 6,200 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay.</p> <p>We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided.</p>
7/21/2020 8:59:49	Cody	Sumner		Derby	Follow Gov. KELLY, delay school
7/21/2020 8:59:53	Johanna	Noriega		Junction City	Yes to delay the start of the school year. Schools are in need of time to prepare. I would rather have e-learning for the entire first semester.

7/21/2020 8:59:59	Laurie	Bruce	Parent and Math Teacher Leon/Bluestem	Rural Augusta	<p>Are teachers essential or not? Are we doing more harm by keeping students out of schools? I am of the belief if we don't work we shouldn't get paid, if this threat was made I guarantee the "scared" teachers would be on the job. Day cares have been open, summer workouts at schools have been opened at many schools, camps, churches, gatherings, swimming pools, summer baseball/softball has been going on here...it is time for schools.</p> <p>And the mask mandate should be an individual choice. This is like instituting a school wide dress code. Why force everyone, including teachers, to wear a mask? I do not wear a mask and when I see anyone with a mask I can guarantee you they are very unsanitary. I see then touched repeatedly, stuffed in pockets to be put on right before entering a store, pulled down to have a conversation with someone...I have yet to see them used correctly. Just one more divisive and forced compliance issue. I live in a county that masks are optional, why as a public school teacher does the governor tell me in a taxpayer supported facility that I must wear a mask?</p> <p>The overreach has gone to far. Either teachers are essential or not?</p> <p>Thank you!</p>
7/21/2020 9:00:01	Robin	Wacker	Lansing USD 469	Lansing	As a food service worker in a high school, and a mother of a child with special needs (autism & ADHD), I'm VERY concerned about the safety of myself and my child returning to school as the number of coronavirus cases continue to increase. The virus is NOT political. The virus does NOT discriminate. We can NOT play Russian roulette with our health, ESPECIALLY when it comes to OUR children.
7/21/2020 9:00:24	Kasey	Winegar		Fredonia	I am in favor of pushing school back to after Labor Day so schools and educators can rightly prepare for the new world of covid and education.
7/21/2020 9:00:28	Anna	Nippert		Wamego	If the State School Board votes to uphold the EO, please also address the ability to give a waiver to the 1116 hours of required education time. The EO will either result in schools going way into June, or it will require decreased holiday breaks, spring break, etc. I don't believe either is in the best interest of our kids. Thank you for the work you do.
7/21/2020 9:00:30	Rev. Charles	Kerschen	Episcopal Church	Cunningham	Please keep schools closed until after Labor day.
7/21/2020 9:00:28	Marilyn	Fronk		Manhattan	Please vote in favor of delaying the start of school. We should take all precautions to protect our children, school employees and their families. This is the right thing to do.
7/21/2020 9:00:32	Erin	Giebler		Hays	Please let local school districts decide when to open schools and what restrictions to take. They will work with local officials, teachers, and parents to make the best decision for their school district. 1A schools and 6A schools are different and should not all be lumped together. It should be individualized.
7/21/2020 9:00:35	Darcy	Hoke		Manhattan	Please wait to send kids to school until we see considerable improvement in our local cases or a vaccine is available.
7/21/2020 9:00:56	Cassie	Crotts	USD 253 parent	Emporia	I agree with the governor's order to delay the start of school in order to allow time to obtain all necessary safety equipment, and that when school does open, masks should be used by staff and students. If grown adults are still balking at in-person meetings, how can we throw our kids into that fire. It's our greatest job to protect them.
7/21/2020 9:01:04	Jose	Izazaga		Wichita	Delaying start of school was great news to me. There is nothing more important than the safety of my children and their teachers. The worst decision that can be made is putting something else first before them.
7/21/2020 9:01:06	Hannah	Kemp		Overland Park	Do not delay the school year. Children need to be out of the home and around other adults to make sure they are safe. Child abuse, malnutrition, and Suicide are all things that teachers work hard to recognize, report, and see changed. Too many kids are hidden away at home right now in conditions we can't even fathom. Do it safely, but reopen.
7/21/2020 9:01:07	Katie	Jenne	USD 435	Abilene	I think it should be up to the district on when or how school starts. I have heard from our superintendent and it sounds like they already have a plan in place and supplies that the district will use for the school year. We are also a county with a low Covid positive count.

7/21/2020 9:01:16	Susannah	Schmidt		Manhattan	I don't think we should delay the opening of schools. Another wave will probably happen this fall/winter and we will have to close school buildings again. But we know that kids, especially the younger grades, learn better face to face. Let's get them in the buildings and learning now, before we have to move online! You are also inviting a lot more exposure into our schools if you let people continue to travel for long periods up through Labor Day. If we are in school, fewer people will travel and thus we will hopefully have less exposure for everyone.
7/21/2020 9:01:17	Melissa	Sherwood	Blue Valley	Overland Park	As a teacher I approve the delay. I am very nervous to go back and potentially spread the disease to my family.
7/21/2020 9:01:31	Stacey	Marney		Topeka	I believe the Board of Education should vote down the Governor's Executive Order and allow each district to make the appropriate guidelines for their students and staff.
7/21/2020 9:01:33	Tracy	Lindsey	My Child	Blue Mound KS	I feel we are doing our children a injustice by not allowing them to go to school. Put mask on them if need be. But get these kids in school. I don't care how but get them back in school. This whole Covid-19 has been blown out of proportion. Stop playing games for political purposes.
7/21/2020 9:01:38	Marcala	Skinner	Parent	Hugoton	This virus has been around and is going to be around just like all viruses and we can't keep closing, pushing back dates or canceling things. We will not build immunity to it if we stay locked up. Both our grandparents got it (ages 89 & 90) and they both survived, and they got it from their in home nurse. Stop being scared like the media wants us to be and let's show them how tough we really are.
7/21/2020 9:01:42	Torrie	Weber-Jones	Parent of High School S	HAYS	I fully support the the mandate that has been proposed. I want my teenager back in school, but not at the expense of teachers and students health. I live in a community that has done nothing to stop the spread of this virus. They refuse to wear masks, including our educators, citizens, and local government.....why would I trust any of them to do the right thing for our children and teachers. They have had all summer to make a plan to keep our children and teachers safe and they can't even answer simple questions on their plan to do that. No matter how you rule....I will not send my child back to school until someone can assure there is a safe plan in place for our teachers and children. This is not a time for politics, it is a time to come together for the safety of or children and our communities. Our local county commissioners last night said they were tired if hearing about it, masks don't work, and they delete any emails pertaining to wearing a mask.. this is the mentality of our community leaders.. so I don't for see anyone following the rules at schools either...they cannot be trusted to do what is right for our children and teachers. Thank you!
7/21/2020 9:01:57	Brandi	Balk		Assaria	I believe we should be sending our kids to school. I also don't think masks are necessary, actually I believe they would only provide a distraction to the younger kids. If we are taking all of these precautions for COVID then why are we not doing the same for flu season? We are only setting our kids up to fail in the future by not sending them to school as normal.
7/21/2020 9:01:59	Miaoju	Luo	My Kid	Olathe	School should start at its normal time. Teachers online teaching is fine if pandemic is spreading. Then in person class can be judge base on circumstance. Some classes (such as debate and PE) can be arranged outdoor to help to immunize the expose of the virus. Thanks.
7/21/2020 9:02:01	William	Friesen		North Newton	We must do the responsible thing and delay start until it can be done safely. Please pay attention to the science, data, and CDC and not the politics. Our students and our teachers deserve our respect.
7/21/2020 9:02:02	Ronald	Means	N/A	Hutchinson	For the safety of our children and school staff, I recommend keeping schools closed as per Governor Kelly.
7/21/2020 9:02:03	Robert	wise	Law Enforcement	Wichita	Schools need to open sooner rather than later. Most citizens do not see the way this crisis is affecting our youth. More kids than ever are needing a safe place like school to continue to get by rather that be with support or even a constant meal. Please open the schools at the earliest time.
7/21/2020 9:02:12	Gabrielle	Carroll	Geary County 475	Junction City	Please vote to start school "on time" (for us Aug 17). Kids need to get back into a routine. Parents need to get back to work. Continually changing the date and moving it back is stressful not only for parents but kids as well. Single parents, dual working parents, parents going back to colleges that are still starting on time, and even daycares are in limbo. We need a SET answer. Cases will continue to rise and fall as this is a virus and is GOING to spread. But we need to push forward as community and start living life again.
7/21/2020 9:02:16	Jara	Hansell		Gardner	Thank you. Don't wait to reopen

7/21/2020 9:02:18	Jennifer	Gay		Lawrence, KS	<p>I do not feel schools should open under the current situation with our COVI-19 positives and death climbing. To do so would either be to decide that we aren't going to try to minimize the horrible impact this virus can have on individuals in our community, or we are trying to open school to get a few days in before it has to be completely shut down (which I question weather it's worth that). I understand people need public school for childcare, but that is not the purpose of public school. Our society has put families in a position to have no bandwidth and resources in a crisis like this pandemic, and I do not think it is right to depend on public school to take on the burden of saving the day despite the public health risk for the teachers and the child. States that are opening schools as normal WILL have teacher and children deaths. I ask all leaders who have a say in our we proceed, will you be able to sleep well at night knowing year books will include pages for those who died due to COVID-19? There was this myth that children don't get it, but after a County in Texas found many infants infected, and the study out of South Korea found kids 10 and up pass this germ as easily (if not more because of lack of social distance) than adults) we know that isn't true. I understand lack of childcare will be a great hardship for some people if the kids are online, but let's call it what it is. I need for daycare. Here in Lawrence we have Boys and Girls Club that could help with that.</p> <p>I learned a few days ago a guy I went to high school died at age 37 of COVI-19. To say we know young people and their parents should be fine if they contract this virus is playing a game of Russian Roulette. We just don't know. Please consider making school closures and opening based on the level of infection in the state. We need to go in this proactively instead of reactively, which means not being in denial about our current situation.</p>
7/21/2020 9:02:26	Sandra	Pointer	None	Linn Valleu	<p>Why would a childs life be less important then an adult???adults are working from home, bars closed, small business you know whats closed. No to opening schools</p>
7/21/2020 9:02:29	Lisa	Cummings		Leawood	<p>I feel it is very important to get the kids back in school for their mental health. Humans need social interaction in a learning environment to thrive which they have been deprived of for well over 4 months now. Kids are bored and need structure. They tend to not retain a lot of their learning over regular summer break and with this big gap I fear kids have lost even more and we are jeopardizing their education and putting them at risk for failure. There has been plenty of time to prepare since schools closed in March and I believe we need to return to school as planned in August and not delay until after Labor Day for our children's mental well being so they can continue to grow, be successful and happy.</p>
7/21/2020 9:02:30	Janie	Bishop	Pratt County taxpayer	Pratt	<p>Open the schools up at the usual time. Students are getting behind academically. Students need interaction with their peers, and need to be a part of sports, bands, and clubs to mold them and prepare them for the future. Open up schools in August, students need to learn by teachers.</p>
7/21/2020 9:02:40	Todd	Elsen		Hays, Kansas	<p>I'm an educator at Trego Junior High in WaKeeney, Kansas and I support the Governor's plan to open school after Labor Day 2020. Reason one, this will allow all school districts to secure what they are going to need for opening schools. PPEs, disinfectant wipes, hand sanitizers, etc. Reason two, this will allow school districts to plan out how to social distance in the school building. I have gone back into my classroom and spaced out desks 6 feet apart from one another. I can fit 7 desks in my room. I have a class of sixth graders at is 43 students. With social distancing I would have 6 classes of 6th grade alone, I also teach 7th and 8th grade. The school district needs time to plan with the teachers how classes will work. I agree that we need to figure out how to get students back into the classroom, they need that socializing and community, but if we are to pull this off and stay in school all year we need more time, the Governor's plan helps give us that. Reason three, starting after Labor Day could help with allowing classes to open windows and getting fresh air into the rooms. This is not a political decision, when I went to school we started after Labor Day and finished after Memorial Day it isn't a big deal on the start date, the big deal is the safety of our students and staff. You our representatives in the state house need to listen to the people who elected you. If they are saying open after Labor Day approve it! This isn't about power, it's about safety, we aren't give up liberties wearing masks and open school after Labor Day we are thinking about the future. The world is a much different place now and the thinking of the past doesn't work anymore we must adapt approving this proposal is the first step.</p>
7/21/2020 9:02:53	Danielle	Yulich		Kansas City	<p>The health of our children needs to always come first and that is exactly what Gov. Kelley is doing with this order. I support it 100%.</p>

7/21/2020 9:03:03	Brandy	Schoenberger	Parent	Wakeeney ks	What will three weeks really help, these kids need to go back to school normally scheduled time!!!
7/21/2020 9:03:11	Amy	Reif	De Soto School District	Lawrence	Please keep schools closed until it is safe to return!!!
7/21/2020 9:03:12	April	Kohrs		Overland Park	Please support the order to delay the start of school to give schools time to gather supplies, adjust to safety guidelines, and to keep teachers and students safe.
7/21/2020 9:03:10	Cathy	Baker		Shawnee	I think that masks on children in school are detrimental to their health. I do not want my 2nd grader wearing one for 7 hrs aday.
7/21/2020 9:03:20	Rayna	Bolen		Pratt	Good morning, I feel that it is very important to get these students back into school to have a routine, structure, and somewhat of a normalacyfor that student(s). With that being said I think we need to wait til after labor day, so teachers have a concrete idea of how things are going to be ran and have time to organize and situate their classes, classrooms, supplies, have a plan if it is switched at the last second for online. I understand this is new territory for all. Yes we need to get kids back in school. Yes Teachers need time to adjust and prep for how the year will go. Vote after labor day.
7/21/2020 9:03:31	Rhonda	Zheng		OVERLAND PARK	We think it will be very beneficial to open the school on time, with online classes in the first 3 weeks before labor day. The students are in isolated environment, without online or in-person contact/study for too long. It created very high anxiety and stress to the students. Having online, teachers lead, structured classes will help the students go back to routine, start to focus on study, and erase some tension.
7/21/2020 9:03:32	Kerry	Anglin	USD 416	Louisburg	School should NOT be delayed. Science shows that with proper protections, children in school will have minimal risk. The greater risk would not be attending school. School districts have had 6 months to prepare for this, let the kids get back to school and continue their education. There should be an option that if some don't feel safe, they can start school at home. Delaying school for the entire state when the majority of the state is not in a crisis is causing problems for schools that are ready to begin classes.
7/21/2020 9:03:44	Sarah	Craig		Andover Ks	It's an over stretch. The cities that have let this run its course are seeing no flare ups this time around. Dodge city was a hot spot during the first wave and they're doing fine now. We have to let it run it's course or we'll never get over the hump. We have to protect the immunocompromised so let's create exceptions for them and let the virus run it's course.
7/21/2020 9:03:47	Shad	Allen		Saint George	My wife is an aide at Saint George Elementary School and it would be safest for her and my children to delay the opening of schools. Teacher and student safety need to be the first priority. Thank you.
7/21/2020 9:03:52	Marcie	Riley		Pittsburg Kansas	I fully support pushing the start date until after Labor Day. I vehemently disagree with the suspension of athletic training until then. These student athletes have been conditioning all summer without any student coming down with COVID-19. Please allow individual districts to implement what is best for their district. Wichita, Manhattan, Topeka and Metro KC area is far different than Pittsburg, Liberal, and other smaller districts. I trust my local administrators over Wagle and her backwards thinking group. She hasn't stepped foot into a public school since one room school houses were around. Her and many others are so out of touch with current realities.
7/21/2020 9:03:52	Christina	white		Gardner	I fullt support Gov. Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school. It is imperative our children, teachers and staff return to school safely. With the increase in cases of COVID, school should be delayed until a solid plan can be devised for whatever school will look like for this year.
7/21/2020 9:03:54	Cheryl	Standridge	Lighthouse	Overland Park	Please allow for the individual school districts to decide for themselves when it is best to open schools.
7/21/2020 9:04:22	Jennifer	Ludowese		Colby	I am for everything EXCEPT the face masks. There is more bad that can come from wearing a face mask all day long than no wearing one at all. Also there is no reason to hold school until September 9th. Let's start on time.
7/21/2020 9:04:28	Melissa	Vancrum	None	Lenexa	Please heed the warning of rising COVID-19 case numbers and delay the start of the school year consistent with the Governor's order. Sending children back to school too soon will be disastrous for the students, teachers and administrators and everyone else that they come into contact with in their lives. This virus cannot be contained without paying close attention to the warnings of our public health officials, scientists and doctors. It is too soon.
7/21/2020 9:04:29	Melissa	Salsbury	My family	Overland Park	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's Executive Order pushing back the start of school in Kansas until after Labor Day. This is a very easy approach to getting more traction towards achieving a safer school environment in September.

7/21/2020 9:04:32	Jolec	Berroth	None	Topeka	School year needs to start immediately after Labor Day. No more pushing it back. The virus is not going to be eradicated. We've slowed the spread enough. The risk kid to kid is minimal and even kid to adult is very low. We have to get back to normal lives at some point. You can't rely on distance learning until there's a vaccine. Half the people will not be getting it anyway. It's been fast tracked & skipped animal testing. Absolutely NOT safe to give to our children. And the virus will continue mutating - it would be like getting a flu shot - not very effective and have potentially dangerous side effects.
7/21/2020 9:04:31	Lesley	Weigel		Hutchinson	please delay start to ensure safety for families in Kansas.
7/21/2020 9:04:37	M	T	Public School Teachers	Topeka KS	Please look at science, Please look at the numbers, Please accept the Governors request. How can anyone think it is safe to open up school with the pandemic like it is right now in our county! Insane. If we open then I expect all all of you board members to be in our schools all day as well. It is ridiculous to assume that no one will get sick and die from this. 1 life is 1 too many in my opinion. I love teaching, but there are MANY MANY jobs that haven't even returned to work and they are adults who CAN social distance, we are dealing with children who can NOT social distance and adults who deserved to be treated like humans- not a science experiment. Please pass the bill, its 3 weeks. My school district ordered supplies in March and they are still not here. This gives districts another month to get all the PPE and disinfectants needed for our schools. There is simply not enough time if we go back August 5th. Teachers are to report Aug 5th and we will be having our building/district meetings via zoom- how is it ok then a few days later we put hundreds of kids in the buildings? No way. Please give districts more time to get it together!
7/21/2020 9:04:55	Miranda	Illoldi	USD 217	Rolla	Our school district has made it clear that they are implementing or have implemented all state suggestions and are over preparing for our original start date. We are a district of about 120 students K-12. I can understand the larger districts will take longer to implement state recommendations. I fully support the delayed start, but as a 4 day a week school I also understand that we would be in school into June if we do. I think waiting to start and being sure we are ready is important, especially with the recent influx in cases state wide. Even smaller population counties and communities reported large increases in cases over the weekend. I am also concerned that school staff aren't taking things seriously and perhaps aren't even acknowledging the medical importance of the situation and would rather make this political. That is a huge problem with my trust in the education system.
7/21/2020 9:04:58	Amy	Freeman	USD210	Hugoton	I would ask that you consider delaying the start of school until September 9 as the governors executive order states. This would allow teachers, administrators, and staff to prepare for the new mandates and make sure we are ready for a much different school year than we have seen before.
7/21/2020 9:05:00	Katie	Waalkes		Augusta KS	I urge you to vote down this executive order. While I and many others that I know are not objected to waiting on starting back to school or wearing masks this really should be left up to the individual districts. We can not prescribe a one size fits all response to this issue and can NOT vote in good conscience that this is the right thing for every person, in every schooling type, in every part of Kansas. I'm also deeply troubled by the fact that this order extended to all private schools and included in that all homeschoolers as we are our own private school legally. The government should not have jurisdiction over private entities in this way.

7/21/2020 9:05:08	Tracey	Keeling	Parent	Iuka	<p>I have a lot of concern regarding the executive order of delaying schools and mask wearing, especially in the elementary schools.</p> <p>As a mother of twin 6 yr olds, 1 who has a learning disability and is struggling to learn her alphabet. The delay of school, after they have already had 6 months off, only puts kids with disabilities that much farther behind. Of course as a parent I work with her daily, but I am not trained to help her the way she needs. If schools are delayed I am concerned the pandemic will only get worse in the winter, which will force another shut down. Then what? Kids with special needs has to wait another year and get that much farther behind. This is going to cause self esteem issues and kids at such a young age to lose any love of school or learning. That can be detrimental to the rest of their educational years. If this moves forward with a shut down there needs to be some kind of extra help setup for kids who have special needs. Something were they can get some 1 on 1 tutoring a couple days a week.</p> <p>As far as masks go, elementary kids will not be able to keep their hands off of them, I know this for a fact, because no matter how much I educate my 6 yr olds on the importance of them and not touching, they constantly have their hands in their face playing with them and each other's.</p> <p>Good luck with the decision, i know you won't be able to please everyone, and I truly believe you have all kids best interest at heart.</p> <p>Tracey Keeling</p>
7/21/2020 9:05:16	Julie	McEathron	KCKPS and Lawrence P	Lawrence	<p>Please accept the executive order to delay the start of school for students. Additional time is necessary to allow districts time to develop plans and train staff in new procedures to minimize risk for all. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 9:05:17	Gail	Ryan	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	<p>As grandparents who take care of our young grandchildren, my husband and I are both fearful for our own health as they head back to school. My daughter is also a teacher and is experiencing extreme anxiety over the entire situation. Allowing children to go back to school without buildings and teachers having the proper supplies and protection is not safe for anyone involved.</p> <p>As a former educator I realize the magnitude of what will have to occur for this to happen. I also realize the financial commitment this is going to cause the district.</p>
7/21/2020 9:05:18	Lindsay	Anderson	I will be a student teache	Newton	<p>Please the support the governor's request to delay the start of school. This gives schools additional time to plan and hopefully allows mask ordinances that have been recently issued across the state to slow the spread of Covid19 in our communities. The health and safety of our students and staff should be our top priority right now.</p>
7/21/2020 9:05:27	Deonta	Wade	Field Kindley High	Coffeyville	<p>This order leaves everyone in a reaction mindset instead of being proactive. I may be making this overly simplistic, but why can't we devise a plan of action for when a school or activity program is hit with a Covid case. I have yet to see a plan of action for what to do when this occurs. It will be naive to think it won't occur. As a coach we (by nature) have a plan for when things don't go out why. Also I understand moving the start of sports by, but what is the point of taking away the ability for programs and coaches to train their athletes? What good does this do? It seems to do the exact opposite. We have been going at in since June 1st and we have not had any cases. Maybe exercise is the medicine everyone needs.</p>
7/21/2020 9:05:31	Charis	Grosdidier	Eudora High school USI	Eudora, Kansas	<p>Local control is the only fair way to go on the issue of schools opening and on schools following guidelines. It's terrible to have a school of 200 following the same policy as a school of 2000! Kansas is a rural state, and should not be tyrannically ruled by blanket order. Vote down the EO in favor of local control!</p>
7/21/2020 9:05:41	Kendal	Berrey		Paola	<p>Please consider approving to governor's executive order. This will allow schools time to have everything in order to safely start the school year. I wish to reduce risk my at risk family members to exposure through these measures.</p>
7/21/2020 9:05:42	Lindsay	Bauer	Turner USD 202	Johnson County	<p>I support Governor Kelly's decision to close schools until after Labor Day. As a newly expectant mother, a few more weeks to get my mind and body right will do light years of good and truly make me ready to take on the year.</p>

7/21/2020 9:05:43	Nicole	Moore		OLATHE	<p>As a school nurse that serves a medically fragile population I fully respect and understand the necessity of in person school if it is possible. I am very tired of hearing the word "safely". Schools with this pandemic are a significant risk. Therefore, I think the reality and verbiage needs to be how do we "lessen the risk" not "do this safely". I am worried that cases are consistently climbing in our area. We need to see a declining trend before we open in a normal capacity. Additionally, I am concerned about the ability to maintain an appropriate supply of PPE and cleaning supplies for schools statewide. I acknowledge that many counties in Kansas have yet to see a lot of cases, but my fear is when these small communities, especially in rural areas of Kansas begin to see the likely climb in cases when school resumes how do they manage that when far too many of these small towns do not have adequate hospital space or resources. Typically, these communities will go to a large neighboring town or city, but what happens when that isn't an option because those hospitals are at capacity. I know we cannot shutdown over maybes, but I also would like to point out we are already see strain on the hospitals and this is before we have influenza return for it's normal season.</p> <p>As worried as I am for my own children in all that they will miss if they can't be in school "as normal", but I also worry that we will end up losing so many staff members in our schools that those mentally and emotional consequences would be greater. Even if we don't lose educators in a death sense, how many will face life altering side effects and complications from this illness. We have some of the best educators in the country and while in person is best I know they will continue to fight and do everything they can to support and teach students even if online. I'm also confused seeing all the meetings by companies, groups, organizations, etc. are limited by number of people that be present in the room, often there are plexiglass dividers, and often make Zoom (or other similar methods) the route to meet, but it is the expectation that all this goes out the window to have kids in school. I full support the use and wear of masks, but how in the world are teachers supposed to police this all day every day? How much educational time will be lost due to this? I know this is a complex and ever changing situation, but please remember that this extra time could literally be the difference in thousands of lives.</p>
7/21/2020 9:05:45	Eva	Rodriguez	Dodge City USD 443	Dodge City	<p>Why would they not open schools if they're having the DC Days Rodeo, a parade, the bars are open and PACKED, the Water Park is also open!! They're also having concerts/dances at the night clubs!!! Open the Schools!!</p>
7/21/2020 9:05:49	Alyson	Collins	Parent of three students	Olathe	<p>Please uphold Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of the school year. Teachers and administrators need that the to plan to make school safer for students and staff. And maybe that additional time will allow the trend in Covid-19 cases to reverse.</p>
7/21/2020 9:05:55	Sara	Pound		Valley Center	<p>Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day. There is a larger number of cases now than in March when in-person school was cancelled. Teachers and students should not be subject to virus exposure when places such as churches, movie theaters and other large gatherings are still closed/discouraged.</p>
7/21/2020 9:06:08	Seán	Riley	Blue Valley teacher	Overland Park	<p>Please uphold Governor Kelly's order! As a 3rd grade teacher we need time for our district and teachers to figure out how we're going to manage what is being asked of us. As it stands, we would have 4 days before students return to plan to start the year. That is enough time during a normal year but now there is so much more being asked of us.</p> <p>My classroom is structured for flexible seating which means I need to rearrange the furniture completely to create a safe environment for students. For mini in my building that means removing group tables and replacing them with individual desks. This is just one of the many things we will need to do to prepare and four days is not enough pushing to after Labor Day gives us time to plan and figure out how we're going to manage teaching in this Covid world.</p> <p>Please don't make this a political fight this is about what's doing what's right for children and teachers not a political game!</p>



7/21/2020 9:06:13	Kayla	South	Lenexa resident and parent	Lenexa (Olathe school district)	I support delaying school. At this current time we are having to make a decision without enough information about sending our children to school or not sending them to school. At this time being forced to make this sort of decision could be detrimental to so many. By pushing back the start date of school we will at least be given a few more weeks to take in the data and hopefully make a more informed decision on what is best for each of our families.
7/21/2020 9:06:22	Timothy	Wilkins	Self	Abilene	I urge all board members to except and support this order to delay schools. I am an experienced and respected public school teacher. Our schools are not prepared to implement what needs to be put in place to keep students and staff safe yet. Beginning school in just a couple of weeks as originally planned is not wise, safe, or healthy. Please support the governor's order to delay schools.
7/21/2020 9:06:34	Melissa	Kasprzyk		Topeka	The Board should approve the executive order and delay the start of school until after Labor Day. That additional time will allow teachers time to prepare for an unprecedented school year.
7/21/2020 9:06:37	Brandi	Reinert	Parent	Ness City	I do feel that delaying school is in the best interest of the students to start all of them at the same time. In our household both parents work outside of the home to provide for the family. Going to complete online classes puts us at a disadvantage to other households. As neither of us work jobs that can be done from home. Getting the kids back in the classroom should be a top priority and I do feel that can do that safely.  As for face masks my students are in PK and 1st. That is a hard age group for them to keep them on. And over time I know my 1st grader will wear one with minimal issues. I do have a problem with wearing them in the classroom and on the bus. With students that don't have to wear them for after school activities. I feel that if its okay to not wear for after school activities then that dismisses wearing them during the school day.  I am also a parent who does not go out to eat or walks into many shops. I do not feel that enough of our society it takes this seriously and I for one do not want to see my child sick and missing school because of someone else's choices during this pandemic.  Also, the questions come up about health of students. What are going to be the requirements to stay home with a fever? What if someone in the household must quarantine or has tested positive for COVID or the Flu? There are more questions than answers at this point that I feel each district or private school should have been addressing during the summer break.
7/21/2020 9:06:40	Laurie	Spencer	Family	Kansas City, MO. 2 sons	Please open the schools for our children
7/21/2020 9:06:41	Lori	Vilkanskas	Myself	Manhattan	Please do not delay school opening. It is critical that the children get back into the classroom and this decision should not be made by the governor, it should be made by the schools. Parents can decide if they want to take their kids to school, just as they have decided if they want to continue playing out of town baseball, going out to restaurants, visiting friends (which has happened all summer). I also encourage you to consider all of the children that do not have a healthy environment at home, and school is the best place for them. They need structure, a social environment, and of course a challenging curriculum (which is not found by home schooling). If daycares can remain open, why can't schools open as scheduled?
7/21/2020 9:06:42	Michael	Torkelson	Shawnee Mission School	Prairie Village	Waiting to open schools until after Labor Day is certainly an appropriate measure here in Johnson County. In rural, low population locations around the state, they may be able to adequately follow health guidelines for stopping the spread, but it's not possible in Johnson County schools. We need to enforce mask-wearing now to get this under control first.
7/21/2020 9:06:43	Xizhi	Zhu		Overland Park	There is no reason to have any state-wide restrictions. Kansas is a big state, and many counties have just few or even zero cases since the beginning. There's no reason not to allow schools there to open.
7/21/2020 9:06:43	Xizhi	Zhu		Overland Park	See the stats here: <a href="https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/160/COVID-19-in-Kansas">https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/160/COVID-19-in-Kansas</a>
7/21/2020 9:06:52	Cynthia	Howard		Colby	Please do not mandate that our children wear masks all day at school. I believe in frequent hand washing. Look at each district separately. Thank you!

7/21/2020 9:06:54	Brenda	Janzen		Oakley	If we are taking the necessary precautions: temperature checks, face masks, social distancing and hand washing, we do not need to delay the start of school. Schools should have been working on contingency plans all summer to be prepared.
7/21/2020 9:06:55	Kate	Murray		Salina	IF you plan to START school in Hybrid Mode or Online mode please start in August. IF you are going to start in September I think you should start full time- 5 day classes. If nothing, we have learned that it takes WEEKS for new routine to be put into place and kids to get into a good rhythm.- They have already missed out on so much. Require masks and get it started!
7/21/2020 9:07:01	Jay	Adkins	Teacher	Emporia	The protection of our students and educational staff is very important in making this decision. I hope you can see this as a nonpartisan issue and do what's best for Kansas
7/21/2020 9:07:05	Terri	Liggett	USD382	Pratt	I agree with the EO. I think that local people feel pressured to try to please as many people as they can and therefore are not always willing to do what is needed. Take the mask order for example. Originally our county opted out of the order and only came back to opting in after all of our local doctors wrote an article supporting it. Even with all of this a lot of residents are upset. If our community wants to stay in school in person as long as possible and our students have the ability to participate in activities I think that the EO's need to be implemented.
7/21/2020 9:07:12	Sara	Hayhurst	Public school	Rose Hill	As a parent and teacher, I am very concerned about going back to brick and mortar school. I am very worried for several of my colleagues and students that fall into the high risk category. I am also worried about taking this virus home to my children- who have decided to do online schooling this year. Please hold off on the start of school to give us educators time to adequately plan for online learning and give some time for numbers to hopefully go down so that some can get back into the school buildings. This issue cannot be only looked at from the viewpoint of how the children will be affected. The staff needs/concerns/risks should also be considered when making decisions.
7/21/2020 9:07:12	Ashlynn	Sandoval-Dooley	USD 266	Wichita	I stand with Governor Kelly. I believe that for the safety of our students, teachers, and other school personnel schools should remain closed until after labor day. Also, upon returning to school masks should be mandated. Please consider the safety of all when making this decision.
7/21/2020 9:07:16	Brenda	Gutierrez	North Central Kansas Fe	Salina and Downs	Vote to Delay  Delaying the beginning of school until after Labor Day will give local school boards and administrators time to digest the Kansas State Board of Education recommendations for opening school in a safe manner.  Many teachers, para-educators, cooks, custodians, school secretaries and administrative assistants and administrators are already in high-risk categories. They need every option and opportunity to go back to school safely.  County governments are doing what they are able to support the increased sanitation and disinfectant procedures but they also need time to absorb the cost and meet the new standards.
7/21/2020 9:07:17	Kim	Allison	Parent of Middle School	Pittsburg	The delay of school for several weeks to allow the schools to prepare for students in this new health situation is not an unreasonable request. Asking students and staff to wear masks to protect each other is not an unreasonable request. I urge you to enforce the governor's order. Don't listen to groups or individuals who make arguments against this order based on politics or unfounded fears. Stick to the science and common sense solutions to public health. This issue has nothing to do with individual freedoms—health and safety of Kansans is what to focus on. We can find a way to make sure our students still get a solid educational experience. We can find a way to give them their sports and arts and music. It's heartbreaking that my senior will not have the same experience as students before her, but the steps we take to keep the virus from spreading immediately only increases the chance for some normality. Vote to support.
7/21/2020 9:07:24	Jennifer	Frier	Summit Trail Middle Sc	Lenexa	Please give us time to make solid plans, safe practice routines, and adjustments to our new "normal" before returning to the classroom. It would be ideal to avoid starting and stopping several times. Let us meet as staff and solidly prepare for an after Labor Day start to school. Thank you.

7/21/2020 9:07:26	Lori	Gabrielson	Personal	Wichita	I am a local teacher. I so badly want to return to school as normal. I am fearful for myself and fellow staff members if we are to return to school under the current conditions. It is not the same as working in an office or even a bank and now stores where you can achieve social distancing and have the aide of a plexiglass partition. I have taught for 32 years and I cannot begin to tell you the germs I have "shared" with my students. I know it is a hardship for parents to have their students at home but these are extreme times. I think we cannot be ok with a few teachers dying. That may happen but it needs to be despite all of our best efforts to prevent that. If we can say we did everything we could and we lose students and teachers that will be different. Please delay school so that we can make our best efforts to keep teachers and children safe. I don't want to volunteer to be one of the few we lose... nor do I want my little neighbor to be the child who does get it and doesn't survive. I think a lot of this boils down to thinking about people and not a number. Numbers are anonymous but when you start putting faces to them it hits you a lot harder. Thank you for your work always but especially during this life changing time.
7/21/2020 9:07:26	Cari	Haning		Pratt	COVID numbers are rising so fast it's way too risky. The governor is correct putting children and staff in an enclosed space for such a long time is the opposite of what we should do right now!
7/21/2020 9:07:31	Jacquelyn	Forssberg		Pratt	I ask that we resume school at the 8/12/20 date already established rather than pushing the start date back to after Labor Day. Thanks for your time.
7/21/2020 9:07:34	Shandi	Lang	Self	Fowler	Public schools need to open according to their usual school calendars. Do not make us wait until after Labor Day and do not postpone school indefinitely! I teach Middle School. I am a mom to children who attend public school. This virus, with a 98% survival rate, is NOT the problem. The problem is children at home with no face-to-face instruction, sports, or peer interaction; it is negatively affecting our children! Let us resume school!
7/21/2020 9:07:47	Kayla	Rathbun	Self/family	Hays	I do not feel it is safe to reopen schools. Not even after Labor Day unless there is a significant drop in cases.
7/21/2020 9:07:48	Adam	Liebentritt		Overland Park	Kids belong in school. The long term social and mental effects of them being out of school are far worse than Covid. Even Children's Mercy has come out in the last week advocating for kids to be back in school. Elementary school kids should also NOT be required to wear masks. It will be a distraction, they will not wear them properly anyway, and it will effect there ability to learn as they will not be able to see other kids mouths moving and they will not be able to speak and hear as clearly.  Kids will get Covid, they will be fine, and they will benefit from coming back to school. The under 18 mortality rate does not warrant keeping these kids out of schools. They have already spent the summer in daycare programs, Y Care programs and team sports.
7/21/2020 9:08:04	Ashley	Nix	USD 332 Cunningham	Pratt KS	GET THESE KIDS BACK IN THE CLASSROOM.
7/21/2020 9:08:13	Kayla	Skiles		Wichita Kansas	I am a teacher at USD 332 and I believe school needs to start at its normal time. Kids need the structure of school and they need to interact with their peers. For a lot of kids school is their only safe place, for some it is a life or death matter! Our school is very small and able to follow social distancing guidelines. I also believe that children prek- 6 should not be forced to wear a mask. It will cause more problems than good! That is just begging kids to touch their faces more!
7/21/2020 9:08:28	Janna	Patterson	Parent of Special Needs	Olathe	Our kids have been out of school too long as it is. Not everyone is equipped to do homeschool and/or virtual learning. Children need education and social interaction to develop and thrive. We need to send kids BACK TO SCHOOL!
7/21/2020 9:08:38	Julie	Eddy	Goddard USD 265	Wichita	I fully support a delay in school beginning until after Labor Day.
					We want our kids in school full time. If grades 7-12 have to wear masks, we would be willing to do that to have them in school. However, we are sensitive to those who do not feel safe. They should have the option for online school.

7/21/2020 9:08:40	Charlotte	Muñoz	USD501	Topeka	As a teacher, I am asking that all in person schools remain closed until after Labor Day. Students should be able to learn online, but being in schools in crowded buildings is not safe. I am a caretaker for a child with Cystic Fibrosis, a terminal illness of the lungs. While we decided that she and our other children will be homeschooled this year, I will still be required in the buildings potentially bringing this home to her. Her grandmother, another caretaker of her, also works in the public school system. As a classified staff member she is not being paid. If we were able to learn online, she would be able to get paid and not risk bringing COVID-19 home to us all. Please consider the safety of our staff, students, and their families.
7/21/2020 9:08:46	Nick	Quenzer		Colby	No Late Start
7/21/2020 9:08:51	Gina	Lueger	My home	Beloit	I would like to see decisions regarding school delays or cancellations, as well as any relevant safety measures, left up to local school districts, as they know the local situation best.
7/21/2020 9:08:55	Jennifer	Schreiber	Blue Valley School	Overland Park	School needs to be in person with sports and extracurricular activities. The social and emotional benefits of this issue far outweighs any health risk from Covid-19.
7/21/2020 9:09:06	Darin	Snyder	Colby school district	Colby	I personally think these kids need to get back to school on time.
7/21/2020 9:09:08	Patrick	Murphy	my children and grandcl	Wichita	<p>Please reopen schools as regulary scheduled. The recent increase in positive tests is simply due to so many more people being tested. In April and May if you were a younger person or not in a high risk category, you essentially could not get a test. Now, virtually everyone can be tested. (I was even tested 2 weeks ago because my assistant had tested positive.) THERE ARE MORE CONFIRMED CASES NOW BECAUSE THERE ARE MORE TESTS AVAILABLE! IT IS NOT BECAUSE THE DISEASE IS MORE PREVALENT!</p> <p>Next, there is no compelling evidence this virus is meaningfully more deadly than influenza. The State does not modify school attendance each year when the flu becomes active and causes people to die. The State did not modify school attendance in 2008 when the H1N1 virus was active and causing people to die. The State does do not modify school attendance to account for the deaths of students, parents, and grandparents from traffic accidents as they travel to and from school. If you delay school this year for covid 19, then you must explain why you have never done so for the flu. A death is a death. Each year in the past you have knowingly allowed schools to function and children to infect each other and their families with the flu. People have died because of this. Any decision to delay schools now must have an accompanying explanation for why you allowed those deaths from the flu in the past.</p> <p>The question is not whether there is a risk of some people getting covid 19; some people will. The question is whether this risk is so great that you affect the students, parents, teachers, and the entire education community.</p> <p>Proponents of delaying or keeping schools closed primarily cite the asymptomatic carriers of the virus. They say students will have it; they will spread it to other students and staff; and then those people will unknowingly spread it to other people. If this is true, then you must agree that the disease is far more widespread than positive tests have revealed. If it is far more widespread, then the mortality rate is much lower than currently described. Therefore, the very argument for keeping schools closed defeats the argument about the risk. If an unknown number of people have it and survive, then we do not know the mortality rate. If we do not clearly know the mortality rate is higher than the flu or other risks, then we should not act as if it is. The reality is this virus does not present a verifiable risk that is greater than that of the flu.</p>
7/21/2020 9:09:19	Rebecca	Coyne		El Dorado	I am a kindergarten teacher in a small rural school where people do not believe this is real. As much as I prefer to teach in the classroom and love being with the kids I am nervous about going back because I don't feel like it is safe. I am good with postponing our start date but even starting in person after that I am still so nervous to do.

7/21/2020 9:09:28	Melissa	Pinkney		Hays	<p>I live in a county where the rate of infection is on the incline. Our local leaders decided last night to say no to the mask mandate, for the second time, despite knowing our numbers were climbing. I can only imagine our numbers will get worse before they get better.</p> <p>As teachers, we are told our students learning is affected by their feeling of safety in their environment. Do we want kids showing up to school afraid, no, never, but we should also think the same for our teachers. Workers should feel safe in their environment, period. Our aging staff who cook, clean and work support jobs at our school need to be thought of, not just the students.</p> <p>If there is the slightest bit of hesitation in your decision, err on the side of caution. That's what any good parent, boss or logical adult would do. I plead you think about the safety and well being of all individuals that make up a school. You can't learn when you are dead.</p>
7/21/2020 9:09:32	Megan	Hoadley	USD 259	Wichita	<p>I am a school counselor in the best and largest district in the state of Kansas. At my school alone, we serve over 1700 students. I am very concerned about the health and safety of my students and staff at my school during this pandemic. Having an autoimmune disease myself, I am labeled high risk if exposed to COVID-19. Our district is no where near prepared as far as sanitizing and properly ventilating our facilities. We were down the number of custodians necessary to staff our building during the 2019-20 school year, are we going to have an adequate amount of staff sanitizing our buildings on the hour every hour when school begins? Who is going to stand at the entrance and make sure no one has a fever entering the building? Many parents already send their sick children to our school as it is. How are masks going to be properly be enforced for staff and students? Social distancing?! Our school only has one lunch period and halls and crowded. Our passing periods alone have no room for anyone to get through. I have no choice but to work because I am single and this is my only income. Don't get me wrong, I would rather be at work anytime, but as of now I do not feel safe with our COVID numbers so high in our community. People are still mass gathering without masks and not taking it seriously. I know because I see it on my social media feeds. The parking lots at places in the city prove it. Please consider waiting until after Labor Day to open our schools fully. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 9:09:32	Wanda	Beitz		Topeka	<p>Please give our schools more time to plan a safe return to our schools. I hope you will support the Governor and not let politics influence your decisions.</p>
7/21/2020 9:09:45	Kris	Kasprzyk		Topeka	<p>The board should approve of the executive order and delay the start of school by 3 weeks. This additional time will allow teachers to adequately prepare for an unprecedented school year.</p>
7/21/2020 9:09:52	Tina	Greim		Manhattan	<p>In my opinion waiting until after Labor Day is not a bad thing for the safety of our children and teachers. I think we should give K-State a chance to open up and see what happens before opening up our public schools around the same time. I also feel this gives our schools more time to prep and implement safety measures that are needed.</p>
7/21/2020 9:09:53	Sarah	Meitner	My family	Hays	<p>Please uphold the Governor's order to delay school openings. My husband is a principal and I can assure you, the schools need all the time they can get to enact a safe back-to-school procedure. I really want to send my kids back to school, but I need to know it's safe and smart. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 9:09:55	Jeff	Burns	Self	Cherokee	<p>I support Executive Order 20-58. Keep our kids home and safe. If schools open without proper supplies, equipment or funding we are risking everyone. The teachers need our support.</p>

7/21/2020 9:10:01	Mariah	McDowell		Wichita	<p>I am a middle school teacher in the Wichita area. Like all educators, I am eager for my students to get back to school and receive the in-person learning and experience we all know they need for not only their education, but also for their mental health, social development, etc. However, I want reopening schools to happen when it is SAFE for students and staff to return to in-person learning. Right now the number of COVID cases in Kansas is on the rise. I am hopeful that with the mandatory mask update in place, we as a state and county will be able to get those numbers under control so that a safe return to school is possible by the September 9 deadline set by Gov. Kelly. I fully support her decision to push reopening schools for these few weeks in order to get our state under control. To return while the number of cases is surging, and to consequently put our children, teachers, administrators, support staff, bus drivers, kitchen employees, custodial crews, etc. at risk of contracting this virus, not to mention potentially bringing it home to other susceptible loved ones, is putting countless citizens at unnecessary risk.</p> <p>Yes, staying out of school indefinitely is detrimental to the education and mental well-being of our students, but what will their mental well-being be like when one of their classmates or teachers dies of COVID? Research is unclear at this point on whether or not students are less likely or as likely as adults to spread the virus. Current studies have shown older students, middle and high school age, spread the virus at the same rate as adults. And the fact is, students haven't been in schools since March, so returning to school could cause a massive leap in COVID cases among children, simply due to being in the same confined spaces and sharing the same germs, even with preventative measures like masks and attempts to socially distance.</p> <p>Will we look back with hindsight and say we pushed to reopen schools too soon, much like our economy? We've already seen the secondary spike that can occur when reopening too quickly and the damage it can cause. We all have the same goal: to keep our citizens, and children safe, while finding a way to return to 'normal'. Governor Kelly's plan gives us a safe option for doing so. I encourage you to delay the opening of in-person learning until our state has this virus better contained, and our children and staff are at less risk of contracting this harmful and deadly virus.</p>
7/21/2020 9:10:01	Heather	Gieber	East Elementary Republ	Belleville	<p>I have an incoming 4th grade student this year. She is an excellent student, in a structured classroom with an actual teacher present face to face. She has been home since March 17. She is an only child. Her mental health is suffering. She needs structure and community. Her final 9 wks of 3rd grade was done online, she did not grow and learn academically in those 9 weeks. She participated fully in those 9 weeks but was very frustrated in the delivery. Please veto the governors order and send these children back to the only way they know how to learn.</p> <p>Sincerely  Heather Gieber  Republic County  East Elementary Belleville KS</p>

7/21/2020 9:10:04	Meg	Godderz	Mother of 3 children all	Overland Park	<p>Thank you for your commitment to all the children, teachers and administrators in Kansas. I am a mother of three children (a senior and sophomore in high school and an incoming 6th grader to Middle School). I have a genuine vested interest in this matter.</p> <p>I do not have a strong opinion about waiting until September to start the school year if the BOE believes this is what needs to be done to keep everyone safe. I do, however, have a strong opinion about in-person vs. virtually learning. I want to express my strong support for an in-person school option. I know these are strange times and keeping everyone (teachers, staff, and schoolchildren) safe, obviously must be at the forefront of any discussion. Many businesses have adapted and made modifications for safer environments and I don't see any reason that schools can't do the same. Yes, schools will have teachers that have underlying health conditions, so adjustments can and should be made for those individuals.</p> <p>But staying healthy is a complex matter and has many facets, including both physical, mental, and emotional health. Our school system prides itself on being a place where kids not only learn academically, but is also an environment that fosters and encourages the emotional development of our kids, whether that's from athletics, clubs and other extracurricular activities, to the social network and friendships kids develop with their classmates. All of these aspects play a strong and vital role in the mental health and maturity of our kids. School is one of only avenues that kids can get this critical element of development, and cutting this off will rob kids of this opportunity.</p> <p>I realize you are considering many different points of view from the students and parents to the teachers and administrators, and I trust that facts, not fear, will be the driving factor behind whatever decision you make. I am also assuming you have received many opinions on this matter. I do not envy the decision that you have in front of you. Ultimately I do believe this decision will set the tone for the upcoming year, and I believe an in-person option needs to be available.</p> <p>So, please accept this email as a parent of 3 children attending Blue Valley schools, and that there are many of us who believe that on balance, benefits of having kids return back to school (with whatever modifications need to be made to</p>
7/21/2020 9:10:09	Briena	Matzke	Kindergarten Teacher	Lawrence, KS	As a kindergarten teacher, I have been having major anxiety attacks about the school year starting. With 5 year olds, it is difficult to keep them away from one another to begin with, nonetheless 6 feet apart. I fear it may also be difficult for them to learn online if there is not proper resources. Allowing schools to start after Labor Day would give teachers an extra few weeks to plan and be 100% prepared for the coming of students. I am extremely excited to meet my new kindergartens and get closure with the ones I didn't get to say goodbye this past year, but please give us the time to properly prepare for this by allowing schools to reopen after Labor Day!
7/21/2020 9:10:10	Sarah	Holmes		Olathe	Please keep KS schools closed till after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 9:10:14	Virginia	Schumacher	Self	Topeka	I support gov Kelly. With the recent mask orders let's give us a chance to bring the cases back down before we start school back up. It used to start after Labor Day anyway. Could we lengthen the days by about 30 minutes of necessary So they get a little more time in school?
7/21/2020 9:10:14	Jessi	Helmer		Marion	I am in support of the delay to start school. I also feel it would be in everyone's best interest if online school was to take place until after Christmas and see where the virus numbers are at then and reassess. Sending everyone back to school in large groups is only going to make the spread of the virus worse. Making the kids wear a mask all day, even those who ride the bus to and from school, is going to be very hard for most kids, especially with the temperatures being high. How effective is school going to be if you have to wear a mask all day and be 6 feet away from your friends. I feel it will really wear some kids down.
7/21/2020 9:10:14	Amanda	Baker	USD 330	Topeka	Open schools back up! Day cares have remained open and deemed essential, posing just as much of a risk to children. Pools are open in Shawnee county (without a mask requirement). Restaurants are open. Stores are open. It is time to open our schools back up. Children have needs. Education should be deemed essential. Working parents will have to seek day care for their elementary aged students any way, which poses just as much of a risk. Open back up with precautionary measures implemented (masks, frequent hand-washing, hand sanitizer, sanitizing equipment/surfaces/etc., social distancing). Children need face-to-face schooling!

7/21/2020 9:10:17	Chad	Kerr		Dodge city	We need to get our kids in classrooms with teachers doing there job in August not September! Sports should already be started and continue as planned for August start. Kids are depressed and need socializing and sports to be healthy. Look at current suicides amongst school age kids in Kansas compared to Covid deaths in same demographic. Let's get our children back in school and save lives.
7/21/2020 9:10:18	Angela	Stuhlsatz		Derby	You should support the delay. This will give schools the time to get procedures and supplies in place to make sure our children and school faculty are as safe as possible. All precautions should be taken and a couple of weeks delay to create a more safe environment for students and staff will do more good than harm.
7/21/2020 9:10:39	Mariah	McDowell		Wichita	<p>I am a middle school teacher in the Wichita area. Like all educators, I am eager for my students to get back to school and receive the in-person learning and experience we all know they need for not only their education, but also for their mental health, social development, etc. However, I want reopening schools to happen when it is SAFE for students and staff to return to in-person learning. Right now the number of COVID cases in Kansas is on the rise. I am hopeful that with the mandatory mask update in place, we as a state and county will be able to get those numbers under control so that a safe return to school is possible by the September 9 deadline set by Gov. Kelly. I fully support her decision to push reopening schools for these few weeks in order to get our state under control. To return while the number of cases is surging, and to consequently put our children, teachers, administrators, support staff, bus drivers, kitchen employees, custodial crews, etc. at risk of contracting this virus, not to mention potentially bringing it home to other susceptible loved ones, is putting countless citizens at unnecessary risk.</p> <p>Yes, staying out of school indefinitely is detrimental to the education and mental well-being of our students, but what will their mental well-being be like when one of their classmates or teachers dies of COVID? Research is unclear at this point on whether or not students are less likely or as likely as adults to spread the virus. Current studies have shown older students, middle and high school age, spread the virus at the same rate as adults. And the fact is, students haven't been in schools since March, so returning to school could cause a massive leap in COVID cases among children, simply due to being in the same confined spaces and sharing the same germs, even with preventative measures like masks and attempts to socially distance.</p> <p>Will we look back with hindsight and say we pushed to reopen schools too soon, much like our economy? We've already seen the secondary spike that can occur when reopening too quickly and the damage it can cause. We all have the same goal: to keep our citizens, and children safe, while finding a way to return to 'normal'. Governor Kelly's plan gives us a safe option for doing so. I encourage you to delay the opening of in-person learning until our state has this virus better contained, and our children and staff are at less risk of contracting this harmful and deadly virus.</p>
7/21/2020 9:10:35	Caroline	Harris	Belinder Elementary	Prairie Village	<p>What will happen when there is an outbreak at school?</p> <p>How will the students at school learn with the direction and instruction from their teacher. Our students need connection and engagement to their teachers regularly (not like spring semester)</p> <p>How often will the districts plan be re-evaluated? Weekly/monthly/quarterly?</p> <p>Has the school considered outdoor learning for students to have more space, fresh air and the ability to stay distanced with her mask off?</p>
7/21/2020 9:10:45	Albert	Friesen	Plains and kismet	Plains	I say open up schools and not to make the kids wear a mask
7/21/2020 9:10:50	Meghan	Schippers	USD 385	Maize, KS	I fully support this executive order to delay the opening of schools until Labor Day. I would also support further legislation requiring schools to be online only until vaccinations for COVID 19 are administered or until community cases are eliminated. I am a teacher. The health risk to my students, my colleagues, and our families is irresponsible and unfair.
7/21/2020 9:10:50	Brian	Rouse	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	Accept Laura Kelly's request for delaying school until after Labor Day.



7/21/2020 9:10:51	Ryan	Zimmerman	none	Lenexa	I have kids both in Olathe and Lenexa school district. I support a late start, past Labor day, to allow faculty to continue to make safety precaution adjustments
					I do not want for my children to lose any more time with their education. We are putting the future of our children at risk by keeping them home and isolating them. We all know from birth and even into adulthood, babies, toddlers, teens, and adults thrive on human interaction. They need to be around their peers for their mental health which we can argue is just as important as their physical health (which i think we can provide solid evidence is not at risk nearly as much right now as their mental health). I have spoke with several parents of children that are greatly concerned for their children's mental state of being right now. I am asking you all to please speak with several pediatricians, speak with parents, speak with the children around you before making your decision. Kansas is not New York our hospitals are not overwhelmed. There is no reasonable reason for the delay. If this virus was really going to harm the children i cant imagine a three week delay changing the lethality of the virus. And as for forcing children to wear a mask I feel like it is absolutely ridiculous. Children already have a hard enough time focusing. I feel that all this is going to do is cause teachers to have a harder time teaching children who will most undoubtedly be anoid with a mask on their face. I am also gravely concerned for the unknown health side effects that will come with wearing a mask for hours on end. I personally promise that if anything happens to my children because they are forced to wear a mask all day i will have no issue with suing the board of education and anyone else who enforces this rule without having hard evidence to prove their are no negative health effects to wearing a mask for hours on end.
7/21/2020 9:10:51	Vanessa	Raub		Wamego	The districts across the state of Kansas are fortunate to have dedicated and committed educators, but they are not the only group of people who educate our kids. How about the paraprofessionals who are often paired with vulnerable students, lunch staff, janitors, bus drivers and monitors, and volunteers. Kansas has some of the best teachers (and a community of educators within each district) with the lowest earnings, reduced resources, and trying times. They keep coming to school. They keep teaching our kids. They keep doing their jobs. They don't do it for the money, and they do it out of love for every student they've ever had or will have.
					I support the delay. I also understand why others do not. I understand the push back on a one-size-fits-all approach, but we've proven as a state we can't handle going the other direction. I know that we are concerned about jobs and a host of other concerns. However, if we don't start the year off right - we'll be right back where we were in March. We have to approach this in a united front. Lead by example and unite for our communities. Teach our kids that we can be part of the solution, not be part of the problem.
					Kids learn by example. Let's provide an example.
					The one thing we can do for our community of educators is to allow them an extra few weeks to prepare. Some teachers will need to adjust to fill in if required due to the lack of subs. They'll not only do double work to prepare for instruction, but they need time to prepare for increased responsibility if a coworker gets sick. Give teachers and educators the grace we expect from others and that we have granted others. Make it possible for districts to pay hourly staff or provide resources or training needed to keep those folks employed. They are hard to come by.
					We praised educators in March when they changed abruptly. We expected a lot from them. They handled it. They became not only a teacher but a parental support system and had to do it remotely. Let's not call them selfish and lazy because they don't feel safe in July. We wouldn't accost any other group for that fear. We'd protest for them.
7/21/2020 9:10:54	Sarah	Farlee	Community Member/Sc	Lawrence	Let's use this time from now until September 9 to be leaders in our communities, promote the use of masks, social distancing, and work together to move forward.
7/21/2020 9:10:58	Frank	Tra	Self	Wichita	I am a high school wrestling coach. I want nothing more than to find a way for our athletes to compete IF it is safe for them and their families. We must listen and adhere to the science. If cases rise then deaths will increase. If a delay will give us a clearer picture whether to have in school classes or to find an alternative I strongly suggest we support that course of action.

7/21/2020 9:10:59	Jeff	Wenzl	Parent	Overland Park	I have to believe you know if we are starting in the classroom or virtually at this point. You have had months to plan. If virtual, there is no reason to delay the start. If in the classroom (greatly desired), kids already have masks as they are required to go anywhere in public. Don't politicize our children's education. Districts should be able to decide what is best for our local community.
7/21/2020 9:11:03	John	Mackey		Bonner Springs	<p>I am very concerned about students and staff returning in-person. I am a 3rd grade teacher. I want to be back in the classroom with my students, but I don't think it is currently safe to return. My classroom is not large enough to allow safe social distancing. I live with an immunocompromised individual and worry about what germs I may bring home to her.</p> <p>I also worry about the quality of education students will receive if we return in person. We won't be able to have small groups, physical interaction, or even see each others' smiles. Students' Social-Emotional education is one of the reasons we send them to school, but if they return now they will be returning to a social-emotional desert. Why risk going back to schools and people getting sick - possibly dying - if we can't provide a quality experience and environment?</p> <p>I strongly encourage the state board of education to support Governor Kelly's executive order and delay reopening until after Labor Day. If we're going to have to go back and risk our lives and student lives, at least give us some time to plan for it. Refusing to support this executive order would be a blatant disregard for the health of Kansas and a slap in the face to school staff who already sacrifice so much for students.</p>
7/21/2020 9:11:05	Susan	Wright	None - retired school tea	Wichita	Please vote to hold off opening schools until it is safer for kids and staff. There are huge challenges to prepare to safely reopen. We need time. We need wisdom. We especially need time for this virus to subside because folks are starting to wear masks. We need to figure out how to respond when someone becomes sick. Vote for the long term best and uphold Gov Kelly's mandate. Please.
7/21/2020 9:11:09	Laura	Hayden		Olathe	I support Governor Kelly and her decision to keep schools closed until after Labor Day, or as long as is needed for public health. Yes, children need to be educated, but they need to be alive as well.
7/21/2020 9:11:08	Cathleen	Crow	Crow Family	Derby	I work as a sped para for Derby USD, but I am also a parent. I am also a wife to a Leukemia patient. I am scared. I am mad. I love my job and my students but I'm also a Mom of a soon to be 9th grader. A child who has a diagnosed kidney issue. A wife of a 20+ military veteran who has been working from home since March for his health & safety. I am begging you to at least postpone school until districts can get a better handle on the lengthy process they are going to have to implement to ensure everyone's safety. Please don't make this political. Please don't make this about your opinion. This is for the children, our future. Please do the right thing!
7/21/2020 9:11:11	Angela	Degnan	Parent	Overland Park - 66213	I have a student with an IEP. He needs services sooner than later. However, I want to ensure schools are set up and precautions are in place to ensure a safe return to school. Safety is a priority, but my son needs services to return to in person so that he can receive an appropriate education.
7/21/2020 9:11:12	Tracy	Cook	Usd 229	Stilwell	I completely support this decision!
7/21/2020 9:11:40	Elise	Rottler	SMDS	Overland Park	No! People are back to work, meaning now additional childcare needs to be found for working parents. Personally working in the outpatient facility in the medical field we are only wearing masks and eye protection. That being said our volumes of patients we have seen has doubled since the stay at home order was lifted. In the hospital setting we are giving no more than what a teacher would be given. Parents are struggling and need their children to return to school. Take safety precautions and things could resume!

7/21/2020 9:11:38	Danielle	Jewell		Kiowa	This does not need to be a “one size fits all” order. We live in a small, rural community where our kids have been fully participating in swim meets, summer basketball, summer weights, etc. They are all working hard preparing for the fall seasons since so much was taken from them in the spring. Our county, and those surrounding it, have not seen a rise in COVID numbers at all. Why should all their work suddenly be halted? Our class sizes are small enough to maintain “social distancing” within the walls of our school building. We could even adjust schedules for transitioning in hallways. We could even do this safely without the distraction and restriction of masks, just as these kids have been functioning , surviving, and once again thriving, this summer! This order does not fit every school, community, or county. In fact, the statewide numbers represented with this order do not even back the need for this decision in relation to daycares, sports, school activities, etc. However, it is much easier to see, even without a graph, the need for socialization, peer interaction, teacher feedback, and participation in athletics, activities, organizations, etc. These things are absolutely vital to the growth and development of our youth!
7/21/2020 9:11:43	Andrea	Jack-Murdock		Pratt	Many pediatricians have voiced their opinion on this issue and feel it’s safe for children to return to school. I feel they should go back to school as well. There were many actions our school district were taking to keep everyone safe. I also don’t think this should be a state wide issue. Some counties are still do not have cases. Why treat the entire state the same?
7/21/2020 9:11:44	Rebecca	Remengesau	USD 475 Parent of 3	Junction City	Great job! In pushing the start date back for our children. I know you guys are doing the best you can for our children!
7/21/2020 9:11:46	Shaun	Watts	Myself	Hutchinson	Keep schools closed through Labor Day.
7/21/2020 9:11:48	Terri	Warf	USD 450	Berryton	Many teachers had not received copies of our districts reopening plan until last night, and then only a working draft. We have not had time to fully understand new safety guidelines or receive training, we have not had time to collaborate with peers to revamp lessons and be sure they are in alignment with the KSDE 1000 page document. Teachers need the additional time to plan and prepare for in person and more importantly, online learning when that occurs, as it will no doubt occur at some point this year. Spring was not our best work. We’ve had training on online instruction and need time to implement. Please allow us the necessary time to do so. Thank you!
7/21/2020 9:11:49	Ada	Welch		Pratt	I think delaying the school year is a good idea. Honestly, I want school to be offered as a mix of both online and a little in class. I don't feel like its safe to go back at all yet. I work with people who are immune compromised, I don't want to risk getting them sick, I don't want to risk my kids getting sick and I don't want to get sick. Keep them home a little longer, make masks mandatory, and enforce the mask rule.
7/21/2020 9:11:51	Jennifer	Kelly	Parents	Salina	Childrens immune system is slowed down utilizing mask I feel mask should be a choose for parent to make
7/21/2020 9:11:52	Dawn	Meis	Manhattan High School	Manhattan	I support pushing the start of schools back to after Labor Day. As a parent I want my child to have as much of a normal senior year as possible. I feel this extra time will give the districts and teachers time to get the buildings ready with masks for the Students who won’t have them, hand sanitizers, disinfectants, getting the classrooms spaced out, get their teaching plans ready for all teaching scenarios. The teachers I have talked to say the need more time to plan. As a parent I want my child safe and I don’t want them to open schools until they are ready this extra time will allow them to get things in order. I want the teachers to feel like they are ready to teach no matter what the scenario looks like online or in-person. Thank you!
7/21/2020 9:11:59	Benjamin	Vargas	N/A	Overland Park	Comment removed due to profanity
7/21/2020 9:12:01	Todd	Harris		Prairie Village	I understand this is a very complicated situation and needs to be well thought out. Unfortunately, this virus isn’t going anywhere so keeping children out of schools for an undetermined amount of time doesn’t seem like a realistic option. This said, I also understand our teachers are at risk and frankly, underpaid for the work they do. We all need to be sure they are safe and protocols are put in place.
7/21/2020 9:12:04	Rachel	Wilson	JAYHAWK USD 346	Mound City, KS	I think we should wait to start until after Labor Day so we can flatten the curve in our area some more and I need time to get ahold of coverings for band instruments and masks that allow students to play or sing safely. I also am worried about how cases have been rising recently in our area and I don't want for it to spread and hurt our most vulnerable people in the district. Substitute teachers are not always available either. I also worry that if I get sick that my students won't have a substitute teacher for 2 weeks or longer.
7/21/2020 9:12:06	Kendra	Haines		Moscow	Open up schools.

7/21/2020 9:12:08	Madison	Farmer	Usd 219	minneola	Keep school closed and do home schooling
7/21/2020 9:12:09	Sabrina	Mills		Derby	Our children need in school option
7/21/2020 9:12:14	Jennifer	Leeper	Physician assistant	Pratt	I strongly vote NOT to delay the academic school year and proceed with the originally proposed plan of beginning our school year in August. I also would please strongly urge that you allow each district the opportunity to make that decision as many Kansas communities are rural/low risk/low populated areas. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 9:12:17	Jodi	McAninch	My family	Wichita	Please allow the schools to decide, do not force everyone to wait. The private schools are ready. They have been preparing for this all summer. Don't punish them because the public schools didn't get ready.
7/21/2020 9:12:20	Alfred	Benberg	Parent	Shawnee	I strongly encourage the board of education to follow Governor Kelly's recommendations and those of health experts and keep schools closed until the state has a manageable hold on the virus. The health and safety of our families are at stake.
7/21/2020 9:12:23	Heather	Palkowitsh	Parent/ substitute teacher	Scott City	I know you all are doing your very best for our kids. I don't have an issue with starting school later, if that's what the districts need to get everything in order and not be rushed. I do have an issue with kids wearing a mask all day. It's hard for them to keep them on and be able to concentrate and learn. I have a child with asthma and it is hard for him to wear a mask to be able to breathe properly. I do feel it should be left up to each district/County to make the decision on what's best for that district. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 9:12:29	Katherine	Warren	Parent and teacher	Wichita	Please vote yes on the governor's plan
7/21/2020 9:12:42	Jamie	Klausmeyer		Wichita	I am in favor of waiting until Labor Day to start school ONLY IF that is where it ends. Our children need to be in the classroom and parents need to be at work. I fear that kicking the start date back is only the beginning of Governor Kelly's agenda to disrupt the Kansas economy. Our children are being used as political pawns and it needs to stop now.
7/21/2020 9:12:45	Jennifer	Staab	USD 270	Plainville	This cannot be a "one-size-fits-all" approach. The numbers in our county are extremely low compared to the larger more urban areas. I invite Governor Kelly to actually make a trip to Western Kansas sometime to see how different we are than the Johnson County/Sedgwick County areas. Allowing individual counties or even school districts to decide how and when to open up our schools is so important. This cannot be a political decision. It has to be based on not just physical health, but, almost more importantly, the mental health of our children. I don't believe Governor Kelly is qualified to make that decision.
7/21/2020 9:12:40	Bruce	Phillips		Lawrence	My daughter is a teacher and my son-in-law is a principal. I strongly recommend you support Gov. Kelly's proposal to delay the start of school.  Teachers, principals, and school administrators need the extra time to plan the safest way to have in-classroom instruction now that the state of Kansas has released its very extensive guidelines.  Additionally, the extra time will hopefully mean fewer active cases of COVID-19 in our communities as more Kansans adhere to the guidelines of social distancing, wearing masks in public places, and hand-washing.  A 2-3 week delay is a very small price to pay for the improved safety of our children, teachers, and other school employees.
7/21/2020 9:12:59	Tracie	Chavez		Partridge	I feel with cases rising like they are right now we should wait or do online schooling again. I feel that if it's still not safe to do meeting except for online then is it safe for my children?
7/21/2020 9:13:00	Jennifer	Peters		Overland Park	My daughters' school is a small, private school that is fully prepared to start on August 13th. Many of the children there have been attending sports and church camps throughout the summer, and NONE have had any symptoms nor positive Covid-19 tests, which is a great gauge showing that with extra precautions, they can safely be near each other. I recommend allowing districts to make decisions that apply to THEIR needs.
7/21/2020 9:13:01	Misty	Freeman	My children!	Liberal	I am a mom that works 40 hours + in a demanding essential office. (Oil and gas) and my husband works on the road as a pilot car working wind energy. My children are begging to return to school and I have no childcare for them. Please for our children's mental sake and for the burden of the parents let these kids return to school. They have been out since the first week in March. We come to work every day and expose our children as it is, no different than returning to school!

7/21/2020 9:13:11	Tracy	Warren		Shawnee	Please give our schools more time. Governor Kelly took a bullet so the local school boards can focus on making school safe. Please put politics aside and put the people first!
7/21/2020 9:13:20	Bethany	Weber		Topeka	Please allow Governor Kelly's executive order to stand. Schools need time to prepare for the realities of what education has to look like now. Social distancing and online instruction will require additional training for teachers. Additionally, this delay will allow communities with surges in positive COVID tests the opportunity to reduce the rate of transmission.
7/21/2020 9:13:24	Lorena	Baker		Dodge City	Please vote for the delay of school to start in September. I am a teacher and feel very comfortable with technology. However, many of our teachers need training and time to learn how to switch from in-class learning to remote learning at home. We have a high ELL population and our teachers need additional time to plan and make sure we are creating lessons that our ELL students can do in the classroom as well as at home. The curriculum designed by our education team is a good plan but there are many new components to it. We need the time to learn the new components of the plan as well. We want to be prepared and trained to deliver all modes of instruction to our students in Dodge City. Please give us time and vote for delaying schools to open in September.
7/21/2020 9:13:24	Jaime	Burget		Derby	I'm ok with kids wearing the mask during passing periods but during class time I think they should take them off. Make the desk face forward don't set them in groups or at tables facing each other. It's hard Trying to understand people talking through a mask, try learning from a teacher wearing one. There are ways to set up a classroom where kids can be distanced from each other. Sports are already going on kids are playing, let them play in the fall! You are not in a closed building during fall sports unless it's volleyball but at that point have the parents or people watching wear a mask.
7/21/2020 9:13:31	Kimberly K	Logan	Patrnt	Usd 265	Resume school after Labor Day, masks PreK-12 th, staggered days.
7/21/2020 9:13:33	Melissa	Chaney		Hays	I support extending the school start date until after Labor Day. Additional time for planning for the safety of staff and students is a benefit to all involved - administration, staff, students and parents.
7/21/2020 9:13:38	Lana	Felzien	USD 314	Brewster	It is ridiculous to make the kids & adults wear masks. They have not been proven to be effective. Checking temperatures and washing hands regularly is the key. No masks!
7/21/2020 9:13:55	Wendy	MacNeill		Shawnee	We have 2 children at SMSD and fully support delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. Lives of our children are at stake. Please support this ruling.
7/21/2020 9:13:58	Mark	Vittetoe	Horton High School	Everest	Don't postpone school until after labor day.
7/21/2020 9:14:12	Jasna	Kalan		Pittsburg	Please allow our children to go back to school. The COVID numbers do not justify this disruption in their education, especially the numbers in our rural area. They need to get back into the classroom and get caught up on their academics. Any teacher or parent of a child who is uncomfortable with the school setting can choose not to return rather than taking education away from everyone else by keeping schools closed. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 9:14:18	Paula	Hansen	Retired	Milford	Follow governor's recommendation
7/21/2020 9:14:19	Carrie	Allison-Rolling	Individual Resident	Overland Park	Please support Governor Kelly's order to delay schools reopening for the sake of public health
7/21/2020 9:14:22	Anne	Schnable		Rolla	We need to get these kids back in school. It needs to be before September. We live in a town where there have not been active cases since March. They need the socialization, they need normalcy. If social distancing can't be done, sure, have them wear a mask, but not the whole day. Hand sanitizer is a quick fix and I'm sure it is the easy way out, but let's just have them wash their hands instead. Hand sanitizer does not need to be used that much, put soap in the classrooms and make them wash their hands. My kids are going to be in Preschool and 1st grade, they know they may need to wear a mask certain times of day, but don't make them wear them ALL day. Use common sense, let's get these kids back to school. Override what Kelly is telling us. She is making poor decisions and I'm tired of it. Get them in school.
7/21/2020 9:14:24	Andrea	Stverak	Cure of Ars Catholic Sc	Overland Park	I vote for giving the parents a choice to send their children to in person school or virtual. With that...I think an ideal compromise is the hybrid situation where half the school goes in person while the other goes virtually...but a parent has the choice to have their child be strictly virtual. I would feel safe sending my children in a half capacity school setting with all the precautions in place...social distancing, mask wearing, lots of sanitation throughout the day. I do think for the parents that work full time out of the home and do not have a way to be home to virtual school...they should have the option of in school status full time....

7/21/2020 9:14:28	Tera	Morriss	Junction City High School	Junction City	I think this is the best choice. With the growing number of cases in cases and the lack of proper ppe and cleaning supplies available to teachers is one reason. Another reason, yes kids under 10 have a lower chance of getting COVID 19, but what about the teachers, staff, and students over 10. Are these live not being regarded as important. I understand that we want students in school and we want students lives back to normal... but this is not normal and will not be normal until there is some control over the virus. Yes other countries have returned to school, but their numbers were controlled when they did so. Give our teachers and students the respect they deserve. Show them that they are important by delaying the start date.
7/21/2020 9:14:30	Abigail	Kingsford	University of Kansas	Lawrence	please support Gov. Kelly's executive order so all staff and school families can safely return to school and local school districts can have time to prepare for the recently mandated supplies.
7/21/2020 9:14:37	Carla	Clarke	Counselor USD259	Wichita	The district needs time to plan and get people equipment. Cases are rising, it isn't safe. I have a chronic lung condition, and fear if I get the virus I may not survive.
7/21/2020 9:14:40	Gwyn	Valverde		Overland Park	My question is more what happens after Labor Day? Do we think in three weeks this will have magically disappeared? Won't the "surge" just be delayed? I am not for doing school as "normal" but halftime/online combo or online....why not just make the decision? I can't imagine 3 weeks will make a difference. Will the required number of days be adjusted? Or will students be expected to go to school until the middle of June?
7/21/2020 9:14:43	Lisa	Ignoto	Shawnee Heights USD 4	Tecumseh	Support the delayed start. I listened to the SH board meeting last night for hours and hours and I would summarize by saying it is OBVIOUS they need the extra time to get ready. For hours I listened to how things are not figured out, not ready, not sure, not clear, direction lacking or inconsistent.... bottom line area schools are not ready!
7/21/2020 9:14:45	Connie	Oltmanns		Pratt	I believe that our district has, and has always had, our student's and staff's best interests at heart. I think that it should be up to our own district leaders to decide what is best for our students. If that means delaying the start of school, then I will support them.
7/21/2020 9:14:47	Karen	Flagler		WaKeeney	In Trego County we have had only 5 Covid cases. I believe we would be ok to start in August as our calendar was set up for. That may not be the case for ALL counties.
7/21/2020 9:14:50	Kelsea	Cain		Wichita	I am in support of Governor Kelly's decision to delay school openings until after Labor Day. You would be very irresponsible to not do so and the illness and death of many teachers, children, and family members would be on your hands if you prematurely open schools.
7/21/2020 9:15:14	Karla	Lero		Topeka	Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day. The districts really need time to acquire the necessary equipment and sanitizing supplies. Please put the health and well-being of our students, their families, and all of the staff and their families first.
7/21/2020 9:15:19	Sara	Plante	Moundridge PreK	Newton, KS	Please think about the kids. These littles especially need to be protected because their immune systems are still developing and it is not worth the risk of them maybe being alright!
7/21/2020 9:15:21	Suzanne	Miller		Mulvane	Please delay the start of school to September
7/21/2020 9:15:26	Erica	Bittel		Hays	I support Gov. Kelly's Executive Order 20-58 to delay the opening of schools until after the Labor Day holiday. If this order can aid schools in better preparing to re-open AND possibly decrease the numbers of those infected by Covid-19, then why not???
7/21/2020 9:15:27	Haritha	Boggarapu		Overland park	Please delay the school year 20-21
7/21/2020 9:15:27	Julie	Swartz	USD 475	Junction City/Fort Riley	As a teacher with a health condition, we need the extra two weeks to allow Kansas to lower their numbers. Please vote to delay the start of school
7/21/2020 9:15:27	Jill	Huber		Shawnee	Please adopt the delay of school starting as Governor Kelly has declared. There needs to be sufficient time to control the spread of the virus and determine if schools can even safely open for all involved: students, staff, families.
7/21/2020 9:15:34	Laura	Capello	self and my children	Overland Park	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay opening schools in-person
7/21/2020 9:15:37	Cleta	Lampe		Coldwater	Not every county has been effected in the same manner with Covid. Therefore, it only makes sense to allow counties the right to open schools, set mask regulations, and other school activities as they see fit. Parents also need to be allowed to decide what works best for their children in regards to mask wearing during school.
7/21/2020 9:15:49	Crystal	owen	my kids	geary county usd475	I feel it's best to push school opening until it's safe for All to return. My youngest son who is going into the 8th grade, has an IEP so needs brick and motor school. He struggled so hard with e-learning i dont feel its a good fit. But he also has asthma so wearing a mask all day or for most the day while at school is not an option either. There is no harm in waiting till it safe for all students and faculty to return.

7/21/2020 9:16:06	Miranda	Russell		Manhattan	I believe in the delay to help our district get the necessary items needed to make traditional instruction method possible and safe for the children.
7/21/2020 9:16:10	Aaron	Scott	The average American w	Olathe	I get that this is a no win situation. I just feel if we are going to lose regardless then we default to the side of health and safety for our teachers and children. Expecting teachers to also be health care workers on top of the insane level of expectations already present is obscene. DELAY, DELAY and DELAY.
7/21/2020 9:16:20	Karla	Ast	Parents	Ingalls, ks USD 477	I appreciate all the work & considerations you are putting into this decision- I really wish Senator Wagle was our govener, she speaks what somany of us are thinking- One size does not fit all!! They can put out their recommendations, but allow the decisions to be left to school districts, board members, sports leagues, parents and students. We are mindful of the concerns, but also very confident in our school system, staff and families of our school community- we are a rural , tremendous school in s west Kansas with maybe 250 students in whole school- It would be hard to find a more dedicated, supportive, caring school anywhere- Please vote to allow schools and sports to start on time without delay and leave powers up to individual schools & leagues! Thank you so much for allowing us a voice!
7/21/2020 9:16:21	Tehren	Esparza		Offerle	I feel that delaying the start of the 2020-2021 school year will gives schools adequate time to ensure they have the supples needed and the policies in place in order to assist in keeping both our teachers and students healthy and safe. With COVID 19 there are many gray areas. We need adequate time to help ensure the safety of our students and school staff. If the schools do not have adequate time to obtain the necessary resources and prepare their classrooms for social distancing, we are putting everyone at risk.
7/21/2020 9:16:25	Deana	McMillan		Wichita	Please, please, please keep schools closed until September. My children will already be attending virtual school this fall but as an educator, I don't want to bring the virus home to my medically complex son. He is almost 9 and would love nothing better then to be in school.  Local control should not be given back in this case. These are unprecedented times and call for unprecedented measures. Please wait until September to open schools! Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.
7/21/2020 9:16:40	Josh	Spradlin	Lawrence Public School	Lawrence	I want to voice my support of delaying school openings until after Labor Day. I live in Lawrence and we have had a large spike in the last month and I can only imagine what will happen when the university opens back up in mid August. I have been working with district officials on science curriculum and my building leadership team and I can promise you that the extra time will be most beneficial and allow us to be more prepared. Please vote in favor of this. Thank you.
7/21/2020 9:16:40	Janice	Robben	none... I am a grandpare	Olathe	My grandchildren have already been out of the classroom over four months. Classroom learning achieves significantly more than remote learning and meets the needs of students much better (educational, mental, physical, social, emotional, and family financial). We have the tools to create safety.... face shields or medical masks for teachers, masks for all students, hand washing, sanitizers, and social distance as available!!! People get that now! Teachers/administrators can figure it out and still provide a safe but challenging learning environment which we all know serves to educate children effectively and promotes future success! PLEASE.... open the schools as usual. Don't delay any longer. Children are hungry for the structure and learning school provides. Providing a choice of classroom or online may be appropriate given the divisions among society.
7/21/2020 9:16:40	Emily	Pounds	Parent of school aged ch	Roeland Park	It is unsafe to open Shawnee Mission School District at this time. Be an example of partnering with leadership and putting the health of others first. Do not override Governor Kelly!!!
7/21/2020 9:16:58	Amanda	Davis	Blue Valley	Overland Park	SEND OUR KIDS TO SCHOOL!!!! They are perfectly safe!!!!

					<p>First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas.</p> <p>Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</li> <li>*No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</li> </ul> <p>*In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p>
7/21/2020 9:17:06	Kim	Self	Garnett Elementary Sch	Ottawa, KS	
7/21/2020 9:17:09	Kelly	Miller		ogden	I think it is in the best interest of students and staff to delay opening so schools can better be prepared.
					<p>First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas.</p> <p>Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</li> <li>No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</li> </ul> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>I support all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay.</p> <p>We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know that you have our support.</p>
7/21/2020 9:17:21	Deb	Stifter	Parent	Greeley	
7/21/2020 9:17:24	Ann	Manzardo	resident of Shawnee	Shawnee	I support the passage of Executive Order 20-58 delaying the start of the 20-21 K-12 school year. Delaying the school years is the only responsible course of action given the present COVID19 outbreak. Please approve this measure.
					As teachers and schools, we have been preparing for this fall since last spring. We have improved our tech expertise, implemented better hygiene practices, and worked to create safe, learning environments. Please let the local school boards and their communities put into practice what works best for their schools. They know these kids and their families. They see them in their communities. Their community is my community and we want to do everything we can to keep us all safe. We are ready to go back to school! Please don't make us wait and allow the governor to create a one size fits all plan.
7/21/2020 9:17:26	Rebecca	Edwards	Triplains School	Winona	
7/21/2020 9:17:28	Jason	Pennington	Me	Kansas City	Go to school.
7/21/2020 9:17:26	Shellie	Prado	Olathe schools	Olathe	<p>Please vote NO to delay schools</p> <p>Opening until after Labor Day.</p>



7/21/2020 9:17:30	Tiffani	Bacon	Parent	Live in Plainville - Scho	START SCHOOL ON TIME - This is NOT a one size fits all solution! In rural Kansas there are minimal cases - there is NO reason to not start school on time. Let the Local school boards decide how to proceed on their own! I have 4 kids - 2 in full day school, 1 that will be starting preschool and 1 that is not in school yet. I work full-time and don't have the time of day to be a teacher as well as work full-time. Kids are at extremely low risk for harm with this virus, let them have their normalcy back.
7/21/2020 9:17:42	Amy	Muirhead	MY CHILD	Olathe	My child will be a 2nd grader, He is eager to attend school, he thrives in that social environment. Our children need to go back to school on time not only for their mental health but for teachers and parents to get back to work! And most importantly, the Cases of covid to children has been so low and ZERO deaths reported! Delaying school will put them back in the middle of regular cold and flu season! Their immunities need time to build back up from being stuck at home for months without social interaction! Otherwise we will see the worst cold and flu season on record! DO NOT DELAY SCHOOL OPENINGS!
7/21/2020 9:17:55	Heather	Hicks	none	Great Bend	This delay is the most responsible overall to balance return to school with the required public health measures to control the spread of the coronavirus. It is irresponsible to NOT delay until this spike in cases is under control. The mixing of large groups which returning to school is, will only exacerbate the spread. If the board hopes to be able to manage the return to school in a safe way for not only students, but for all district staff as well as the families, the governors order is the way to go. While I understand the desire for home rule, this pandemic has become too politicized and divided for this. In addition, these communities may not have the public health and epidemiological experts on their governing bodies which will lead to uninformed and dangerous local decisions. Following Dr Norman's science based guidance is the best route to ensure safety in schools.
7/21/2020 9:17:56	Madelyn	Kamphaus		Prairie Village	Delaying the start of school (in case that we cannot begin online only learning, on time, as scheduled) is the best practice. It gives us time to see the impacts of COVID post-July 4th, gives schools additional time to prepare supplies and plans as needed, but mainly provides more time to see where the current trend of COVID is headed. Should we decide to open post-Labor Day, we also need to consider the incubation period surrounding that holiday and how long it would be before we see the full effects. I should also mention that moving directly to online learning immediately, and then choosing to re-open physical schools would be the best-case scenario as I realize we cannot push the start of school back time and time again without any learning taking place.
7/21/2020 9:18:06	Kim	Staats	Parent and Staff of USD	Pratt	I have a medically fragile middle schooler and 2 others in school (12th and 1st). I heard one of your board members has a granddaughter that is medically fragile as well. Our specialist Doctor years ago told us "You can not keep him in a bubble! That's not living!" We have to continue being cautious but live with our healthy children. Years if not sooner we will feel the mental and social affects of this pandemics and the lockdowns (I am a behavior specialist.) We know as educators a 2 week Christmas break can cause regression....and I'm not talking academics! What will 6 months look like????! And where will it end for our Governor-another month after a another month...this is not living and it's NOT what's best for our children. I had a Senior last year and I have another this year. PLEASE I beg you do NOT allow her to take away activities for the month of August!!!! These kids (and yes they are still kids with developing brains) need these outlets. Stop sacrificing our children for the state. Our district has done an excellent job preparing for this moment. Let them take back control with the help of our Health Dept as it should be. On behalf of my children and my students do not sign this order.
7/21/2020 9:18:12	Lacee	Kovanda		Overland Park	Our schools need to open and not be delayed. There is more at stake than just the health considerations of COVID 19. Students need social interaction, support, and connection.
7/21/2020 9:18:15	Megan	Gabehart		Girard	As a teacher, we are absolutely NOT ready for school to resume. My school district does not even have a reopening plan yet, let alone the PPE needed to keep students and staff safe. Please give us time!

7/21/2020 9:18:19	Mari	Dietz	Teacher	Dodge City	<p>For the safety of us who are in large schools please delay. I don't want to but I see very little consideration for the lives of teachers. Please listen to experts in the field.</p> <p>Our school has over 2000 students. My classes are over 30 in a room sized for 24. They are shoulder to shoulder.</p> <p>Many teachers are older and have underlying health issues. Don't make this mistake and then we will hear about teacher and students getting sick and some may die.</p> <p>The passing period are a mass of bodies and if even one student gets it there will be an outbreak.</p> <p>Our lives need to be worth more than being childcare or the economy.</p> <p>For the first time value us.</p>
7/21/2020 9:18:20	Molly	Suing		Salina	<p>We must start face-to-face school as planned on August 12. Children are falling way behind mentally, socially, physically, and emotionally. The longer we go without school the more long term and irreversible these issues become. At this point the cure is worse than the disease where kids ages 3-18 are concerned.</p>
7/21/2020 9:18:21	Melissa	Calvin	USD501	Topeka	<p>Please consider 100% online learning until covid numbers go down in Kansas. The covid numbers are worse now than when we cancelled classes back in March! It is a temporary solution for the time being until covid is under control. There are just too many things to factor in that I'm not sure how this will work. 1. I teach middle school, if one of my kids tests positive for covid, does that mean everyone goes on quarantine for 2 or more weeks? 2. What if one of my family members tests positive for covid? Do I go on quarantine again and all of my students who came in contact with me? 3. The same for my students, what if a family member tests positive... do we all go on quarantine because we all came in contact with each other? 4. I work in a school that has one boys' restroom and one girls' restroom for the entire school, that's 500 kids! How can we all wash hands once per hour? 5. I teach in a classroom with no windows and poor ventilation, how will this keep us safe? 6. What happens if I die or my students die? If our reopening plan contains a contingency for staff or student death, should we really be reopening? I implore you how can we guarantee my safety, my family's safety, my students' safety, and other staff members' safety? The only viable plan is one that keeps us ALL safe... 100% online learning until it is safe for everyone!</p>
7/21/2020 9:18:28	Mandy	Fritz		Holcomb	<p>We are not ready for in person schooling yet. The number of cases must start to drop before we will feel safe in such large gatherings.</p>

7/21/2020 9:18:32	Lesley	HORNBERGER	Usd 500/497	Lawrenxe	<p>Hi. I am the parent of two high schoolers In Lawrence and a high school teacher in kck. I support the three week delay. It gives time for the mask mandates fo set in, for cases to continue to decline and time to sort through the 1100 page document. It also gives time to build a robust online presence for those families who would like to continue that way.</p> <p>I understand that local control is better, however, parts of the state are just not listening to scientific evidence or making this political. We did amazing as a state when Gov Kelly shut us down. It was after the LCC made a huge political stunt that we have reversed course.</p> <p>I also understand that most children under 10 are less affected and that the death rate for teens is minimal. I also feel like any death from this is avoidable. I wouldn't want my new drivers out in the road NYE, and we are still debating schooling for the first semester. I am concerned that rushing back to work and school is risky and would push us to go online.</p> <p>These are unprecedented times and we need strong leadership as well as innovative thinking. I have already emailed the two Board Members in the districts I am a part of, but today I am encouraging all Board Members to uphold Gov Kelley's EO.</p>
7/21/2020 9:18:38	Fariha	Shafi		Overland Park	<p>Being a physician and recently going to a small ice cream social organized by our High School Band Booster organization, I can tell you with absolute confidence, we are NOT READY for in person instruction yet. There is a dearth of awareness and education. Even the Band Directors has no idea of cross contamination etc so what example will they set for these teenagers? Most prenatal were present and not really calling out their children on their reckless behavior. The district NEEDS to be instructed and educated before you are ready to have bodies in those buildings!!!!</p>
7/21/2020 9:18:40	Sherii	Farmer	Parent	Derby	<p>Please vote to open schools by Aug 10. Precautions and guidelines have been worked on all spring and summer for going back to school. Students need the structure and safety of the schools. I agree with students 6th grade and up wearing masks along with all staff but the younger kids will make it a huge distraction from learning. Allow parents the flexibility to choose either online school or full in person at enrollment. Outside paras, regular volunteers and other supportive organizations should still be allowed to be at yhe school. They are necessary to supportive learning methods at all levels. Also you should remove the fall break and move all parent teacher conferences to virtual. These should be a requirement every 6 weeks for both online and in person students to make sure students are participating and held accountable. Please allow the extra curricular activity to start on time as well. Not only athletics but others like band, clubs, etc. Kids learn from all of these. NOT ALL students learn by lecture alone. The SPED kids need hands-on and in person learning opportunities. The key to all of this is grace and flexibility. Please don't just listen to the loud minority on this subject. Thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts.</p>
7/21/2020 9:18:42	Genevieve	Brown	USD 232	Kansas City	<p>I am an elementary teacher in USD 232. I am writing to ask the Kansas Board of Education to accept Governor Kelly's mandate to begin school after Labor Day. Teachers and administration need this additional time to plan and be trained on new safety procedures if we are to teach in-person during the surge of COVID-19 cases in our county. Furthermore, I believe that students and teachers should not return to in-person classes until covid cases are decreasing for at least 14 days in the district's county. Please do not put the health and safety of Kansas teachers, students, and families at risk. Teachers should not have to chose between their health and the health of their families and their jobs. I believe that putting students back in the classroom too soon will be unsafe for their physical health as well as emotional health, if they are to witness friends and adults in the school building getting sick.</p> <p>Please keep Kansas safe and please vote to accept Governor Kelly's mandate.</p>
7/21/2020 9:18:45	Nancy	Hamilton	Parent	Lawrence	<p>Opening schools when there is a high level of community spread is reckless. I am concerned about kids, but I am more concerned about teachers and staff. Delaying opening until after Labor Day is sensible. It gives the state time to get Co19 under control.</p>

					<p>Dear Members of the Board of Education,</p> <p>I want to implore you to follow the Governors guidelines in delaying the start of school. It is only 3 weeks later than normal, and it will make a lot of difference in the safety of our teachers and students.</p> <p>My daughter and son-in-law are both teachers. They tell me that they have had little communication with their school leadership and currently there is little planning for reopening. They will need the extra time to prepare classrooms, policies, and procedures for the reopening. The three additional weeks will go a long way in making this possible. If not, it is going to cause chaos in the schools because currently there are no plans, PPE, guidelines, or procedures for safe reopening. Give our teachers and staff the time they need.</p> <p>I have four grandchildren in the school system. Two of those students have parents who are at risk due to health problems. It may be true that most students may not have a severe reaction to Covid-19 themselves. However, if they pass it on to their parents, they could end up orphans. This is serious stuff! They need to go to schools that are safe, with good policies and procedures to assure minimal chance of infection.</p> <p>I also have concern that there is no policy as to how to deal with teachers and staff who become infected and lose time due to this illness. You are requiring them to work in unsafe conditions and many will become sick and some will die. Will this time off come out of their normal sick leave, or are special consideration being given to their compensation. Our teachers and staff are not receiving compensation for hazard pay, yet they are expected to risk their health to do their job. I will not even go into the legal consequences of a failure to reopen safely but it does not take a genius to know they will be huge.</p>
7/21/2020 9:19:07	John	Scott	Concerned Grand Parent	Paola and Olathe	Again, please do not override the Governor's direction and do what is right for our students, teachers, and staff.
7/21/2020 9:19:11	Michelle	Nichols-Holland	Usd267	Wichita	I feel that everyone's safety should come first. Please vote for virtual online classes.
7/21/2020 9:19:14	Rebecca	Hornecker	Maize School District	Maize	Open schools with precautions!
					<p>First, please let me say thank you to all of those in positions of decision making during this very difficult time. We appreciate your time, hard work, and devotions to our state.</p> <p>I'd like to voice my concern about the re opening of schools, before the cases of COVID 19 have begun to decline. In our county, Saline county, we have had a large increase in cases in the past few days (33 cases from Friday - Monday), and that is with the mask mandate in full effect.</p> <p>In order to best protect our kids, teachers, and support staff, I do not feel like opening the buildings would be safe or prudent until new cases have begun to decline and we have full safety protocols in place to handle what may occur.</p>
7/21/2020 9:19:26	Stacia	Brenneman	Family	Salina	Again, thank you for your service and consideration of what the general public is thinking.

7/21/2020 9:19:26	Mandy	Todd	Olathe School District 2	Shawnee	Although I am fully ready to be back in my elementary art room, it is clearly not safe for both educators and students. We are not like other essential workers during this pandemic. We don't have protective plexiglass to distance us from others, we don't have the appropriate protective gear for staff and students (N95 masks, face shields, etc.) we are not one on one with our students like doctors and nurses and retail/store workers, and there is no way to truly protect everyone from daily exposure in schools! I would likely be exposed to 400 students or more every week! Educators are in a classroom of 20-30 students who will definitely not follow social distancing! If we go back face to face when the virus is climbing, it will spread like wild fire! We already have a sub shortage in Olathe, and it will be even more so this year. There clearly won't be enough subs to cover sick teachers and staff. School will not look like normal school. I would advise keeping the delay of school until after Labor Day. Then we can see where things are at by then. This also allows time for schools to train staff for the possibility of multiple teaching scenarios. Not only do our schools need more time to prepare, but safety of educators, staff, and students matters! Our lives matter!
7/21/2020 9:19:43	Elizabeth	Tuttle	My Family	Olathe, KS	As a school district staff member and a parent to two boys who attend school in Olathe. Please give the school districts more time to make things as safe as possible for all of us. This isn't political it's a PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE. Please.
7/21/2020 9:19:43	Glenna	Burden	Self	Hutchinson	As both a parent of a student in high school and a high school teacher I cannot fathom bringing kids in to close contact while the virus continues to climb. Please delay the school opening so that we can get a curve shifting down word to make it safe. Please do not place the teachers staff members and most of all the students at risk just because of an arbitrary start date
7/21/2020 9:19:47	Jenna	Thiessen		Cassoday	I do not want to delay school start. I think each school along with parents school decide what the safety precautions are. Whether kids wear masks and what kind of social distancing the school can do. Its not a one size fits all decision. There are many very small private schools that receive zero Gov funding that should have freedom to do what they choose. Especially since parents pay tuition for students to attend their they should have a choice. Children need school and need it as normal.
7/21/2020 9:19:55	Kalie	Romney	After labor day	Seneca	Start after labor day
7/21/2020 9:19:56	Paige	Stutey		Wichita	Reopening schools currently is not an option that cares for the lives and health of any students or teachers. Waiting and reassessing the situation at a later time is a step in showing that care for others' safety.
7/21/2020 9:19:56	Nicole	Smith		Wichita	I am requesting that schools go completely online until our area has a declining or zero positive Covid-19 cases. We all know that if we open schools we will be creating hot zones in every city. Please do the right thing and protect our citizens. Putting off in person schooling, during a pandemic, is the only safe option. Thanks for considering. Nicole Smith, parent to a student at USD259.
7/21/2020 9:20:04	Alexandra	Bahadori		Pottawatomie County	You need to keep schools closed. I am a teacher and I can say that we are not ready. We have not been given policies, cleaning supplies, or anything to keep ourselves or our kids safe. Myself and other teachers are prepared to quit if it comes to that.
7/21/2020 9:20:05	Angie	Keithley	Myself	Shawnee county	I total support the delay of school. It worries me the amount of chemicals my child will be exposed to when going back to school . More then the virse scares me now.
7/21/2020 9:20:21	Audrey	Garvey	Teacher	Wichita	I believe that for the safety of our students and staff, and to give adequate planning time for teachers and staff, students should not return to buildings until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 9:20:21	Jerad	Haskett	None	Lenexa	Keeping students out of the schools isn't about the health risk to the students, but to the spread of the virus to those who are at risk. And also the direct risks to the teachers and staff. Do the sensible thing and allow the schools to be open online for the 2020-2021 school year.
7/21/2020 9:20:24	Dixon	Woodburn	USD 465	Winfield	As a teacher, I have already spent hours of my summer preparing for many contingencies this fall, all in order to best educate students who may be learning in my classroom and/or at home. I am not close to being ready because I have also needed time to educate myself on new technologies and platforms. Many of my colleagues will need teachers like me to provide guidance and training-- all of this takes time! Thank you for considering these needs!
7/21/2020 9:20:25	Chrissy	Stover		Sabetha	Yes, to be safe. After Labor Day will give the districts more time to prepare.

7/21/2020 9:20:29	Carrie	Sherron	Blue valley schools	15050 oxford st Leawoo	These kids NEED in person school and sports. I had a Sr last year and she was robbed of so much. We now know what we can do to protect ourselves. I also work in the elementary school and so i will be there every day working with kids and i still feel the same way. Let parents choose. If they choose to keep their children home they can but give an option to let kids go back.
7/21/2020 9:20:31	Shayla	Cook		Hoisington kansas	I am a RN and I have three school age children. I can definitely see the pros and cons of school starting late, however logically these same kids hang out outside of school, go to daycares together, and like my kids summer rec. my kids spent 5 weeks at a summer rec program for PreK-5th grade and Had well over the number of children in this program then they would in a classroom size, is there something that 3A and smaller can start and 4A and larger need to wait because of population size? Also the improvement in my children's sleep habits and behaviors when they were able to interact and run with their friends and learn drastically changed over these 5 weeks! We have now been out of summer rec for 1 week and they are back to not sleeping and behaviors have become a struggle. I also am married to a teacher, and because of him being off of work for multiple months and the uncertainty of when he will returning he has had to start new medication to help with the anxiety. He says he became a teacher to make a difference in kids life and be that person kids can trust and be able to teach them real life scenarios not just math. My vote would be to start school and sports mandate mask and increase cleaning take temps daily. Kids need school and sports for their mental health and so do the teachers!
7/21/2020 9:20:36	Kira	Larson		Wichita	The BOE needs to do what's best for children and teachers. Please do not force them back into school while the COVID-19 cases are still rising daily. It's unfair to ask teachers to put their lives at risk and it is insane to put children's lives at risk. Please do what's right for Kansas residents.
7/21/2020 9:20:39	Margaret	Snead		Olathe	Schools are not ready to open in August. Our children are not "guinea pigs" and we shouldn't open just to get them back in the classroom. Our job as educators is to keep them safe, and if we do not have the supplies, resources, or capability to open then we should not be opening to in-person classes.
7/21/2020 9:20:40	Aaron	Miller	USD 259	Bel Aire, KS	Please please please vote to keep schools closed until after labor day. We need time. Plain and simple. Where I teach, it is a hot-zone. There are many covid cases, and I do not feel at ease heading back into my school with 800+ teens. 1,116 hours can be made up; Lives cannot.
7/21/2020 9:20:52	Carrie	Miller		McLouth	Please delay the start of school until the county in which the school resides is new case free for at least two weeks. This means that each county may start school at a different time. It would take into account schools in western Kansas that have no cases, but protect student in larger districts where there has been daily new cases. There are still many unknowns with this virus and our children should not be the test subjects.
7/21/2020 9:21:08	LOri	Martin	USD 500	Lenexa	Please protect our teachers, students, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, secretaries, paraprofessionals and the families they come home to each day. Support Governor Kelly's delayed reopening. Kansans can endure.
7/21/2020 9:21:15	Julie	Davis-Windler	Usd 305	SALINA	Last year my 3 paras and I with our 9 students all got sick with colds and some fevers. We were all sick off and on for at least 3 weeks. We wash hands in our classroom & use sanitizer constantly with our SPED students along with spraying down our tables, handles, doors, etc. & no matter how careful we were and are we still all got sick. I hate doing on line school, but I have many reservations about starting school this year!
7/21/2020 9:21:24	Nicole	Huey		TOPEKA	Do not open until after labor day. Allow schools to prepare. I work in healthcare and have been on the frontline. This will spread and we do not have the resources to treat all the ill.
7/21/2020 9:21:29	Brianna	Siefkes		Manhattan	Please vote in support of the Governor's mandate! Even if you don't think the virus is a threat, teachers need time to prepare!!! It is vital for the safety of the students and the staff! We have already had issues with enough custodial support pre-Covid, and many of us have been told to "wait and see." We've done what we've been able to planning wise but cases are rising and to ensure safety we need time to think through all the logistics, especially at the middle and high school levels! Please, I urge you to err on the side of safety and solidarity and support our Governor!!!! Kid's lives and quality of education depend on it!!!!
7/21/2020 9:21:36	Meghann	Gourley	USD #412	Hoxie	PLEASE allow our kids to go back to school on time and function as normal as possible! Western Kansas is so much different than eastern Kansas and I don't feel that the governor should make a blanket order for the whole state. Let's keep control local!!
7/21/2020 9:21:40	Jeanette	Daly	Usd 501	Topeka	Open now. Waiting messes up school calendars. We have been out of the classroom for 6 months. That's enough time to get supplies.

7/21/2020 9:22:04	Jennifer	Ankerholz		Clearwater	I appreciate that the Governor wants us to delay the start of school. First and foremost, the pandemic is worse than it was in the spring when we closed schools. But now, with this constantly changing situation, we need more time to plan for the re-opening of schools.
7/21/2020 9:22:09	Heather	Crump		Andover	I am an elementary special education teacher for USD 259 and have been teaching for this district for the last 8 years. My school is one of many urban schools that is over crowded. We have over 500 students who attended our small elementary school. Our gym doubles as a lunch room because we don't have any other place for students to eat. This means that there are many days where we have lunch on one half of the gym and P.E. on the other half bringing 150-200 student into the same crowded room. In addition, many of our classes exceed 25 students making social distancing in classrooms impossible. I am also a wife and mom. My husband works from home due to having an autoimmune disease and heart failure. Per his cardiologist, if he gets COVID-19 the results will be catastrophic. We have been social distancing and self isolating since March to ensure his health and safety. My husband and I are not elderly, we are 33 years old. While I love my students and want to return to the classroom to teach them, we cannot safely do so at this time. COVID cases are increasing daily. One of my roles as an educator is to ensure student safety and returning to school at this time will not do that. Imagine the toll it will take on young students when some of their teachers and classmates die. Your decision on schools reopening could literally be the difference between life and death for students and educators, not to mention students families that may be at a higher risk at home. I respectfully ask you to not open schools at this time.
7/21/2020 9:22:11	Andrew	Slingsby	My family	Manhattan Ks	Please vote to leave the decisions to locally elected school boards. One person should not be making decisions for everyone, that's not how our system was designed to function. If this continues, my family will have no choice but to not put our children in the public school system.
7/21/2020 9:22:32	Theresa	McDowell	Goddard schools	Wichita	Please delay the opening and recommend online school where multiple cases of Covid is present. Support the governors order.
7/21/2020 9:22:34	Laura	VanGoethem	Mother of elementary ki	Olathe	My children need to go to school from a developmental, socio-emotional and academic perspective. To feel safe in our Olathe public school, I would love to see a hybrid option where half the grade attends in the AM and half the grade attends in the PM to reduce class size for social distancing. Or the days could be split instead. Then the kids have some structure and in-person learning for the core subjects. Remote learning is not effective for elementary age children. Please help us get some in-person learning safely through a hybrid option. Kids need school!
7/21/2020 9:22:41	Ryan	Nelson	School teacher	Topeka	Please keep schools closed like the Governor has asked. As a teacher putting all these kids in a big pot is unfair to students and teachers. Hospitals are designed to handle disease and infection. Schools are not.
7/21/2020 9:22:43	Melissa	Feldhausen	Parent	Liberal	I am writing you today asking you to please let us start school on time!! As a parent and a staff member! We need things to get back to as normal as possible. School is about so much more than learning. Kids need the interaction. If school is delayed until after Labor Day we will have been out for 6 months!! That is too long. If people do not want to go back they have that option but please let the ones of us want to go back! As staff I am worried about being able to take care of my family if we don't go back! I only budget for so long with no paycheck and that time is coming to an end. Please send us back at our normal time!! Thank you for reading this!
7/21/2020 9:22:43	Daneen	Deam		Milford	Please do your job and act in the best interest of ALL Kansas students. Vote YES on the delay start order. If Governor Kelly can be brave enough to do so, you can too. Don't pass the buck down to local officials, who may not have the strength to put public health first. We tried that and our Covid numbers shot up. I'm sure you know this virus disproportionately affects Black and Hispanic families. Please don't endanger our kids most in need of protection.
7/21/2020 9:22:46	Ross	Newell	Parent	Olathe	Just permanently make the school year start after labor day and go into June from now on. Many schools across the country already do this, it will save districts on AC costs. August is too early to go back to school, with or without covid.
7/21/2020 9:22:54	Lindsey	Dewell	Olathe School District	Olathe	As a teacher and parent in the state of Kansas, I strongly encourage you to accept Gov. Kelly's order to push back the start of school until Sept. It is imperative that we protect the children, teachers, and staff. I support Gov. Kelly and would appreciate your support too! Thanks for your time and consideration.

7/21/2020 9:22:54	Chandea	Eidson	Paola High School	Paola, KS	It only makes sense to delay schools until after Labor Day to ensure ALL schools get the required and much needed PPE supplies they need. If they can follow proper guidelines then I am all for having my child go back to school AFTER Labor Day.
7/21/2020 9:22:56	Carlita	Pederson	I'm a teacher.	Topeka	Please let us wait to open brick and mortar schools until we can do so safely.
7/21/2020 9:22:58	Michelle	Collins	BVSD	Overland Park	I think school should be delayed
7/21/2020 9:23:00	Jordan	Tabares	USD 475	Junction city, Kansas	I support the delay of schooling
7/21/2020 9:23:02	Joe	McGregor	Tax payer and parent	Haysville	Masks should not be a requirement.
7/21/2020 9:23:03	Robert	Castleberry	USD 259	Wichita	How are we going to keep teachers safe? We are on the front lines of all this. We need more time for planning as many of us don't know anything yet. How will you handle deaths of students and teachers. Mental health of all ?? Everyone is talking about that students need to be back but there is little talk about how the teachers feel.
7/21/2020 9:23:06	Mj	S		Osborne	The survival rate is 99.96 percent. There has been more suicide deaths than coronavirus deaths. We need to look out for these kids social emotional health and look at the statistics. Get back in school! And no masks which will only provide respiratory problems down the road for the toxicity of breathing in our own carbon dioxide.
7/21/2020 9:23:10	Heather	Ashley	Parent	Hoyt	Let the kids go back to school and allow the activities to continue. Should be a county decision.
7/21/2020 9:23:13	Marilyn	Ott	Usd 422	Greensburg	I prefer that school opens after Labor Day! I think as teachers it would be nice to have a bit of extra planning and inservice time to get ready for the kids! We have a lot of new things to implement this year.! Thank you for asking!! Have a great day!!
7/21/2020 9:23:15	Melissa	Saaranen		Stockton	Delaying the start of school isn't my favorite option. I hope you will consider the impact this will have on families across the state that are already struggling with childcare and finances. Not to mention, the impact it has on our children. We all want a return to normalcy, but I have little faith that it will happen. But honestly, this isn't the executive order I have the most issue with. And I guess there isn't anything you can do about Executive Order 20-59. But I still want you to know where I stand on that one. I hope my local district will have an option for online/distance learning. I cannot bear the thought of sending my children (pre-K & 1st) to school in masks (for my 6 year old) and be taught by teachers in masks or face shields. And socially distance, and temperature checks. It is just surreal for me to think about. I can't help but think about my 3 year old's first year in school will be a bit frightening for him, with his teachers in mask and face shields, and all his older peers as well. We are going against human nature here. I get the idea it to keep everyone safe from the virus. But at the expense of suppressing the instincts of our children to learn to interact, play, and connect with each other. It makes me incredibly sad to think that the young children will not be able to do what comes naturally to them. Not to mention the burden this will have on our teachers, even if all the parents are supportive. I don't come with answers, I wish I did. But my kids won't be attending in person schooling this year with the Executive Order 20-59 in place. We love our school district and our teaching staff here. It makes me incredibly sad that my kids won't attend school. But I will not risk my children's natural tendencies to connect and learn by subjecting them to these unattainable mandates of masks and distancing. At least at home, we will be able to hold on to the connection and interaction. So we hope for the online option through our district, and if that isn't available we will choose a homeschool route without local support of our district. And in doing so, We will likely go down to a one income household for a while. My business will suffer further, it is already suffering from the shutdown, but I will risk it for my kid's education. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 9:23:18	Somer	Dokolas	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	No in person classes
7/21/2020 9:23:18	Nick	Pfeiff		Overland Park	Please do not overturn the Gov. Kelly's order. Many of my family members are elementary school teachers and have been given ZERO information on how they are to stay safe in school. Please give out teachers, administrators, students and parents the extra couple weeks to prepare for this new normal and do it the RIGHT way, not just the easy way. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 9:23:25	Reggie	Rice	Parent	El dorado	Keep schools closed. Also, when the do resume, only have days or alternate
7/21/2020 9:23:29	Kimberly	Unruh		Hillsboro	Please do not delay the school opening, in 3 weeks a lot of learning will happen. The kids need to get back to in person school.



7/21/2020 9:23:34	Rachel	Schmale		Hamilton KS	Please delay school until after Labor Day to allow ALL our wonderful teachers and faculty to learn and prepare for the new normal. Then have schools do a mandatory 14 day online remote learning to start to allow for families that choose to travel over the holiday. This virus is soo new that they learn something new about it almost daily. I am concerned that the younger kids won't understand or know to keep their masks on even though we need them to.
7/21/2020 9:23:36	Merri	Archibald		Lawrence	For the safety of Kansas children, listen to the Governor and keep schools closed until after Labor Day!
7/21/2020 9:23:37	Meghan	Plankers	Olathe School District	Olathe	As a teacher in the Olathe school district I feel strongly that we should wait till after Labor Day to begin the 2020-2021 school year. Our district has not had the opportunity to update the staff and families of the plan for the year. With the extra weeks in August the district will have more time to solidify a safe environment for kids and staff. A plan should be put into place that has longevity and can be used throughout the semester. The rise in COVID positive cases and the push to start at the beginning of August, I think, will lead to more spread and quick closure. Pushing back the start of the year will hopefully lead to a confident plan within the Olathe district and more confidence in teachers as they transition back to classroom.
7/21/2020 9:23:38	Kara	Reed	Parent and teacher	Leavenworth	Ad cases rise and schools prepare for the “new normal”, please allow the districts the time needed to create a workable and safe plan for our students and teachers. Rushing back to school in three weeks isn’t necessary or wise.
7/21/2020 9:23:39	Cora	Cooper		Manhattan	I support Gov. Kelly’s directive for schools to begin after Labor Day. Our numbers are so much worse now than they were when we shut down in March, why would we think it’s safe now? If the legislature would would towards getting everyone to wear masks (a requirement is just fine with me— people are required to wear clothes in public, aren’t they?), we would see an improvement in numbers and save many lives in addition to those of teachers and students. Stop your political grandstanding and do what’s right for our lives, not your personal career. Let’s make Kansas a shining example of how we can control this pandemic. We’re been a laughing stock far too long.
7/21/2020 9:23:41	Traci	Klein		Overland Park	I support Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the opening of our public schools until after Labor Day. Before any schools open, all school districts should be required to have protocols in place for any positive cases at the school: students, teachers, para-professionals, bus drivers, support staff, etc. I read through 2 districts' reopening plans, and neither mentioned anything about how they would handle the reason any of this is even happening. Teachers deserve to feel safe and protected while serving our communities, and they need to know that their health is a priority to our community. And while children seem to fare better with COVID-19, the long term effects are still unknown. As cases continue to rise, please do the right thing and protect your public school constituents.
7/21/2020 9:23:44	Wade	Nudson	Self and family	Olathe	Don't assume your kid is *so* special they WON'T be one of the 14000 kids that are going to die. That's sheer hubris. Assume your kid WILL die if you send him to a crowded school, and act accordingly. Keep them closed until you can open SAFELY. Until the number of cases are down. Until R0 is WAY below 1. Cancel the fall semester, if we need. Put the health of our kids above political games.
7/21/2020 9:23:46	Austin	Schopper	USD 385	Wichita	To open schools during a pandemic, exposing children, parents, teachers, support staff, and the larger community as a whole, to danger is not only irresponsible, it's evil. You cannot claim to support education while playing fast and loose with the lives of those involved. As a teacher, I love my job and have dedicated my life to the education of young people. I come to school knowing full well that I may someday die in the service of my students. That is a choice that every teacher faces when we see Sandy Hook or Columbine. However, to create an environment where teachers are not only likely to face that choice at the hands of a virus, but where their deaths, and the deaths of children, are acceptable losses for nothing more than tallies on a political scorecard, or worse, because they just aren't worth caring about, is perhaps one of the most immoral and unethical things a person could do. The science has been settled. We trust experts when they fix our cars, plumbing, power lines, or air conditioning. But, for some reason, when it comes to our very lives, we pretend that we know better than them. Vote to keep schools closed and trust our educational experts that we will be able to provide the best possible services to our students. Those same ones that, every day, we fight for.

7/21/2020 9:23:49	Carolyn	Williams	Teacher/Counselor - US	Sedan	Please vote NO on the Governor's mandate. Counties and schools should be able to decide on their own how it is best to get their kids back in school. No educator would ever do anything to risk the health of a child. We know what is safe for our kids and our community. Let us decide! This is not a "one size fits all" situation. Thank you.
7/21/2020 9:24:05	Margaret	Shoffner		Overland Park	Please keep schools delayed as long as possible. This gives educators more time to prepare. My only child is a cancer survivor and is at high risk. Both his dad and I work. Please don't make educators and kids pawns. Keep them safe!
7/21/2020 9:24:11	Jackie	Malec	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	Please vote to wait to open schools until after Labor Day. The schools need more time to plan and gather PPE supplies.
7/21/2020 9:24:14	Matt	Morrow		Olathe	reject the executive order. These decisions should be handled by the individual districts
7/21/2020 9:24:19	Emily	Mulligan		Lawrence	Please follow the governor's recommendation to delay the start of the school year by 3 weeks. Health officials say it's not safe to begin in-person school, and that is who we should be listening to. It is not healthy for the kids in Kansas to begin school in August. Listen to the experts, and make the safe and healthy choice for our kids!
7/21/2020 9:24:20	Stephanie	Jensen	USD 240	Bennington	Please listen to health officials and all the facts surrounding this illness. That is what is really important, not the opinions of parents or teachers. Also please do your best to be consistent. I have already told my children they will not have school until after Labor Day and this back and forth is not healthy for them. We, as parents, need consistent information they allows us to plan our lives out. As you know kids need structure and consistency, please make sure you also take that into consideration.
7/21/2020 9:24:22	Beverly	Regier	grandparent, paraeducat	Newton	I'm writing to support Governor Kelly's mandate for the public schools in Kansas. I'm a grandparent of students in the public schools of Newton, Kansas, as well as a special education paraeducator in one of those schools.  Now is an important time to keep the children and the community safe from the rampant spread of covid-19. We still do not completely understand the full long term impacts of this disease on the general population. We don't know how much children spread the disease. We do know that some populations already have a higher risk of long term health effects and death. As time progresses, we are seeing others in the lower risk groups have long term debilitating symptoms months after contracting this disease. This isn't a time to take chances on spreading that risk.  We are asking parents, children, and educators to risk their safety in order to open schools at the usual time. I've been an educator most of my life as I also home schooled my own children for a number of years. What I learned then is that children can survive a break in formal education. They gain maturity and new perspectives and resilience and can catch up and exceed our expectations. Their minds are still developing and learning even when not in formal education. They are able to quickly make up for what seems to adults to be lost time.  What they can't make up for is lost health, or in worst cases, lost lives. Late start to school is small, in comparison.  Beyond this, the impact on the larger community also must be taken into account. The risk of spread in schools is a risk to the entire community, as I'm certain you are aware. Please delay.  One other observation I would add is one of my own community. Our county commissioners met after the governor mandated mask wearing. The political pressure on them was huge. At the beginning of the meeting, all three commissioners indicated their belief that mask wearing was crucial in preventing the spread of covid-19. The pressure they received, combined with police reluctance to enforce, that was enough to make all three commissioners choose not to follow the governor's mandate. Numbers of infections quickly began to rise in our county. Because of those infections, they have since bravely chosen to follow the mask mandate with some small revisions. My point here is that our county officials ran for a job that was very different than what they are facing now. A decision by the Kansas State
7/21/2020 9:24:31	Farima	Farokhi		Lawrence	I fully agree with the governor's decision to delay opening schools. As a parent & a public school educator I am concerned about our lack of PPE for starting school in person. The 3-week delay will allow more time to figure out the logistics of returning to school, either in person or online or in a hybrid. The number of Coronavirus cases also needs to decrease before I feel comfortable sending my child back to brick and mortar buildings.

7/21/2020 9:24:33	shana	watson		bennington	I feel that it is in each kids best interest to return to school as normal as we can make it. They have been out long enough. Most kids have been together throughout the summer as is.. whether playing some sport, swimming, conditioning. As far as the start date, if you wait till after labor day and it let's them come back without mask then I am for that. otherwise if your going to mandate mask then what does it matter 2 weeks difference. I hope you really think of how the mask are going to work for the teachers to deal with. They do not need to wear them 7-8 hrs a day.. Teachers will be spending more time directing children of all ages to stop touching or messing with their mask, which will be less time teaching. Please consider all factors with this. some kids can not wear them, for many reasons..as for one of mine, she struggles with catching her breathe.. think of the autistic kids or sensory, or the ones who struggle with reading. I think it should be an option. if some parents feel they want their child to wear them then that's their choice. but not every person kid/teacher should ever be mandated to wear them.. There are other steps to take for caution. The kids need to get back to activities as well. Kids need to be involved in things, let's get these kids back to school and let them enjoy their childhood! Not every county is in the same boat. The smaller schools are not dealing with it as much as bigger cities. Our numbers are significantly low.. I think it should be up to each county to determine the mask.. thank you
7/21/2020 9:24:35	Becky	Strunk	Teachers	Colwich	Children thrive on routine. Disrupt that routine or take it away altogether and they are lost. When children's routines are disrupted they often misbehave. But what they are really saying is that they are lost, that we have pulled the foundation of their days and weeks out from under them, and now they are confused and disoriented. We need to take into consideration what is best for kids. The science shows that kids don't pass the virus as easily to others. We have to ask are the teachers just being lazy or do they really fear for their life. The flu has killed more people and we don't close for that. So I ask, please open our schools on time. Our kids needs the safety and security of school.
7/21/2020 9:24:40	Rachelle	Wertenberger	Parent of children in US	Sabetha	Please leave decision up to districts.
7/21/2020 9:24:40	Stacy	Przybylski	School	Overland Park	Go virtual and/or delay start. Teachers are afraid and need to be safe. We cannot bring this virus home to our family.
7/21/2020 9:24:42	Jonee	Crump	Parent - USD 435	Abilene	Thank you for the opportunity to provide opinions from the citizens of Kansas. Please reject this order. Teachers are Essential, Education is Essential. We are sending the wrong message to our youth by delaying school, while EVERYTHING else is moving forward with masks. It's ok to go on vacation, it's ok to practice and play sports tournaments, it's ok to go out to eat, it's ok to attend theater camp and science camp, I could go on and on. Heck, a neighboring town has a day camp at the Trampoline Park - that's ok but delaying school is necessary? Most professionals are back working at their offices, doing business and making necessary changes to keep employees and customers safe. We've had MANY professions working this whole time and making the changes to make it work. Our kids have been out of school since March and the schools have been preparing to start in August and had plans in place to make it safe - there is no reason to put off education. Thank you for your time. Jonee Crump Abilene, KS
7/21/2020 9:24:45	Kinley	Neier		Olathe	I think the schools should delay in person learning until at least after Labor Day. Maybe even until the spring semester.

7/21/2020 9:24:43	Peter	Crevoiserat		Wichita	I know that the state Board of Education did not choose to be in the position to affirm or deny Governor Kelly's orders. However, the importance of this decision cannot be understated. I know that some members of the board have vocally claimed that this decision should be left to local school boards. The issue with this methodology is that many districts are following the guidance of the state. If the state says, "you are allowed to open." They will. They will do so with the belief that the state would not allow them to do something that isn't safe. For those areas that believe they are immune, remember that it only takes one person to spread the virus in your community. We are a state, not a collection of local communities. For things as important as global pandemics it is vital that we act together. States that have devolved power for making these important decisions to local governments have seen the effects. Local officials without the bigger picture in mind have taken steps to weaken our response to this pandemic. That is why multiple communities voted to eliminate the mask mandate. The results were clear. Our numbers rose because people were being given permission to act irresponsibly. Now we see businesses finally taking up the cause of enforcing masks. However, this is not because they were eager to get involved. It is because their community governments have left their employees and customers at risk by not following clearly decided health guidance. Your responsibility is to do the right thing for students, not for ideology. This virus does not care that you believe power should be vested in localities. Your ideology does nothing to protect Kansas students' health or justify a lack of response. I know some will vote against Governor Kelly's order, but I hope that the majority of board members will not align themselves with a faction of government that has openly espoused support for conspiracy theories. Board member Dombrosky posted on her personal Facebook on May 7th a diatribe that supports multiple conspiracy theories, including: Fauci knew about the virus in 2017, China acted maliciously to spread the virus, masks prevent the body from receiving oxygen, and that this is a plot to spread vaccines. I'm flabbergasted that an elected official would not only hold these faulty beliefs but openly spread them. I hope many other members of the board will speak out against that type of ignorance, stand with decided health science, and vote to approve Governor Kelly's orders.
7/21/2020 9:24:50	William	Heck	Kansas City Kansas Pub	Westwood	It is currently too dangerous to allow students to return to schools. Cases are on the rise in Kansas, and in Wyandotte county specifically (which is where my district is located). It is not worth the political points that might be scored to risk the lives of students, teachers, administrators, and their families. There is no research out there that says it is safe for teachers and older student to return to buildings. Please support the Governor as she was elected by the entire state to lead, while each of you were only appointed by a single district.
7/21/2020 9:24:51	Janet	Kellogg		Riley, Ks	Please don't let schools open before Labor Day, my daughter's life and health of her children and husband depend on you to make the correct decision! Your decision needs to be made based on the physical safety of all of us not on the lobbying by a group who is more interested in the economics. Believe me, I know the economy is important. We've lost several thousand dollars of our retirement funds due to COVID-19. However, grieving families burying loved ones or waiting for loved ones to come home from the hospital don't go shopping. They may just barely be able to pay their bills because of their grief. Please, give us a few more weeks to flatten this COVID-19 curve. Governor Kelly is moving us in a healthy direction just like she tried to do this past spring. Please support her, our children and their families by voting to follow Governor Kelly's executive order. Please!
7/21/2020 9:24:53	William	Hageman		Manhattan	I support the delay in school start date.
7/21/2020 9:25:00	Jolene	Reed	Reno County Education	Buhler	I would plead with you to allow the Governor's delay of schools. It doesn't mean we aren't going to open, but allows our districts to put into place the important precautions that are needed to open safely. After 32 years of providing Speech-Language services, I have never been more scared of my life and my students (PreK-12 grades). I work between two buildings. There is no way that my district will be able to get all of the plexiglass stations in place that they have committed to, allowing everyone to stay safe. I want to return to school but safety comes first. Let's do it given the time our Governor and Dr. Norman are recommending!! Otherwise, I would see retirement after this year.
7/21/2020 9:25:01	Kelli	Schoenthaler	Schools	Olathe	Please keep our students, teachers and school staff safe.
7/21/2020 9:25:04	Lance	McDowell	Goddard high school	Wichita	We need to delay opening and be online for the first semester to protect people and still play sports.

7/21/2020 9:25:05	William	Heck	Kansas City Kansas Pub	Westwood	It is currently too dangerous to allow students to return to schools. Cases are on the rise in Kansas, and in Wyandotte county specifically (which is where my district is located). It is not worth the political points that might be scored to risk the lives of students, teachers, administrators, and their families. There is no research out there that says it is safe for teachers and older student to return to buildings. Please support the Governor as she was elected by the entire state to lead, while each of you were only appointed by a single district.
7/21/2020 9:25:09	Anne	Fancher	My child!	Overland Park	<p>Please look at the science (as our governor states) and realize the very small risk to children and young people. If masks work (as she states) then lets put them on and go to school! There is now a 5 month lag in learning (please don't consider spring online as learning). Children's mental health needs to be considered here! My child has come home from summer workouts in a better mood until this week when the threat of them getting shut down is looming! To date, we have had no outbreaks at our summer workouts and our child has also played club baseball every weekend with no outbreaks. You can go to the store, eat at restaurants, go to the pool, go to the dentist, why can't they go to school. We have seen teachers out at all these places, even at a protest (which there was no social distancing), so why can't they go back to school. If parents don't want to send their kids, they can choose online school. If parents don't want their kids to do activities, they can choose that, but don't cancel it for everyone!</p> <p>Based on the information from doctors and psychologists, I believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time. I am one of over 6,200 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay. If we need to sign a waiver, I'm fine with that.</p> <p>If the schools need more time to prepare, fine, but don't cancel their activities! Let them continue to practice! Let's give kids some credit! My child will wear a mask if it means he can go to school! I'm tired of seeing teachers bash kids on social media that they won't follow the rules! Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa and even Florida are all moving forward with fall sports! It's hard to explain that 10 miles away in Missouri they can play sports, but Kansas can't!</p> <p>Please don't ruin another classes senior year! The majority of these kids will never participate in these types of activities again and have worked hard to get where they are now. Senior year is to be enjoyed with their classmates, not spent online in their bedroom!</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration!</p>
7/21/2020 9:25:09	Dylan	Harris		Wichita	I am science teacher in a large high school. My classroom is small and usually filled with close to 30 students. The delay not only gives me and my colleagues a chance to prepare, but gives more time for for people to comply with masking requirements to (hopefully) reduce infection rates. My mother was recently diagnosed with cancer and I am her primary caretaker. I have no interest in putting her life and mine at risk.
7/21/2020 9:25:09	Jan	Scheideman		Wamego	Please vote YES to delay school opening until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 9:25:21	AGA	CARPENTER	parent	overland park	Hello, I would like the Board to know that our household is against delaying the start of the 2020-2021 school year. The schools have worked very hard to come up with plans to re-open safely and they should. Please vote against Gov. Kelly's executive order 2058. Thank you.
7/21/2020 9:25:23	Curtis	Mitchell	Self	Valley Center	The BOE should approve the executive order and delay school until after Labor Day. Buying a little more time to make sure we get it right is critical to our chances of completing a full educational calendar. Let's do this the most responsible way possible for the safety of the entire community.
7/21/2020 9:25:27	Kelsie	Crist-Funk	My child	Manhattan	I do not feel we should cancel our children's school, school should be in person and sports should be I'm full swing. We are listening to much to political agendas instead of the facts and data from countries that have had daycares and schools in session.
7/21/2020 9:25:28	Tawnya	Becker	n/a	Junction City	I vote to start school at the normal time. this virus is not going away. there will be not end until there is a vaccine.
7/21/2020 9:25:28	Camber	McDonald		Kansas city	I think school should be delayed and kept online
7/21/2020 9:25:29	Catherine	Ireton		Lenexa, KS	The rate at which people are contracting this disease is even higher than before, and people are considering having their children go to school? We don't even have much of a plan. I think it would be irresponsible and dangerous to not wait for a well-thought our plan at the very least.
7/21/2020 9:25:38	Darrel	Kleeman		Ulysses	Support required unless you really don't care about health of children, teachers or parents!

7/21/2020 9:25:39	Rebecca	Grondahl	Olathe School District	Overland Park,	Please keep the health of students and staff at the forefront of this discussion. While I believe we should have mandatory virtual classes for starting fall*, at the very least, we should delay opening. Give Kansas a chance to flatten the curve back down before going into the school year. *Please consider that influenza season is right around the corner, and with covid rates going up, this could lead to a disastrous fall/winter.
7/21/2020 9:25:40	Robin	Cabral	Retired Educator, Grand	Wichita	This delay- at the very least -is needed to assess health conditions and medical capacities prior to throwing Kansas kids and by proxy entire communities and economic sectors into the Petri dish of in-person schooling.
7/21/2020 9:25:40	Amadee	Staab	Parent and Teacher	Hays	Please accept the governor's recommendation. I pray for the safety of my students, my children, family, and myself. I do not feel we are prepared to proceed with school stating as scheduled. We need additional time to put safety measures into place to protect us all! Thank you!
7/21/2020 9:25:51	Kylee	Hipp		Garden City	I believe that this is a decision that should be left up to the local district and the parents. This is not a one size fits all situation, and is unfortunately being treated as so. Parents should decide if their kids will be sent to school, and with or without a mask. Current active cases in S.W. Kansas just don't support delaying school until September.
7/21/2020 9:25:54	Christian	Ammerman		Wichita	Pass this. This is not only safe for our students, but every other person that works in a school building. Human health and safety should not be a political issue. I know more than anyone that students and staff want to return to schools, but it shouldn't be at the risk of their own lives to do so.
7/21/2020 9:25:58	Mirna	Guadarrama		Wichita	Schools should remain closed until after labor day. Students should not need to wear masks 8 hours a day especially the small children. ait is not safe for them to return as more and more people are tested positive and its not safe for them to return wearing masks when adults can not even wear a mask for a 40 min shopping trip!
7/21/2020 9:25:59	Marian	Dawson		Topeka	While as a teacher of Special Ed in Topeka 50, I know that pushing school back will cut out much needed breaks in order to get the required hours in for the school year, I am however very much in favor of using that time to plan and get prepared to teach remotely and using the hybrid model my district has agreed on.  We need time to figure out HOW - all students will even begin to get access to the technology, have technology repaired from having been left with them over the summer, - to safely redo bus routes and staggered schedules to match school plans - to assign staff and teachers to best meet all student needs remotely and in person. - to find solutions for parents to find child care for their children who aren't going to school when they are working - to find ways for teachers to figure out how to teach online and in person at the same time. We crash coursed teaching online last spring and it wasn't as effective as it could have been. We cannot do better without learning new tricks in using online learning the most effective ways possible.  ALL of this is totally chartered territory and it is overwhelming.  It would be easier for parents to just put everyone back in school, but since that isn't really a viable option, that could be dangerous to many, we need time to figure out plans.
7/21/2020 9:26:12	Marissa	Atchison		Medicine Lodge	This limbo of not knowing what to even begin to plan for must end. I have children who need to be in the class room! For more than just learning! My 6 yr old daughter has been diagnosed with Level 3 Autism Spectrum Disorder, and needs that time to socialize with children her age! She has regressed since schools closed in March!
7/21/2020 9:26:17	Christopher	Grabast	NA	Baldwin City	I agree with the governor. We need to follow her recommendations. Thanks!
7/21/2020 9:26:18	Julie	Thornton		Manhattan	I am in favor of delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. This would give teachers more time to prepare for remote/hybrid learning. With more people wearing masks, our case numbers might also be able to level off by then.

7/21/2020 9:26:21	Sue	Sandbothe	USD #233	Kansas City	As a parent and educator, I do not believe that schools can reopen safely at this point. There is NO possible way to provide opportunities for hourly sanitizing, to have appropriate physical distancing within already crowded classrooms, or to keep kids from removing masks, touching others, or being sent to school sick. We need to think about our kids, AND our staff, many who will get sick and/or need to quarantine multiple times during the school year.
7/21/2020 9:26:26	Catherine	Ireton		Lenexa, KS	The rate at which people are contracting this disease is even higher than before, and people are considering having their children go to school? We don't even have much of a plan. I think it would be irresponsible and dangerous to not wait for a well-thought out plan at the very least.
7/21/2020 9:26:26	Mellissa	Wiltrout	USD 320	Manhattan	I am in support of delaying the school year. Teachers need time to adequately prepare for the expectations we are given as it relates to a safe reopening approach. I would rather have more time to ensure our school is ready, than to start on the "normal" date and potentially end up closing a few weeks later, because we weren't prepared and case numbers went up. Starting the school year without having a detailed plan will put teachers in "emergency teaching" mode, which does more harm to staff and students than good. We also need to consider (and keep at the forefront of our minds) that many teachers travel for work. This fact affects the ways in which districts should be looking at infection numbers and risk factors.
7/21/2020 9:26:28	Natasha	Zielke	Parents	Pratt	I believe the decision to start should not be decided by the governor. My daughter will be a third grader and is ready to get back into the classroom. She misses school. There is no reason to wait until after September 8th. I would prefer districts start in August if they are ready and leave some cushion to the schedule if it becomes necessary. I work in the hospital at Pratt and I still feel that the kids deserve to be in school
7/21/2020 9:26:37	Sara	Vincent		Topeka	As a licensed social worker and school counselor, I strongly encourage the school board to return authority to local schools and administrations to make the best decision for their districts and allow schools to open on time (August) and in person, should they so choose. Our students have been without necessary structure, support, and services for nearly six months. This decision is not about their safety or well-being, but is a broad over-reach by our governor that does not consider the potential costs to our children, not only in their academic growth, but for many their safety, emotional support, and nutrition. Distance learning and on-line education are not viable, let alone good, options for many students/families. We should follow the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics and many other organizations dedicated to the care of children, and allow students to return to school in person and on time.
7/21/2020 9:26:50	Jason	Rawlings	My family	Olathe	Kids, especially young children to early teens, need to get back to in-person school. The extended social isolation for kids with few to no friends is extremely harmful, especially in ages 11 to 14. My son relied on school as his main social interaction and he has few friends outside of school in our neighborhood.
7/21/2020 9:26:54	Alyssa	Preisser	USD 332 Cunningham	Cunningham	Our children will not be starting late or wearing masks. We will be homeschooling if school does not start like normal. This has gone to far. It's no longer about their safety. This decision needs to be left up to each school individually. It is not a one size fits all.
7/21/2020 9:26:54	Crystal	Johnsom	Seaman School District	Topeka	Delaying the start of school is a nightmare. The virus is not going anywhere. Task forces across the state have been working since March to prepare for August. Now their work is partially wasted. Let's get kids and parents BACK where we need to be. If parents don't feel it is safe to return, they have the option to keep them home.  Also, mandating that K-12 all wear masks is ridiculous. Give K-3 the option. The Governor and her doctor look like absolute hypocrites as they stand and speak with no mask on. What a joke!
7/21/2020 9:26:57	Kayla	Mendoza	USD 483	Plains	As a mother of 4 and wife of a school teacher I urge you to please delay opening our schools. My husband is eager to get back to work but I worry about our children. Yes, I know they are young and will probably get over it but what are the lasting effects? Damage to their heart and lungs? During this pandemic I have kept my children away as much as possible and now my hands are tied. I know they need to return to school but does a delay really hurt anything. It gives more time to flatten the curve and helps school prepare for students. Please vote for a delay.
7/21/2020 9:27:03	Susan	Holm	Parent of Olathe district	Olathe	I am for school starting but if delayed start is going to happen for in person classes, we need to start the online programs on our original start date. Let everyone get used to it, work out the kinks and be prepared if we don't start back after Labor Day or know what to expect if we have to go back to online later. Our kids need to be learning! My children have not learned anything new since March!

7/21/2020 9:27:18	Phillip	Bennett		Overland Park	Don't delay opening schools. My kids have been in YCamp all summer, located at a school. There have been zero issues. The face mask requirement is simple and one everyone is okay with. Our kids don't learn at home. Home is a place for play. Working and teaching just did not work at all. They learn with their teachers and their social interactions with other kids is very important. Please vote to against delaying school. They have had all summer to prepare and a mask requirement is key such as many organizations require. Thank you!
7/21/2020 9:27:26	Jason	McCullough		Hays	<p>I would like to expression my displeasure for the executive order to delay school and to require masks for students. The social and developmental component to school is extremely important. Have you thought about the repercussions of social and developmental impact from this?</p> <p>As a health advocate, I would suggest focusing efforts on improving the immune system through exercise, fresh air, nutrition, and stress relief. This order does the opposite!!</p> <p>Allow these students to learn, socialize, and interact with one another or we will see additional unforeseen problems in the future!! Let them strengthen their immune systems.</p> <p>Cases are up primarily due to increased testing. Deaths are down despite this increase in testing. The mortality rate from Covid-19 has been reported as low as 0.26 from the CDC and even lower from other independent research. It will continue to decline as more positive cases come.</p> <p>Children need school and they need a social outlet that does not require masks or other extreme measures.</p>
7/21/2020 9:27:31	Sara	Fuller		Burr Oak	<p>As a parent and an educator I'm not sure what delaying schools opening is going to help. Students have already been without school, routine, and for some much needed food and a safe place since March.</p> <p>Also, with the delay in starting will this push back schools going until after Labor Day? I feel like this would be creating a cycle of something not good. (Cutting into summer break/activities, forcing parents to keep kids occupied for 3 more weeks, and the list could go on and on.)</p>
7/21/2020 9:27:36	Nicole	Zacharias	Teacher	Leawood	Provide teachers with ample time to prepare and to bring the infection rate down
7/21/2020 9:27:36	Tracie	Howell	Autism Speaks	Overland Park	I feel going back after Labor day is fine with a hybrid system. Please do create a plan for those kids who are waiting patiently for the math advancement test or create a building opportunity for them.
7/21/2020 9:27:42	Sara	Plante		Newton, KS	We also need to keep staff safe and healthy or we are not going to be able to provide our students with effective instruction and education! If teachers are not kept healthy and safe then how are they supposed to teach their students?
7/21/2020 9:27:43	Melanie	Falcon	Parent	Lindsborg	I fully support the governor's executive order. I'm a parent and a teacher and I believe the later start would give us more time to prepare for opening our schools. I'm excited to get back to work, but want I want to ensure my kids, students, and coworkers are safe.
7/21/2020 9:27:44	Joslyn	Nelson		Junction city	<p>I don't agree with delaying the school year. COVID-19 will be around for quite some time because so many individuals choose not to follow appropriate guidelines.</p> <p>If the school year does indeed get delayed, we have be forced to homeschool due to an upcoming PCS. Which in unfortunate because I did NOT get a degree in childhood education. My son is still learning the basics (letter sounds, simple adding, sharing, following rules, etc.)</p>
7/21/2020 9:27:53	Sally	Dreher	Teacher at USD 475	Manhattan	Delaying the start to school would be a blessing in order to allow school staff to better prepare the safety expectations in reopening. Safety has to come first, and this time would allow us to do what's best for our students. Please allow us the time now to keep our kids safe later.
7/21/2020 9:27:54	Tammy	Sutherland-Abbot	Boe 209	Moscow	I would like for school to open with no restrictions. Our children need to be in the classroom. Our local county and local BOE are responsible and will do what is best for our community.
7/21/2020 9:27:56	Laurie	Ulrich	Teachers	Finney	Please keep in mind timeline. If we start after Labor Day, we will be going into June. If we end in mid to late June, we start back in early August. That's only 6-7 weeks off. What does that do to summer camps, athletes?



7/21/2020 9:28:05	Broone	Waters	USD50Q	Topeka	I want to make sure the lives of teachers are considered. I am scared about getting COVID. I do not want to die. Please make sure health is the top priority.
7/21/2020 9:28:08	Jennifer	Patel	Parent	Lenexa, KS	Please support Governor Kelly's E/O's. Students and teachers need to be safe.
7/21/2020 9:28:08	Becky	Shamburg	Brown County Kansas S	Hiawatha	Please remove politics from this decision. We have a governor who has the support of medical experts who believe this is the best course of action. This also gives all of us in education the gift of time allowing for us to plan for the upcoming year. We must plan for basically three types of ways education may look. We want to do this well so give us that gift of time. Also, to put a decision of this magnitude to local control is a recipe for anger, hurt feelings, and decisions based on emotion and not reason. The state of Kansas elected Governor Kelly. Please allow her to do her job and lead.
7/21/2020 9:28:09	Jennifer	Switzer		Manhattan	I do not believe delaying the school start date will have a positive impact on the school kids. The school districts have had since March to prepare for the scenario and to delay it even more puts the stress back on the parents. I have 3 children and both my spouse and I are college students. Delaying the start date puts us in a stressful position of trying to find a caretaker for our child, now that he will start after us. I do not believe that adding 3 more weeks will have any affect on being prepared for school to start. You have had more than enough time to prepare and I am honestly disappointed that we are at this key point in the school process.
7/21/2020 9:28:24	Gary	Glenn	myself	Olathe	I urge you to delay the opening of schools until after Labor Day. We must make sure the safety of teachers and students is at the forefront. This pandemic is spreading in Kansas, and we need to try to get it under control before we return to school.
7/21/2020 9:28:24	Dan	Brungardt	USD 204	Bonner Springs/Edward	Do to the current increases in the number of COVID cases across the State of Kansas I believe it is a good option to postpone school until after Labor Day. This will provide local county health departments and school districts more time to study current COVID trends. Additionally, due to the new order by the Governor of Kansas requiring temperatures of all individuals entering school buildings, for larger school districts it is going to take time to develop a plan to facilitate this process and also assure some sort of social distancing.
7/21/2020 9:28:26	Nancy	Renner		Dodge City	I do NOT support waiting until after Labor Day to begin the school year. I have a Senior and a Sophomore this year and have seen signs of anxiety and depression as a result of missing out on school activities and the socialization that school provides. I ask you to override the governors mandate.
7/21/2020 9:28:34	Stephanie	Avila	TPS USD 501	Topeka	I believe we should wait and return when it is safe for staff and students. Thankyou
7/21/2020 9:28:35	Michelle	Bollin	Parent	Easton	Please give school time to plan a safe reopening plan. Our district usd449 just sent out parent survey on Friday July 17th. Parents have no idea when their reopening plan will be shared with us so we can make an informed decision. They haven't communicated with us and I'm not sure teachers and staff can have enough time to plan for a variety of types of learning since we have no idea what the district guidelines are. Their teachers need more training on the new way learning will be happening whether face to face, hybrid or remote.
7/21/2020 9:28:35	Jonathan	Carman	myself	Overland Park	Delaying school for safety is necessary and imperative.
7/21/2020 9:28:38	Melissa	LaRiviere		Junction City	I think it is a good idea to delay school. Until the school boards are able to safely meet IN PERSON then school should be delayed. If the school board doesn't feel it is safe to meet in person then it is NOT safe for our children to return to school!!
7/21/2020 9:28:39	Cheryl	Standridge	Lighthouse	Overland Park	Please allow for the individual school districts to decide for themselves when it is best to open schools.
7/21/2020 9:28:40	Becky	Woodward		Belvue	I support delaying school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 9:28:49	Jacob	Wright	Liberal High School Bar	Liberal, KS	I believe this executive order is a smart and safe decision for the preperation of schools, teachers, and administrators. However it can also present an issue with childcare for those families that work long hours when their children are back in school.
7/21/2020 9:28:52	Rachel	Whitaker		Lenexa	Please uphold the Governor's order. We support the delay of school starting to give the community more time to wear masks and decrease cases of COVID.
7/21/2020 9:28:55	Julia	Willhite		Olathe	Please support the delay. Our teachers and districts need more time to plan.
7/21/2020 9:29:04	Sharla	Brummett	My family	Wichita	You need to open schools. My child has already lost so much this year and losing her education is not ok.
7/21/2020 9:29:10	Jamee	Saiz-Fischer	None	Salina	Please uphold the governor's order, the cases are increasing and it's not if a child or staff member gets ill, it's when if we don't listen to health officials like Dr.Norman. Schools are not ready, please vote with the health of Kansans in mind! Thank you!

7/21/2020 9:29:13	Heather	Burch	Parent	Louisburg	I am unhappy that my children are continuing to miss out on their education because our governor oversteps her authority. My children have the right to an education, that we all pay taxes for. I want my kids in brick and mortar buildings, without masks, and without social distancing. The science is saying the virus is weakening, the death count is continuing to decline, and the CDC has said it is nearing (already there in my opinion) become a non epidemic. Kids need to be in school!
7/21/2020 9:29:17	Megan	Snyder		Coldwater	Our kids have been allowed to play sports and swim together, all summer long. There is no reason to delay the start of school!  This goes way beyond "protecting" our children. What about working single parents? What about two parent working households? What about the agencies and businesses that employ the parents of these children? It's not just as simple as a kid staying home.  Decisions like this have HUGE implications.  As a mental health RN, I urge you to consider the psychiatric effects of being away from trusted adults, friends, and instruction/structure for as long as our kids have. It is imperative that they are allowed to be kids. It is vital that kids who need a safe place, have a safe place to go. There are things worse than catching a virus that has a near perfect recovery rate, and many of these kids are living that nightmare right now.
7/21/2020 9:29:24	Courtney	Devot		Fort Riley	Will face shields be another option for students as well as teachers?
7/21/2020 9:29:31	Samuel	Naumann	Myself	Greensburg	It is absolutely ridiculous to continue to rob our children of an education. Get these kids back in school now! No more delays! No more restrictions!
7/21/2020 9:29:35	Chelsea	Hull	USD 259	Wichita	I fully support the governor's order to delay the start of school until it is safer to do so.
7/21/2020 9:29:41	Shaina	Wiens	Self	Phillipsburg	The lives of students, teachers, school staff, and their families are endangered by schools not being adequately prepared to implement safety measures such as masks, daily temperature checks, etc. Schools need time to plan on how to implement such safety measures in a way that will ensure the safety of everyone in the building. Moving the start of school back by 3 weeks will allow schools this time, and will ensure that the year can start as smoothly as possible.
7/21/2020 9:29:45	Jennifer	Peterson	Delaware Ridge Elemen	Merriam, KS	Please vote for the executive order to push back school opening until after labor day. It is clear that we needed this guidance from our Governor as our state is a hot spot now. This delayed start will give school districts extra time to get supplies needed to help keep students and faculty safe. This will also give teachers time in their rooms that they were not able to access over the summer because of COVID. It provides us time to make a plan for manipulatives, books, resources, etc. and to set up our room for minimum exposure.  Last year during flu season, my classroom had to be sanitized with 2 separate sanitation bombs because of all the students who were out sick in my room. This was also with me wiping down surfaces during the day and a janitor cleaning my room. We stop giving handshakes and hugs, we washed and sanitized our hands constantly and it didn't stop the flu. I am very concerned about how COVID will look in my room this year because of what flu season looked like last year. We don't have the data and information on children and it is scary as a teacher and a parent.  If you give this choice to local control, I fear more lives will be at risk than are needed. If delaying the start of school keeps 1 person from getting COVID, it will be worth it.
7/21/2020 9:29:47	Michelle	Fields		Wichita	I am in support of the EO. While I realize that not every district needs this, I am not confident that the areas that should delay their start will do so without such an order.
7/21/2020 9:29:50	Doris	Sher		Shawnee	Children need to be in school. Little ones that have just started their education have already forgotten so much. Learning to read is essential and they need that instruction. Last year the on line education was far below standards and we desperately need to catch up. We all need to sacrifice and I strongly feel teachers and leaders need to be on the front line of saving our children's education

7/21/2020 9:29:52	David	Jackson	N/A	Olathe	Please delay the school year as long as is necessary to ensure you have equipped teachers and students with the same level of protection that is available to doctors and nurses on the front lines of the pandemic. And for the administrators to plan adequately to accommodate true social distancing, effective online learning options and class scheduling where teachers are able to prepare material to fit those plans. Without these firmly in place, we will be putting children and school workers at great risk without adding any educational value.
7/21/2020 9:29:54	Kristin	Burnett		Riley	As a school employee, I very much appreciate: 1) getting back to the business, responsibility, and privilege of getting children back IN school; 2) doing so safely and in a manner that practically and realistically makes sense (I'm not sure that such a reliance on hand-sanitizer is a good idea, though); and, 3) starting school after Labor Day so that each and every district has time to order enough supplies so that we can keep ourselves and our students as safe as possible and prepare our classrooms/classes in the best way. Obviously, we're not interested in eradicating disease--lovely but foolish idea--and, we know that illnesses of every sort will be part of school day just as they always have been; but, I admit, the fear-mongering has got to me, and I'm apprehensive about going back to work and how we can keep somewhat sterile environments. Our district seems to be on the ball with taking care of the physical aspects; I have concerns over being able to work away from the building (if needed) and still be paid. As a classified staff member, I know too well that we are not highly regarded and seen as "less than". That being said, I think it is imperative that our children get back into schools so that they may continue to grow, learn, and live; and, I am honored that I get to be a part of that process. Thank you for supporting education, for working diligently on behalf of so many different groups of people, and for really considering the needs of the people of this state.
7/21/2020 9:29:57	Stan	Compton	Myself	Topeka	Open the schools up in August. Our children need to be in school.
7/21/2020 9:30:03	Karen	Langer		Olathe	We must do the right thing for our children and open the schools. All evidence from medical professionals and countries where kids are in school tells us it is safe. The continued panic over a virus that for most of the population has at least a 97% cure rate. Our children are being used in some sick political theater. The harm to our children from continuing school closure is well documented. Kids in food crisis, abusive situations, kids with learning disabilities falling further behind possibly unable to catch up. Are we really just going to doom an entire generation on fuzzy science? Yes, this is uncharted territory, but we have other cases to examine, the schools in EVERY other Western country has successfully sent children back to school. If we care about kids at all, we must send them back. We need to offer them more than uncertainty, possible abuse, possible malnutrition, rising drug abuse and suicides. As adults it is our duty to protect the children, Let's make sure we are protecting them from the right things. OPEN THE SCHOOLS AS USUAL.
7/21/2020 9:30:12	Jenny	McGinnis	Parent - Shawnee MIssis	Overland Park	Please have class IN PERSON for these kids! They need it!!! They want it!!! If a kid gets sick - they can stay home. But don't quarantine everyone! Life needs to move on or we will miss out on some very crucial years of learning for these kids. Online does NOT cut it for grade school age kids.
7/21/2020 9:30:19	Shannon	Long	Usd453	Bonner Springs	Uphold the Mandate to delay opening schools! Gov. Kelly made a data based sound decision to protect teachers and students, the board does not present data to the contrary to not support the delay. A vote against the mandate would be based on personal bias and politics. Shame on you being on the board of education if you undermine any efforts to keep teachers and students safe! You need teachers, our students need teachers, give us time to prepare for the real possibility of online or remote learning more than the week we got in the spring. Ask yourself if you'd do what you're asking teachers to do?, if the answer is no then delay the start. Do the right thing here! We're counting on you! Don't make this political or personal, support data based decisions!
7/21/2020 9:30:20	Lisa	Haas		Wichita	postpone start of school, then start schools with a hybrid and half of class size fewer people in person means better ability to space the kids out. H This is important especially with elementary kids

7/21/2020 9:30:32	Tammi	Mitchell	USD 214	Ulysses	As our county numbers continue to increase rather quickly, I am in favor of delaying the start of school. My concern is out county fair is happening now. It is being said that there are infected persons &/or those being told to quarantine, who are shopping in the stores and out in public. If those individuals are at the fair, our numbers could skyrocket in the next 2 weeks. I am immunocompromised so do have a high concern of putting myself into this situation. I am our building librarian and see about 900 kids/teachers/staff members each week.
7/21/2020 9:30:41	Betty	Zwahlen	Citizen	Columbus, KS	Please support online only learning. If that isn't possible please delay the start date until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 9:30:43	Laura	Haffner	Parent	Hays	I don't think it is wise to have a state wide blanket mandate. Currently our city is experiencing an uptick in cases. It "may" be beneficial to wait here. However, what about all the places that are stable with zero cases? Does it make sense to hold them back? I'm clearly not a virus expert but would support more local control.
7/21/2020 9:30:47	Allison	Celik	parent/USD 383	Manhattan KS	Public schools should follow Gov Kelly and NOT open until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 9:30:49	Mae	Young	USD 259	Wichita	Please stick to the Governor's plan to keep us safe. I'm very worried about my health and the health of my community if we were to return to in-person instruction. I love teaching, but I don't want to risk my life or the lives of those around me. My daughter attends daycare in the high school where I teach and I want to keep her safe and well.
7/21/2020 9:30:54	Amelia	Cramer	Family	Overland Park	I think its a wise decision. It allows more time for schools and institutions to make the changes and adjustments needed to ensure health, safety and well being of every person that will be in buildings
7/21/2020 9:30:56	Shaunna	Cardinell		Wichita	I support delaying the opening of school.
7/21/2020 9:31:02	Amber	Ives	Clearwater Elementary	Clearwater	DELAY
7/21/2020 9:31:04	Trisha	Swindle	Our Home	Derby	Please set bench marks for when school should be open, partially open, or closed. The lack of guidance from the BOE and our local districts continues to shock me. Please sit down with the health department and come up with definitive numbers of positive cases that merit the opening, partially opening, and closing of school buildings and/or classrooms. I support delaying the start of school to buy you time to set these vital and life-saving benchmarks. I have read the State BOE guidelines for the opening of schools. I have read my districts proposal as well. There is absolutely no mention what threshold of positive cases merits a change in plan. Nor is there a definition of what "community" means either. I appreciate wanting to let individual districts have control over their schools. However this is not a curriculum discussion, these decisions are what's going to stand between a child or adult living and dying. You have got to step up and lead.
7/21/2020 9:31:04	Allen	Galloway		Andover	Gov. Kelly is doing the right by our children, their families, and educators & support staff by delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. Children are not medical experiments! We should not hope that they are not carriers of a devastating disease that can kill family members and those who are educating them. Please make the right decision and support Gov. Laura Kelly!
7/21/2020 9:31:06	Rachel	Smith		Cheney	Delay. I want my kids in school with their friends, social health is important too. But, with the way things are right now, I don't feel like it's safe yet. I'll be doing virtual if given that choice. I have 6 kids that are school age, a baby, and pregnant, it will be hard but worth keeping them safe.
7/21/2020 9:31:27	Dwight	Goodman		Wichita	The Governor is only asking for a delay to allow districts to start there chosen/individualized plan successfully and not rushed. The mask requirement protects all involved and allows everyone to go home and not bring the virus with them. Some districts may not need the mask requirement but when dealing with children we probably should be overly cautious than not.

7/21/2020 9:31:36	Joetta	Whitcomb	Personal	Moundridge	<p>The legislators in this state have had to control our governor's uneducated knee jerk reactions and executive mandates. Now she is hiding behind you! She has made 3 extremely poor and uneducated decisions that have caused educators to spiral.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The knee jerk reaction to close our schools without a plan in March. By the way we were vacationing in Hawaii when this happened. Our governor and the state were mocked on their stupidity. I did not dare say I was from Kansas. It took our kids out of school and they lost basically a 3 months of their education. No discussions, just a mandate.</li> <li>2. In June, we had schools planning graduation and were marching to the orders of the governor. Again a knee jerk reaction from our governor sent educators scrambling and changing their dates. No discussions just another one of her mandates.</li> <li>3. Now in July she has another knee jerk reaction to move our schools start date. My son-in-law is the president of the school board for one of our area schools. They were marching towards the original mandate. They had a zoom meeting the date the governor made her announcement. Our educators were blindsided by this decision. Instead of presenting their plans they had nothing.</li> </ol> <p>All these decisions the educators were blindsided and have zero time to react. If you stand by the governor with this mandate, you all have failed as top educators of this state in protecting our educators and children.</p> <p>STOP the knee jerk reactions and stupidity from our uninformed and politically motivated governor. Our legislators have had to stop her and now she is "using" you! She is refusing to comply with open records so we can all see where she gets her information. What is she hiding??</p> <p>Understand there have been zero children under the age of 29 that have died from Covid19 in this state. Last year Harvey county alone saw two children die of "the flu"!!!! We did not go into mass hysteria for those children. Did we???</p> <p>I believe that the State Board of Education has allowed many of our school systems to fall behind the curve. You have stood by and watch our governor make extremely poor decisions that will affect generations. That lies on your backs.</p>
7/21/2020 9:31:54	Carry	Suchy	Teacher	Basehor	<p>I am both a teacher and parent in the USD 458 district in Kansas and wanted to send my support for Governor Kellys decision to delay the start of school. This time is necessary for teachers and staff to prepare for reopening of schools in the safest way possible. We closed school at the beginning of the pandemic and reopening during the highest point in our state wouldn't make sense and most likely lead to closures again. I am certain you are getting bombarded with emails opposing her decision as well, most of these people have a false expectation of what in person classes will be like and believe it will all just go back to normal. They do not understand the planning, preparation, and redesign that must happen to open again. They have the belief that this is a typical flu virus and are not taking it serious. I can't wait to be back into my classroom again when it is safe. I care about all students and staff and only want wants best for everyone. Please give us time to prepare and plan, give us time to allow numbers to go down. I very much appreciate your effort and consideration on this matter and trust you have what's best for all of us in mind.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>
7/21/2020 9:31:57	Natalie	Brown	Usd 260	Wichita	<p>Please delay school opening! As a teacher I am concerned for our and the students' safety in attending in person until we can see ac drop in new COVID cases. Even small counties have seen numbers double over the last week. Please don't risk our safety and allow time to forget prepare. I am willing to teach truck June for a safer school start.</p>
7/21/2020 9:31:58	Mandi	Nemechek	Student / parent	Salina	<p>Please delay. I have emailed the commissioner about my reasons.</p>
7/21/2020 9:31:59	Kyle	Pringle		El Dorado	<p>While the easy road may be tempting, we only get 1 shot to do this right. Caution while others preach expedience is the truest test of resolve. Failing to remain steadfast in this will cost lives.</p>

7/21/2020 9:32:00	Kimberly	Munk	USD 274, Oakley High	Oakley	<p>Dear Kansas Board of Education,</p> <p>I know that many people have different opinions on school, community, and COVID-19. I am reaching out to you with my viewpoint as you will have a tough decision on whether to support or deny the Governor Kelly's executive order that will delay the school year until September 9.</p> <p>I am a teacher at Oakley High School, USD 274, and am not in support of the executive order. Currently, as I write this we have only had 2 Covid cases in our county. I am not against taking precautions such as masks, social distancing, extra cleaning, etc, but feel that each county should be able to dictate school term according to what is happening in the area. I would rather start as normal in August and then if we start increasing or get an outbreak in our community at that point be able to go remote or shut down temporarily. By opening when the numbers down allow us to get back into the classroom, create routines and connections to our students that will help when we would need to do remote learning. Last year our school district struggled between having a 7th grader commit suicide, a 12th grader killed in a car wreck, and going remote in March. Our kids have communicated how difficult all this has been and my biggest concern is the mental health of our kids. By starting school this allows these students to an outlet to as normal as their life can be at this time. It also allows the school district to be positive with the current situation, communicates positive self-help to our students, and continue their academic needs. Our school district has purchased Germ misters for each building, cloth masks (enough for each student to have one each day and the school wash them), hand sanitizer for each room, clear dividers for desks and are discussing ideas on how to deal with hallway transfers and cafeteria issues. Our district is also working with teachers one on one whom may feel uncomfortable being in the classroom.</p> <p>Covid is uncharted territory but from the community to community it will be different scenarios and I feel that the local health department and school districts should create the best scenario for them. Some may wait to open, while others may open and then have to have a temporary closing during outbreaks. Please when making your decision consider the difference from community to community.</p> <p>In the end, whatever decision you uphold, I will teach my own children and students at school that you must be flexible and create a positive attitude about whatever life throws at you. Problem-solving is what will make you successful in</p>
7/21/2020 9:32:02	Cescha	Hoffman		Pratt	<p>Thank you for putting students and teachers health first. Our town is seeing an increase in numbers and recently opted back into the mandatory mask rule. I'm hoping the delay will allow us to get the number of cases on the decline before we send our kids and teachers back for the year, so we don't have to quickly change to virtual. Thanks for your time and consideration.</p>
7/21/2020 9:32:08	Genevieve	Allison	Students	Pittsburg	<p>I think that you should support the governor's decree because I believe that if the schools reopen at the date that was originally set (Aug 19); then the schools would have absolutely no time to get procedures in place in time for when students will enter the school. The issue of Coronavirus is a very tough subject for schools. If we are to have 100% face to face instruction in schools, then they would have to prepare to not only protect the students, but also protect the teachers, because no matter how you try and protect the students, the teachers are going to be exposed to all of the students. Because of this, there needs to be a plan that not only protects students, but teachers. If a plan isn't introduced soon then many schools will not have any time to implement the plan, let alone implement it well. We must protect the younger generations from catching Covid, which means having time to give a good plan that can be implemented well. Having the extra time will allow administrators in school districts to plan ahead better and be better prepared for the school year ahead. It will also allow parents time to understand how this school year will roll in their child's school district; which will give parents peace of mind knowing that their school has properly prepared for this pandemic.</p>
7/21/2020 9:32:12	T. A.	Clanton		Maize	<p>Delay schools or go to hybrid learning until it is safe for the children to return. Protect their health and that of our teachers!! Do the right thing and respect the Governors authority, do not set the bad example to our youth of undermining her authority like so many have chosen to do.</p>

7/21/2020 9:32:15	Michelle	Marvel	Parent	Prairie Village	Please consider this opposition to the Governor's order to delay the start of school. My children attend a small private school in Prairie Village. The school has been planning for 5 months. Three additional weeks is not necessary to get supplies or adjust curriculum. Let the schools/districts that are ready open. Delaying school after the extended shut down is detrimental for our children's social and emotional well-being and development. Local medical authorities, including Children's Mercy Hospital doctors, say it is safe for schools to reopen. Remote learning is not viable and creates hardships for working parents. Learning setbacks that occurred over the extended summer break are concerning. Please do not exacerbate the problem by adding an additional three-weeks that are unnecessary.
7/21/2020 9:32:18	Jason	Cummings	Parent	Sedan	School and all activities should resume with no restrictions. It is up to the parents to determine if they want their children to participate in school activities.
7/21/2020 9:32:19	Ginny	Titus		Hugoton/Moscow	I believe schools should start on time. Delaying them does not add safety, but in fact does the opposite for the emotional/mental health of our children. I also feel STRONGLY that decisions like these should be made at the local level. Our local elected officials, school administrators, and community members should be the ones who decide what's best for our children in our communities. A one size all mandate is not appropriate and hurts kids and communities. Thank you for your consideration
7/21/2020 9:32:25	Megan	Allen	SMSD Parent	Overland Park	I support the delay to hopefully give teachers more time to prepare for all schooling options
7/21/2020 9:32:36	Cherith	Mock		Rose Hill	Please hold off opening until after Labor Day. As a teacher I have very mixed emotions of opening full time knowing how well schools get items they need and how well they are cleaned.
7/21/2020 9:32:37	Sabrina	Ramirez		Salina	School delay does make perfect sense, masks mandatory for Elementary school age children does not. I believe the schools will have a hard time trying to focus on teaching and learning while trying to make sure kids are cooperating with the mask mandate. This should be optional not mandatory for the young children who barely understand the situation. How bad are the consequences going to be if the children can not mentally and emotionally wear a mask for 8 hours a day? Please reconsider the mandate for Elementary aged children.
7/21/2020 9:32:41	CK	Middleton	Parent	Lawrence	I support Gov. Kelly's executive orders. Our schools need more time to prepare, please.
7/21/2020 9:32:47	Lisette	Hamilton	Kansas Students	Overland Park	The most dutiful way to ensure equitable education to all k-12 students in Kansas and a safe working environment for all employees is to delay the start of school indefinitely as long as Covid 19 cases continue to increase.
7/21/2020 9:32:49	Jen	Johnson		Overland Park	I ask that the state please allow districts to make decisions that are best for them. Small schools in western Kansas are very different than the large Kansas City districts. Our children have been at various camps this summer with no health problems, and our teachers and principal are prepared to start in August.
7/21/2020 9:32:50	Mandy	Faust	My family and my students	Haysville	My own personal children are ready to go back. I have a Junior in high school, 6th grader, and Kindergartener. All three have voiced their expression to go back now! As a teacher, I need all the time I can get with my incoming 3rd graders. They lost 1/4 of their second grade instruction time. Most will come to me without basic knowledge of subtracting with regrouping and multiplication. Both are standards taught at the end of 2nd grade. We already struggle to get all our standards taught to mastery before testing in April. Now I have to include 25% of the 2nd grade standards. Please open our schools! At the very least, allow it to be a local decision. Many communities do not have any reasons to be shut down. Those are also the communities that are smaller and lower SES communities. Those are our most at risk students. They need to be in school. Please allow this to be a local BOE decision! Closing schools is not a one size fit all solution!
7/21/2020 9:32:58	Tara	Meyer	High school teacher	Wichita	Good Afternoon, I want to urge you to stand with the Governor, and delay the start of school. As a parent, teacher, and daughter of a high-risk parent, I believe this is the safest way forward. If the Covid cases can have a chance to slow or trend downward, I believe the state's recommendations will have a better chance of keeping the teachers and students safe in school. I want to teach my students face to face, mask to mask, or screen to screen. But I do not want to attend even one funeral of a coworker or student. Thank you for your consideration.

				<p>we need to follow the Governor's mandate to delay the start of the school year, or accept distance learning until conditions significantly improve.</p> <p>As a parent these are some of my concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>—Hand sanitizer, tissues and Clorox wipes are provided by parents as school supplies. How does our state fund schools adequately for safe onsite learning?</li> <li>—Half of my community, entrenched in cognitive dissonance, believe the virus is a hoax and masks a conspiracy to strip their constitutional rights. Their children believe as they do. They will put others at risk.</li> <li>—Teachers become our greatest sacrifice to COVID-19. Say by some miracle, all the little 1st graders do sit forward all day, they are facing the teacher.</li> <li>—How does a school implement a fair and equal education for every group in their district during these times? IDPs were not written with a pandemic in mind.</li> <li>—How do schools that are underfunded and understaffed create a safe class size?</li> <li>—How does a small janitorial staff in our small town school district handle the work load?</li> <li>—What sort of protection is there for the teacher whose students come down with it and the parents blames the teacher?</li> <li>—What happens if a student or a teacher dies? Was the school adequately supplied and were all guidelines strictly enforced? The hunt for blame will happen. The lack of supplies will happen. The rebel kid will happen. The exhausted with all of it teacher will happen.</li> <li>—There are so many unknowns with this virus and children are unpredictable by nature.</li> <li>—I can not imagine the impact on-site learning will have on the mental and physical well being of our staff and administrators at the local level. We are asking so much of them, at great risk to their own health and the health of our children.</li> </ul> <p>This is a medical issue that has become political. Please do the right thing even if it is not the popular thing.</p>
7/21/2020 9:32:58	Chalsea	Millner	Abilene, Kansas	Thank you for your service to our community during these troubled times.
7/21/2020 9:32:59	Jeff	Hanhardt	Bison	Get the kids back to school so that we may resume the old regular.
7/21/2020 9:33:00	Danica	Gibson	Galena	I am a parent and a teacher and I fully support the delayed opening. We need time to design a course of action that will be safest for students and staff. If we rush opening school, the ramifications will be serious. Please allow us the extra time for such an important endeavor.
7/21/2020 9:33:05	Jessica	Pannell	USD 233	<p>Please delay the opening of a schools in Kansas until after Labor Day. While we have access to practice using our updated Synergy system, we do not have full access until August 3rd, leaving us a limited number of days to work with the full system if school starts on time. It would render us less prepared for serving all students.</p> <p>Also, with the increasing number of COVID cases in our area, it feels unsafe and inconsiderate of the community as a whole to ask large numbers of students and faculty to gather when no other businesses are allowing such situations.</p> <p>Thank you, Jessica Pannell USD 233 Teacher and Parent</p>



7/21/2020 9:33:06	Kylie	Smith	Parent	Lawrence	I beg you to listen to science and not politicians when making decisions regarding the safety of our children, their educators, and the respective families of both. Your guidelines for the state were just released and now the districts should be allowed the time that they need for planning and for the acquisition of very hard to come by products like disinfectants and PPE. I am assuming that these districts could not apply for CARES Act funding for said supplies until your standards were released. It would be unconscionable to allow yourself such a long time to come up with standards while not allowing the districts enough time and resources for safe implementation. Furthermore, regardless of your standards, schools will cause hotspots and outbreaks of this virus. You should start putting resources toward making online learning more robust and equitable now! You are going to look foolish when we have to turn back to it on a full-time basis again and you haven't prepare at all.
7/21/2020 9:33:06	Krystal	Randa	Parent	Hays	I am a former elem teacher and now mother to a first grader. I am against delaying the start of schools. I feel pushing back the start date is just pushing it back more and more into the cold and flu season - which will be a nightmare. I am for wearing face masks when social distancing cannot be observed (ideally that would be in small increments 10-20 min. at various points of the day). I understand teachers and parents are worried - however, our children NEED to be in school and taught by a certified teacher. If parents are uncomfortable with this, enroll your child in digital learning for the semester/year. Our children have essentially had no school (or socialization with peers) for what is going to be 5 months - and that scares me as a parent and former teacher. These children will be way behind in their curriculum, not the mention those who are suffering from anxiety/depression/and other mental health issues that are not being addressed, due to them not being in school. What do we think these parents/children/families will continue to do in August? Go on vacations, see family, attend large gatherings - just like they have all summer long! You are just extending their summer...they won't stay home and help lower the numbers. Hello, they haven't stayed home all summer long - which is why we are in the position we currently are.
7/21/2020 9:33:08	Charlie	Thornton		Manhattan, KS	I hope you will support the Governor's choice to delay the start of K-12 school this fall. With covid-19 cases rising in my community, I don't believe the options available to my local district can provide a safe In-person environment for my third grader. A delayed start is the right choice to give us time to stabilize before starting school again.
7/21/2020 9:33:10	Jill	Roane	USD 381	Offerle, KS	Please postpone the first day of school with students until after Labor Day. We need that time to prepare for the safety of ourselves and our students. We also need that time to prepare academically so we can provide quality education through any of the three possibilities. The guidelines released will be just as helpful in early September. Thank You.
7/21/2020 9:33:11	Shelley	Goethe		Olathe	I realize you all are getting quite a bit of flack in advance. Thank you first for looking out for the kids and staff - all decisions right now are rough, but you're still trying.  I love school. My kids love going to school and going to specials (gym and technology ). But to talk to the virologist, it sounds as though even if the kids maintain spacing, the ac handlers will spread anything airborne. The kids in the classrooms will still physically be stuck with the viral load as it gets recirculated in the building. Maybe the buildings could be outfitted with air scrubbers or more rigorous HEPA filters? If strict filtering is keeping people on the planes safe, could schools not try something similar?
7/21/2020 9:33:17	Brittney	Fiedler	Olathe	Olathe	Please delay school openings!
7/21/2020 9:33:25	Alta Vista	Alta Vista	parent	Alta Vista	start after labor day
7/21/2020 9:33:28	Eric	Boles		Shawnee	Prohibiting virtual learning is an overreach by Executive Order 20-58. There are many organizations that have spent months preparing for a virtual learning experience, and this order will penalize them for doing the correct preparation. It should not be the state's concern that some organizations are more prepared than others to provide education, just as it is not the state's concern that some pharmaceutical companies are ahead in the race to develop a vaccine. The nature of our varied experiences in life is that some organizations will always be better prepared than others -- whether by deliberate action or merely luck -- and it is foolish to think the state can intervene to force a uniformity of opportunities and outcomes. It is one thing to prohibit in-person, physical school. It is quite another to ban education entirely. Please do not vote in favor of Executive Order 20-58.
7/21/2020 9:33:22	Danielle	Juiliano		Lenexa	Keep schools closed

7/21/2020 9:33:31	Keri	Lane		Topeka	I understand that there are circumstances where the parents/family cannot keep the children at home without risking jobs or essential income. But I feel that keeping the majority home and teaching them remotely/virtually is the best scenario for protecting our communities. I do not believe that bouncing the children around through different phases or new necessary quarantines is in their best interests. All it takes is one teacher or one student, and the rest have to be quarantined with their families anyway. And what about our subs? Most of them are older and are considered high risk. What sub is going to want to enter a room/building after an instance of Covid-19? Let the children learn from home if they can, and lower the risk of exposure for the rest that must be taught in our buildings.
7/21/2020 9:33:40	Vickie	Hyatte		Kansas City	If essential worker are necessary workers and teachers are considered essential then yes they need to go back to work and wear a mask just like all the other essential worker out there. If they choose not to go back to work their pay should be suspended and they should be replaced by teachers that want to go back to the classroom. Bus drivers are ready to go back to work and are not in fear of getting the virus so teacher should stop using the excuse of the COVID and get back to work.
7/21/2020 9:33:47	Madeline	Cheatham	Olathe Public Schools	Shawnee	Please support Gov. Kelly's Executive Order to delay starting school until after Labor Day. As a fifth grade teacher, I know that my students will have an incredibly difficult time social distancing and wearing a mask. We, as teachers, need to have all of the necessary items (hand sanitizers, masks, cleaning supplies, etc.) and need to be prepared for the most difficult school year ever. If we jump back into the school year without being the most prepared we possibly can be, the students and teachers will suffer greatly.
7/21/2020 9:33:49	Carol	Henson	Parent	Shawnee	Please take the time needed to prepare teachers and other staff for school opening. Leave it past Labor Day.
7/21/2020 9:33:50	Tammie	Shourbaji		Wichita	Yes, please delay the start of the school year.
7/21/2020 9:33:52	Andrea	Dean	Pratt USD 382	Pratt	I support the delay in school, but I think my kindergartener will not wear a mask appropriately on a daily basis, which eliminates the purpose of wearing it.
7/21/2020 9:33:49	Becky	Marin	USD 259	Wichita	It's a good idea. Cases are rising too fast for that many people to be congregating right now. As a teacher, I don't feel safe in a building with 2300 people.
7/21/2020 9:33:54	Jay	Marquette		Overland Park	Miss NEED to return to school IN PERSON!! They are struggling in so many ways!!! Masks are fine!! I also think we need all sports and activities. These kids need their outlets. Too much has been taken away from them!! Please let them have a normal school life w accommodations of masks!
7/21/2020 9:33:55	Kelli	Smiley		Pratt	School needs to open for the children! They need it not only for education but for mental and physical health. We cannot live in fear anymore. We need to show our children that we are brave. Yes this is a nasty virus but if we shut down our lives for every virus or bacterial infection we all would no longer be living life that God meant for us but being defeated in fear!
7/21/2020 9:33:58	Mary	Parke	USD#388	Ellis	I think schools need more time to plan on how to open safely, deliver quality education and get supplies ordered. Some supplies are limited, delayed delivery or out of stock.
7/21/2020 9:34:13	Robyn	Barnett	Olathe Schools	Olathe, KS	I teach kdg. I want to be in the classroom with face-to-face learning. Please allow our district more time to prepare for teachers and students to arrive. Please allow us more time for safety training and instructional training.
7/21/2020 9:34:13	Sheryl	Corkill	Shawnee Mission Schoo	Shawnee	Please delay the opening of schools due to the danger of all involved contracting and spreading Covid 19.
7/21/2020 9:34:19	Hannah	Tjaden	Berean Academy	Newton	Please let private schools resume without masks. Thousands will choose to homeschool otherwise. Homeschool curriculums are already selling out online.
7/21/2020 9:34:20	Dustin	Matzek	My family and me	Kansas City KS	I am in favor of the delay so schools and teachers can be equipped to with extra precautions.
7/21/2020 9:34:21	Kelli	Barker	Parent of USD 382 stud	Pratt	Please leave control with local school districts. Not all districts are in the same boat. Certainly, larger urban districts need to make decisions that are different from small rural districts. Currently the decisions regarding school start and masks should be left to the local organizations who know what is happening in that community and changed as needed. One size fits all decisions are not appropriate and or the most beneficial to do things.

7/21/2020 9:34:21	Mona	Edwards	Blue Valley schools	Overland Park	Please do not overturn Governor Kelly's mandate! Our cases are skyrocketing in Johnson County and we need time to get this under control. I miss my students, but I don't want to risk my life for see then. I am a special education teacher and teach students with significant disabilities. They are immunocompromised. This could easily kill one of them. This is also not just about the children, but about all the teachers, support staff, custodians, bus drivers, etc. Our lives matter! Many teachers are older or have preexisting conditions that could make this deadly for them. Are we really going to risk imperson school, only to have our children have their beloved teachers die? The costs do not justify the means. Please do the right thing and let the governor's mandate stand!
7/21/2020 9:34:27	Sara	Harrington	Parents	Haysville	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day! The longer people can get used to wearing masks and possibly lower the numbers the better. Also as a parent, still not even knowing what my options are I am already overwhelmed and nervous. I need as much time as possible to weigh my options, prepare, and organize! Please think about the health and safety of everyone.
7/21/2020 9:34:43	Kimberly	Sanchez	Pawnee	Junction	I am in agreement that school be delayed until there is a solid plan for kids.
7/21/2020 9:34:46	Lori	Stratton	High School English Te	Lawrence	On behalf of the safety of all Kansas students and educational staff as well as families of both, I urge the Kansas State School Board members to support Gov. Kelly's Executive Order 20-58. I have worked for three different sized communities in Kansas during my career, and I understand the importance of local control and decision-making. However, this pandemic crosses district and county lines, and is too dangerous to risk taking chances with. We will welcome students back to school this fall in many ways, and we need the time to calm the raging virus in our state right now as well as to prepare safety measures. Please understand that this is just a short delay, but it may save many people from illness and worse. Also, please check the very current statistics on children and the virus. These statistics have changed since the American Academy of Pediatrics released their information in June. Also, the AAP said schools should open "when it is safe to do so." Finally, please know that even small communities area at risk. Look at Logan, Kansas, for example. That community seemed to be isolated and safe, and then, in a matter of just days, it is facing a real threat to its population. There are so many unknowns right now. The governor's EO will just buy us all a little more time to be safe for students, which, I believe, is a common value we share. Thank you for your consideration of my request. I appreciate all you do for the citizens of Kansas.
7/21/2020 9:34:54	Scott	Kedrowski		Garden City	I am encouraging the Board to follow the Governors recommendations and science as we navigate the Covid-19 pandemic. Delaying school until September 9th will allow us time to prepare and have a better plan to start school. This time will also allow us time to look scientifically at the last increase in positive cases.
7/21/2020 9:34:56	Jackie	G	I am a teacher	Lenexa	As a teacher, I am worried about the health of my students and that of my family members. Schools are enclosed places, and we have a lot of students. Even with new guidelines, there is a limit to how much can be done. I travel from room to room in the hallways every day, as well as having lunch, assembly and bus duty. I am afraid that if we start back in-person too soon, I will take covid-19 to my family members. Please wait until it is safe to go back to school.
7/21/2020 9:34:59	Megan	Daniels		Spring Hill	I am an elementary educator and in support of a delayed start. A delayed start would give us the time we need to prepare for whatever school will look like after September 8.
7/21/2020 9:35:02	Angela	Handy	Parent	Shawnee	As a mom with 3 kids who receive special education services, I ask that you find a way that the kids that need extra support and help, can get it. Either small group or one on one. Virtual learning was so hard for my kids and myself. The teachers did their very best and so did we to get through the year. I just know they are already so far behind and I am so worried they they'll get further behind if we have do virtual learning only again.
7/21/2020 9:35:05	Kelly	Thielen	Parent/teacher	Dorrance	I would like to see the EO overturned so local health officers, school boards and administration can make decisions that fit their communities. Rural schools and large schools have different challenges and situations to consider. Please allow local control.
7/21/2020 9:35:18	Ed	Flores	Concerned parent	Salina	I support delaying start of school year per Gov Kelly's exec orders. It is imperative that safety protocols are solidly in place and COVID numbers are declining. Pay heed to science and recommended reopening guidelines.

7/21/2020 9:35:19	Shannon	Glidden		Manhattan	We are falling more and more behind with our children's education. I feel we should start the school year on time and then have a curriculum base so if we need to go to online learning later we have a foundation established from our teachers. This virus is not going anywhere so why wait until after Labor Day when it will still be present? If universities are allowed to start their year as normal then young children should also be able to. It isn't every day that students are WANTING to get back in the classroom and have some normalcy back in their lives but they have been home since March without any structure. Please make the right decision and get our kids back on track.
7/21/2020 9:35:24	Rachel	Reimer-Kouame		Wichita	I agree with Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. Additionally, for the safety of students and staff who work with them, I feel that with the current increase in covid cases, schools should initially start online and remain online until cases have decreased significantly.
7/21/2020 9:35:29	Jamie	Prockish	Education	Wamego	As an elementary teacher, I feel that it is necessary to give teachers time to prepare, receive proper supplies, and see cases reduced before we begin school. Please abide by the governors executive order. Thank you!
7/21/2020 9:35:35	Brittany	Weber	Schools-teacher	Auburn	As much as I would love to go back right away I want it to be safe first. Giving us extra time would allow schools to make the return safer
7/21/2020 9:35:39	Ginnie	Ely	Teacher in usd259, parent	Goddard	COVID-19 is not going away. Let the teachers who are uncomfortable teaching leave their contracts without penalty, let the teachers who are ready to come back to the buildings start the school year with students. parents who want to keep their kids home can keep their kids home, and parents who want to send their kids to school can send their kids to school. Let's also look to the severity of the cases (hospitalizations and ICU capacity/usage) vs just the number of cases as our guide for a move to exercise more caution.
7/21/2020 9:35:33	Mary	Culross	231	Gardner	Please keep the needs of teachers in mind as we support the governors order to delay school. Then, it would be most beneficial to have a staged approach to in person learning. Begin with those with learning needs—IEPS, 504, etc. then slowly add additional students as the virus numbers allow. Teachers have families to protect too! We are not responsible for the economy of Kansas as babysitters.
7/21/2020 9:35:43	Karen	Duffner		Kansas City, MO	Starting after Labor Day gives schools a chance to acquire appropriate PPE and other protective gear such as dividers. It also provides a chance for teachers who will be teaching virtually to make appropriate adjustments to curriculum. With cases rising this close to the school year, admin and teachers haven't had time to make full adjustments to parents choosing virtual learning
7/21/2020 9:35:45	Mary	Fieser	None	8509 Westlawn Circle W	I have no problem with school starting after Labor Day. My biggest issue is mandating elementary students wear masks. I taught K-1 for 40 years and masks will simply not work with this age. They will become such a distraction and students will not be able to attain to their work. So much time will be lost dealing with issues instead of teaching. Thank you for your time and consideration!
7/21/2020 9:35:50	Nicole	Schoonover	Parent	Olathe, KS	I would prefer that we delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 9:35:53	Sarah	Reiss	USD 483	Plains	I am not in favor of the delayed start of schools. Please vote to start in August at our original start date. Thank you.
7/21/2020 9:35:53	Kate	Ruecker		Mission	Please continue to keep the safety of children, teachers and the families (some who may have conditions making them more high risk to complications from COVID-19) in the forefront when making decisions for the state's education to resume. It is concerning to me that numbers of cases in Kansas are on the rise, but we are still talking about opening schools. Please listen to medical experts, such as Lee Norman and take his recommendations to heart!
7/21/2020 9:35:55	Jody	Vowinckel	St. John's Catholic, Bel	Glen Elder	Keep the schools closed until after Labor Day. Give our schools more time to prepare for the Covid-19 recommendations.
7/21/2020 9:35:56	Laura	Hall		Salina	Full and over time working mom to make ends meet. My kids need an education that's more than I can provide. Send them back this fall.
7/21/2020 9:35:57	Meagan	Baldwin		Newton	Please approve Gov. Kelly's delay to the start of KS schools until after Sept. 8th. In Harvey County, our cases are rising and our republican county commission refuses to roll us back into a previous stage of reopening. We have families that are planning to attend a large youth livestock show and the county fair at the end of July. These events will likely lead to Covid clusters. The delay to after Labor Day allows time for these cases to be identified and contact tracing to take place.
7/21/2020 9:35:59	Rae	McDaniel	parent	Olathe	please delay the start of school.

7/21/2020 9:36:01	Jeremy	Stallbaumer		Seneca	I believe that schools should be open at regular time this fall. If an area is experiencing a surge in cases then it should be up to your school district to determine how they move forward. I do not believe a blanket policy is the correct way to move forward in this instance.
7/21/2020 9:36:02	Jennifer	Reling	Self	Beloit	I do not believe masks should be required for students or all teachers. Some counties have very little incidence of Covid. We shouldn't be treated the same as high incident schools. Online learning is ineffective for many (most) students.
7/21/2020 9:36:03	Becky	Weir	Parent if 2 school aged c	Shawnee ks	This is the MOST absurd, asinine, socialist mandate. Children should not be indoctrinated!!!! This is government overreach and i will NOT STAND FOR THIS. There is ZERO DATA TO SUPPORT THIS EO!!! Shame on you Governor Kelly!!
7/21/2020 9:36:37	Karen	Cunningham	Medicine Lodge Grade S	Medicine Lodge	I can handle school being pushed back a couple of weeks for teachers and admin to have some time to make accommodations for this ridiculous mandates that she threw out last minute. My fear is Governor Kelly will continue to push it back because the virus is not going anywhere. I am also very upset about the mask mandate for young children and the extreme social distance measures. At this moment if these extreme measures continue, I will not be sending my kids to school. I strongly believe it will be detrimental to their stress and anxiety levels. I want my children to love school. If you take away the parts that make it enjoyable, then they will hate it. The teachers will be on edge all day long (understandable) and it will be a horrible environment for children. It is proven kids don't spread it. I can't for the life of me understand how it is ok for me to drop my 18 year old son off at a dorm to live in, August 12th in Kansas but not ok to send my younger children to school.
7/21/2020 9:36:43	Casey	Conley		Kansas City	Let at risk teachers run online programs. Let lower risk teachers run in person programs. Parents have a choice and class sizes will be smaller.
7/21/2020 9:36:44	Pam	Walker	Teacher at Sabetha High	Bern, Kansas	Please error on the side of caution and support Governor Kelly's mandate.
7/21/2020 9:36:44	Tiffany	Ayala	USD 418	Lindsborg	I support governor Kelly's action to not start school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 9:36:49	Monica	Woods	Parent - USD383	Manhattan	I am in favor of protecting our children and teaching faculty / school staff with a delayed start to the school year. I support the Governor.
7/21/2020 9:36:51	Bobbie	Meier		Tonganoxie	If you can't meet in person as a board- teachers and students should not be in person either. Once the state board starts meeting in person- then you can talk about teachers and students doing the same. If it isn't safe enough for YOU to meet in person- it isn't safe enough for teachers and students either! I support the governor!
7/21/2020 9:36:55	Tracy	Overton	Shawnee Mission Educa	Lenexa	I support Governor Kelly's decision to delay school. I'm an educator and this time will allow our staff to prepare for this unusual school year that lies ahead. Safety of staff and students should be at the forefront of this decision making. Remote teaching is the safest for all involved. If businesses are still keeping employees home, then so should our school employees. Children will adapt and they are resilient. Teachers are highly trained to keep students on track and to catch the kids up who have fallen behind. Let us do our work safely. Please put partisanship aside and make a decision that protects students, their families and school employees.

					<p>Dear State Board of Education Members,</p> <p>I am writing to ask that you vote to approve Governor Kelly's upcoming executive order that will delay the opening of schools until after Labor Day. Given the recent increase in cases in various areas of our state and nation, it seems the prudent thing to do to allow schools extra time to gather necessary supplies and PPE in order to best equip buildings for the return of students, faculty, and staff.</p> <p>We have a child who will be starting kindergarten this year in Olathe, one enrolled in an area preschool, and one on the way (due in November); my husband and I are both educators ourselves. We realize there are no easy choices here. However, as teachers and parents, we know that thoughtful planning allows for more effective implementation. There are so many unknowns right now that opening schools in a few short weeks feels unnecessarily risky.</p> <p>Thank you for your service to our youngest Kansans and those who educate and serve them in our public schools.</p> <p>Take care and be well,          Claire Reagan          Olathe, KS</p>
7/21/2020 9:36:58	Claire	Reagan		Olathe	
7/21/2020 9:36:59	Jamie	Lingner	Spring Hill Middle scho	Paola	Our kids mental health is far more important than the recent covid numbers. We just keep our heads on straight and get our kids back to school.
7/21/2020 9:37:02	Lori	Etheridge	District employee	Overland park	These kids need to be back in school! I have been at the ball fields which are packed and grad parties with hundreds of people. Neither instance involves social distancing or masks. So there should be no reason we can't be back in the buildings with everyone in a mask. And they are playing sports everywhere but for the school so please let them have that back also. Mental health is as important as physical health. And with a median death age of 76 in Johnson county. The data does not support staying home either. Thank you
7/21/2020 9:37:03	Sarah	Mullen		Wichita	<p>I have a middle schooler and we have talked about wearing a mask and they understand why they would need to wear one. I feel pushing school back anymore is going to delay their learning. Online classes last school year were kind of a joke and there was no consistency with the teachers.</p> <p>Have schools offer online learning for those who want to keep their children at home. That will help cut down on classroom sizes. Offer in school learning Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. On Tuesday and Thursday they can do hybrid classes and it gives the school time to sanitize and it still holds children accountable or offer mon-Thur classes and Friday hybrid. If other countries have been able to go back to school successfully why can't we?</p>
7/21/2020 9:37:10	Amy	Jones		Bucklin Kansas	I want school to open for many reasons. Kids need interaction with others. Many kids need school for their safe place. I could go on and on, there have been no children with contact of the virus. Where we live we have only had 4 active cases, all of people over 50 and that has been a couple of months ago. We need to get this kids back in their environment! I vote let's just start school and get the kids started in sports as well.
7/21/2020 9:37:17	Melody	McComas	Parent	Wichita	I think it's dangerous to reopen schools during a pandemic surge. No one wants to sacrifice their child for this when there's no logical reason for reopening right now.
7/21/2020 9:37:22	Mel	Vee		Manhattan	Please open as scheduled, some people are ready and not worried to get back into a normal routine
7/21/2020 9:37:36	Tlrza	Lobato		Wichita	<p>This is an absurd over reach of power. If the virus is spread through droplets and masks and social distancing work to slow the spread then let students learn online. If private schools have adequate space to provide social distancing in the classrooms and can be diligent with cleaning then they should be in school! If schools have individual AC in each classroom, then there is no reason why they should not be in school.</p> <p>Our Students in Kansas will be the laughing stock of the country when they are all behind because our Governor thinks she has the power to stifle their education. This is absolutely NOT ok! Let the BOE make the decisions and keep those executive orders for things that actually require the Governor.</p>

7/21/2020 9:37:37	Jenni	Hipp		Garden City	Delaying the start of the school year only further hurts our children's development as they grow. They have already been hurt the last part of last year and now we are expecting them to start late. Children need to have stability and a strong educational program. I'm sorry but they are not getting what they fully need with online learning and delaying the start of school. Also, school for some of these children unfortunately is their safe place and the only place they get a good meal. I fear so many things that could happen if there is not a teacher or staff member in contact with some of these children.
7/21/2020 9:37:42	Tracey	Fuller	My family	Olathe	I am fully in support of delaying the school year in Kansas, full lock-down quarantine for the next few months until we can get the Coronavirus under control, then send kids back to school physically in January 2021. I will not send my 3 kids to school considering Covid cases are much higher than last spring when classes were canceled. Other countries took the quarantine seriously, who had strong leadership & listened to science experts, are now back to normal whereas the U.S. continues to drag it out. This also shows that we need to do a better job in our schools of teaching science & critical thinking like we used to do. I love our school district, OSD 233. They've done a fantastic job during this time, but kids are kids & it's not safe to send them back to school at this time. This is a global pandemic & it's not worth the lives of our children nor the school staff to return to school right now.
7/21/2020 9:37:48	Stacey	Lukas	Greenbush SEKESC	Merriam	With the spike in cases across the state, it will be like sending our teachers and students to the slaughterhouse if we return to school in-person, on the regular start date, without planning, testing, and mitigation strategies in place. I am at high risk for contracting the virus, and am a teacher and solo parent of a 5th grader. She cannot attend school, because the possibility that I catch covid-19 and die, leaving my little girl an orphan is very real. Show Kansas families that your priorities are in the right place, and delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 9:37:50	Angela	Wagoner	Mother, Teacher, and Co	Quinter	One size fits all doesn't work here in Kansas! Our demographics are too diverse. Schools here in western Kansas need to be opened on time. If anything, we should be starting school sooner. There are ZERO active cases in our county, why wait until fall when we get some?!?! If we started sooner, that would give us time to get to know our students and build relationships before moving to an online format when/if necessary. Those relationships are vital and dare I say more important than the curriculum standards we are upheld to. Parents, teachers, students, and our communities have prepared so that we can open safely. Please, don't deny these students the place that many need most right now.
7/21/2020 9:37:53	Madeline	Cheatham	Olathe Public Schools	Shawnee	Please support Gov. Kelly's Executive Order to delay starting school until after Labor Day. As a fifth grade teacher, I know that my students will have an incredibly difficult time social distancing and wearing a mask. We, as teachers, need to have all of the necessary items (hand sanitizers, masks, cleaning supplies, etc.) and need to be prepared for the most difficult school year ever. If we jump back into the school year without being the most prepared we possibly can be, the students and teachers will suffer greatly.
7/21/2020 9:37:59	Angie	Hutton		Olathe	Please keep the schools closed through Labor Day to try and keep our kids as safe as possible.
7/21/2020 9:38:01	Sylvia	Sawyer	Myself	Minneapolis	Teachers need more time to prepare for their varied classroom environments. Also, it's important to see where the COVID numbers go before school opens. Putting a bunch of kids and teachers/staff together on a daily basis in the middle of a pandemic is surely going to spike numbers even more. It's a dangerous mix. We can't know what the future holds after schools open again, but at least we can delay and potentially give the numbers a chance to go down a bit first.
7/21/2020 9:38:02	Jamie	Osborn	My family	Lawrence	Please keep our children safe by keeping the schools closed!!!
7/21/2020 9:38:03	Stacey	Scott		Concordia	Please vote in favor of Governor's mandates. Adjust the amount of days/hours of school year. Teacher's and students lives are more at risk now, than in March.

7/21/2020 9:38:10	Jerry	Brown	Mr.	Salina	I ask that you follow Governor Kelly's recommendation to start school on Sept. 9 if at all other than virtual school. The reason is our state is now considered in the "Red Zone" by the CDC. If you chose to let each school district do their own thing then you are passing the buck. Leadership is about leading and doing the right thing based on the best science at the time. By Sept 9 we should have much lower COVID numbers if our state really gets into wearing masks. The major chains stores are already requiring masks. Right now there are few stores in Salina that you can enter without a mask. However, the effect takes a few weeks. Now is not the time to put kids, parents, relatives, teachers, staff and communities at risk by a bad decision by the KSDE. This is what is predicted by John Hopkins and HMDI. Kansas should be recording about 20 some new cases a day by then not in the hundreds as in recent days. Do the right thing and put off school opening until Sept 9.
7/21/2020 9:38:13	Jordan	Epler	Kansas Teacher	Columbus	I support Governor Kelly's efforts to safely open schools.
7/21/2020 9:38:19	Jesse	Mechler		Berryton	Do not hold in person class this year. You canceled school when we had 1/4th of the cases we have now, why bring them back while cases are still rising?
7/21/2020 9:38:23	Staci	Payne		Manhattan	I would appreciate your vote to push back the start of school to September 9th. Our teachers need time for training and preparing for whatever the school year may bring! Thank you for your consideration!
7/21/2020 9:38:26	Diane	Rich	Cheney Middle School	Cheney	I believe that we need to delay the start of school so that administration and teachers have plenty of time to think about how to open our schools safely. I am a para at our local school and I would like to go back to school, but I want to go back safely. I want the plans to be well thought through and we'll implemented. I feel that if we rush it will not be well thought out.
7/21/2020 9:38:36	Carey	Walker, Jr		Mission	I am an educator in Wyandotte County. We need to allow schools to delay their openings. This should be determined by each district and county health department. We, educators, need time to plan out what is best for our students. We know what is best for them and our communities. Each district and community has different needs and the delay will allow districts more time to thoroughly adopt a plan that is built for their specific needs. We need to not only think of the students but the district teachers and staff. Just because children have lower transmission rates and death rates (which we shouldn't even be gambling with any death of a student) we need to think about the teachers, staff, parents, siblings, and other individuals the students come in contact with and could pass along the virus. This is not an easy situation for parents struggling to work during this time, but teachers had been under the assumption that we would be back to somewhat normal by beginning of the school year, but we are not and now we need time to adapt and plan accordingly.
7/21/2020 9:38:39	Andrew	Book		Olathe	Please delay the start of school until the spread of COVID-19 is contained, or transition to all virtual school until there is a vaccine. Students cannot learn and adults cannot work confidently when they are worried about catching a virus that could kill someone they love.
7/21/2020 9:38:40	Blake	Krier	N/A	Wichita	I believe schools should be opened on time. Beginning the game of delaying school two weeks will not stop. Nothing will magically change after Labor Day. Schools have had five months to obtain PPE as needed.
7/21/2020 9:38:42	Vicky	Needham		Shawnee	Opening schools too early. I wouldn't send my kids.
7/21/2020 9:38:47	Trisha	Purdon	Montgomery County Ac	Coffeyville	The schools need more time to prepare for in-school sessions. With SPARK funding only being approved on September 15 for funding disbursement, the schools need time to make capital improvements for separation of students, bottle fillers, food distribution, schedules, and education plans. Please support the E.O. in order to allow our districts time to implement these plans.
7/21/2020 9:39:01	Carrie	Paulette		Overland Park KS	I want to thank Governor Kelly for her leadership with this executive order. As an educator, I am eager to be able to continue my work with students, but only when it is safe for our school community to do so. I greatly appreciate the extra weeks to create a safe and effective plan for our students. I also appreciate Governor Kelly's emphasis on the most important point: safely opening schools depends on containing the virus in our communities first. It is my hope that the delay in school opening will spur communities across Kansas to do their part to contain the virus so that schools can reopen.
7/21/2020 9:39:08	Heather	Snyder	Usd 458 and 204	Basehor	I am all for pushing back the start date of school. I am a special education teacher and mother. I have also been on chemo for the past 12 years. If I were to contract this virus it will most likely kill me. My body will not be able to fight this off. I love my job. I love my family. I love being alive. Please let us start the year off safely and with a plan on how to keep everyone safe. This year at school is going to be so hard, we need to make it as easy as we can for all of us. Thank you. ♡



7/21/2020 9:39:10	REGinald	Eggleston	Geary County Schools	Junction City	I support the executive order.
7/21/2020 9:39:36	Kate	Simpson		Newton	The government has no right to tell private schools or homeschools what they can and cannot do. Do not allow this order to pass. This is not an issue of whether or not you think the rules are good ones and will protect people from getting sick. It is an issue of the government sticking its fingers where they don't belong. We send our children to private schools or home school them because we care about them getting a well rounded education instead of just indoctrination by the state. We do this so the government cannot control what, when, or how our children learn. And time and time again this has proven to give kids a better education anyway. The very fact that the EO is trying to not only ban in-person classes, but also forbids online learning before the date the governor has set serves to prove that this is NOT a safety issue, but a control issue. The governor and the BOE have NO RIGHT to do this.
7/21/2020 9:39:46	Jennica	Hammerschmidt	Parent	Olathe	Opposed. Children need the structure of school for their mental health and social emotional well being. The chance of hospitalization for those under age 65 is very low. I encourage you to open.
7/21/2020 9:39:47	Maria	Mills		Salina	I believe decisions should be left to local schools. Some smaller districts may choose to begin early to maximize time with students before possible closures during normal cold/flu season.
7/21/2020 9:39:52	Shane	Wilson		Lawrence	It is absolutely IMPERATIVE to uphold E.O. 20-58 and delay the opening of schools in Kansas. This is a purely data-driven decision that takes into account the rapid increase in Caronavirus cases in the state. THERE ARE MORE THAN JUST CHILDREN WHO OPERATE IN THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT. While the fatality rates and rates of infection "may" be lower with children, adults are still very present in that setting and need to be at the forefront of protection as well. This will NOT end well if the approach that is taken is politically-driven. Do the math. Listen to the experts in the scientific fields that are relevant. Please uphold this E.O.
7/21/2020 9:40:03	Ruth	Falls	Not applicable	Olathe	I taught 40 years in high schools in the Olathe Public Schools. I currently have two of my adult children that are carrying on that tradition by teaching in a middle and high school in Olathe. I completely support the Governor's order in delaying opening schools until at least after labor day! I cannot speak for elementary situations, but I know, without a doubt, that large high schools such as those in Johnson County cannot provide sensible space and air flow to keep both teachers and students safe. As we have learned more recently about older students transmission and the realization that upwards of 30 percent of school staff have pre-existing conditions like age, diabetes, autoimmune issues, and cancer survivors to send them in to a building without proper ventilation and space would be uncaring and outright unconscionable. Teachers want to get back to normalcy, but they are scared. No one knows what it is like to spend 7 to 8 hours in a closed building with kids and their behaviors unless they have taught. I implore you to vote to keep our schools closed until at least labor day and realize that masks and spacing will have to be a part of reopening but hopefully thinking outside the box to ensure safety for all. some type of hybrid, creative schedule for high schools and middle schools needs to happen and time to plan for that takes time. Thank you.
7/21/2020 9:40:15	Laura	Milligan		Leavenworth	Don't risk the health and wellbeing of children, teachers, and support staff. KS has a shortage of school employees as it is. Please don't use them as political fodder.
7/21/2020 9:40:14	Chris	Vering	Parent	Lenexa	The need for in-person education is critical to the development of our youth. This can not be stressed enough. The mental health of our teenagers is at much greater risk than the risks to them of not having in-person classes. As a parent of a teenager, I cannot stress how important this is to their development and their continued education. The mental health issues with our youth will be far reaching and a long term impact for years and having remote classes would only make this worse. I may be reached at 913-269-9016 if you would like to further discuss.
7/21/2020 9:40:16	Paul	Gottesburen		Lawrence	I fully support delaying of the 2020-2021 school year to ensure schools are adequately prepared for students to return and/or to allow schools to be prepared for remote learning if schools cannot be made safe for our children amidst the pandemic. We cannot have our children returning to school and furthering the transmission of Covid-19, then bringing it back home to additional family members or risking the health of those who are there to educate our students. Infection (with unknown long-term consequences) and death (of students, teachers, and family members) is not an acceptable trade-off for sending kids back to school.
7/21/2020 9:40:22	Noel	Lucero	Usd259	Wichita	Support Kelly's EO! Stop making this a political issue.
7/21/2020 9:40:37	Ashley	Selfridge	Kansas Connections Ac	Burdett	While I totally understand delaying school to get supplies, I do not think that a 100 percent virtual school should have to wait. This applies to districts also. If they start school online there is no reason to wait.
7/21/2020 9:40:45	Christy	Thomas		Wichita	Start school in August as planned online only and work towards in person by October 1.

7/21/2020 9:40:51	Heather	Gepner	USD 108	Washington	I do not know what the right or wrong answer is. But I do believe that my little school district compared to Olathe, Kansas City or Wichita..or any of those in between will have different right and wrong answers. Washington County only has one confirmed Covid test. Do I think there is other unknowns cases in the county, yep, sure do. Do I think we will get more confirmed cases, yep, sure do. But, I still would like to start school on August 19. We have amazing administration and board members who have been working very hard to make sure our schools will be safe and ready to have our students come back. Our Covid committee (consisting of several staff members), has met several times to discuss our best options. We are ready! I understand that it will be much easier for our little elementary school of approximately 180 students will be much easier to screen than 1000 students. Thanks for the work you do!!
7/21/2020 9:40:55	Mark	Ellner	Parent	Manhattan	I support the delay of school starting for individual districts to more fully prepare to educate students while keeping them and staff as safe as possible in an effective and positive manner.
7/21/2020 9:41:00	Shelly	Stout		Bucklin	Our children need to go back to school for many reasons. They need to get back to structure, many kids need that. They need a safe place to go. They also need interactions with others.
7/21/2020 9:41:02	Karen	Brantingham		Topeka	Please approve Gov. Kelly's executive order to allow students & staff to be as safe as possible as well as provide schools precious time to prepare more effectively.
7/21/2020 9:41:02	Andrea	Cook	none	Olathe Kansas	Kids need to go back to school, our kids are ready to learn, they need to learn. Many kids have been playing sports and with friends all summer. School districts have had the entire summer to create a plan to start back to school in August. More time is not going to change the virus or the lack of a vaccine. It is not going to be perfect or look the way we want to it to, but don't we owe it to the kids to try? I do not want to see kids continue falling behind while private schools have worked through a plan and those kids will be learning while our great public schools in Kansas do nothing. Please vote to send our kids back to school.
7/21/2020 9:41:02	Becky	Racette	District school nurse US	Bennington	I as the district school nurse/only nurse for my 2 school buildings I am for delaying school till September. We need to be able to get our plan set and have staff and parents educated on what we are going to do. We also need to get supplies for the school buildings. Safety of my staff and students is my #1 priority at this moment in time. We can't have school if my staff doesn't feel safe with our plan. I can't keep them safe if I don't have supplies. Please vote to approve this order for delaying school till September.
7/21/2020 9:41:03	Lori	Shobe	Teacher	Salina	Please approve the delayed start of schools so we can better prepare. Thank you.
7/21/2020 9:41:04	Phillip	Payne		Manhattan	The least we can do is push the beginning of the school year back to September 9th. Our teachers meet time to prepare for whatever might unfold this school year!
7/21/2020 9:41:06	Mitchell	Burns	Teacher	Plains	Give the schools the extra time to get there safety measures in place. I can see schools shut down by Labor Day with outbreaks. I pray for you all during this difficult decision.
7/21/2020 9:41:11	Jill	Mady		Seneca	As the only nurse for our school district, I fully support the governor's delay in starting school. Our ability to safely have schools in our buildings depends on being prepared, and with the formal recommendations only having been released last week, that time is critical. In addition, should the governor choose to delay further or require online or hybrid learning based on the increasing COVID-19 cases, I would fully support that as well. School is a safety net for our children and that cannot be ignored. However, the health and safety of the students and staff absolutely must take precedents over a "perfect" learning environment, sports, activities, etc. There are ways to provide that support to at risk students, meals, etc. without endangering the those staff and students. The teachers have been given a profoundly difficult task this year and should be allowed the time to make the necessary changes to their curriculum, not rushed into it. The health staff must be allowed time to make the changes and modifications to keep students safe. I urge you to allow this delay to go forward and give our districts that time.
7/21/2020 9:41:15	Lesli	Cryer	Parent of 8th grader	Wichita	Please start school before Labor Day as planned allowing for more in-person days should the virus worsen in the colder months. It seems like our kids are at lower risks and they need education to be as minimally disrupted as possible.
7/21/2020 9:41:19	Anne	Dresie		Leawood	Please consider delaying school until after Labor Day.

7/21/2020 9:41:24	Brian	Grossnickle	Myself	Manhattan	I'm a high school teacher in Chapman, KS. Although Chapman is in a rural county, Dickinson, even they are experiencing a surge in new cases. This, combined with studies from South Korea suggesting kids ages 10-18 can spread the virus just as easily as adults, make me think it is a good idea to start school after Labor Day like the Governor is suggesting. Even then, we may have to start out with school online and switch to in building classes when possible. The safety of our students is priority number one. The safety of faculty and staff is number two. I will say a prayer for guidance in your decision tomorrow. Thanks for your hard work. Brian
7/21/2020 9:41:26	Kalie	Scanlon		Gardner	When making this decision I feel the special needs kids and how they are affected during the remote learning process has not been taken into consideration. As a mother of an 8 year old child who has overall global development disabilities, she has suffered severely during remote learning. I would like there to be discussions on what this would look like for these kids. I believe at the very least, these kids should be able to come in once a day for 45min-1hour to be able to get the IEP. They can be done one at a time and come in a few days a week. Remote learning is not an option for these kids. They will suffer the most by making everyone remote learning. Please consider setting up exceptions for this group in the event we go to remote only.
7/21/2020 9:41:26	Trevor	Campbell	Parent in Blue Valley Sc	Overland Park	I request that the School Districts and BOEs process refunds for each day that the child is not in school for in-person learning. The school bonds and property taxes allocated for schools were not agreed to on the ballot for remote learning/in home learning.
7/21/2020 9:41:28	Lauren	Goldman	Blue Valley High School	Overland Park	I believe delaying the school year offers a really important opportunity for the community to lower the spread of COVID prior to returning to schools. I am hopeful this most recent increase in cases is the wake-up call we need in Johnson County to pull back our larger events, gatherings and parties, to wear our masks and to get the spread of the virus down to more acceptable levels. I believe that a hybrid-approach to opening schools offers our teachers and our children the opportunity to succeed in school while also maintaining lower numbers of students at one time. But, this is only possible if we are willing to think outside of the box and delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 9:41:28	Justin	Gittle		Manhattan	Do what is best for our students AND teachers, administration, and staff!
7/21/2020 9:41:36	Cassandra	Sines	Parent - My student	Wichit	Do NOT open schools!!!! It's not safe at this time. Numbers are growing in Sedgwick County and other parts of the state. If you open schools there will be a lot of staff, teacher, and children's deaths on your hands!
7/21/2020 9:41:41	Shelly	Widau		Eskridge	I believe the school year should start on time. The staff and students would need to wear masks and continue good hand washing.
7/21/2020 9:41:47	Stephen	Maurer	USD 259	Derby	This measure is the very bare minimum the state can do to ensure the safety of students and staff. I'm a teacher. I'm terrified at the prospect of my immuno-compromised colleagues being at risk or any stakeholder (district employees, student, parent, family members) being exposed to death or long-term health complication. The scientific evidence objectively shows a rising infection rate that will explode if in-person instruction begins as originally scheduled. We cannot afford to open in-person as normal by mid-August only to shut weeks later.
7/21/2020 9:41:47	Caitlin	Bruner		Wichita	PLEASE choose to follow Governor Kelly's E.O.!! My child will be entering kindergarten this year. Kansas is NOT ready to re-open public schools in a traditional format and we will NOT be ready until we have COVID-19 under control. Please, please, PLEASE choose to keep our children and school staff healthy by following Governor Kelly's executive order. Please err on the side of caution. I am more than willing to make up days by adding additional schools days to the end of the year, starting school virtually from the traditional start date (8/15) to the new start date per Gov Kelly's EO.
7/21/2020 9:41:51	Shannon	Bussmann		Frankfort	We need to keep our educators safe. Not many cases here however people are not social distancing or wearing masks at all which is their choice. Our teachers need a voice to combat others lack of respect for our educators health and safety and that of their families. Our building is a K-12 building with our lunch centrally located in the middle. All kids overlap all day long. All focus has been on the kids getting back to school but how about we focus on keeping our staff just as safe. Without the safety of our educators we can't have school period. Everyday I hear people in my community say my kids have drove me nuts they have to be back in school and I know for a fact those same people have not distanced at all and never wear a mask, they have been traveling etc and their child's teacher has social distanced the entire time and by sending those kids into her classroom is a huge concern we have lots of young healthy active teachers with very young children and they chose to social distance wear a mask etc to protect them and their families and now we are telling them they have sit in a classroom with 12-20 students for 7-8 hours a day that have t taken any precautions....that's not right.

7/21/2020 9:41:57	Faith	Brown	Parent of child with spec	Overland Park	<p>School Board, My special needs child with relies on school services to receive the therapy she needs. We have been out of school for four months and the effects of this closure have been most profound on those who are not being heard. My daughter's friend with Down syndrome who has significantly regressed to the point of not being able to look anyone in the eye and crying all day when just months before he was active and socially engaged. The kids who relied on the school for breakfast and lunch and are going hungry because their parents don't have transportation to pick up free meals. Countless kids in Kansas are in homes where they are being abused and if they are not SEEN by teachers they will continue to be abused. I urge you to consider all students, not just the parents who have time, capacity and knowledge of how to lobby the board. Anyone not comfortable sending their kids to school should have the choice for online learning, but if there is not the option of in-person learning for those who need it most, child abuse will get worse and special needs kids will continue to deteriorate.</p> <p>Today it's moving the start of school and tomorrow it will be closing schools again. The school board needs to be allowed to make decisions for the students of Kansas. I urge you to not uphold ANY of Governor Kelly's overreaching orders. Our kids need normalcy and in-person school right away. My kindergartener needs to see her teacher's reassuring smile. Enough with the politics - Governor Kelly may mean we'll but she is out of touch with the working class that doesn't even know who to call or contact to have their voice heard. The school board needs to look at the whole picture and trust that the same system that has dealt with all the viruses and illnesses for decades will be able to handle this new virus that is already weakening. Please don't let these kids pay the price for the Governor's bad decision. These kids need in-person Normal school and they need it now.</p>
7/21/2020 9:42:06	Traci	Ditter	Fhsu	Hsys	Close them until we get a handle on this. Our county commissioners and director of county health tell everyone that masks won't help.
7/21/2020 9:42:09	Christy	Clevenger	My high school age stud	Overland Park	Our children are getting sick. There are high risk students in our schools, not to mention the teachers that are at high risk. What is to stop them from bringing the virus home. I want our schools to open like most people especially for my student who is a Senior. But at what cost. My child is high risk and willing to do whatever restrictions you give just to be able to go back to school for her final year. Give the restrictions. But make sure they are followed to the letter. I'm even if we do partial opening and reassess at the 1st quarter. Worry about the students, but don't forget about the others they are in contact with. Worry about the teachers that the state has failed time and time again.
7/21/2020 9:42:14	Kim	Becker		Conway Springs and Ar	I don't feel that all districts should be treated the same especially in rural areas. I am a secretary in one district and have a 5th grader in another. I prefer to send our child to school for many reasons. I also feel that covid has been through our area starting back in November. Temperature checks are a false sense of security as it can change quickly depending on person and environment. What about those who walk as their temperature will be higher. Who will be taking temperatures and telling parents their student can't attend? The school where I work doesn't have a nurse. I also feel that masks encourage face touching more especially with younger ones. Just look while in a store or other business and see how many times a person touches it then another object. Communication can also be lost. I wish you the best on all these decisions and options/obstacles you are facing.
7/21/2020 9:42:17	Michelle	Mullins		Quinter	Our kids need to be learning from teachers in the class room with peers. It allows them to learn other ways of thinking, other questions to ask, it teaches them patience, it allows them to build their strengths and weaknesses. Children need social skills and interaction. They need structure, and schools are essential to them having that.
7/21/2020 9:42:19	Theresa	Schwartz	self	Lawrence	Thank you Governor Kelly. I'm a grandmother and former state agency attorney (retired now). If children return to in person attendance before the virus stops spreading it's like sending children into a burning building while it's still burning. Even if most children would survive getting the virus some would suffer long term negative health problems and many would infect others whose immune systems aren't able to fight it off. Please put saving lives over every other consideration.

7/21/2020 9:42:22	Elizabeth	Young	Student/Parent	Lyndon, Kansas	I am in favor of delaying the opening of schools until after Labor Day. I look forward to my children (ages 11 & 13) going back to school in-person. However, I want them to do so with proper precautions in place. To my knowledge, my school district would need additional time in order to put these precautions in place and to develop a plan for opening safely. My community/county does not have high numbers of positive cases. However, I believe it would be foolish to think that just because we do not have high numbers, we should not take precautions. In my opinion, putting proper safety precautions in place like masks, social distancing and good hygiene, we will be able to help ensure that our numbers remain low and students can continue with in-person instruction.
7/21/2020 9:42:28	Kelly	Ruiz		Overland Park	Please uphold Governor Kelly's EO to delay the start of the school year. With rising positive testing rates in our area, it is the responsible vote. Schools are terribly unprepared to open in this current situation. To open schools would put lives at risk, and your vote to uphold Governor Kelly's EO is the one thing you can do right now to mitigate the risk to teachers, staff, students, and families. We are all depending on you to make good choices.
7/21/2020 9:42:28	Jennifer	Cairns		Lenexa	Thank you for considering every possible scenario when deciding how our students will attend school in the fall. I sincerely hope you will uphold Governor Kelly's delayed start plan and allow our families and our schools more time to prepare for what this school year might look like.
7/21/2020 9:42:33	Crystal	Yakel-Kuntz	KCKPS	Mission	It is unsafe to go back to school when we do not have containment of a deadly virus that is still taking shape. Supplies and resources are inadequate to safely and effectively educate students in-person. Please do not risk the health of our students and staff in asking us to return to in-person schooling. Thank you!
7/21/2020 9:42:35	Monika	Markus		Emporia	Hello. Please uphold the Governor's order to push back the opening of schools. As an instructor who is at risk, and realizes many of my students have conditions that will affect their health greatly this year, schools need the time to plan for each situation that may occur, gather PPE, and see where our covid numbers are and how they are trending. Many teachers have not been given 'plans' by their administration on how schools will be run yet. Giving districts extra time will allow teachers to prepare to utilize safety protocols in the most effective way possible.  Thank you, and please uphold the Governor's order to push back school openings.
7/21/2020 9:42:45	Candy	B	Our family	Andale, Ks	Please allow districts to make decisions that are best for them. Recommendations are amazing. But each town and district is different. Students have different needs, families and teachers have different needs. Also, please allow districts to make decisions on masks. I'm not against masks, but young children will not wear them in a way that is effective. I have worked in an elementary school. I can guarantee a kindergartners mask will be in the floor at least 5 times a day. How is that sanitary for anyone? I can't even imagine what will happen in a bathroom. Please allow districts to decide what is best for their students.
7/21/2020 9:42:50	Valerie	Slinkard	Pratt USD 382 and Barb	Medicine Lodge	Please support the governor of KS and her orders including the school start delay to Sept. I work in Pratt as a teacher who would appreciate your support in valuing our safety. I live and have grandchildren in Medicine Lodge that attend North Barber schools. I ask that you support the governor's order.
7/21/2020 9:42:56	Donna	McDougall		Shawnee	I believe there should be stricter guidelines, we still do not know how this will effect us in the future. Without young people and students, we have no future.
7/21/2020 9:43:00	Clayton	Applegate		Goddard	I'm in favor of giving the schools as much time as they need to get prepared and to be able to successfully adhere to the mandates the governor has given and to keep our students, teachers and school staff as safe as possible. At the end of the day, if we error on the side of caution and delay the start of school unnecessarily, all we lose are a few weeks of time. If we error on the side of full steam ahead and open the schools in two weeks and kids and teachers and staff start getting sick and dying . . . that's bad. I'd rather take the slow safe bet and be wrong. Give the schools until after Labor Day to be ready. . . thanks for your time.

7/21/2020 9:43:00	Heather	Farha		Olathe	<p>I am hoping our KSBE votes to uphold Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of our Kansas school year.</p> <p>I believe we need time to further review the data that is starting to be collected worldwide (i.e., South Korea, Israel, daycare centers in Texas and California) and see that until we can effectively assess and collect more data, we could be putting many, many Kansas families at risk. I believe Governor Kelly is following the science and facts we have so far, and that her decision to delay was not made lightly. I think she is trying to do the right thing by Kansans, and I hope the Board will vote in support of her order.</p> <p>I am a widowed parent of two students in Olathe, one with special needs who is at higher risk. I also teach in the Olathe School District. I want nothing more than to be back at school and to have my daughters back at school - but I think we need to see our Covid19 numbers in steady decline before it is safe to do so. I am hopeful we will all do our part to wear masks and get the virus under control, but until we do, our students, teachers, and all our families should be given more time to ensure our safety.</p>
7/21/2020 9:43:05	paula	kear	Colwich Grade School	colwich	<p>I am a teacher at Colwich Elementary School. I am 56 yrs old, and I am in favor of opening our schools as usual. Each district should have the choice to do what is best for them. There is no one size fits all for this. If a teacher does not feel safe, that is his/her feeling, and they need to make a decision for themselves and their families. But, we have never made the whole system change or close due to the health of some. If someone is high risk, then they need to evaluate for their safety. Our kids need to get back into our buildings and have a little normalcy to their lives. We are their constant in this crazy world.</p>
7/21/2020 9:43:13	Brook	Brubeck	USD 113	Sabetha	<p>I am the director of food services for Prairie Hills USD 113, and I can tell you that we need every single second of the extra time you are considering to prepare for the year ahead. We are still procuring supplies and equipment, still figuring out how to handle all of the possible scenarios, and still awaiting our own local board's recommendations for reopening. We need this time, not just to allow our local case number to decrease, but also to be as ready as we can be. I'm trying so hard to protect my team of extremely dedicated but also high risk ladies. Please vote yes.</p>
7/21/2020 9:43:13	Merle	Schlabauh	Recently retired college	Newton, Kansas	<p>Please delay the start of classes in Kansas public schools until after September 1 and support governor Kelly in her attempts to make schools safe for both students and educators. Masks should be required, as well as frequent health checks, i.e. daily temperature monitoring, social distancing, etc. This is a matter of life and death, not a political game!</p>
7/21/2020 9:43:15	Katie	Blaufuss		Topeka	<p>Please let the kids go back to school in as much of a normal fashion as possible. Do not mandate masks and social distance. If someone chooses to wear a mask let them. These kids need social interaction and a place to learn that makes them feel comfortable. Their immune systems need a chance to build up before cold/flu season as well. Let's get back to norma please!</p>
7/21/2020 9:43:17	Ashley	Wiltse	Andover USD 385	Andover	<p>Please consider to delay the start of school this year! Our numbers are rising by the day, our city is having to move COVID patients to other regional areas to support them. Please let our state get a moment to get our ducks in a row so we can be better prepared for our students so when the COVID numbers are lowered, we are prepared to teach them the best ways we can in the safest, most meaningful way we can. As a teacher and parent, I am terrified of unknowingly passing this along to my own students, let alone my own family members. I have two family members who are immunocompromised, so we have been very careful since March to make sure they are staying healthy and well. Thank-you for your time and consideration.</p>
7/21/2020 9:43:26	Lynnette	Hibbs	Usd465	Winfield	<p>I want to wait to start school on September 9th so we have a better idea about facts and science regarding COVID 19 cases in the state.</p>

7/21/2020 9:43:29	Anita	White	School Teacher	Frontenac KS	Given that cases of COVID-19 continue to rise in our region and state, I encourage you to delay the start of classes as outlined by the governor. Since the amount of classtime remains the same, students will not be losing out on anything other than to give staff time to address potential issues and practice procedures prior to students being in the building. The focus is often on children, as it should be. However, the people who rely on those studies to say that children under 11 rarely develop the disease, they ignore studies that indicate students above 11 are just as likely to be carriers and develop disease as other adults. While I understand circumstances are different in many districts, a statewide policy would do much more to help reduce the number of cases across the state. Failing to maintain statewide policies has contributed greatly to the dramatic increase in cases resulting in deaths and long term medical problems for those infected. I urge you to support the delay the start of school to help keep our students and their families safe.
7/21/2020 9:43:39	Angela	Wiehl		Great Bend	I think it should be left to local areas to decide since not all areas are being affected the same. Our children have been out of school for almost 6 months and they need to be getting a real education. Teachers have worked very hard to help our kids remotely, but we all know that it is not the same and the quality of education is not as good. Students are falling behind and it will be very hard for them to catch up, if they miss any more.
7/21/2020 9:43:44	Anna	Haynes	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	I do not want to start school until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 9:43:48	Merinda	Iodice	Cedar creek elementary	Olathe	Kids need to go back to school ASAP!
7/21/2020 9:43:55	Adriana	Brittain		Medicine Lodge	Dont think kids or teachers should be forced to wear a mask to school.
7/21/2020 9:43:56	Susan	Evers	A member of the public.	Overland Park	<p>Please support Gov Kelly's Executive Order to delay the beginning of the school year until after Labor Day with flexibility to re-consider based on the status of covid-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths in our state at that time.</p> <p>It is unwise, in my opinion, to start school when the virus rages in our back yards. Some Kansas areas will be safer than others.</p> <p>Please thoughtfully consider Public Health recommendations, not political interference.</p> <p>Your responsibility is heavy. I send encouragement to keep our Kansas students, teachers and their support staff, school administrators, custodians, librarians, cafeteria workers and front office staff as safe as possible in this time of the SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic.</p>
7/21/2020 9:43:58	Andrea	Wiebe	Derby USD 260	Wichita	As a voting citizen and tax payer, I support EO 20-58 delaying schools until after Labor Day. As a teacher, we need this critical time to make extra plans for a menu of educational options for our families. This is a school year like no other, and it is necessary at this time to make exceptions to the calendar to help school districts and teachers plan for a more safe re-entry to in-person learning. We want to teach students, and we want to do so safely, but we need time to make plans that follow the guidance that has just come from the state in the past week. Our students are this state's future, and in the long run, three weeks' late start will not make a difference. We will still meet the required hours for student instructional time, just on a shifted calendar. Waiting several weeks will give more time to adjust to masks (which we hope will help flatten the curve on the COVID-19 virus), and will give districts more time to acquire materials and make plans to keep our in-person return as safe as possible. Thank you for your service to the students and teachers of Kansas.
7/21/2020 9:44:07	Michelle	McElwee	Pray Woodman	Maize	<p>Hello,</p> <p>My son is supposed to start kindergarten. My husband is currently away for the military and I work full time. How will I have enough time to commit to schooling him from home? Kindergarten is the fundamentals of every topic: English, reading, writing, math, language, etc. Furthermore, he has sensory issues that impacts him wearing a mask. If his teacher wears a mask can it have the clear screen for them to see his/her mouth. My son is already in speech and OT privately. These masks work better as he can see the mouth and tongue position when working on phonetics. Delaying the start of school impacts a wide range of generations to come after us. They will be taking care of us and we are going to reap the delays in the years to come. Daycare's have been taking care of these kids for months with no huge increase. A school environment is no different and the plans drafted were good measures to put in place. Please don't delay school!</p>

7/21/2020 9:44:09	Shelly	Ellis	USD383 Bergman Elem	Riley	I vote in favor of delaying the school start date until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 9:44:16	Kristi	DeWerff	USD 428 Kindergarten	Great Bend	Please think about the health and safety of our students, students' families, teachers, and teachers' families when making this decision. I will be starting my fourth year teaching and second year in kindergarten this year. The amount of times I was sick this past year was unbelievable. Kiddos can be the germiest little beings around! Think about this spring when we shut down, we are in much deeper situation now than we were and we want kids to return to the building? We have options - do not make this decision harder than it has to be. We are putting thousands of lives at risk by returning to the building. As much as I want to return to the normal setting, I know it's not a good decision. Online learning can be done. If this has to be our new normal, we can do it. People can adapt. TEACHERS can adapt.
7/21/2020 9:44:19	Greg	Strecker	Hutchinson-Trinity Cath	Hutchinson	I agree with delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. More time is needed to plan curriculum/teaching methods and to put into place ways to keep our teachers, staff and students safe.
7/21/2020 9:44:21	Julie	King	Mother of 3 students	Colby	I strongly feel that the health and safety of our children are best protected by delaying the start of school, and feel that 100% remote learning for the school year is the best way to move forward from after Labor Day until there can be complete confidence that any student or staff member will not be at risk from Covid-19. At this point, there is very little to no confidence that there will not only be positive cases, but it is likely that outbreaks will occur if students are in person despite sanitation and mask preventive measures. Please do not send out children back to school despite pressure from those who feel it is an inconvenience.
7/21/2020 9:44:26	Traci	Graham	Myself	Manhattan	I am strongly against the delaying of the 20-21 school year which has been proposed in the Governor's executive order. Our kids NEED to be back in school. School districts are putting together plans so that parents can choose whether to send their children to in person school or remain home for learning. So families have an option to keep their kids home and educate them if they feel that is best for their family. But delaying the start of school doesn't allow anyone to get back into education. I personally feel the job profession of a teacher should be considered essential. Essential workers have been working all through this pandemic. They've followed safety protocols and remained safe. Why do we not have that same expectation of our educators??? Our children need school - not just for the education, they need it for the social learning, they need the structure back in their lives. I am a single parent with no family in the area, without the funds to hire outside help and working full time so I also don't have the time to homeschool my kids or continue to try and watch over them during the day while I try to work. The 3 of us battled some emotional issues when they were forced to homeschool last Spring. We can't go through that again. I was raised by 2 teachers who taught for 30+ years in Kansas and my brother is currently a teacher. He has health issues and would be considered high risk but he still WANTS to be in the classroom with his students. We need more teachers like him! PLEASE do not approve the order to delay school. Our kids and parents in Kansas need schools to begin on time! Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 9:44:28	David	Silverman	Concerned Parent	Salina	I support the governor's position.  However, other schools have tried to operate under the current circumstances, and found that during this impossible time, it is not possible to do operate in-person classes.  I would urge the BOE to keep school buildings closed until the virus is gone. The science suggests that this is so pervasive and contagious that even the CDC has said that schools represent the "highest" risk.
7/21/2020 9:44:30	Ashley	Woodworth		Clay Center	I have two elementary age children and a baby due in October. I am very nervous about my kids attending school in person due to the spike in cases statewide. I feel delaying until after labor day gives more time for districts and the state agencies to make a comprehensive plan for reopening. My kids need school, just like everyone else, but for the time being I feel they should get it from home via remote learning when the time comes to protect themselves, their teachers and substitutes, as well as our new baby coming soon and the elderly family (grandparents) they spend a lot of time with while their dad and I are at work in between school and when we get off. Thank you for all that you do for our kids across the state.



7/21/2020 9:44:32	Jerri	Kemvle	Retired Assistant Superi	Lawrence	I believe Gov. Kelly is putting the health of Kansas citizens first in delaying the start of schools. The health of our people is our most precious resource. What is the hurry? We have the tools to educate students online until it is safe to return to the school building. School districts can not do this alone. Communities must work together, pivot, and develop a new playbook to meet the needs of the people in 2020. We must all be a part of this solution!
7/21/2020 9:44:36	Heather	Fredericksen	Blue Valley USD 229-S	Overland Park, KS John	Please approve Gov. Kelly's order. As an Elementary Special Education Teacher and parent of a middle school student and high school student I support her decision to delay opening and mandate the guidelines set forth by the CDC and recommendations from the KSDE plan. We need PPE for our teachers and students and by delaying school will allow for districts to appropriately plan and gain resources. I also believe that we need to look at the data and keep reviewing. Take emotion out and let our data drive the decision! We may have to re-evaluate in a few weeks to determine action. Be flexible and think outside the box! Health and Safety first.
7/21/2020 9:44:38	kimberly	williams	Parent	Goddard	I am for delaying the school year.
					<p>I'm in favor of delaying school regardless of the fact that it causes an immediate concern for what to do with our children in the interim.</p> <p>Our schools each individually had plans for reopening - thoughtful plans - plans that were ready by July 1. The guidance given to them by the Kansas Board of Education is welcomed by myself and our family and we appreciate the strategic, widespread efforts to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our children, however after receiving a guide that is more than 1000 pages long with great suggestions that many schools have not yet thought through schools need the necessary time to adjust their plans, to make arrangements &amp; further change their staff (made more complicated by the fact that many new contracts just began this month). They need the time to purchase additional supplies, to distribute them and to work through how to ensure ALL students who have connectivity issues can assess their educational tools the same as others. I want my children IN THE BUILDING just as much as the next person, but giving them the additional 2 weeks before they start can have much more benefit long-term. It allows for the opportunity to get more students INTO the schools in a way that is safe and follows guidelines recommended by health professionals. It also allows additional time to prepare schools' classrooms, workflows and to further test technology.</p> <p>Please vote to approve Governor Kelly's Executive Order. This is not a political issue. My family just came out of quarantine after my 3 year old was exposed to COVID-19 at daycare by another child who tested positive. My 3 year old with asthma - who attends a daycare that has followed every guideline to a tee. If we rush implementation of this plan as we've been forced to do we run much greater risk than if we start school as planned because it's more convient for parents.</p>
7/21/2020 9:44:40	Briena	Parks	Myself	Shawnee County (just o	Please wait to open schools so they are more prepared.
7/21/2020 9:44:44	Melinda	Vizcarra	Parent Blue Valley Scho	Overland Park	I am in favor of delaying school start date. However I think it is critical my children receive in person instructional learning.
7/21/2020 9:44:45	Dani	S	None	Manhattan	<p>In regards to delaying opening my concerns are:</p> <p>A) You are now opening much closer to cold and flu season. Do you know what mimics COVID-19 symptoms? Colds, Influenza, and RSV.</p> <p>If we are able to begin school on August 12 as scheduled, we would likely be able to get in a whole quartet of classes before everyone begins displaying COVID symptoms shared with seasonal illnesses.</p> <p>B) Once planning days, snow days, and a break for Memorial Day are added into the schedule, children would be going to school until the last weeks of June. Would they then be expected to turnaround and go right back top "normal" opening in 2021 in early August?</p>
7/21/2020 9:44:45	Jamie	Rogers	Usd #329	Wamego	I would like for statewide numbers to be given a chance to go down more before school is started back.
7/21/2020 9:44:56	Emily	Straw	Home	Overland Park	We look forward to school opening after Labor Day
7/21/2020 9:45:03	Kristi	Parsons	Parent	Augusta	Stop delaying school! It should start in person & on time. Don't ruin another senior's year!!

7/21/2020 9:45:11	Jonathan	House		Manhattan	I think it's in the communities best interest to delay the school year. Or at the very least continue online learning. It just seems too risky to allow students and teachers to go back to schools. The virus will just continue to spread. Smaller groups would be a different story. But most classes have 20+ people in a classroom at one time.
7/21/2020 9:45:11	Elizabeth	Mauer	Shawnee Mission School	Olathe	School should begin online and not in person due to virus trend increasing, not decreasing. Starting school after Labor Day gives teachers and staff time to put together the best plan for student success. Sending students and staff to school in person only increases the spread among children and the adults who care for them.
7/21/2020 9:45:21	Jessica	Wobus		Topeka	I'm a SPED teacher and I am super nervous about going back to school regularly. I worry i am going to be exposed multiple times. I worry how schools will manage subs when we already have a hard time getting them and have to combine classes, especially in urban districts. Combining classes is an impossible request with social distancing. I have already accepted I will probably get it from school and just am praying that it's not as bad and that I don't spread it to my dad who's older and diabetic.
7/21/2020 9:45:24	Krista	Hoy	usd 497	Lawrence	Please uphold the executive order. It is NOT safe for anyone to return to school in August. I cannot possibly keep 25 kindergarteners socially distanced and healthy yet. Teachers need time to prepare for this! And we need to see a difference in the covid cases. Children are now testing positive. IT IS NOT SAFE, Be human. Be kind. Have compassion.
7/21/2020 9:45:24	Kevin	Makalous	Parent of 3 daughters in	Shawnee	Please encourage school districts to think outside the box. We have to innovate in this moment. It's not an either/or about schools. It can be a both/and. Remote learning and some in person. Hybrid is best for our family. I support the delay. But I also think we need to get school going in September! It's time.
7/21/2020 9:45:39	Heather	Dyer	Self	Wamego	Will we be given the option to educate our children remotely? Especially for those of us who have high risk people living in the home? And for high risk children?
7/21/2020 9:45:41	Beverlee	Brokesoulder	I teach PE in KCK	Shawnee, KS	I feel that if delaying the start of school will help us get make to a more normal school year we should do it. Everyone needs to be physically and mentally safe to teach and learn. A delayed start is a small price to pay for our health.
7/21/2020 9:45:41	Haiyan	Li		Overland Park	Need plan online learning ahead
7/21/2020 9:45:59	Lindy	Blackman	Blue Valley School Dist	Prairie Village	I support delaying the reopening of school.

7/21/2020 9:46:03	Melissa	Schlegel	My family	LA CROSSE	<p>Dear BOE members,</p> <p>I'm writing today as a concerned mother but more so as a concerned teacher. I'm a divorced mother of a 7 and 8 year old who attend La Crosse Elementary School. I have anxiety. I labored with both my boys with no epidural because the thought of a huge needle in my back and my babies being born with that medication already in them set off my anxiety. I worry about everything! They were rear-facing in their carseats until past 3, 5 point harnesses until 6. They wear bike helmets, ATV helmets, don't have sleep overs, don't go to the playground literally across the street by themselves. I research everything! I have 2 bachelors degrees, a Masters of Science from KSU and am nearly halfway through a send graduate degree from FHSU and my research skills have been honed! My family gets annoyed with the things I say "no" to and say I need to lighten up because I don't let them do things like ride on the tailgate half a mile down a dirt road to check the cows "like we used to". All that to say I worry about my kids, a LOT! I wear a "Mama Bear" shirt proudly. So do I worry about my kids or me getting COVID? Yes, I absolutely do. And I will straight up tell you, while I want them back in school MY children will be fine with a delay to re-opening or if we end up virtual again this year. To be quite honest, had my life/marriage turned out differently my children would likely have been homeschooled at least for elementary school so if you are thinking as a teacher I'm a huge "every kid needs to be in a school building every day for 9 months a year with professionals teaching them" that's not who I am. I'm not writing you for my kids, they will be fine either way because I will make sure they are. Like I said, I'm a divorced single mother and when my life took a path I didn't expect I had to change future plans and fell back to a career choice that was a close 2nd place when I was a new adult looking to the future...education. I previously was a county extension agent and then a stay at home mom but I went back and got my teaching degree and have been in the classroom for just a year and a half now, finding my place and true calling teaching Special Education at the middle school level. I'm writing today for those kids who in that short time have opened my eyes, stole my heart and made me an even bigger "Teacher Bear" than I am a "Mama Bear". I am writing for the ones who school is there safe place from the drugs, alcohol, yelling, abuse and hunger of home. I'm writing for the ones who know there are snacks in my closet and 2 hot meals a day at school. I'm writing for the ones who can't stay awake in class because their parents have "friends over" nearly every night. I'm writing for the ones who are adopted from disgustingly abusive places and are just now starting to make academic gains because they have gone through years of learning to trust and their walls are finally coming down. I'm writing for the student who will have a panic attack with a mask on</p>
7/21/2020 9:46:06	Theresa	Sill	Olathe school district	Olathe	<p>I would really like to see schools stay shut down through fall. Or at the very least all 6-12th grade go online and utilize all other buildings to get the elementary school kids back in the classes safely. I feel the older kids are old enough to be home and do online learning. The younger kids need all the instruction at this time and mental learning as soon as possibility. Along with helping parent with the day care issue.</p>

7/21/2020 9:46:08	Ryan	Vessar	USD 377	Cummings	<p>Recovery rate is 94% (worldometer covid data July 21st 2020)</p> <p>Most have been exposed to Covid already look at Attendance records for Nov-Feb 2019. Classes were 1/2 full or less in our school.</p> <p>School must Start on time!</p> <p>Delaying start date only prolongs the issue!</p> <p>Each school has a nurse. Use them or add more!</p> <p>Temp check and pay attention to the students! Mask are not effective and claim not to be effective as written on the box!</p> <p>Those that have Issues with attending school can be offered an alternative. Survey for USD 377 indicates 3 out of 4 parents want to go back to school! 1in4 have issues with it. Majority rules!</p> <p>Look at the numbers on Worldometer.com on July 21st 1% were in critical or serious condition of currently infected individuals. 6% died of those that had an outcome. 94% recovered!</p> <p>Open Our Schools on time! Mask are ineffective and will cause distractions while learning!</p>
7/21/2020 9:46:12	Bretley	Laramore	myself	Derby	<p>Please consider delaying the start of school in an effort for the institutions of learning to acquire PPE for their students and staff. This delay could also potentially give people time to figure out how to properly wear masks and mitigate the spread of this virus, giving more schools a chance to actually open in-person learning.</p>
7/21/2020 9:46:13	Jason	Scott		Olathe	<p>As a parent of a to-be 9th grader at Olathe East, PLEASE DELAY THE OPENING. I desperately want my daughter to be able to make new friendships and get "plugged in" at an entirely new school that none of her middle school friends are attending. But I also want her to be as safe as possible. Until the science is MUCH clearer that it is safe to physically return, we must take the route of caution here. The WORST thing that can happen with this decision would be hindsight that might say, "Maybe we COULD have gone back on schedule." That's it. Futures and career opportunities will not be wrecked by this decision. On the other hand, forcing a physical return too early? I cannot fathom the weight of the "worst case" scenario of that decision.</p>
7/21/2020 9:46:16	Rita	Fu		Overland Park	<p>I think schools should be open on time, and it could start with all virtual classes until the COVID cases are under control. Also, the virtual classes should be live teaching rather than one meeting per week, which was not a good experience for all of us at the end of last school year. Thank you very much for the survey!</p>
7/21/2020 9:46:17	Marissa	Clinton		Scott City	<p>If our schools do not open up completely normal, no masks, no social distancing, normal lunch together in the cafeteria, recess and enjoying school we will be homeschooling our kindergarten and 5th grader. It's a shame we have spent so much on our schools as a community and wont be using them.</p>
7/21/2020 9:46:27	Laura	Breckenridge	Family and USD 512	Leawood	<p>I am in favor of delaying the start of school. Schools need time to organize after recommendations are released from the state. We also need time to lower the number of new COVID-19 cases daily.</p>

7/21/2020 9:46:33	C	Coleman		Junction City	Good Morning! I just wanted to take time to submit a brief comment regarding the delay of school this upcoming year. While I understand the severity of this virus and that there are a lot of unknowns of it's origin I am NOT in favor of the pushback. Children need to return to the classroom, extra curricular activities etc. For some children this is the only safe place they have and the only form of consistency in their lives. I do not believe that by pushing the school year back one month it will make much difference. At some point we have to get back to what we know and parents need to return to work. I believe that with the navigating change document that you all took the time to create and if all schools comply with those recommendations our students and staff will be safe to return in August. Worse case scenario we start everyone online for the month of August and then return those who chose Brick and mortar in sept once all safety measures are in place since all students have laptops from the spring. In order to alleviate confusion, those who wished to do elearning should be placed with teachers who are electing that option and those who requested in class be placed with those teachers so that transition to school is less hectic. I'm truly concerned about the students who are at home not being fed, or even worse being abused during this time. We need to get our students and teachers back to school! Thank you!!
7/21/2020 9:46:38	Natasha	Konrade		Bucklin	Please reject Gov Kelly's executive order to delay school opening. Our children have been out for too long and it is wearing on them. They NEED school and social interaction.
7/21/2020 9:46:39	Kristen	Katt	USD 320	Alma	I urge you to consider delaying the start of the 2020-2021. As a school nurse I am concerned with the health of our students. We all want our students back in our buildings. We know this is where they belong. We want them here safely and in order to do that we must have the time to plan for this and time to train our staff. Please consider delaying the start of school so the proper supplies, procedures and training's can be obtained first.
7/21/2020 9:46:50	Sarah	Rodecap		TOPEKA	Please vote to uphold Governor Kelly's Executive Order. Public health and safety should be more important than the political agenda of those in charge. Those in charge should be making decisions based on science. I know many families are struggling right now, but sending students back to school before schools districts are ready is not the answer. Someone has made everyone believe that the only choice a working family has is to lose their job or send their kids back to school. If we took the time to think about others, we could be doing things to support these families. Other countries suspended or reduced tax, mortgage, and rental obligations to avoid defaults. Or supported low income families for as long as needed with resources for food, mental health and unemployment. We could invest in people instead of bailing out big corporations. This should not be a difficult decision to make. PROTECT OUR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND THEIR FAMILIES by approving the executive order.
7/21/2020 9:47:09	Amy	Schmierbach	Usd 489	Hays	Please delay the schools start. FHSU starts school mid August. There will be an a surge of COVID when this happens. Delaying the start of k-12 will allow us to see what happens when schools open. Staggering could help.
7/21/2020 9:47:13	Nancy	Craven		Wichita	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's executive order keeping schools closed until at least Sept. 9. As a paraeducator at an elementary school, I know that children need to be in school, but I also see how very difficult it would be to keep students, teachers, and staff safe during this pandemic. I am, frankly, terrified at the prospect of putting myself and my own family in jeopardy by returning to my school job while Kansas is considered a COVID-19 hotspot. Gov. Kelly is doing her best to protect the health and safety of all Kansans. Please allow her to do her job!
7/21/2020 9:47:16	Sandra	Birzer		Wichita	School districts need to decide what is best for their students and schools. A state wide mandate is not logical. Numerous studies show that children under 10 do not pass the virus so those children do not need to be in a mask all day! Science should drive this decision. Not fear or politics.
7/21/2020 9:47:30	Aaron	Lang	My family and Gardner	Gardner	Please do not open schools until they are safe for all (teachers, staff, students and their families) to attend
7/21/2020 9:47:30	Sally	Sparks	Teacher in Johnson Cou	Belton	I am FOR delaying the start of school for the 2020-21 school year, due to the need to prepare teachers, staff, students and families for all the procedures and to ensure the safety of our communities. Additionally, the districts will need to prepare the buildings for re-opening, to include proper purchasing of specialized equipment and supplies. This is not possible to do in a few days time! Please adopt and vote FOR the executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 9:47:23	Sharli	Richards	Elementary schools	Derby	I think that teachers will need training for the upcoming school year on the new guidelines for Covid and remote learning. School should be open to give teachers the chance to prepare.

7/21/2020 9:47:28	Nicole	Manriquez	Self	Lawrence	I absolutely agree that schools should remain delayed in their opening and I believe they should be online only. We should have never reopened in the first place and by doing so have made a grave situation far worse and we can not recover easily now. My child will not be attending public school if we are forced back to classrooms. I stand with Governor Kelly.
7/21/2020 9:47:35	Emily	Patrick	Kansas City Kansas Pub	Lenexa	I am deeply concerned for my students, other staff, myself, and the entire community. With numbers in Kansas going up with the relatively small amount of opening and exposure people have had this summer I feel that returning to in person learning would be opening the flood gates. I am also concerned that planning is not be done proactively we will end up in chaos like last spring. The responsible (and hard choice) should be to plan to virtual at least the first quarter. This is likely what we would have to do anyway but let's not do this choice in a crisis mode at the last minute. Let's plan for it now and have more time to make solid plans (both for teachers and families.) I am concerned not only about coronavirus. I am also concerned for my families with out supervision options, internet, adequate meals, and childcare. My family is able to juggle my children but not everyone has this privilege. The government needs to set up childcare or supervision centers for students who are doing virtual learning. I appreciate that this is all deeply hard. Making these decisions and then executing them is no small task but I know you all can rise to the challenge of keeping Kansans safe.
7/21/2020 9:47:35	Amy	Frost	Teachers in Kansas	Salina	As a teacher, I do not feel safe in a small classroom full of 25-30 students where distancing is impossible. I am hoping that by sept our numbers will be on the decline and it will be much safer to attend face to face school. I think we need to start strong instead of starting and then most likely stopping again.
7/21/2020 9:47:37	Becky	Barger	Myself	Bonner Springs	I am not in favor of delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. I have a 16-year-old son who will be a Junior in high school this year. He hasn't had an in-person classroom experience since March 13th. His direct quote was, "I just want to go to school." Our district (USD 204 Bonner Springs-Edwardsville) had already been doing a great job of keeping parents in our district informed on their efforts prior to the Governor's announcement last week. Before that, they had already announced plans to offer parents three different choices on how they could proceed with their child's education – in school, remote learning, or virtual school. I feel like all these options give parents plenty of flexibility and address the safety and security of all students. I fail to see how delaying the start of school until after Labor Day does anything to improve upon the plans they already had in place, but only increases the gap in which students have an opportunity to learn. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 9:47:39	Elisha	Hampton		Salina	I am an educator. I believe that our districts need the time to get things planned and supplies in. Cases in our county have sky rocketed because no one is taking it seriously. Keep schools shut until September. Give teachers and admin time to do training and get protocols in place.
7/21/2020 9:47:40	Cassandra	Wray		Wichita	Delay school!
7/21/2020 9:47:43	Frieda	Tresvan		Kansas City	I support delaying schools reopening.  Wyandotte county has the worst health outcomes in the State and is now tied for the worst COVID outbreak in the State. Our community cannot risk exposing our children to this disease that they will bring home to parents who have health concerns that would cause COVID complications.  Please follow the science and do as other States have done and keep schools online until it is safe to return. If not, I will have no other choice then to withdraw my children and home school.
7/21/2020 9:47:49	Christy	Thomas		Wichita	Start school in August as planned online only and work towards in person by October 1.
7/21/2020 9:47:55	Robin	Butler	USD 320	Wamego	Please support the delay. Teachers and staff need time to plan for hybrid and virtual learning.
7/21/2020 9:47:57	Susan	Hill		Olathe	I feel the decision to wait until after Labor Day to open schools was a wise decision. With that being said, I think it is imperative to have in school attendance be available. I have a granddaughter who will be going to kindergarten this fall and for proper development she needs to be in school!
7/21/2020 9:48:02	Paige	Coffman	USD 259 Wichita Public	Wichita, KS	I believe it is in the best interest for the safety of staff, students, and their families to delay the start of physical in person school, or to start the year online. It is just not safe enough yet to go back to "normal" school.

7/21/2020 9:48:08	Maria	Macoubrie		Shawne	I support the governor's decision to delay school until after Labor Day in order to give school boards additional time to receive the necessary supplies and to determine a plan to comply with her order, as well as to adequately train staff on compliance. I do believe that the delay of the start of school may move the official start of extracurriculars and athletics, although I don't believe that is the necessary result. Most of these activities are already occurring in compliance with the governor's order. It is common for extracurricular to continue during school breaks—holiday breaks, Spring break, etc. so they could begin on this "front end" break. I also do not believe it should have any impact on any summer activities that are already occurring in compliance with her existing orders (e.g., summer conditioning with social distancing and/or masks). Not only are kids better off exercising to stay healthy, but if they will come back to play in September, we need them in shape so they are ready to do so without injury.
7/21/2020 9:48:10	Elizabeth	Messerly		Olathe	My children need some consistency and schedule. They have been out of school since March 13th. If we wait until after Labor Day, they will have essentially been out for 6 months. With the format of the online program through Olathe in the spring, my kids did not participate much in the online learning. Both had all A's and since the high school sent an email indicating if students were happy with grades, they could keep the grades they had for the semester. I understand trying to protect the students from a physical health standpoint, but their mental health needs to be considered as well. Having a schedule, whether it is online or in person, is vital for their health as well.
7/21/2020 9:48:16	Michelle	Carey		Sterling, KS	Decisions should be left to individual districts, all schools and counties are not the same. Schools are struggling with the funding they have, how are they going to pay for all this extra stuff. Wouldn't starting late mean kids would be in school when it is projected to peak at the end of the year, similar to flu season?  Logistically, expecting smaller kids to wear masks is impossible. Teachers will spend more time dealing with masks than teaching. K through 1st or 2nd, should not be expected to wear masks all day.
7/21/2020 9:48:30	Heather	Sramek	Parent and Teacher	Olathe	Please support the delay in opening schools. Too many community leaders across the state are not making safe public health decisions for their communities. If a community is making smart choices, then schools can open safely. If they are not, these measures will do little to stop the spread. As a result some communities will be safe, and the minute athletic competitions and activities with those in other not-so-safe communities begin, all will be lost. Schools and teachers need time to prepare for the implementation of the guidelines, and KSHSAA events can still be played after Labor Day. We can shorten seasons without eliminating them. It is a delay, not a cancellation.
7/21/2020 9:48:35	Kelly	Midgley	USD 340	Meriden	I am respectfully requesting that you uphold Governor Kelly's executive order to extend the start of school until after Labor Day. I think it is important to support fact and common sense based decisions. Please vote in favor of Governor Kelly.  Signed, Kelly Midgley Parent of 3 students in the USD 340 district
7/21/2020 9:48:37	Kristi	Loftus	Olathe USD 233	Olathe	Please follow Governor Kelly's tilling. Delay start of schools!
7/21/2020 9:49:05	Mackenzie	Miller		Olathe	Please support Governor Kelly's order that schools remain closed until after Labor Day. With infection rates rising taking more time to make preparations for the school year is the safest option. I am not ready for my child to go back to school yet under current conditions and fear for the safety of both my daughter and her teachers.
7/21/2020 9:49:09	Molly	Groebe	self	Olathe	The start of school should be delayed. Hybrid models should be considered. Children should wear masks.

					It's time for children to return to class, in person! Our governor closed school state wide in March with few or no cases of COVID-19 in many counties. Now delaying school seems to be more fear mongering. Our children need normalcy, in person education, socialization, and mental stability. Delaying the opening of school only prolongs a fear of the unknown. Governor Kelly presented a plan for schools to reopen in May. It's time to implement that plan. We've done due diligence, closed schools, shut down the economy, and flattened the curve. Of course there are more positive cases now. We are open and trying to function normally and more people are being tested. This virus isn't going away anytime soon, but it's time to get back to living. I feel that continuing to delay the opening of schools is far more detrimental than the virus. Our kids need this, our economy needs this! If school does not reopen, I will not be able to work and do the job that is expected of me because I will need to be teaching my children. Delaying the opening of schools impacts every facet of life and our economy. I appreciate the opportunity to voice my concerns and I hope you will thoughtfully consider the long term harm keeping schools closed will cause.
7/21/2020 9:49:20	Julie	Serati	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	Thank you
7/21/2020 9:49:28	Sydney	Rummery	Self	Andover	I strongly urge the Board to delay school starting until after Labor Day. The increasing amount of COVID cases in KS is staggering and is more than what it was when we closed in the Spring. Please consider doing what is best for student and staff safety and waiting to open.
7/21/2020 9:49:35	Susan S	Cockrell	Grandchildren	Emporia	This year will be full of challenges for everyone. We need to step up and realize this virus is dangerous and most people do not keep their children home when sick with a cold or flu. This is not either of those and we can still educate students with great ability wherever they are safest. We have been teaching and promoting technology for years. Now when it is needed, not just a want, we act like it is the worst development. Children will still have social groups within reason, free lunches have been delivered or picked up all summer and will still continue, teachers have been checking on students, sports can be switched semesters and will be played. But this will not happen unless you do your job and stand up for science, students and staff. I fully support delaying schools starting this fall. I am also begging you to have more science in school. Evidently most of our population cannot logically view this pandemic. It is real, it is a virus that mutates, and it can infect all ages. If we taught more science this would not be a problem. Thank you.
7/21/2020 9:49:36	Kathryn	Close	Retired teacher and cond	Clay Center, Kansas	Please reopen schools as soon as possible (before Labor Day and allow local school districts to make these decisions). A one size fits all policy mandated by one person is not right. Mo masks for children and teachers! (Or make optional!)



7/21/2020 9:49:40	Danessa	Mitzner		Osawatomic	<p>First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas.</p> <p>Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <p>Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan. No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</p> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions. This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense. Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>I am one of the over 6,200 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay.</p> <p>We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know that you have our support.</p> <p>To view the petition: <a href="http://chng.it/7LG6GzBjqM">http://chng.it/7LG6GzBjqM</a></p>
7/21/2020 9:49:45	Dustin	Day		Lacrosse	I'm all for hand washing and a temperature check but I'm not for a silly mask that kids are not going to keep on their face anyway this virus has little to no affect on our kids if the faculty feel the need to wear one to feel protected that's their right but I'm totally against kids being forced to do something as such because our Democrat governor what's to feel powerful over each and every one of us and this is her last place she can do it and it's totally wrong to pray on our children
7/21/2020 9:49:47	Kara	Abernathy	Blue Valley West	Overland Park	Please uphold Governor Kelly's executive order. Teacher, student, and staff lives depend on it. This isn't a decision to take lightly. We don't want to look back in a year and wonder if our actions could have prevented someone from dying.
7/21/2020 9:49:52	Lance	McDowell	Goddard high school	Wichita	We need to delay opening and be online for the first semester to protect people and still play sports.
7/21/2020 9:50:04	Tamie	Hindman Wessel		Plainville KS	I appreciate all efforts to protect our people!
7/21/2020 9:50:06	Stephanie	Stuhlsatz		Lawrence	Push School back to September 9th.
7/21/2020 9:50:07	Shana	Bender	Employee of USD383	Manhattan	I would like to state that I am in favor of delaying school start dates until Labor Day. I believe that this mandate allows for school districts to prepare for better remote learning options and see the impact of out-of-city students returning to the university on our city health.
7/21/2020 9:50:10	Courtney	Yeoman	Shawnee Mission Schoo	Shawnee	Until the state of Kansas turns the curve in number of cases there is no way we should be in attendance in our buildings. I am a teacher with children of my own. It's too risky.
7/21/2020 9:50:24	Courtney	Semrau	Family	Olathe	I would prefer to delay the reopening of schools until after Labor Day. It would be nice to see if the virus trends go up or down prior to having to make the decision whether my children should go to school physically or virtually.

7/21/2020 9:50:27	Talia	Wright	Parent	Wichita	<p>Hmm... so here's a scenario for you all to ponder. You are allowed to work from home(blessing), but your internet is down and Cox said it won't be fixed until the afternoon. Your boss understands, but tells you to come into the office to work. That's no problem you say, but oh wait you have your child at home and your job has said you can't bring her with you. This is not just a scenario, but real life that just happened to someone I know.</p> <p>Now what??? I know there is no good answer, but the reality is that there are working parents that can't homeschool their kids.</p>
7/21/2020 9:50:32	Barbara	Petracek	myself (I am a teacher)	OLATHE	Open the schools! Kids need school! Daycares have been open all along with few issues. How is delaying 3 weeks going to make a difference? Virus not going away, let's learn to live with it using safety precautions.
7/21/2020 9:50:34	Vanessa	Steinroetter	Washburn University	Topeka	I request that the Kansas School Board NOT overturn Gov. Kelly's mandate on starting school after Labor Day. It is vitally important to the health of local communities to prevent situations where the coronavirus can be spread exponentially, and indoor classes are high-risk environments. The more cases of Covid-19 we have in local communities, the longer it will take for Kansas to feel safe shopping and going about their business in public again.
7/21/2020 9:50:42	Travis	Mounts		Cheney	I strongly believe the State Board of Education needs to support Gov. Kelly's decision to delay the start of school. We are dealing with an unprecedented health crisis while simultaneously dealing with an unprecedented division over basic scientific facts. And the facts show COVID-19 cases rising across Kansas. They will continue to do so until we see more people wearing masks and curtailing their activities. I have strong doubts about our ability as a whole to do that when the Legislature has carved up the authority of the governor to take practical solutions to deal with the health emergency. Many of our county governments are failing in their responsibility due to political pressure, furthering the problem. The governor needs your support in this decision. More importantly, our students, teachers and staff need you to do the right thing and put safety first. This decisions should be based on health and sciences, not politics. Please do the right thing and delay the start of school, and stand with the Department of Education's leaders who are in agreement with the governor. Thank you.
7/21/2020 9:50:44	Meg	Daugherty		Overland Park	The children need school. I have 4 kids ages 6-13 and they are having a massive decline in their socialization, their mental health and flat out WANT to go back to school. We know there are risks, as there are with anything, but its a risk we are willing to take. We know the school year could look different with masks and social distancing but they accept that and still chose to go back to their routine, to their teachers and their friends. They miss their normal. I miss their normal. If we don't go back now, then I fear the normal will never be normal again. Please send them back to school!
7/21/2020 9:51:09	Mary	Malek		Scott City	I fully support Governor Laura Kelly's decision to delay school opening until after Labor Day. I also agree students should wear masks after schools open.
7/21/2020 9:51:11	Holly	Fast	Self - Concerned Parent	Ashland	<p>My children have been out of school for 5 months. They are aching for social interaction outside of our family unit. They are learning to be afraid of something they cannot see, touch, or feel. For a 7 and 5 year old...this will have long lasting effects on their psychology. It is also proven that these are their most formative years of development. Why would we continue to push them back further than they are already looking at? I am blessed to have very intelligent and adaptable kids, but I feel for those that have significantly larger struggles; children that have no safe space and/or are at a learning disadvantage. What will happen to them if this continues? What have they lost already? My husband and I both run Main Street essential businesses. While we are both educated and capable of conducting school at home, why put that on our children? I say this also knowing that my 7 year is Type 1 diabetic. Technically, she is an at risk kid. However, at what point are you doing so much to survive that you forget what it's like to live? Please stop the delay in returning to close to normal. Or at least leave it up to local governments to decide what is best for their district.</p> <p>All of Kansas is not in the same boat. Ashland is absolutely nothing like Wichita, Topeka, or Kansas City. Please remember that the circle is larger than just the urban areas. Thank you!</p>
7/21/2020 9:51:20	Ebony	DuPreep		Geary County	Please vote to postpone school to Sept 8. It is not yet safe for our children to attend. More time needs to be spent putting the necessary safety precaution in place.

7/21/2020 9:51:24	Katie	Roggenbaum		Haysville	<p>I am writing to encourage the BOE to adopt Governor Kelly’s executive order to delay the start of schools in Kansas. As the mother of two medically fragile children and being high risk myself, delaying the start of school would give us an opportunity to decrease cases throughout the state an sortie this the most vulnerable. School districts are struggling insecure the necessary items they need to properly sanitize and protect our students. Continuing down this path as if nothing is going on to make a political statement is not only irresponsible, but juvenile. I have seen things from multiple board members that make me question not only their integrity, but fitness for the job. One stated that she didn’t believe the BOE could tell districts what to do- then why do we have you? Shall we eliminate the state BOE and leave all decisions up to local districts? Harvest was also mentioned. If harvest is such a concern, alter the schedule. Schools in Kansas didn’t start until after Labor Day for decades and they ended before Memorial Day. That argument is a red herring for the majority of our districts in Kansas. It’s literally two weeks! Two weeks! You could make that up in in-service days and conference release days alone. There are teachers that are high risk, teachers that have family members that are high risk. Do you really want the deaths of hundreds or thousands of citizens on your hands? Delay the start of school! Slow the spread! Quit being political and be on the side of science and public health.</p>
7/21/2020 9:51:27	Katherine	Clafin	Personal	Linwood	<p>Please follow the governor’s order for students to wear face masks in schools. Do not make this a county by county or district by district decision. Show leadership. Help communities recover and reopen by mandating face coverings.</p> <p>I am a physician who has been closely watching the data about non medical face coverings. I have totally changed my mind about the effectiveness of home made masks. Pre COVID, there was little data about homemade face masks and disease spread. Medical masks were worn to protect the mask wearer in contact with patients who had a respiratory illness or to protect the patient during surgical/invasive procedures. Patient worn masks were reserved for those with compromised immunity. Mask wearing by the general public was not studied in the USA.</p> <p>Since the Covid-19 pandemic, reliable data has shown universal face covering dramatically stems the spread of COVID. One remarkable example is that of two hairdressers in Missouri -with active COVID disease- exposed over 100 clients. In each hairdresser-client encounter, both wore a face mask. None of the clients became COVID positive. Zero transmission.</p> <p>Kansas currently has only 3 counties without a reported case of COVID. This is the time for those counties to assure they remain clear of the virus. Mask wearing, hand washing and maintaining physical distance are the basic cornerstones for containing this virus. It is NOT “the flu”. It is more deadly, causes more morbidity than influenza, and long term effects are unknown.</p> <p>Covid is now most common amongst 20-40 year olds. While some recover quickly, others die or have long term health problems. We do not yet have enough information about COVID to be cavalier. Please vote to do all we can to protect our children, our elders, our communities. If COVID has not arrived in your area, be grateful and do all you can to remain free of this virus. Mask wearing is no more difficult than wearing a hard hat, steel toed shoes, a safety harness or a seat belt. All these measures were despised when implemented, yet they save lives and have become common place. Face masks will do the same.</p>
7/21/2020 9:51:29	Anastasia	Fischer		Olathe	<p>As a Kansas Citizen and Parent of a High School Student I urge all KSDE Board Members to follow the science and not the politics as you make decisions that will impact every student, family, teacher, and neighbor in our state. This is a time of crisis and we need strong leadership to protect the health of our community. If we do not have our health we have nothing - our students cannot learn, our teachers cannot teach, and our neighbors cannot work if they are sick. I hope my son will graduate from high school as planned next spring and enroll in college in the fall, but modified schedules and modes of learning are a small price to pay for his health and safety.</p>

7/21/2020 9:51:30	Alleah	Heise		Dodge City, KS	It is imperative that our kids go back to school. ASAP. The governor's EOs are a one-size-fits-all attempt at a solution that will do more harm than good. Gov. Kelly's mask EO flies in the face of medical data from both a federal and state level that suggests children under the age of 12 don't need masks as they are not carriers of the virus. In Ford Co, we are now reporting 2-5 positive tests a day compared to the 40-60 positive cases a day at our peak. Please make this a local decision and not another ill-informed policy from Topeka.
7/21/2020 9:51:34	Victoria	Savich	SMSD	Overland Park	The most prudent way to ensure equitable education to all k-12 students in Kansas and a safe working environment for all employees is to delay the start of school indefinitely as long as Covid 19 cases continue to increase.
7/21/2020 9:51:40	Theresa	Leitzel	Parents	Clay Center	I support the delay of school starting until after Labor Day. This will give districts and teachers ample time to be prepared to have the appropriate supplies and procedures in place to proceed safely.
7/21/2020 9:52:01	Jordan	Haldeman	Parent	Olathe	<p>There will always be risk. We cannot live our lives free of any risk. There is risk of riding a school bus. How many fatalities does the cumulative high schools have each year due to car accidents? If we go on the premise that if one child dies we can't open then we will never open.</p> <p>Of course teaching staff would like to stay home but that's in part because they are collecting a paycheck. Take that away or reduce their pay and everyone would go back to work. The damage caused by not resuming school will outweigh the risk of starting. For example, the financial burden that will be placed on parents who rely on school so their spouse can work for secondary income.</p> <p>If we can open casinos, sporting goods stores, gyms, etc, then we can open schools.</p>
7/21/2020 9:52:04	Jennifer	Pinkney		Bucklin	I don't think this should be a state wide blanket decision. Leave it up to the school districts themselves. USD 459 is so small. We can handle it ourselves. Let the school leaders who know the students and the community make the best decisions for us. We have complete confidence in our administration to do what's best for our students.
7/21/2020 9:52:08	Laura	Treeman	Self	Overland Park	It is highly unsafe to open schools at this time due to the level of community transmission (my personal and professional belief as a working RN locally). However, knowing this has serious health, safety, and learning repercussions for some families and children, I think a 50% in person option should be presented at least to some students (perhaps on parental employment grounds {ie kids of essential workers, unable to work from home or kids of parents who face job insecurity w/o childcare}, or perhaps based on IEPs, kids who will suffer w/ out in person instruction). No more than 50% in person schooling should be permissible at this time, until community transmission is at a lower level (<5%) and resources to keep transmission low/ contain outbreaks are put in place. The health of our teachers, support staff, and children should be of paramount importance. Thank you.
7/21/2020 9:52:09	Jessica	Skrdlant	parent	Manhattan	whats the point of the delay? They have had plenty of time to come up with a plan for safety. If we wait until sept cold and flu season hit and then what? Another shut down? I care about my children's education and as a parent am not equipped to provide them with the education they need. 99% of people recover from this! Wash your hands and use common sense but stop shutting the world down!
7/21/2020 9:52:11	Wendy	Cantrell	parent	Lawrence	I am a nurse and mother. With case numbers continuing to climb, I feel strongly that school should not conviene with in-person instruction. Instructors for may safely provide live group and individual instruction- OR- virtual lessons with individual feedback.
7/21/2020 9:52:12	Laura	Michael		Goddard	Agree with delaying!

7/21/2020 9:52:18	Eve	Terrell		Derby	As a teacher I am very concerned about entering the classroom again. Every single year there are kids that miss their moms and dads on the first day of school, usually I give them a big hug and remind them how much they are loved. This year I can't, and that just breaks my heart. I am also very concerned about sending my two third grade twins to school knowing that when they need a hug there isn't anyone who can give them one. Going a whole eight hours without physical touch isn't developmentally appropriate. My 65 year old mother lives in our home, which is a gift, one I am not comfortable giving up. My mother is able to give a different perspective on so many things and offers a level of support that is invaluable. I can't imagine raising five children without her here, knowing that my children or I could bring home a virus that could be deadly is such a scary thought. I am also very concerned about sending my high school junior to school, she has athsma and is a dedicated athlete. Knowing this virus could take her life or forever change the course of it is something I can't risk. I also know that my family depends on my income, to help put my oldest son through college among other things, he wants to be a teacher. He told me when he decided to go into education it was because he saw the difference I made in this world. I am not sure I am done making a difference, but I can't if I am dead, sick or mourning a loss so great that my heart hurts. So I am asking please protect us, the teachers, the changemakers, the ones who are always here for hugs and pencils and working in the summer. Please don't forget that we are people too, we can't go back when the numbers are this high and the risk is this great.
7/21/2020 9:52:22	Linda	Flores	NA	Garden City	I believe the executive order was the right choice and want to express my desire to uphold it. As a first year teacher, the best thing that could be done for me and my students is to only open schools when it is safe and cases have deopped significantly. Please consider reallocating funds to make virtual learning easier on students and their families this year. We need resources to make sure students are taken care of while they are home learning. Additionally, teachers need time to prepare for any "answers" or plans we are given for how the year will go. Many have been unable to plan due to an inability to anticipate what learning will look like in the Fall. Please step up and do what it best for teachers and students. After all, if the select few of you are meeting virtually, what makes you think it appropriate to have a dozen or more people together in classrooms?
7/21/2020 9:52:31	Tammy	Miller	My children who will be	Hutchinson, KS	Please follow the governor's orders. These are teachers and children's lives we are talking about. DO NOT TAKE THEM FOR GRANTED! Open your eyes. When people started gatherings of more than 10 to 50 people the COVID cases started to rise. Children packed in a school building is a recipe for disaster. A child or teacher death due to covid will solely be on your shoulders. Vote wisely....
7/21/2020 9:52:32	Kayla	Flora	Skyline	Pratt KS	We should NOT delay the school year. Open up!
7/21/2020 9:52:32	Emily	Ray	USD 497	Lawrence	Please uphold Gov Kelly's EO to delay the opening of schools, so that we have more time to determine a safe manner in which to re-open schools.
7/21/2020 9:52:33	Rachel	Fisher		Pittsburg	I support Governor Kelly's decision to push the school start date until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 9:52:36	Kathy	parbs	kckps	olathe	Please support Gov. Kelly's executive order.
7/21/2020 9:52:47	Emily	Bare	USD 377 and Emily's H	Lancaster	I only ask that decisions are made for the safety of our teachers, staff, and our students! Sports are very important but education comes first. I hope judgment by parents and others are set aside and we are putting into consideration enough time for teachers, districts to prepare for our new normal, so they ate ready for the condufusion our kids are going to be in, the questions are children will have. This will not look like any year they have experienced, we need to be ready and prepare for the next step. I am ok with either decision I just ask the decision is made based off of education, staff, and our children
7/21/2020 9:52:59	Tiffany	Johnson	Parent in Shawnee Miss	Prairie Village	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's order to delay the start of the school year until after Labor Day. The schools need more time to plan. Delaying the start of school also buys time for the COVID-19 numbers in the State to improve, making a return to school safer for students, staff, and teachers.
7/21/2020 9:53:03	teresa	Beacham	community member	Kansas City	teachers, staff and students needs to be protected! do not allow schools to resume in person attendance until it is ABSOLUTELY SAFE to do so!!!
7/21/2020 9:53:12	Jo	Marsh	School teachers	Wichita	Please take in consideration our health and well-being of NOT opening schools. I have a parent who is 70 and lost her husband and now I have to take care of her. Also, I had underlying conditions too. I have to be be careful and take precautions. I have been a teacher for 23 years and definitely concerned. I know it is important for children to be safe in our schools and be in them. But, with levels not lowering or in a plateau state we should NOT be going back.

7/21/2020 9:53:14	Kyle	VanGoethem	Parent	Olathe	Please listen to the infectious disease experts at Children’s Mercy Hospital in Kansas City - they are consistently telling us how badly children need to go back to school. Elementary school children will not succeed in remote-only learning and need the structure and socio-emotional benefits of in-person school. Please allow us a choice for remote or in-person learning. We would love to see an in-person option where kids can go for at least a few hours a week and still safely social distance. If the grades are broken up, class sizes can be greatly reduced. Please give us a choice, and then increase more time in school per week as our local area decreases in cases.
7/21/2020 9:53:32	Jenna	Potter		Baldwin City	Schools need to open. Kansas children have been out of school buildings since Mid March. What terrifies me more than this virus, is our governor making these decisions without plans in place on how to execute them. Schools were closed in March with every district to fend for themselves on how to operate virtually. Now, executive order 20-59 is in place with no plan on how to take 100’s of children’s temperatures every morning, the response from Laura Kelly was “they’ll figure it out”. The education my child received for the remainder of the last school year was sub-par and I’m furious at the thought of my tax dollars funding another round of that. Pushing off the start of school for the 2020-2021 school year is just opening the door to more chaos. Children will not be educated as they should and families will struggle with childcare needs of children can not be in school. Paying teachers full salary to do what they did last spring is ridiculous. Schools need to open, we need to start making some decisions for ourselves. If parents want to keep their kids home, that is their choice, but it shouldn’t be mandatory. I feel that delaying school starting 3 weeks will open the door to longer delays and hinder my child’s education.
7/21/2020 9:53:34	James	Moore	Lawrence Free State	Lawrence	Please allow sports to proceed and practice in Kansas!
7/21/2020 9:53:35	Alexa	Buchenau	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	Delaying school opening until after Labor Day is our only option. Covid numbers have continuously fluctuated since after the 4th of July holiday weekend. Understanding that most are experiencing pandemic fatigue & parents need to get back to work but most of all the vital social interaction needed by our students/staff at school - if we rush the reopen we are only helping to ensure another lockdown with premature & elevated exposure. Teachers want to be back with our students & physically teaching back in our classrooms but rushing this set up endangers students and staff at the moment. Delaying school opening will allow some of the appropriate allotted time for teachers and staff to prepare for as many different scenarios to keep our students and ourselves safe. My number one job as an educator is to keep my students safe and protect their wellbeing.
7/21/2020 9:53:40	Donna	Fou		Roeland Park	Delaying the start of school will provide time for educators to prepare and plan for the safe return of students. I believe it is the right thing to do. Please vote in support of this order.
7/21/2020 9:53:43	Michelle	Van Der Wege	NA—parent	Russell	I believe the start of school should be delayed until after Labor Day. This is the best choice to 1) allow educators to plan, 2) allow additional information regarding the trends of infection to be gathered, and 3) delay the inevitable increase in cases we are bound to see.  We need to focus on quality education right now. If we can limit exposures and reduce illness, all kids will receive a better education. If 60% of Kansas kids miss weeks or months of school due to illness, they cannot be effectively educated.  With that in mind, I think the requirements for hour/day completion should be altered to reflect the changes that are needed to keep everyone safe.  Finally, I think graduation requirements for current seniors (and likely juniors) should be altered to reflect the changes as well.
7/21/2020 9:53:47	Braden	Oliphant	Teacher in rural school	Wichita	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school starting by 3 weeks. By doing so, we will take pressure off of local school boards, administrators, teachers, and health officials and will allow them time to prepare a safe and effective return to the classroom. To come into the school year unprepared can only cause logistical nightmares for just about any aspect of Kansas education.
7/21/2020 9:53:49	Andrea	Marshbank		Topeka	As a teacher at Shawnee Heights HS, delaying school will allow me and my district to better plan for a mix of in-person and online learning for students' needs. It also better respects the needs of teachers who are worried they will contract the virus due to their job.

7/21/2020 9:53:52	Barbara	McCall	My family, Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	Please support the EO requiring the delayed start. I genuinely believe the worst case scenario for children would be to open schools, and then have to close. Our best chance for a CONTINUOUS educational format is to take these extra weeks, do what's right and bring down those case numbers statewide. Please support the EO. Thank you.
7/21/2020 9:53:57	Lori	Fonken	USD 259	Wichita	I feel we shouldn't start school in person until our numbers go down. If we wait till after Labor Day that could help our peak of illness return to a lower curve.
7/21/2020 9:53:59	Marcy	McGuffie		Lawrence	Governor Kelly is looking out for the best interest of Kansans, during this unprecedented public health crisis. With the spike in COVID-19 cases, we must protect our citizens.  Top experts and scientists agree we must actively take steps to prevent the spread. It's sad that a WORLDWIDE, public health crisis has been politicized. This virus does not discriminate based on political affiliation.  It would be irresponsible to start school before Labor Day, given the situation. We must protect our children, educators, and those they come in contact with. I urge you support the Governor's mandate in delaying the return to school.
7/21/2020 9:54:05	Melissa	Gard	Parent	Wichita	I don't think school should be delayed. At least for the younger kids. I have 2 children that go to Maize and one is starting kindergarten this year. She is supposed to be on an IEP program and now she will be delayed even more. My husband and I are both full-time working parents and cannot teach our children at home. Both of our girls have been in a daycare facility full-time since April and no illnesses related to COVID-19 have arose. I believe sanitation practices can be put in place at school. I understand it won't be perfect but can be another learning opportunity for teachers and students.
7/21/2020 9:54:06	Janina	Staniszewski	Part of BVSD	Overland Park	There should be no school delay. Curricula exists that meets the Common Core for years now. Masks mandate should be replaced with face shields. The face shields are a healthier alternative. People with hearing impairments must see the face. As much as 55% of communication is visual. People, particularly with breathing problems, need & should have a clear breathing path. Those with a mental anxiety over mouth/nose cover, have likely a more tolerable option with face shields.
7/21/2020 9:54:08	Amy	Edwards		Wichita	I do not believe our state officials should be mandating how private schools practice. If it is important for certain practice to be put into place, a law should be passed in the legislature. Mandates circumvent the consent of the governed and circumvent the duly elected law-making body.
7/21/2020 9:54:08	Karen	Casebolt		Overland Park	I support the delayed opening of schools for the safety of our children and school staff. We get the virus under better control with more mask wearing and be in a better position to start school.
7/21/2020 9:54:17	Heidi	Linden		Sterling	The governor's one-size-fits-all mandates for Kansas are atrocious. There is ZERO scientific data that says delaying school and requiring my children to wear a mask in my school district is "safer" and "healthier". I am tired of my government over-stepping and telling me what is right for me and my family.
7/21/2020 9:54:18	Danae	Rus		Overland Park	Please let the schools have until after Labor Day to adequately prepare for students to return safely to the classroom. It will also allow more time for our state to work on controlling it's virus numbers. We must all do our part! This is a public health issue, not a political issue.
7/21/2020 9:54:20	S	S		Augusta	Please keep school CLOSED until AFTER LABOR DAY
7/21/2020 9:54:25	Emilea	Harlin	McPherson High School	McPherson	Thank you for all the work you do for Kansas, our students, schools, and teachers. As a high school teacher, a wife of a high school teacher, and a mother of three, I believe our students need to be in school sooner rather than later. While I understand the reasoning behind what the governor is proposing, I also believe that choice should be left up to individual districts. I am confident that districts will work closely with health departments to make the best decisions for their communities. Thank you for your time.

7/21/2020 9:54:26	Jena	Klaas		Basehor	<p>I am a high school teacher in Wyandotte County. I urge the Board to support Gov. Kelly's executive order for many reasons - too many to list in their entirety, but here are a few: 1.) Our student population is very large (~1600 kids last year) and our building is historic with narrow hallways and many small classrooms. If we are going to resume in-person, we need more time to plan and prepare so that students and staff can safely social distance. 2.) Many of our students have asthma, putting them at a higher risk of contracting the virus and experiencing complications. Many kids also live with large families (including multiple siblings) or extended relatives that are older and considered high risk. Many of these family members go to school or work out in the community, and I fear that the virus will spread very rapidly if our students return in August and are exposed to it. They will bring it home to their families, which will go on to impact the entire community. Wyandotte County is one of the hardest hit by this virus already, and I feel that resuming in-person in August will accelerate the damage this virus causes to individuals and communities. 3.) Similarly, many families in Wyandotte County do not have access to quality healthcare, or the financial means to afford it. Contracting covid could be devastating for families if caregivers have to miss work due to the virus, or go into work despite testing positive, or send a child to school who has tested positive, or require hospitalization, putting them into debt. The potential ripple effects of further spreading this virus in already-vulnerable communities keep me up at night. I worry for my students and their families 24/7. 4.) I also worry about teachers/staff and their families. I personally have asthma and recently recovered from an illness that compromised my immune system for most of last school year. I also live with a parent who was a chronic smoker and has an autoimmune disease. Returning in-person to school in early August threatens the health and wellbeing of myself and my family. I know I am not the only teacher who is high risk or has a high risk family member. Delaying school openings until districts are better prepared is one way to help mitigate the negative effects of this virus on teachers and staff. These are just a few of the innumerable reasons the Board should support the Governor's executive order to delay school reopenings. Kids can't learn when they're sick or don't have teachers to teach them. Delaying reopenings is in the best interest of Kansas kids.</p>
7/21/2020 9:54:28	Sarah	Leeser	I work for Usd497	Lawrence	Please back Gov Kelly. Please listen to science. It is not safe to open yet! We need time to prepare and do this correctly.
7/21/2020 9:54:31	Daphne	Reed-Mertens	Parent of 4	Emporia	<p>I am a parent of four children aged 6-12th grade in Emporia Public Schools. I fully support the executive order Governor Kelly made to delay the start of school until September over covid-19 concerns. This will allow schools to be better prepared with PPE as well as make adjustments to better protect students and staff. I can personally say that there are many of us who support this wholeheartedly. It puts our minds at ease knowing that it gives the schools time and it would not harm anyone in the process. The mandated hours can still be met by adding time to the day or the school year if necessary. Many states start school in September with no issue. I myself as a Kansas High School senior started in September and graduated in June. There is not reason NOT to do this. Not only is it the best plan, it is the only plan to avoid significant illness and loss of life. I don't think any of us want that on our conscience.</p>
7/21/2020 9:54:36	Kris	Darrah	Classical School of Wichita	Wichita	<p>I plead for you to look at real numbers and statistics and allow our school districts to decide for themselves on whether or not it is safe to open. There have been 0 Covid deaths of Kansans under the age of 25. Of the 2,913,314 people living in Kansas, there have been only 126 Covid deaths of people under the age of 75. Incredibly low! That means 99.99568% of Kansans under age 75 have survived this virus. (The last flu season saw 4.5 times as many deaths.) Our healthcare workers have done an excellent job of keeping us healthy and alive and I know they will continue to work hard to do so. Moreover, many counties in our state have not been affected by Covid at all. For the past month, my son has been participating safely in basketball training and a soccer league. For the mental and emotional health of us teachers and our students, please allow us to safely and cautiously reconvene in our classrooms and our athletic fields!!</p>
7/21/2020 9:54:36	Nicole	Kenniff	My family	Lawrence	Please keep schools closed until the numbers are lower, keep our teachers avx children safe.



7/21/2020 9:54:53	Jennifer	Fallon	Parent - Blue Valley Sch	Overland Park	Our kids need to be in school on the original back to school date. They are getting more and more behind everyday they are out. The distance learning has been offered and people with concerns or "high risk" kids can utilize that option. Other countries that have gone back to in person classes are not reporting a spike in cases. They were out of school and we all quarantined to avoid overwhelming the hospitals. We didn't do it for the virus to disappear. In our state the hospitals aren't overwhelmed and our children need to get back to their education. Not to mention, the kids aren't social distancing or quarantining anyway. They're all out together living life - they need to be back in school. DO NOT sign off on Governor Kelly's ridiculous mandate to delay school.
7/21/2020 9:54:56	Miki	Bonilla	My children	Wichita and Caldwell	For the love of God my children are not Guinea Pigs!!! Give the school districts time to make adjustments needed to protect our children and the staff!
7/21/2020 9:54:57	Amy	wittig		Pratt	NO DELAY
7/21/2020 9:54:59	Jennifer	Pinkney		Bucklin	I don't think this should be a state wide blanket decision. Leave it up to the school districts themselves. USD 459 is so small. We can handle it ourselves. Let the school leaders who know the students and the community make the best decisions for us. We have complete confidence in our administration to do what's best for our students.
7/21/2020 9:55:01	Rhonda	Stucinski		Overland Park	Our kids need school. The postponement of opening the schools is just political action designed to control people and exaggerate the pandemic. Enough is enough. This is so ridiculous! Open our schools now!
7/21/2020 9:55:12	Peggy	Miles	self	Overland Park	I ask you to stand with the governor to delay that start of school and give schools more time to prepare for the upcoming school year. I also ask that you strongly encourage people to wear masks and practice social distancing/hand washing/etc to reduce community spread of the virus and make it more probable the schools can open in person.  Thank you, Peggy Miles
7/21/2020 9:55:13	Shawn	Curry	Colby high school paren	Colby, ks	Start school, and activities on time. The emotional and psychological damage to the kids will be worse than COVID could ever be!!!
7/21/2020 9:55:17	Cindy	Gonzales		Topeka, ks.	Need to re-open our schools!!!!
7/21/2020 9:55:18	Mara	Frederick		Frontenac Schools	Please support delay in opening and mandate for masks. Please follow recommendations from doctors and scientists.

7/21/2020 9:55:25	Aaron	Betz	USD 293	Quinter	<p>First I want to thank each of you for the task you face. I know this isn't an easy decision and no matter what decision you make there will be upset individuals.</p> <p>I understand the need to have safety protocols in place to protect staff, students and administrators. I believe that the damage done from the shutdown to students mentally is greater than the risk of the sickness based on information from Pediatricians about students being extremely low risk of getting COVID or spreading. Also, remember the fix can't make the matter worse. In young kids wearing mask all they will do is constantly adjust. I know from personal use at work they are difficult for those that wear glasses with constant adjustment and fogging. Kids need to be kids and have social interaction and activities like sports, band, music, play, etc.. It has been almost 5 months since kids had any kind of routine. Online schooling worked to finish the year but locally we had several students struggle. It wasn't just those that you would expect to struggle either.</p> <p>All I ask of you is to consider what is best for students first, then staff. I also ask that a one size fits all approach doesn't get used. I know we have hot spots throughout the state. Most of the hot spots are in larger communities. I know each of you is considering all this and it's a difficult situation. As a parent and school board member I see both sides. For me in the area we are at I believe delaying school damages students more. At the current time we have had only 2 COVID cases locally and the counties around us haven't had many either. Based on this I believe the decision should be made locally.</p> <p>I understand you have to consider the whole picture and respect however you decide.</p> <p>Thank You Aaron Betz USD 293 Board President</p>
7/21/2020 9:55:26	Kai	Wilkerson	Parent	Dighton Ks	<p>If school need to be delayed that is fine. That being said I do not want my kids wearing masks or being separated by plexi glass. Kids need to be kids. Also last year our kids worked their rears off on their education from home and then they weren't even given grades we received a fluff letter saying that it was impossible to grade them. Yet it wasn't impossible for every other district. I would rather do all online than deal with the nonsense our district did last semester. I am certain in all of this no one is actually thinking about what this is doing to the kids ! Lets actually put the kids first for a change they cannot live like this. This is not like a summer vacation and kids are literally killing themselves all over the country over this. If the powers that be cannot see what is best for the kids you can bet that as parents we will.</p>
7/21/2020 9:55:27	Michelle	Clore	Herington Middle School	Herington	<p>Please rescind the governor's order and let us start school on time!</p>
7/21/2020 9:55:27	Jason	Welch	NA	HAYSVILLE	<p>Open it up 100% or not at all. Science is on the side of fully operational schools. Our children have been subjected to enough. Impossible guidelines for teachers and children to follow change nothing. Studies show that children are the least likely to contract cv19. We didnt care when H1N1 hit, we dont care when lice epidemic hits(oh yes lice is epidemic worthy)strep, flu, or common colds hit.</p> <p>Either open up and acknowledge that teachers and schools are essential. Or Close it down and Admit that they are not essential and just in plave to program our kids to take tests.</p> <p>Give them recesses again, outside PE and shop classes.. let's let their bodies immune systems work. Our kids learned more in 1 to 3 hours a day at home than they did in classroom. What they can't learn is social interaction and they need that</p>

7/21/2020 9:55:38	Kimberlee	Anspach	Citizen	Lawrence	Please delay opening of schools at least until Labor Day and preferably until a community has seen no new cases for 14 days. My son is high risk and I will not feel safe sending him until we either have a vaccine or our community has seen no new cases. Please recognize that masks are a health and safety issue, not political and require them in schools. Thank you.
7/21/2020 9:55:41	Eric	Sher	Parent	Lenexa	Please open the schools for in class learning. Their education is suffering from these shutdowns.
7/21/2020 9:55:50	Tamra	Gengler		Beloit	Start school in August.
					<p>I am concerned that the urgency to get kids back to school is causing us to overlook ways to be creative and innovative to change the way we do school to make it safer and less vulnerable to pandemics.</p> <p>This could be an opportunity to create much-needed change in the infrastructures of education: to modernize buildings and better equip them for supporting public health, to redesign instruction and standards to better meet emerging needs. Instead, we seem to be pushing forward with trying to reopen school buildings and “get back to normal.” “Normal” didn’t work for everyone, “normal” wasn’t equitable or sustainable; I am deeply troubled by how we are spending most of our time and energy trying to get back to a system that wasn’t as effective or modern as it could be, instead of channeling our energy and efforts into creating something better.</p> <p>I am concerned that some people are advocating for reopening schools regardless of the data, regardless of the rising cases, regardless of what we have observed when other businesses, organizations, and camps have tried to reopen, even with safety precautions (such as masks) in place. Summer camps are an indicator of what we can expect by reopening schools, except they usually have fewer kids and spend more time outdoors, and yet they have struggled to control the spread of the virus. Kanakuk camp in Missouri had over 80 campers and staff that contracted the virus, even as much of their programming takes place outdoors and they required masks. They also had fewer campers than many schools’ student population. Schools are going to need more than masks and hand sanitizer to be safer. We are going to need outdoor spaces, or better ventilated rooms with windows that can open; we will need social distancing AND masks (as the CDC recommends masks for brief encounters in which social distancing is not possible, whereas prolonged encounters in poorly ventilated rooms even with masks can increase the risk); we will need fewer students in each class or larger classrooms; or, possibly a more innovative approach to education during a pandemic (I will list a few solutions below).</p> <p>To do this, we need time. To reopen safely, we need time. To change course for effective remote learning, which it seems inevitable we will have to do again at some point in the future, we need time.</p>
7/21/2020 9:55:58	Mendy	Hutson	Olathe School District -	Lawrence, KS	As a teacher, of course I worry about my students’ safety AND how any disruptions or loss of instruction will impact
7/21/2020 9:56:09	Emily	Coello		2522 N Greenleaf Ct/ W	<p>I am disappointed and appalled by the governor’s EO. Covid cases are being treated as eventual deaths and that treatment is driving major decisions which impact millions of people (children and working adults). School should not be delayed nor should masks be required. There is no science proving masks work. People are wearing dirty masks which in fact jeopardizes their own health. All of the mitigation measures are based on emotion and fear. Not science. This is alarming. Please overturn school delay and mask EOs.</p>
7/21/2020 9:56:13	Jacqueline	Murray	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita	As an educator , I want to go back after Labor Day if it’s safe. I want our school system to carefully think of the safety of parents, staff and Students. I am a senior citizen with NO underlying medical conditions . I am healthy and want to stay healthy. As with kindergarteners all day long, I don’t see how 5 year olds can keep masks on. I just want EVERYONE to be SAFE. Thank you
7/21/2020 9:56:14	Sheila	Ramsey	N/a	Parsons	My husband and I both support Gov Kelly’s decision about schools. We have children teaching in and grandchildren attending schools. No child’s life is worth chancing. A delay won’t kill us - this Covid very well might!!
7/21/2020 9:56:17	Lora	Stanley		Bennington	Please REJECT Governor Kelly's order to close schools until after Labor Day. Kansans need to get back to work, school, and regular activities. Our Constitutional Rights are being taken away by a governor that is overstepping her duties. So much was taken away from kids and families in the spring and students need to be back in the classroom and learning from a real-life teacher!

7/21/2020 9:56:20	Jessica	Anders		Wichita	I do NOT support the delayed start of schools. These kids have been out of school since March. It is time to allow them to go back!!! Not going to school is far more harmful than this virus.
7/21/2020 9:56:22	Erin	Pfannenstiel	Deerfield Elementary pa	Lawrence KS	We are not ready to open back up yet. The disruption which will occur from opening up and then closing again every single time there's an active infection occurring at the school will be more detrimental than just committing to distanced learning right now. Keeping our children safe should be a top priority (as well as keeping sensitive family members safe and not bringing the virus back home from school). Please consider moving towards distanced learning for our children this year.
7/21/2020 9:56:27	Gail	Woodward		St. John	Start AFTER Labor Day. Give schools time to figure out howto handle this. Give them resources to deal with the extra expenditures that will be incurred in order to manage social distancing, masks, sanitizing, etc., and give parents the choice to keep kids home to do virtual learning if there will be a parent or guardian present in the home with the students. A few more weeks of preparation and good decision making can help tremendously to set up schools for success instead of chaos and failure.
7/21/2020 9:56:30	Julie	Martell		Lawrence	Please delay the start the start of school until after Labor Day. We need this time to flatten the curve and solidify a plan for the safest way to bring children back to school.
7/21/2020 9:56:31	Debra	Moss		Pratt	Definitely in favor of the delayed start.
7/21/2020 9:56:31	Robert	Sawyer	None	Hutchinson	I don't understand why a delay of three weeks to provide some level of safety to students and staff is such a big deal. If the delay could potentially prevent illness and death, why not take the side of caution? I do understand that the students need to have stability returned to their lives too. Will illness, absences, and death provide that stability? I would not be in favor of a further delay. We do need to get back to some sense of normal. My sister is a teacher in Yates Center. She is ready to go back to classwork now. I have other friends that are educators that are looking at safety. The opinion on what you, as the board, should do is evenly split with my contacts. In closing, I will say that for you as a group, no matter what decision you make it will be the wrong one for a large portion of the state's voters. You are wrong already to someone. Only time will be the actual judge on the correct course of action.
7/21/2020 9:56:41	Jill	Thorne	I am a parent	Effingham, attends scho	Let them go back. You are only delaying the inevitable and causing our students even more delay.
7/21/2020 9:56:54	Michelle	Whitesell	Concerned Parent	Marysville, KS	Comment removed due to profanity
7/21/2020 9:57:03	Julie	Anderson		Goddard	Please delay opening schools for 20-21
7/21/2020 9:57:09	Tara	Zelvy	parent in USD497	Lawrence	I'm a parent and a teacher. Luckily, I took a virtual teaching job last April, but I still have concerns for my children who attend brick and mortar schooling, and all of my dear friends who are staff in schools. I do not want schools to open in August. It is not safe. Schools do not have the money to support safety protocols and more importantly, teachers do not have the support from admin and district to enforce necessary safety guidelines. I've been a middle school teacher for 20 years and have seen a significant slide in respect for building and classroom policies. I fear students will not wear masks and keep distance, and teachers will engage in losing battles. Teachers are not babysitters. They are not daycare providers so parents can continue working from home.
7/21/2020 9:57:13	Carah	Emory	Student in USD437	Topeka	Please close schools. Or support Governor Kelly's executive orders to delay achool with strict precautions for students attending. My child's life is not expendable, nor are the lives of any of the teachers, staff or students AND their families.
7/21/2020 9:57:15	Laurel	Farney		Butler Co.	Stay out of Private School business!!
7/21/2020 9:57:17	Katrina	Crites		Olathe	While I want my freshman to go to school after labor day, I'm very concerned there is not enough being done to protect the students and teachers. In my opinion, there should be plexiglass separating student desks.  I also believe the school days should be shortened and only core classes taught during the pandemic (science, math, english, social studies) and electives can resume once this nightmare is over.
7/21/2020 9:57:22	Lynn	Tatlock	None	Wichita	That said, I appreciate everything that you've done to work on this monumental issue.  I support Governor Kelly's decision to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. It would be irresponsible to do anything else. Do not put your political aspirations on the backs of innocent children, teachers and school personnel.

7/21/2020 9:57:24	Krishima	Holley	Parent	Wichita	In order to keep the students and teachers safe please allow some more time to prepare for when school resumes. This situation is new for everyone so the additional time delay may help with that.
7/21/2020 9:57:26	Jordan	Stelter	Teacher	Overland Park	I think delaying the start of school is essential to getting our buildings and staff prepared for this upcoming school year. There are so many unknowns at this time. As an educator, I feel very behind schedule as far as preparing my classroom and lessons because of all the uncertainty. I know that there is a push to have in-person classes again, but why? I think it's insane that we are going back to in-person classes when we shut down schools with far fewer casualties, but if we are going to return, school staff need time to properly prepare. When classes were shut down teachers had to quickly throw together adjustments and the students and teachers suffered. Many of the people that have an issue with this order are concerned for child care reasons, not education reasons. Schools are meant to educate, not babysit. If we rush into this school year the education that so many see as necessary at this time will be below average and thrown together leading to stress from teachers and students. Teachers are expected to do the impossible every day with little pay. Give teachers the time to properly prepare for this unique school year by delaying the start of school.
7/21/2020 9:57:32	Catherine	Tinsley	Shawnee Mission	Shawnee	Please delay the opening of schools.
7/21/2020 9:57:32	Rebecca	Sutterby		Uniontown	Nearly all of the county fairs in Southeast Kansas are proceeding as normal. While masks are encouraged, very few persons are wearing them (Maybe around 1 in 50 persons). Please watch for spikes in COVID-positive persons after the county fairs. That should tell you a great deal about the dangers our students may or may not face. We HAVE to get back to normal as soon as humanly possible. The emotional strain on our students, especially the athletes, is immense.
7/21/2020 9:57:39	Mary-Ashley	Thies	Shawnee Mission School	Lenexa, KS	Please approve the executive order. We are in NO place to go back to school before Labor Day. Please think of the teachers, staff, and students.
7/21/2020 9:57:46	Jerry	Hunsaker	Teaching	Wellsville	I understand that we are uncertain times and we need to be aware of what's is going on. However, as a teacher I fully believe that right now what is best for our kids is to get back into school as soon as possible, not even so much for the learning portion of it but for the social and emotional part of their lively hood. So please do not accept the recommendation of starting schools after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 9:57:50	Kristina	Burmeister	Family	Fairway	I am a resident of Fairway, Kansas, and send my children to St. Ann Catholic School in Prairie Village. I am writing to ask that you reject Governor Kelly's Order to delay the start of school till early September. Although my heart breaks for all children and believe all schools should open in a timely fashion in August, at a minimum this Order should not apply to private schools. St. Ann, for example, has small class sizes and was prepared to open in August. St. Ann should be able to decide for itself if it needs more "time" to plan as Governor Kelly baselessly assumes is necessary for all schools. Governor Kelly should not arbitrarily overturn St. Ann's plans.  I understand this is a difficult decision, but if we are putting our kids first – and that is what we should be doing, this isn't a close call. Kids need to be in school. Remote learning is a disaster, and they need to see their friends. The teachers can find a way to keep themselves "safe." I use the term "safe" loosely because, if you look at the statistics, anyone under 60 is not at high risk. Johnson County has a population of over 600,000 people, and two (2!) people under 60 have died of Covid-19. I suspect more people under 60 have been murdered, drowned, died in car accidents, etc. This risk pales in comparison to the developmental damage caused by preventing kids from going to school.  Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 9:57:53	Stephanie	Kohlhoff		Wichita	Please uphold the Governor's order to delay schools. I have a 2nd grader in USD259.
7/21/2020 9:57:56	Dan	Dickgrafe	Myself	Wichita	I support delaying the start of K-12 school programs until medical authorities deem it safe to do so. Even if young children are less susceptible to serious illness from becoming infected with the COVID-19 virus, they are still likely to be uncontrolled carriers of the virus. I believe they could cause and even more dangerous community spread than we are already experiencing in Kansas. I recognize the economic and political consequences of this decision, however I still feel that the public health is far more important. Thank you.

7/21/2020 9:58:06	Kelly	Robbins	Parent	Topeka	I fear this delay will be followed by further delays. Schools have had 4 months to get used to the new ideas of masks and distancing. I think any further delays further jeopardize children. When I was asked to close my business it was supposed to be for 2 weeks and turned into 8. Please don't let that happen to my 7 year old son.
7/21/2020 9:58:07	Renai	Pierson	USD 293	Collyer,KS	I am opposed to students wearing face masks in school, I have no issue with daily temp checks, proper hand washing, or starting School after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 9:58:13	Rachel	Perkins		I live in Roeland Park ar	I am in favor of the governor's mandate. I have a health condition that puts me at a higher risk of getting sick and being hospitalized if I contract the virus. I am worried about rushing back into school without proper precautions in place. Right now I am able to socially distance myself and protect my health. Forcing me back into a classroom filled with students would put me at a much higher risk. I understand that students are in need of social and emotional learning that schools provide but does that mean that I have to put my health on the line when we could teach online. When the pandemic started lots of preventative action was promised by our district but none of that actually happened. How can I trust that this time the preventative action will actually be in place. The online teaching we did in the Spring was not mandatory or very challenging. I think that we can improve upon this and provide a good education for our students if we are able to hold them accountable. Corporate offices are not forcing at risk employees back to work but it seems like schools will be. How is that right? How many teachers or parents or grandparents might contract the virus if we reopen?
7/21/2020 9:58:18	William	Hageman		Manhattan	I support the delay in school start date.
7/21/2020 9:58:21	Karl	Parbs	wyandotte hs	olathe	please support EO 20-58 to delay the opening of the school year.
7/21/2020 9:58:21	Veronica	Fernandez	N/a	Kansas	Yo como madre de 7 niños la salud es primero pero si puedo decir que hay niños realmente afectados por no socializar como en uno de el caso de los míos se le ha diagnosticado depresión y también en el caso de mi hija con dferent needs Ella no puede aprender por medio de l online.entonces realmente es individual hay niños que necesitan estar en rutinas y mi opinión sería que se les dé prioridad a los niños más vulnerables y los demás pueden regresar a clase después y do online
7/21/2020 9:58:22	Catherine	Bowen		Manhattan	Please support the Governors Order to keep schools closed until September. Give communities time for covid 19 cases to reduce and time for school districts to prepare. Keep the safety of students and staff first. Thank you
7/21/2020 9:58:30	Sheila	Hessman		Dodge City	I prefer to start after Labor Day, as a teacher , I want time to prepare my room, my lessons, and myself for going back to the unknown of what might happen. I need more training on google classroom to be ready to teach remotely if needed.
7/21/2020 9:58:37	Saint George	Saint George	Saint George	Saint George	Please support the executive order to postpone school re-opening until after Labor Day. We are counting on our elected officials to make the right decision and err on the side of caution to protect our children and the thousands of employees of the Kansas Public School System. Thank you!
7/21/2020 9:58:58	Katrine	Copeland		Spring Hill	Delay schools opening until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 9:59:03	Ruth	Cathcart-Rake	None	Salina	We are facing an unprecedented health crisis. Governor Kelly's recommendations make sense! Please support her! Thanks.
7/21/2020 9:59:09	Marci	Wink	Olathe Schools	Olathe	Please vote yes on the executive order so teachers have the time to be trained on remote learning tools, prepare their room for social distancing and be trained on cleaning requirements. It will also give the district time to find current PPE for the staff. Believe me I want to get back to work but not at the expense of my health, my family's or a student's health.
7/21/2020 9:59:23	Diane	Jourdan	Maize	Wichita	I support Gov Kelly
7/21/2020 9:59:31	Valerie	Johnson	Teacher for Northwest K	Monument, KS	We NEED to be back in school. I am all for washing hands and using hand sanitizer more frequently and taking temperatures before school and perhaps during the school day. I am NOT in favor of wearing masks. I don't feel like they are safe to wear all day long day after day. Our kids need to be involved in school activities also. We need school and activities for our youth to help kids become adults that can contribute, and who are well-rounded and productive citizens. Being out of school, social-distancing, and masks I feel are by far more detrimental to our kids than Covid-19. We can't live in fear. Could parents sign waivers saying that they understand the possible dangers and that the schools will not be held responsible? We need to be back in school preferably without masks.

7/21/2020 9:59:35	Renee	Bowman	USD 368	Paola	I appreciate the work Governor Kelly has done through all of this. As an elementary teacher, I want so badly to be back in the classroom. However, I don't feel that is safe at this point. I have yet to be in large groups, closer than 6ft, and I always wear my mask. It scares me to send my own children into a classroom where germs are so easily spread. I also know that parents will send their kids to school even if they are sick or have been exposed. Teachers won't be able to find subs if they need to stay home due to symptoms or exposure.
7/21/2020 9:59:35	Matt	Wray	Berean Academy	Newton	This goes against our constitutional rights and is not ok. The only acceptable learning is face to face for our kids. They need social interaction. We are not ok with the late start or the wearing of masks for kids in school! There is no good result from breathing your own co2 all day! This is playing a risky experiment with our children.
7/21/2020 9:59:44	Jeff	Cunningham	USD 506	Altamont	I support Governor Kelly.
7/21/2020 9:59:48	Ashley	Smith		Wichita but Goddard Sc	Please push back the start of schools so hopefully when they can go back it is safe for them and not have to have mask
7/21/2020 9:59:52	Amanda	Busenitz	Mother of school age ch	Towanda	Please vote no on the governor's order to delay school. Myself along with many parents find it unnecessary to delay schools for the year
7/21/2020 9:59:59	Michelle	Maynes		Overland Park/Spring H	Thank you for taking the time to read these comments about this very important issue. I know you all have a tough decision ahead of you, and one I know you won't take lightly.  Please uphold Gov Kelly's order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. For many reasons but to give teachers like myself, a 16 year veteran, time to prepare the safest, best learning environment for my high school students. Not only that, data and information are rapidly changing right now and to give us a delay would give us more time to consider the most recent data out there in regards to the impact of kids and teachers in opening schools.  Doing the right thing isn't easy, but please consider making this decision to uphold the order which is the safest (and right) decision to make for KS.
7/21/2020 9:59:59	Emma	Coad	student of olathe school	lenexa	Thank you for your service and your time. I would like to attend school in person this fall. students that don't want to attended in person should stay home!
7/21/2020 10:00:16	Athena	Wainscott	Parent of 3 blue valley s	Leawood	It is completely irresponsible to send kids into a confined populated setting until this virus is under control. Children CAN die, they 100% are spreaders, and sending them back is a risk to every teacher, staff member, parent and human they come into contact with. No in person school. We ALL would like to get back to normal eventually.
7/21/2020 10:00:21	Robert	Pulcini	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	I love what I do. Not being present in school for the last 5 months has been tough. However, delaying the start of the school year will give us time to communicate, collaborate, and plan effectively for when students return to school in-person. They see us as leaders who keep them safe, so let's continue doing so.
7/21/2020 10:00:22	Kelsey	Crawford		Lawrence	Please look at options that would allow students with IEP's to receive in school instruction, while other students receive instruction remotely.
7/21/2020 10:00:36	Craig	Lindeman		Wichita	I support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school if students are expected to spend any time in the classroom.
7/21/2020 10:00:39	Sara	Rapp	USD 383 (teacher)	Manhattan	With cases continually rising, the delayed start of school will help districts adequately plan and prepare (allowing for the importance of detailed plans and opportunities to run through them before students are present) as well as communities implement good health practices to slow the spread.
7/21/2020 10:00:40	Carter	Coad	Student in Olathe USD	Lenexa	Please let me attend school IN PERSON this fall. I am in 7th grade at PRT
7/21/2020 10:00:51	Emily	Toyne		Spring Hill	Wait until sept to get this under control!

7/21/2020 10:00:58	Melissa	Walker	Ashland usd220	Ashland Clark	We are a very small school. We have had very small numbers for COVID. 4 cases and all have recovered. I do not believe we should be compared to the big school district. We are totally different. I do not want to send my kids to school all day in a mask. They will end up touching their face more than when they do not wear one and it's not healthy to breathe on your own CO2 all day. Please reconsider this. Also in regards to sports please understand how important this is for kids. There are some and mine even included that live for that and that motivates them to get good grades and get their work done. You take that away and it takes away so much from them. It should be up to each district to decide what's best for each school because we are all different. So there shouldn't be a reason why we can't start school on time with normal activities. Thank you for your time
7/21/2020 10:00:59	Bradley	Thomas		Lansing KS	I feel that with all of the recommendations and requirements, it is best to give the school districts the time to create a fully developed plan. And not something that is put together in less than a month.
7/21/2020 10:01:05	Tresa	Boden		Gardner	As a parent of a senior this year I want my daughter in school. Not only does she need to be in school, she needs to be running cross country as she is being recruited by colleges. She so wants to go back to school for social, emotional, and physical stimulation. I highly recommend you read and look into the American Academy of Pediatrics on their recommendations on children returning to school. I am a nurse working in this mess and I strongly recommend kids go back to in person learning with extra curricular activities in place. Thank you
7/21/2020 10:01:05	Summer	McClure	McClure	Manhattan	Please delay
7/21/2020 10:01:07	Cindy	Parker		Vassar	I urge you all to vote in support of Governor Kelly's executive order regarding keeping school facilities closed until after Labor Day. This extra time will be vital to school districts and will provide much-needed time for professional development to ensure a positive public school experience, ample learning opportunities, as well as plans to address equity for the different phases of learning that may happen this school year.  School admins only recently received the lengthy document, Navigating Change, from KSDE and need time to explore it and pass it along to their educators and other staff personnel. It is a lot of information to digest especially when combined with everything else that is being required of our educators and admin.  Please, do what's right for Kansas schools, students, and educators and vote in support of Governor Kelly's executive order.
7/21/2020 10:01:09	Sherana	Becenti	USD 497	Lawrence	Schools should stay shut down until there are no new cases of COVID-19 for two weeks.
7/21/2020 10:01:10	Debbie	May	Retired a Teacher now	Olathe	I can share as a retired teacher, current substitute and grandmother. I am so concerned for my grandchildren and the students who I love and care about. Please do not start in person classes during a pandemic! I taught in a high poverty area. Parents cannot afford to pay high health care bills in the event someone in their family gets ill. Teachers cannot afford to stay home and quarantine if they are exposed with only 10 days sick leave. I have decided that I will not substitute until this pandemic is over. Most retired teachers that I know will not. I believe there will be a severe shortage of substitutes this year. There was a shortage anyway. When there is no substitute teachers have to cover for their colleagues. This sometimes has them dealing with 35 or more students in a classroom. How can that happen during a pandemic? Please, please for the safety of those I love delay in person classes in public school this year! I am so worried.
7/21/2020 10:01:16	Carla	Reynolds	Teacher	Andover	Follow the governor's mandates please!! Delay school opening!!
7/21/2020 10:01:17	Bailey	Weaver		Topeka	Delay schools opening, please and thank you! Schools need more time to get supplies and get prepared.
7/21/2020 10:01:28	Emma	Coad	student of olathe school	Lenexa	I would like to attend school in person this fall. Students that don't want to attend in person should stay home!
7/21/2020 10:01:30	Angela	Fabrycky	Meadow View Grade School	Parsons	Please vote YES for the delayed start of school until after Labor Day.



7/21/2020 10:01:32	Jennifer	Simmons		Leavenworth	<p>As a special education teacher I urge you to uphold the governor's order for delaying the start of school. I understand the need for schools to be open and I want to return to school but I want to ensure it's done in a way that is safe and also meets the needs of all students.</p> <p>Every district and building within a district is different. Staff need time to plan and work together to review the document released by the state to plan for what that looks like in their individual buildings. We also need time to ensure that we have adequate supplies in each classroom to clean and sanitize according to the guidelines.</p> <p>There are so many unanswered questions in regards about what happens if a teacher has to quarantine, a student has to quarantine, how to handle students who show up sick and parents don't come to pick them up, etc.</p> <p>I want to be in the classroom and I wouldn't mind extending the year or shortening breaks throughout the year to make up for the lost instructional time. We need the time to prepare to truly meet student needs with all the changes that are recommended.</p> <p>Please support the governor's order.</p>
7/21/2020 10:01:32	Jenni	Pelland		Pratt	<p>Our district has a good plan ready and I'm disappointed this is becoming a one size fits all plan. It makes no sense to me. I am an educator at the Middle School and I'm ready to do whatever it takes to get our kids back in school. These kids and families are suffering we have already been hugely concerned with the mental health issues on the rise before the pandemic I can't even begin to understand what we will be dealing with now. At the very least we should continue the activities (weights, sports practices, band, theater, etc...) with the precautions we have been using until the possible September start date. These kids need some sense of hope and it is proven that physical activity or even belonging to a group with a purpose increases well being. I am praying for you and our government to come to a joint decision. Thank you so much for your service and your dedication to education. I love my job! Thank you also for a way for the public to communicate with you! These are hard times but I rest on the hope of Jesus Christ and I pray that no matter what you find that hope as well. God bless and rest assured you are serving a group that no matter what will work for the good of their students and their community!</p>
7/21/2020 10:01:34	Kimberly	Neises	USD 497, my family	Lawrence	<p>I am a school teacher and mother. I strongly encourage the BOE to uphold Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of KS schools until after Labor Day. The logistics of meeting the needs of staff and students for in person learning is a huge challenge. Districts and teachers need time to figure out how to implement safety measures. Hopefully the extra weeks will also allow cases to decrease with the added mask mandates. Please support teachers, staff, students, and our families by supporting this order. Thank you for your time and service.</p>
7/21/2020 10:01:38	Megan	Merrill	teacher	Kansas City	<p>I would prefer to delay school until after Labor Day. During those 3 weeks, all of us would have time to see what will happen next with COVID-19 cases in our area and make a more informed decision about what to do next. Additionally, school districts could use that time to train teachers (via Zoom) on the necessary changes for either in person teaching, online, or hybrid.</p>
7/21/2020 10:01:51	Jessica	Wilhelm	Teacher and Parent	Shawnee	<p>Please delay the start of school. It is not safe to have students or teachers return to the buildings in Johnson County.</p>
7/21/2020 10:02:01	Melissa	Wrecke		Olathe	<p>As a teacher, I don't have a choice on whether or not I can keep my children home. I have a daughter with severe allergies and I'm terrified to have her in the school building. With the enormous class sizes now, how can we keep our kids and staff safe? If we lose ONE KID or ONE TEACHER to this...it's too many. Yes, this is not ideal; however, this is not forever. It is a time to teach our children (and ourselves) how to be resilient and patient.</p> <p>I 100% want to teach and work, but not sure it is safe to do in person. I respect Governor Kelly and know she truly is trying to keep everyone safe. If we start before Labor Day, I do not believe it is safe to put us all back in the physical school building. There are too many moving pieces to all of this...</p>
7/21/2020 10:02:09	Jason	Cook		Colby	<p>Not all areas of Kansas are the same. The kids need to be in school for their psychological health as well as social learning. Not all areas of Kansas look the same population wise and the decision about what's best for each school district should be allowed to be decided by each individual district and not made by the governor. The demographics are much different west of Salina than it is east of Salina.</p>
7/21/2020 10:02:24	Melanie	Turner	Parent	Derby	<p>Using proper PPE, Kansas school children should be able to start school in August. I see no benefit in waiting until after Labor Day.</p>

7/21/2020 10:02:34	Joann	Westbrook	None	Valley Falls	First, thank you for opening this to public opinion! These children need to go back to school. So many of them are already so far behind due to the spring semester; postponing school for two to three more weeks will only put them further behind. Not only that, it would force them to go until the middle of June of next year, leaving them with only six weeks for summer break. The consideration to give schools that extra time to come up with a plan and supplies is understandable, but at what cost to the students? Administrators have been closely monitoring the situation since the start, and have been brainstorming and planning with each new change that arises. If they won't be ready in mid-August, how will that extra time make much of a difference? Our children are falling behind, and will continue to do so if we don't take action. Even the straight A students are struggling right now, not to mention those who rely on the school systems for special needs to be met. If the executive decision must be made to keep the buildings closed a little longer, then at the very least let's get the educational materials home to the families again so that we can start the year on time and join the in-person classroom when possible.
7/21/2020 10:02:42	Katie	Jackson		Manhattan	Please allow schools to open before September 8. We support the Governor's order 20-59 to wear masks, social distance, and more to keep schools as healthy as possible. Our school district is offering the option for in-person or remote learning, so parents have the choice not to send their kids in person. Our children learn better in-person, and one has an IEP and is falling way behind his peers due to lack of services that can't be reproduced remotely. It also seems inevitable that schools will close during the winter, making it more critical now to get in as much in-person instruction as possible before closure.
7/21/2020 10:02:45	Christine	Durrett		Manhattan	There is absolutely no reason for a state-wide pushback on the school start date. There are many counties with low virus activity that could safely start in person now. Also, there is no reason that schools could not start virtually, and many are likely to be ready to do so. I do not understand the stated reason that schools need time to prepare, because the schools have been aware of COVID since March and they have had all summer to prepare; I cannot imagine there is any school district that is just starting their COVID plans right now. Many children had limited quality instruction from March to the end of the school year given the short notice on which school closed, and pushing back the start of school by three weeks will only put them further behind educationally. The decision on when and how to start instruction is a decision best left to local school districts.
7/21/2020 10:02:51	Stephanie	Bolay		Maize	school should start on time as schedule
7/21/2020 10:02:58	Teralyn	Cohn	Public school	Sedgwick	I support both the delay and a hybrid return. As a high risk person who loves to teach, please don't put me under a threat to my health in order to pay my bills.
7/21/2020 10:03:06	Keshia	Rogers	Goddard USD 265	Goddard, KS	I agree with delaying school. Keep our kids safe!
7/21/2020 10:03:13	Adrian	Zelvy	Parent	Lawrence	I am in favor of delaying school until September.
7/21/2020 10:03:18	Tiffany	Kargbo	USD 259 teacher and parent	Wichita	School needs to be completely virtual until there is a vaccine and cases are way down and stay down for several weeks.
7/21/2020 10:03:19	Penny	Dorado	Myself	Newton	I urge you to follow Governor Kelly's executive order to delay academic instruction, athletic practices AND the opening of schools until after Labor Day. This is not about politics. This is about the health of our community and state.
7/21/2020 10:03:22	Jennifer	Svaty	Central Kansas cooperative	Kanopolis, but work in s	I do believe that the school board should approve the delay to the start of school, but more to provide teachers a chance to plan and prepare to provide academic instruction virtually that is on par with the rigor that will be provided face to face. Our teachers deserve time to do what they do best.... to teach children. Throwing together a new mode of teaching in a few days is not good for our students, their families, or our valuable educators. In addition, it would give precious time for special educators (speech-language pathologist here) to identify how we can best serve our students with special needs in a way that keeps us both safe. Please accept the executive order.
7/21/2020 10:03:25	Kara	Thomas	Parent	Shawnee	I think delaying instruction in any format hinders our students. If districts are ready to perform virtual instruction, we shouldn't stop that. I also think that sports conditioning should be allowed to continue. The students and coaches are practicing safely. This is good for the physical health of our students. It also helps their mental health by allowing them to see their peers in a way that is safe.
7/21/2020 10:03:27	Taylor	Hartzell		Salina	Please follow Gov Kelly's order to keep schools closed. Keep our children safe.
7/21/2020 10:03:32	Ashley	Coyle		Olathe	There is not any data stating the schools will be a major source for an outbreak. The protective measures in place now that allow restaurants, retail business, etc. should be enough to keep our children safe. Our children obtaining an education is equally as important as the livelihood of our businesses.

7/21/2020 10:03:33	Todd	Gruber		Olathe	I think that we should not have a delay in the school year statewide. Schools should open according to their county health recommendations. If there are high number of cases in one county, they should consider a delay. If a county has a low number of cases, there is no need for delays. I also think it is ridiculous that our governor thinks she can wave a magic wand, send out an executive order, and the whole state has to abide by what she says. The people of Kansas have rights.
7/21/2020 10:03:37	Shane	Harden	Usd 266 patron	Wichita	I feel this is trying a one size fits all and should be left up to individual districts. Prefer school to start normally.
7/21/2020 10:03:44	Dana	Hanley		Overland Park Kansas	Keep the schools closed and let us go remotely u til numbers here go down
7/21/2020 10:03:51	Vikci	Graham	Parent and Grandparent	Prairie Village	Please be the adult and tell parents that school cannot safely open. There are not enough supplies to protect teachers and students. Please tell the people that want you to open, their children are not behind the whole world is behind. As retired; my husband and I would like to be traveling, having dinner out with friends but we're not. It can't be safely done. We're behind what we hoped our life might look like. The school building are old most in the 50 year range the air is already moldy, now covid, my husband did ventilations for buildings, KU, KSU, he says the only safe air is in laboratories and especially not old buildings.  I went to my urology as he is admiring my mask he then tells me in his practices outside KC he can't get his patients to wear mask. This is a doctor people need, he can't get patients to wear mask, it didn't give me hope children and their parents will be cooperative, actually it didn't give me confidence in him.  We are in the SME area you obviously know of the outbreak in their conditioning program if you drove past today you would see kids sitting on the concrete stairs shoulder to shoulder. Teachers, parents, and students, not safe. There is speculation that herd immunity doesn't work, all those students that already had Covid could get it again. Everyone wants their old life back, so do we!  The reason I write I have adult children that teach in Olathe, I have a granddaughter that should be a 1st grader in SM, there is also a preschooler we are the backup for everyone. If the parents die, get sick we're the backup, drama you say, yes, a lot of drama we thought we could avoid by being careful.  Please just take the safe road Governor Kelly has proven wise, Kansas has been a leader in education let's do it again. If covid goes magically alway everyone goes back to school, nobody is suffering with lingering health issues. We will again say Kansas was looking at the future. I can tell our adult LA family see Kansas is more progressive than you give us credit for. Good, safe public schools. Thank you, especially if you read to the end.
7/21/2020 10:03:53	Dawnita	Westover		Wichita	Against returning to school this school year. Voting for online schools or homeschool. I have 5 boys, no way are they going to keep masks on or follow strict distance rules.
7/21/2020 10:03:57	Bryan	Garrison	Southwestern Height	Kismet	I believe the mandate is a power trip. However putting off the start of school may be positive. I know there are teachers that are scared. When it starts if there is a spike everything will be shut back down, which I believe would be traumatic for students. Teachers, students, and parents don't need anymore stress due to this epidemic.
7/21/2020 10:03:58	Megan	Winter	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	I feel having school online is not only the safest choice for our students and staff, but also the community at large and will ultimately prevent this virus spreading even further and preventing an economic shut down. As humans, safety should be our number one priority and although this is certainly not the optimal solution, it is the only solution to continue to do what is best for our communities.
7/21/2020 10:04:01	Gina	Tireman		Olathe	Please keep the governor's executive order in place
7/21/2020 10:04:10	Daniel	Dinkel	KS Citizen	Junction City	I encourage you to support Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of school. Our children are too valuable to hastily open schools. Let's make sure teachers have the time and resources needed to open schools correctly.
7/21/2020 10:04:12	Celine	Coppaken		Prairie village	I agree that schools should open after Labor Day, and some version of having kids in classrooms either full time or part time.
7/21/2020 10:04:12	Anne	Parrott	Parent	Overland park	Stay home. Provide childcare for those who need it if possible.

7/21/2020 10:04:12	Jeana	Johnson	USD 450	Tecumseh	I think the executive order should be upheld. Our cases are extremely high and will continue to grow if we do in-person school. I also think requiring student attendance to be delayed will give teachers more time to prepare and learn the new schedules and how to teach online more effectively. As a teacher I am begging you to uphold this order for the health and safety of me and my colleagues as well as our families and students.
7/21/2020 10:04:18	Katie	Coldham		Lawrence	Governor Kelly is looking out for the best interest of Kansans, during this unprecedented public health crisis. With the spike in COVID-19 cases, we must protect our citizens.  Top experts and scientists agree we must actively take steps to prevent the spread. It's sad that a WORLDWIDE, public health crisis has been politicized. This virus does not discriminate based on political affiliation.  It would be irresponsible to start school before Labor Day, given the situation. We must protect our children, educators, and those they come in contact with. I urge you to support the Governor's mandate in delaying the return to school.
7/21/2020 10:04:29	Joshua	Oppenheim	Parent	Manhattan	I support governor Kelley's decision to delay school. We've seen what happens when we can't social distance well. Schools and towns will become completely overrun more so than they did with beaches opening. Studies indicate students 10+ older can spread just like adults. Disruption by opening and then closing is a terrible cost to productivity. Plan for online teaching/learning execute well - and things will get back to normal soon.
7/21/2020 10:04:44	Crystal	mcgee	usd 379	Clay Center ks	I do not feel its safe for our children or faculty members with our numbers going up
7/21/2020 10:04:33	Mark	Gering	Prairie Creek Elementary	Olathe	Please look at the data - we are hurting our kids education, social skills, and well being by keeping them out of school. The data suggest this is political drivel. If our kids can not depend on adults to make the best decision for them and their future, who do they turn to? Please look at the data of age groups and the infection rates, and do the right thing.
7/21/2020 10:04:50	Lauren	Ingraham	Olathe teacher, SMSD p	Overland Park	Please affirm the governor's EO delaying school start until after Labor Day. Teachers and students do not feel safe returning normally while the virus continues to grow and spread all over Kansas. Please do what is right for all children and teachers, not just a few.
7/21/2020 10:04:52	Jessica	Busenitz		Wichita	When I read the reopening guidelines that this board approved last week I was impressed by both the thoroughness and implementability. This plan was well thought-out and correctly balanced the need for students to be in school with guidelines necessary to keep all parties safe. For the governor to decide to override this plan is an abuse of power. I urge the board to vote to resume schools on time with the guidelines in place that you voted on and approved last week.
7/21/2020 10:04:54	Brandi	Parizek		Shawnee	Due to Labor Day being a holiday weekend that can include large gathering of family and friends, I think it would be wise to delay school 14 days after Labor Day to see what the effect of those larger gatherings has on the KS positive COVID-19 numbers.  I also foresee numbers rising after thanksgiving and Christmas break as large family gatherings are a tradition with these holidays. Maybe consider virtual school for 14 days after these holidays.
7/21/2020 10:04:56	Clay	Mayer	Jefferson West USD 340	Ozawkie	I think kids need to get back prior to Labor Day. Delaying until after another major holiday weekend is just kicking the can down the road and avoids nothing. Our district has had a task force group planning for the return since June.

					<p>I am so grateful for you all and for Governor Kelly's leadership and commitment to keep the lives of all Kansans safe. We are in the middle of a pandemic unseen by most living people. I stand firmly behind her decision to postpone school opening and I further implore you to keep our teachers and staff members safety (along with all the children) in mind as you deliberate on the steps to move forward.</p> <p>I have two children with one in grade school in the district. We have several immuno-compromised family members. I would like to comfortably send my child to school in a normal setting, but since this is nothing like normal, I urge you to at the very least uphold masks or clear face shields in school when children and adults cannot be properly distanced. I also urge you to make hybrid and remote Class learning available to protect our children and teachers to the best of the schools ability, while still affording the children interaction with each other through remote instruction.</p> <p>I'm certain we can still bring the children a learning platform they can flourish in while maintaining their safety.</p> <p>Thank you for your time, Vivian Hamilton</p>
7/21/2020 10:05:19	Vivian	Hamilton	Shawnee mission School	Overland Park	
7/21/2020 10:05:19	Michael	Massey	USD 421	Lyndon	Open schools on time. Do not delay the opening. Thanks
7/21/2020 10:05:30	Anne	Martinez	Registered nurse and parent	Topeka	<p>I agree with delaying the start of school. We need to do all we can to keep students, teachers, staff and everyone's families safe. Please don't add to the burden of hospitals.</p> <p>That includes wearing masks and social distancing, cleaning. In counties where there are increased cases, distance learning should be supported.</p>
7/21/2020 10:05:30	Heather	Harris		Junction City	<p>My children need to get back to school. Even though it wont be the normal days we remember from before, MY children want to go back. My son has a learning disability and remote learning at the end of last year brought so many challenges for him. He cried after almost every morning Zoom meeting because it was over. He struggled with keeping up with what everyone else was learning because he did not recieve the extra attention from his para. His para sessions were ONCE a week and no teaching was done. It sas used to check in to see how he was feeling.</p> <p>My first graders teacher struggled with internet connndctions and was rarely on for Zoom meetings in the morning. This was not helpful as my child longed to even see her friends daily. It all made my first grader not want to do her work.</p> <p>I ended up making a homeschool type program that fit my children's needs, which in the end helped them academically but emotionally they struggled.</p> <p>I work in the school so I was struggling with them because I needed social interaction as well. Our school has done an amazing job on planning for next school year and we as staff feel we are ready. We were given guidlines and immediately went to work on plans. I understand not all schools may be like that HOWEVER, we were given the guidlines well before the public and well before things were "set in stone." USD 475 is prepared and all the work that has been done over the last few weeks has finally all come together. Our district meeting last night proved that to me and all the parents watching. We are ready! Yes there are small numbers enrolled for brick and mortar in our schools this ysear but THAT helps when social distancing. We've worked hard to get kids back in the buildings. Let us do this for the children! 3 extra weeks of summer vacation including a holiday weekend will hurt our numbers. Parents are already struggling and working long hours while kids are left home alone, I know this to be a fact. We will look for things to get themout of the house and even take trips during the holiday weekend. This will cause numbers to rise and schools to be delayed again or even shut down again. As staff members, please give us the opportunity to make our plans work. We have worked hard to get OUR kids back in the buildings. School may look different this year but have faith in district employees. Everything we do is always for the kids.</p>
7/21/2020 10:05:32	Katie	Cowan		Leawood	na

7/21/2020 10:05:38	Laura	Blanchard	Parent - Blanchard AE C	Lawrence	<p>I believe that sports are very important to the children in middle school and high school. The risks of outdoor activities are very small due to the fact that with the current humidity that we have, the particulate when exhaled or coughed grabs the moisture and become heavy and falls to the ground. This mitigates the risk.</p> <p>If classrooms were opened up to more outside air, that would also help. As an Engineer, I am working with clients to help mitigate their risks in buildings by lighting and the HVAC systems.</p> <p>As parents, we understand the risks with Covid, but there are also hidden risks with our teenagers That include depression, anger and not understanding why this is happening. Let us try to give our children something to focus on during this difficult time.</p>
7/21/2020 10:05:40	Colette	Graham	Usd 340	Meriden	<p>My concern with starting school is children and drivers having to wear A mask on a 100 degree bus. And the students And teachers having to wear a mask for 8 hours a day.</p>
7/21/2020 10:05:48	Kelley	Hull	Olathe School District	Olathe	<p>I am a Social Worker in the Olathe School District. I am speaking on behalf of the Social Emotional health of our students and my co-workers. I have a group of co-workers that have reached out to me consistently since this began in March. I would say that at the end of May they started to feel comfortable with the idea of starting school on time- but as the virus numbers continue to rise- I have seen the anxiety, depression, and overall concern increasing in the last few weeks. The mental health of our district employees is in a state of crisis. If the adults are overwhelmed, worried, and anxious...I'm not sure how they will be able to adequately teach and make students feel safe if they themselves don't feel safe. I'm not worried about returning but I am worried about how inconsistent the messages have been. Students do best with set expectations and structure. These seem to vary so greatly across the state...and I feel like each building in our district is going to vary in their response to the virus...as well as each teacher/classroom. I think decisions need to be made that can be implemented with consistency across the board.</p>
7/21/2020 10:05:48	Alana	Tubbs	Retired teacher	Colby	<p>All districts should not be given the same guidelines. Our district needs to open as normal with no delay, and NO MASKS!!</p>
7/21/2020 10:05:48	Gayle	Culbertson	Parent of child in school	Lawrence	<p>Please support our Governor in delaying school until it's safe. Please put our children first in all the safeguarding steps possible. Please, please put our children first. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
7/21/2020 10:05:55	Braydi	Hishmeh	I'm a teacher	Topeka	<p>I do NOT think we should delay the start of school. I am a teacher and I want to start in person teaching WITH my students in August. Please vote against Gov Kelly's order so that we can get our kids back in school! Teachers and school districts worked ALL summer on a document so that we will be ready for kids to return in August. We are ready, there is no need to delay.</p>
7/21/2020 10:05:58	Gina	Bickel		Overland Park	<p>Schools should not only be closed until Labor Day but until there are solid treatments and/or readily available vaccines in place. This is the ONLY way to protect our staff and students.</p>
7/21/2020 10:06:08	Suzanne	Enright	Parents of Students	Gray County - Cimarron	<p>Delaying the start of school is fine with me. I have other questions/concerns.</p> <p>Will days or weeks be shortened?</p> <p>Will attendance policies be eliminated during the school year?</p> <p>Will waivers be available to parents/students with a preference that face masks not be worn in the classroom behind desk barriers?</p> <p>Has there been any consideration of a longer Winter break to promote health and well being?</p>
7/21/2020 10:06:14	Holly	Decker	Myself?	Manhattan	<p>Please do not open schools until after Labor Day</p>
7/21/2020 10:06:16	Craig	Moss		Olathe	<p>Schools should have the option to, at a minimum, begin the school year virtually prior to September 8.</p>
7/21/2020 10:06:16	Megan	O'Brien	My family - 2 high scho	Lawrence	<p>PLEASE allow sports to continue for our athletes. Ours schools claim to care about social emotional development. If so, you MUST let sports continue. As educators, you KNOW this.</p> <p>Summer conditioning has gone really well and there is no reason to think it won't be the same for fall activities. This is the LOWEST risk group. Please don't let them suffer any more than they have. The risk of denying school and school-related activities FAR outweigh the risks. It's not even close.</p>

7/21/2020 10:06:28	Ashley	Kracht	Parent and healthcare worker	Marysville	I am so impressed with the steps Governor Kelly has taken to encourage good public health considerations with continuity across our state. I have been increasingly disappointed with local governments overturning her executive orders to make them literally no more than passing recommendation. I think it is extremely disrespectful (would these counteractions have been taken if it were a Republican male Governor who made the executive order? I doubt it), and a threat to all of us who are trying to make good public health choices where they are now frowned upon by the local leadership and local people. As a parent of two small children in the school system, and as a healthcare worker in a county where COVID cases are rising daily due to the lack of concern shown by the public/ local government, I hope the State School Board considers enforcing Gov. Kelly's mandate regarding reopening schools. I think an across-the-board delaying of school's start help my community and many others hopefully get to a place where we have decreasing cases, and allow our schools to make the necessary changes to how education will be delivered this year.
7/21/2020 10:06:27	Weston	Cook	Kansas teacher	Kansas City	Please vote to accept the Governor's executive order. Do not put our Kansas kids and teachers in jeopardy. The largest businesses in the US are working from home for the rest of 2020. The public sector should not be the soldiers of this battle.
7/21/2020 10:06:35	Jaimee	Berry	Self	Lenexa, ks	Please give the schools time to prepare and the city a chance to get the virus heading downward !
7/21/2020 10:06:36	Mariah	Sorensen		Pratt	As a school psychologist working for a special education cooperative in rural communities, I please ask that you support Governor Kelly's mandate to delay the start of the school year to after Labor Day. I serve 4 small districts and my husband is a high school math teacher, and for both of us, starting the school year in just a few weeks raises a lot of anxiety. We both strongly believe that our kids should be in the school buildings, but we NEED to make sure our students as well as colleagues are SAFE when we return. Right now we have been fortunate that our community has not experienced community spread, but we also have the highest number of active cases at the moment than we have had since COVID-19 became a concern. This is why the thought of returning to school in a few short weeks raises anxiety because we are seeing an increase in cases, and the general consensus from colleagues are that we do not feel safe to return to in-person instruction at this time. I greatly appreciate that Governor Kelly has been consulting experts, looking at the numbers, and has not been afraid to make the hard decisions despite consequences they may have for her future as a governor of Kansas. I fully support her decision to give districts a few more weeks of time to develop more thorough plans for the fall and ensuring the safety of their students and staff. I ask that you also continue to support her mandate as well. Thank you for your time and service.
7/21/2020 10:06:39	Stephanie	Schneickert	None	Americus	As much as I want and need my kids to be back at school, it's not worth putting their health and the health of our teachers, at risk. School should be delayed until at least Labor Day then phased back in slowly.
7/21/2020 10:06:41	Alex	Dandy	School	Olathe	I feel like delaying the school year is unnecessary seeing how we still have enough time to acquire all the needed equipment to keep our schools safe amidst the pending pandemic situation.
7/21/2020 10:06:44	Mary	Bain		Ness City	Please open the schools! You can surely come up with a workable plan that will benefit our children. They need to be back in the schools as soon as possible. They are the future of this nation.
7/21/2020 10:06:48	Denton	Murray	Americans	Topeka	Open up schools, businesses the deaths have declined since April and the counts have not been accurate. The testing is suspect and already admissions that it is not accurate. Protect Our Rights and Our Freedoms and let us worry about our health. This is nothing but politics.
7/21/2020 10:06:57	Michelle	Hitchings	Family	Manhattan	We support a later school start, let's do whatever's best for our teachers and staff but also the students!
7/21/2020 10:06:59	Karol	Bell		Holton	I feel that we should start school in August as planned. The students should not be required to wear masks. Staff and students who have health concerns should have the choice to wear a mask if they choose too.
7/21/2020 10:07:07	Josephine	Landes		Lawrence	I support schools not starting until after Labor Day or until covid 19 cases stop rising on a daily basis. Our schools have not have enough time to prepare for the precautions they need to take to safely reopen

7/21/2020 10:07:15	Lauren	Waltma	Blue Valley School Dist	Olathe	Delaying the start of schools is absolutely necessary. We need to not only be considering the safety of the children but the teachers, paras, nurses, administrators, janitors and more who work with children every day. We also need to be concerned that children will go home and bring the virus home to their parents and families. Even opening schools with a mask mandate will prove difficult if not impossible. Asking children to wear a mask for 7hrs a day effectively is not a realistic request. While teachers miss our students we need to keep as many people safe as possible and opening schools is not the way to do that
7/21/2020 10:07:15	Lori	Schmitt		Olathe	I am in favor of the delay. As cases rise in Johnson County, I think an extra few weeks to plan for the safety of our children in schools is a good thing. I have a high school student, and there are almost 2000 people in his school building every day for 7 hours a day. Younger children may be less likely to get bad cases of covid, but what about older high school age? And teachers and faculty are at risk, as are parents when their children come home. There must be good plans in place for in-person learning as well as online alternatives and contingency plans for outbreaks. The extra time will give everyone a chance to plan.
7/21/2020 10:07:15	Andie	Millaway		Overland Park-Olathe	When every medical professional on the planet tells us to wait, maybe we should wait. Let's not pretend we know better. There are subject matter experts for a reason. Let's be humble enough to listen and accept what they are telling us. I don't believe medical professionals are in the business of misleading an entire nation.
7/21/2020 10:07:16	Kellie	Cummins	USD 259	Derby	Please allow this order to pass so that we as teachers have enough time to prepare to return to school with proper safety measures in place.
7/21/2020 10:07:25	Stacy	Vandemark	USD 233	Olathe	I would ask that the 20-21 be delayed. This will allow time for the administration and teachers to create the safest and best plans for a successful school year.
7/21/2020 10:07:30	Derek	Newberry	Attica Schools	Attica	I understand the caution that the governor is trying to take. But our #1 priority as a state should be to limit what we do so we can get these kids back to school. Instead we are allowing everything else and delaying education. I was just at a basketball tournament with hundreds of people and only about half wearing mask. Why are we closing schools (which can be better controlled) and allowing this and everything else. I would be all for it if we knew this was it, this is gonna help, and there won't be anymore delays. But I also understood and was fine with the shut down and closures before, and now look where we are. Another point that is obvious is that not all districts are created equal. In my local district there is hardly any cases. Due to lower numbers, our students could darn near social distance even in the classroom. While I understand the issue and unfairness of some schools starting and some not, there has always been advantages and disadvantages that one size school has over the other and vice versa. I do plead that if you do vote for this, at least amend to allow practices for activities to start Aug. 31 with certain guidelines. That way at least the games can get started shortly after school starts and it will limit what is lost. Most kids only get to actually play a couple years (varsity) and if you take football as an example, there are only 9 games. So each game lost is a big deal. So lets limit that as much as possible. Personally, I feel activities should go on even if school is delayed. The numbers are much easier to control and its up to the families to decide if they want them to participate not have it taken away. We have to look at reality. The kids are together outside of school anyways. They are gonna spread it anyways. At least its easier to control in a school controlled team setting. We keep wanting to push the wagon down the road just hoping the vaccine will solve the issue. We don't know when that will be, We don't know if that will even be the case. We don't know if people will get reinfected after some time. We don't know if the virus will just mutate once we get a vaccine. We don't know if this is something we will deal with every year. Point is, we don't know. Lets not take away important years of our kids lives because of something we don't know. Lets take precautions, follow them, and set examples along the way that our kids will be thankful for. Thanks for listening. Derek
7/21/2020 10:07:28	Jerry	Phillips	Personal	Pratt	Re-open schools as normally scheduled.
7/21/2020 10:07:36	Kellie	Brittingham	Parent	Lawrence	Please allow sports practice to continue even if school start is pushed back!! Our kids need sports and it might be the only thing they have they summer to keep them active!!



7/21/2020 10:07:44	Tiffany	Mannes	TLM Childcare	Overland Park	We cannot open schools without proper safety measures for students and teachers. There must be plans in place so our children do not lose a year of learning! We need our leaders who've been elected by the majority to make decisions and then we need to follow those decisions.
7/21/2020 10:07:45	Mary	Rose		LIBERAL	I feel that the Board of Education should NOT approve Executive Order 20-59.  Executive Order 20-59 also states children to wear masks during school year 2020-2021. Yet, this IS an important decision that should be transferred to the county level with the open relationship of the Unified Districts in their jurisdiction. Each county has already placed well educated and knowledgeable people dealing with COVID-19 in their county. I also feel proposing to start after September 7, 2020 is not in the best interest of the children.
7/21/2020 10:07:57	Kristine	Schmucker		Moundridge	I support the delay in opening public schools in Kansas as outlined by Gov Kelly. I support the wearing of masks and other measures to protect our children and teachers when in person school resumes. I also support hybrid options offering a combination of in person and online learning that parents, in consultation with their student's teachers, can choose.  Above all, the health of our children and teachers must be the top priority in this. I will be very disappointed if this becomes yet another political move by the State School Board. Work with Gov Kelly, prioritize the health of children and those that are teaching them.
7/21/2020 10:08:10	Ashly	Watts	Family, students, staff,	Olathe	Dear BOARD MEMBERS,  I want to thank you for the tireless efforts you have made during this unprecedented time for our state and country. I appreciate that you all are working with our students learning as a priority. I do think with the current state of the pandemic we must also be concerned with the health and safety of not only our students and staff but the families they will go home to and our communities as a whole. For that very reason. I urge you to vote yes for the executive order that delays the start of Kansas schools until after Labor Day.  I am a registered nurse and staff member of a local school district in Johnson County, but most importantly I am a parent of school age children, the daughter of a cancer survivor, and the wife of a paramedic. I am incredibly concerned for the wellbeing of my family, the staff, students, their families, and the community as a whole if they return to school before the rate of infection for COVID 19 drops considerably in our county. We are currently at a record breaking high case percentage in our county with no reason to believe it will improve rapidly.  I believe that Dr. Lee Norman presented more than adequate data to show you how Kansas communities are negatively impacted by COVID 19 right now. He further produced evidence that shows that we have the opportunity to lower the rate of infection to bring us back down to flatten the curve before September 9, 2020. He identified clusters associated with schools and daycares. If we have widespread opening of schools this number will skyrocket our already record breaking numbers even further.  Furthermore, I care so deeply about this because it is not only my job to protect the health and safety of my family but as a nurse it is my job to advocate for public health and safety. I believe we should base this decision on scientific evidence which suggests it is not the right time in Johnson County and many other counties in our state.
7/21/2020 10:08:11	Rebekah	Rhoads		Wamego	Lastly, this executive order absolutely needs to stand and be approved by you and the other board of education  I fully support governor Kelly's orders. We do not feel safe nor confident in sending our children back to school full time in the buildings.

7/21/2020 10:08:12	Amy	Curtis	Self/parent	Olathe	I urge the KSDE to adopt Executive Order 20-58. With COVID surging in our state, it is ludicrous to begin school as cases are at an all-time high. I urge the KSDE to let science be our guide. We have to face the realization that Kansans squandered the spring shut down and we are paying for it with a surge now. To open schools without science is crazy. If even one teacher or student dies of COVID as a result would be one too many. Are you prepared for that? Are you prepared for the resultant Workers' Compensation and/or wrongful death suits that will result? If you are not, then please delay school start.
7/21/2020 10:08:18	Amy	Cate		10787 S Cedar Niles Ci	I am not in favor of delaying the the school year. I feel our kids need to be back in school for the sake of their mental health and well being, and their academic progress. Thank you!
7/21/2020 10:08:22	Holly	McCormick	Students	Olathe	We have already been out of school for 6 months and waiting any longer will damage our education that we have been building on. Students also need to be in a routine and school would provide them that
7/21/2020 10:08:24	Jeffrey	Ernzen	Parent	Prairie Village, KS	While I understand the need to be safe, I believe we must also do everything in our power to maintain a normal social order. Any major delay in opening or a majority on-line model, is not acceptable. From our experience this past spring that model is not sustainable. Parents can do there best at home but there is not substitute for the classroom.
7/21/2020 10:08:28	Erin	Messerly	Olathe Public School	LENEXA	I am a teacher in the Olathe public school district and my 3 children also attend Olathe schools. I believe the vote should be NO to delaying this school year. I feel this should be a decision each district needs to make on their own. Yes, maybe that is the right decision for Olathe but I grew up in Southwest Kansas and I do not feel that is the right decision for them. This should not be a decision made for the entire state.
7/21/2020 10:08:48	Judy	Erpelding		Eudora, KS	Please consider allowing individual districts to make the decision on when to begin, how to begin (online, hybrid, brick & mortar), and which activities/sports can be done safely. A blanket decision doesn't seem appropriate with such diversity in the student body size, building size/layout, outside resources, types of activities/sports being conducted. It is possible for some districts to conduct some sports/activities and classroom instruction with restrictions safely for both teachers/staff/and students. We should give any opportunity we can to have even some portion of their education and involvement in activities to be somewhat normal. For the sake of their mental health, I believe this is critical.
7/21/2020 10:08:55	Jody	Grizzell	Pratt USD 382	Pratt	Please consider starting school as originally scheduled. These kids needs to get back to some what of a normal schedule.
7/21/2020 10:08:58	Christy	Thomas	Olathe West High Schoo	Olathe	Please help our kids! If we have to delay the start of school, please promise that our kids will be able to return back to school! Please allow students to return to in person classes. Our kids need the structure that school provides. They need their teachers, they need classroom instruction and interaction that cannot be achieved through online coursework. Both their education and their mental health are suffering. They want to return to school and normalcy. I think parents should be allowed to chose. I would be willing to sign a consent for my daughter to return to school and have a Senior year. It is crucial for our kids to receive the education they need to be prepared for college. And those that don't feel comfortable can stay home and have online learning if possible. Please look at the updated Johnson County statistics which clearly validate why in person classes should resume. The most vulnerable population is the elderly. More kids have been ill from the flu then this virus... Thank you for advocating what's best for our kids and not letting fear from the media influence your decision.
7/21/2020 10:09:05	Laura	Fails	USD320 Food Service	Wamego	I am very much in favor of delaying the start of school until after labor day in order to give schools (admin, teachers, transportation, food service) more time to develop safe BTS plans as well as the time needed to train all staff of new procedures. All of us want to be back in school, but the reality is that this virus is not only not going away, but actually spiking in Kansas. Speaking for food service, we are once again being asked to completely change how we feed kids, except this time we'll be in close contact with students. The amount of planning, testing and training is immense. Please allow Governor Kelly's Executive Order to stand to allow us time to open schools as safely as possible.
7/21/2020 10:09:09	Chad	Lippoldt		Wichita	I agree with Gov. Kelly that the start of the school year should be delayed. This gives school districts time to get all PPE and other protocols and supplies in place and ready. The school day can be extended by 15 minutes to make up any missed instructional time from the delayed start.
7/21/2020 10:09:13	Erin	Toplikar		Lenexa	I don't think they should delay school starting. I ag

7/21/2020 10:09:15	Josh	Hards	general public	Topeka	The local school districts are not prepared to start school. They do not have the medical supplies or action plans in place to safely begin school. Many school districts do not have a plan in place at all. A very generic idea of how you want to start schools back up is not sufficient at this point. There needs to be a very detailed plan before we put our children at risk. This is not the time to take a 'wait and see how it goes' approach. Delaying the opening of public schools is a must.
7/21/2020 10:09:27	Carrie	Gochenour	Home Daycare/ mother	Overland Park	I vote to delay or go online .. do not want to start and then close back down.
7/21/2020 10:09:41	Kaylene	Black		Pratt	I agree with delaying school for the health and safety of teachers, staff and students.
7/21/2020 10:09:43	Serina	Aguilar	Parent and registered vo	Lawrence	Our children should not be used as a political experiment. This decision should be about the public health and safety of our communities. I am in support of Gov. Kelly's executive order and I would hope that all of you would vote the same. Ask yourself if you open the schools prematurely are you ready to accept the consequences of a life lost? Are you ready to stand before God and say you had the opportunity to protect life and you voted to not protect his children? Most of you are conservative and just as you protect life before its born that protection shouldn't end after birth. Our children our innocent and not political. Please vote to delay the opening of schools! Please vote to protect life!
7/21/2020 10:09:46	Roberta	Elliott	daycare	hope	I am for waiting to start school after labor day
7/21/2020 10:09:51	Gina	Nietfeld		Marysville	It should not be a blanket decision to close ALL Kansas schools until any certain date! We have a local BOE that represents our staff and students and we place our trust in them! These kids need to get back to school!
7/21/2020 10:10:12	Dustin	Stucky	USD 420	OSAGE CITY	It is a good idea to delay the start of the school year for a couple of reasons. First, the spread of the virus is at an all time high and open schools now would exasperate that issue. Secondly, schools are not prepared to open with the necessary safety measures in place. The rapidly changing situation has caught the system flat footed, and it will take time to respond adequately.
7/21/2020 10:10:22	Trace	Gibson	Family members who ar	Fort Leavenworth	So many things to prepare for to keep students, their families, and teachers safe (& to prep teachers for all of the changes!). We are hopeful the BOE will SUPPORT & UPHOLD the governor's orders to wait until Labor Day to give time for the necessary precautions to be in place.
7/21/2020 10:10:24	Lori	O'Brien		Saint George	Please support the order to open schools after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 10:10:29	Cody	Fulks	None	Topeka	Vote no schools need to open and we need to educate kids. We are doing more harm than good.
7/21/2020 10:10:34	Emily	Kastens		Atwood	Kids need to be in school. They have been out since March. They need the social aspect for their mental health especially. They are losing more and some are more endangered being held out versus starting school on time.
7/21/2020 10:10:38	Ben	Coldham		Lawrence	Governor Kelly is looking out for the best interest of Kansans, during this unprecedented public health crisis. With the spike in COVID-19 cases, we must protect our citizens.  Top experts and scientists agree we must actively take steps to prevent the spread. It's sad that a WORLDWIDE, public health crisis has been politicized. This virus does not discriminate based on political affiliation.  It would be irresponsible to start school before Labor Day, given the situation. We must protect our children, educators, and those they come in contact with. I urge you to support the Governor's mandate in delaying the return to school.
7/21/2020 10:10:46	Jeffrey	Needham	Needham DBS (private	Olathe	Schools must reopen. Internet learning is a JOKE; no accountability, no grading, no testing. As an alternative, it would be better to postpone school until a vaccine is available and require vaccination before reopening. In the meantime teachers and staff need not be paid.
7/21/2020 10:10:52	Leslie	Lockard	Blue Valley USD 229	Overland Park	I agree with Governor Kelly's order to delay schools opening. As a teacher in her 60s, I'm concerned with the health risk of returning to school with so many cases increasing.
7/21/2020 10:11:00	Stephanie	Krebs		Topeka	Open schools on time! Kids need to be back in school!

7/21/2020 10:11:04	Christina	Middleton	My family	Lenexa, KS	<p>Hello, I don't envy your decision, but I trust you'll vote based on science and data. Community spread of COVID19 is now running rampant across our local communities.</p> <p>I know a lot of you are worried about local control, but what happens to those local communities who are now seeing spikes in cases and soon hospitalizations? What about those small rural communities who have seen hospitals shuttered as virus is faster spread due to having schools open?</p> <p>This article shows that older children spread the virus just as much as adults.  <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/18/health/coronavirus-children-schools.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/18/health/coronavirus-children-schools.html</a></p> <p>In my opinion, waiting a few weeks for school is gives us a fighting chance to get the cases on a downward trend to enable our local communities to have the safest start.</p> <p>If a small community like Logan, KS can be overwhelmed by this virus it can happen anywhere. Let's all do our part and work to slow the spread.</p> <p>I also think if you continue to have meeting via zoom you already know the right answer to this question.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 10:11:04	Jamie	Leach		Olathe	<p>Please vote no on the governor's mandate to delay the start of school. The decision should be left up to counties or even local school boards. A blanket mandate for the entire state doesn't make sense because not all areas are affected the same. Places with few cases don't necessarily need to delay school if they have proper precautions in place. Also, many kids NEED to be in school because it is the only safe place for them. We have now gone months where kids have been exposed to child abuse and neglect because no one is there to report it and help them. Kids' mental health is also at risk. They need their peers, they need socialization. Kids aren't built to be alone and separated. Their mental and emotional health is important, too.</p>
7/21/2020 10:11:06	Sarah	Secord	Usd251 North Lyon Cou	Emporia	<p>I am an elementary teacher and I would appreciate it if you would vote to keep buildings closed/ delay the start of school until September 9. Our school and I'm sure many others across the state need more time to develop a plan that ensures the safety of staff and students. We also need our numbers to trend downwards before I feel safe going back.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 10:11:12	Christy	Gamber		Olathe	<p>I am not sure if graduation is part of the discussion of the executive order from the governor. I am begging you not to cancel Olathe's graduation this weekend. Our kids have lost so much already. Please don't take this away too. You can spread the seats apart and have them wear masks. We have a huge stadium that, if you limit the number of guests per graduate just like inside ceremonies would have, families can also be social distance too. If government and health officials feel that it is safe enough for retail and restaurants to be open by using mask and social distancing then this should also be applied to a graduation. Safety is important, but this can be safely done.</p>
7/21/2020 10:11:16	Heather	Horinek	Parent	Atwood	<p>We either need to start in class school or online. Our kids are missing to much at this point. We are so far behind and losing ground.</p>
7/21/2020 10:11:19	Brooke	Powell		Pittsburg	<p>Please vote to delay opening school. Our children's lives, educator's lives, and communities depend on it.</p>
7/21/2020 10:11:19	James	Bowman		Frontenac	<p>We're in the middle of a global pandemic. Children can be taught safely online. This is a no-brainer. It makes me angry that you're second-guessing the governor. This causes the public to distrust her and be confused about what we should be doing, when every scientist says people in enclosed spaces is a bad idea.</p>

7/21/2020 10:11:21	Diane	Miller	USD 435 and M&M Tir	Abilene	One size does not fit all in Kansas. School districts have been planning for months and the Governor's constant yo-yo effect is not helping. Numerous health officials have said children do not seem to spread this virus. Studies show very good reasons why schools should be open. Teachers are just as essential as the grocery store employees. Our small business has remained open throughout the entire shutdown without sick employees or customers by following basic guidelines that didn't include masking. We are not going to outrun this virus but firmly believe it needs to run its course. Our hospitals and ICU beds are able to handle this pandemic but the goal posts keep moving. Please open schools and let local school boards make decisions based on what's right for their district. They are the education experts.
7/21/2020 10:11:26	Gina	Penzig	Parent	Topeka	Please support Gov. Kelly's work to protect our children. My daughter will be a senior at WRHS this year and plans to graduate after fall semester. While I'm disappointed by the affects the pandemic has had on her high school experience, her health and the health of school staff, teachers and students, is the most important thing. I'm still waiting to hear if our district is providing adequate options for remote learning for parents who prefer that option. I'm skeptical that schools can achieve adequate precautions against the virus spread. This isn't criticism of anyone's work. It's listening, reading and evaluating science-based information to come to a conclusion. Today, Kansas cases are on the rise and returning children to school is only going to make that worse.  I appreciate your willingness to hold public office and make these difficult decisions.
7/21/2020 10:11:29	Kim	Hudson	Parent of students at St J	Overland Park, KS	Please consider allowing private schools to make their own decisions in regards to opening schools. If they are not funded from the state they should have the rights to make their own opening plans be it virtual or in person. My high schoolers continued to have exemplary education virtually and they would benefit from started mid August as planned.
7/21/2020 10:11:35	Sara	Anderson	Olathe West	Olathe	Please listen to our public health officials. We need to delay reopening schools to allow the mask mandate to slow the spread. We are in a public health crises. We must mandate masks AND social distance when we return. These are the two most important steps we can take to mitigate the spread. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 10:11:35	Candice	Herken		Fort Leavenworth	Please approve the EO. I work in USD 453 and my children go to USD 207. I believe this will help everyone be better prepared to enact the mandates and be properly trained to provide the best outcome for all students.
7/21/2020 10:11:39	Becky	Todd	Teachers	Overland Park	I agree with delaying the start of school until after labor day.
7/21/2020 10:11:45	Lisa	Ifland	taxpayer parent teacher's	Williamsburg, Ks	in full support of Gov Kelly
7/21/2020 10:11:48	Pepper	Allen	Andover KS Middle Sch	Wichita Kansas	I am a para for special needs we need to delay school until September to prepare are students and staff. Our numbers are going up please think about the safety our children and staff.
7/21/2020 10:11:56	Elisabeth	Parlor		Fort Riley, KS	Please delay school.  God speed to all of you for dealing with these horrible parents that will never be pleased no matter what you do!
7/21/2020 10:12:03	Chris	Durham		Garden plain	Start in person school on time as previously scheduled. Children have not been in school for almost 6 months and that is causing farm more harm than the virus.
7/21/2020 10:12:04	Alicia	Alferman		Overland Park	Delay in person school as long as possible. I'd guess for even longer that Sept 9th. Please listen to SCIENTISTS and DOCTORS, not politics.
7/21/2020 10:12:23	Sam	Jack		Goddard	Board of Education members, please uphold Gov. Kelly's executive order. If we're insufficiently cautious about this, we don't get the opportunity to rewind and do it over. Lives are literally on the line. Given that lives are on the line, I believe that if you listen to politicians instead of scientists and health professionals, you could end up regretting it profoundly.

7/21/2020 10:12:26	Mary	Rose		LIBERAL	I feel that the Board of Education should NOT approve Executive Order 20-58.  Executive Order 20-58 also states children to wear masks during school year 2020-2021. Yet, this IS an important decision that should be transferred to the county level with the open relationship of the Unified Districts in their jurisdiction. Each county has already been placed well educated and knowledgeable people dealing with COVID-19 in the counties. I also feel proposing to start after September 7, 2020 is not in the best interest of the children. Each county may have decreases and increases.
7/21/2020 10:12:29	Stan	Anderson	USD 512	Lenexa	Due to the current state of increasing positive tests, students should be in school for short, meaningfully active reasons. For any class that requires a student to sit in class to discuss and work, that is a class that should be on-line during these times. High school students should be in school only for classes that require performance assessments like PE, Choir, industrial arts, auto tech, art, fashion design, and int'l languages.
7/21/2020 10:12:33	Jason	Roe	concerned parent	Lawrence	Although my child absolutely needs the structure and social development he gets with in-person school, I am deeply concerned about the safety of students, teachers and staff. In light of recent studies showing transmission rates among teenagers, and unclear data about this new virus among younger children, I recognize that it will take additional time for Kansas schools to prepare to reopen safely. Also, under no circumstances will it be safe to reopen in the midst of a surge of COVID-19 cases as we have seen in recent weeks. We need to wear masks and suppress the pandemic across the state, so that we can reopen schools safely.
7/21/2020 10:12:43	Pam	Broadbent		Topeka	Please support Governor Kelly's order to keep schools closed! Our staff and students need this time.
7/21/2020 10:12:53	Mallory	Ginn	Emporia USD 253	Emporia	I 100% agree with Governor Kelly's suggestion to delay the start of school. As a teacher, being related to teachers, etc. and knowing what school will potentially look like in the fall, I believe that parents that want their students back in class do not understand what will happen in schools or what schools will look like. Lunch, socializations, specials, etc. will not look the same. The school district needs time to prepare these changes based on everything that has come out in the past few weeks. As a teacher I have not even had the time to set foot in my classroom to prepare, because I don't know what to prepare. Extra time is needed.
7/21/2020 10:12:54	Theresa	Wade	Kckps	Kansas city Kansas	I'm a teacher. We have no suppliers to protect us. We have no plan. Please stop this.
7/21/2020 10:12:54	Rachel	Davis	Parent and employee of	FORT RILEY	I think face masks are imperative for all kids and staff in school. The delay absolutely needs to happen! The district has said the do not have the funds for a hybrid model but we are cramming 25-28 kids in small classrooms. How do we social distance at all with that many kids per class? It's ridiculous. In our school the kids backpacks and coats are piled on top of each other, which is gross to begin with for hygiene. We are to get rid of all fabric furniture but expect our kids to be put in danger by piling their personal items on each others. Putting 1 water bottle filler in for 600-700 kids is not feasible. Remote would be a better option for first semester to let the schools get more water bottle fillers, cleaning supplies and a better plan of action. Putting kids in an environment like that will lead to chaos and not a lot of teaching happening. Teachers having that many kids in a class is horrible to begin with much less having to worry about masks, kids eating in the classroom, no normalcy at all, possibly no music or pe because the can't clean it properly in between classes, and be worried that you could possibly be bringing home covid to the family. Please consider remote learning for 1st semester to put a proper plan in place.  Thank you

7/21/2020 10:13:05	Cara	McNorton		Eudora	It is my request that you uphold the Governor's decision to delay the start of schools. Our goal as educators is to provide quality instruction for our students. The team of educators worked incredibly hard this summer on the document you approved last week. Most educators will have maybe 3 days of Professional Learning when they return to school to prepare classrooms, prepare instruction, prepare for Covid precautions and go through the document. If you really want that document looked at it and used, I would recommend the vote to delay. I can assure you the number 1 thing teachers are worried about is preparing classrooms and taking Covid precautions and getting some basic lesson plans down. They won't even open the document that was worked on this summer if given only three days. That's just the reality of it. There isn't time to do all of it with the opening of schools in August. Please trust the trained professionals to do their job with educating students. We know what we are doing. I would like you to know one more thing. While you are meeting virtually or in person with your plexiglass shields, I've updated my will, bought more life insurance and have my arrangements in order. I've spent \$200 on scrub clothing, face masks and face shields. I'm making a bedroom in my basement for me to sleep in so I can keep my husband and daughters safe. I miss my students. I know they need me. I'm in very high risk schools. I get it. But nothing. Absolutely nothing is worth more than life. EVER! I can NOT believe we are even having this discussion. I didn't sign up for teaching ever thinking I would be risking my life. Thank you for voting to delay schools.
7/21/2020 10:13:11	Darcy	Carlstedt		Lenexa	I support my kids going to school in person as soon as possible.
7/21/2020 10:13:12	Elizabeth	Kinion	Teacher	Salina	Please keep the safety of students and staff in mind. Delaying will give time to make sure all safety measures are in place and ready for students to return. This should be our top priority! Cases continue to rise and must be under control before students can return to school safely.
7/21/2020 10:13:13	joseph	vanderhoof		atwood	I think its in the best interest to delay school until Sept 9 2020 so the schools can get organized and prepared. Further more, young children and children with disabilaties their parents should have the option to do in home virtual schooling.
7/21/2020 10:13:18	Megan	Coleman		Wichita	Let our kids get back in school. My girls are miserable and missing school. We can't hide from this. It's just delaying the inevitable. I feel Maize schools have a great plan and we can do this.
7/21/2020 10:13:21	Cora	Johnston	Wamego Middle School	Manhattan	Hello, I am a teacher at Wamego Middle school but I commute from Manhattan. I am concerned that the Wamego B.O.E. will not take into consideration just how many of its district's teachers are just like me and commute from Manhattan. Manhattan is a more affected area. I would like to see a delay in resuming school so that our district and it's staff and teachers can better prepare to implement whatever guidelines our board approves.
7/21/2020 10:13:25	Mary	Sheldon		Topeka	Support Gov Kelly on school opening delays.
7/21/2020 10:13:29	Libbie	Stover	USD 383 Manhattan Og	Manhattan	<p>Please support Laura Kelly's Executive Order</p> <p>I think it is safe to say that higher education did not prepare teachers for a pandemic. In my opinion, Emporia State University is one of the best teacher colleges in the nation. Seven years ago when I graduated from there I left prepared for just about every crisis. This was not one of them. I point this out to place emphasis on how thousands of educators in our state are preparing to teach during a time that none of them were trained for. I myself am thinking of ways to change my classroom to ensure quality of learning while maintaining proper health standards. Those changes won't come quick or easy. That is why teachers need 3 weeks.</p> <p>As I learn more about the spread of covid and how it will impact our schools it has become clear to me that our master schedule will need to be changed. I will no longer be able to hold double classes in my gym. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings I co-teach 40-50 students in my classroom. This May, I completed my master's degree in Education Administration from Fort Hays State. I have learned that tweaking the master schedule isn't an easy task. It takes time and patience to be able to organize it in a way that doesn't create a domino effect that negatively impacts other parts of our student's day. That means we have to find a brand new schedule that equitably provides STEM, art, PE, music, computers, library, lunch, MTSS, and recess. On top of that, we have a new principal this year who starts work on July 20th. To do justice for our students' school day we need those 3 weeks.</p>

7/21/2020 10:13:30	Melissa	Hendricks	Parent	Salina, Kansas	<p>Please do NOT delay the start of school. The numbers on the State's coronavirus website speak for themselves. Only 8.5% of positive cases are children under the age of 18. There have been NO deaths under the age of 25, and the overall Kansas death rate of those over age 25 is only 1.3% of positive cases. More and more people are recovering. Death rates and hospitalizations due to COVID have consistently decreased.</p> <p>My children HATED remote learning, and it was a nightmare for me and my job. All children need social interaction, and I want my kids specifically to be given the opportunity to build an immunity to this virus, just like any other virus. Those that are immunocompromised or at high risk should be encouraged and allowed to do what they feel is necessary to protect themselves and their family. Not everyone is in that situation and it feels like the desires of a select few are being forced on the masses.</p>
7/21/2020 10:13:38	Kyle	Groff	Tricounty/Usd447	Parsons	<p>I believe that we should listen to the physicians and delay the start. I also believe we should delay sports but they must happen. Extracurricular activities are almost as important as school. Please don't fall into politics and let the data speak.</p>
7/21/2020 10:13:39	Carrie	Morris	Teacher	Overland Park	<p>I am appalled that this is even a debate. I have taught for 23 years. I know what a classroom looks like. In all of my years of experience, the kids' safety comes first. In this case, it seems people have lost that perspective.</p> <p>I know that my school district is no where near ready for what is ahead. No plans in place for social distancing, masks, sanitizer, etc. The plans are two fold- come full force or stay home. Literally no precautions have been put into practice to keep kids and personnel safe.</p> <p>My own children's assistant superintendent got on TikTok and shamed those kids who may want to stay home by saying they'd be "stuck at home." Additionally, my board member, on this very board, has not replied to my pleas and has a personal fb post about questioning everything. Masks, going to gatherings, etc. I'm disheartened. Who are these people? Why do they get to be so cavalier about life and safety? If a silent gunman was in our building, they wouldn't want their OWN child in there. That's what this is. An invisible threat. And I unapologetically state that these 'leaders' are part of the problem. I'm horrified by their statements made when they thought no one was looking.</p> <p>Giving an additional 3 weeks to prepare seems like a very small sacrifice for lives it might/will save. 3 weeks is what we are asking. Safety measures put into place is what we are asking. It comes down to your priorities.</p>
7/21/2020 10:13:41	Debra	DeRoulet		Hutchinson, KS	<p>Please let science and research guide this process.</p>
7/21/2020 10:13:50	Julie	Weilert	Teacher	Humboldt	<p>Vote 'Yes' to support Governor Kelly's order</p> <p>My concern is if we don't start in August like normal and there is another mandatory shut down, we don't get any forgiveness for days missed. Kids will be in school all summer.</p>
7/21/2020 10:13:51	Andrea	Larson		Overland Park	<p>My kids want to be in school! They are in middle school and need the critical things middle school provides! Online school should be an option, but let those of us who feel comfortable sending our kids to go back! Teachers, medical professionals, EMT, firefighters, police are all essential! Everyone has to adjust and commit to these kids who want to be in person at school! They are missing out!</p>
7/21/2020 10:13:51	Brian	Broadbent		Topeka	<p>Please support Govenor Kelly's executive order to close schools until after Labor Day. Staff need time to prepare for new teaching environments. Our state needs time to handle the virus better.</p>



7/21/2020 10:14:02	Lori	Brack		Salina	<p>I've spent the past week researching the risks to college faculty and students in the upcoming fall semester. I am a former college instructor who was considering teaching again, but the data is clear: cases are rising, children and young people can be carriers and because of their developmental stages can't be trusted to act appropriately to take care of their health and the health of others around them.</p> <p>The governor has access to information and advice, along with her own leadership skills and former work as a teacher. I trust her to make decisions for Kansans in every area, including opening schools. Please do not politicize a public health situation. Listen to the health advisers FIRST, then make decisions that are right for Kansas children and teachers.</p>
7/21/2020 10:14:10	Tara	Oddo		Overland Park	I fully support Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school. With Kansas infection rates being in the top 14 of all states it would be irresponsible and dangerous to open Kansas schools for in person classes at this time. As a school nurse I am very concerned for the immunocompromised students and staff in my building. I find it ironic that this board is meeting virtually rather than in person when a few members have expressed they feel it is safe to open schools, if it is safe to open schools that have several hundred students why is this board of just a few people not meeting in person and open for all to attend?
7/21/2020 10:14:13	Joseph	Jewett	Administrator	Olathe	As a parent, my own children and my students NEED to be in school for socialization. As a building principal, my own children and my students NEED to be in school for their education. As a parent, my children need to be safe, and my wife who is 8 months pregnant needs to be safe. Unfortunately there are people in each school, district, and city who won't do what is necessary to protect those around them. As a middle school principal, my children need to be safe, and my wife who is 8 months pregnant needs to be safe. Unfortunately we do not have the time to plan, implement, and put in place safety measure to mitigate the dangers that will be present due to the nature of this virus and those who won't do what is necessary to protect those around them. Even more challenging, is the fact that the safety of our staff and students has become politicized by both sides; unfortunately, the boards responsibility as the governing body for education in Kansas is to somehow balance the responsibility of our safety and education. I'm praying for you and the choices you have to make. There is no right choice in this situation, but it's important that we somehow protect our children now (health) and in the future (their education).
7/21/2020 10:14:16	Sadie	Moore		Emporia	The delay is absolutely vital to the health and safety of our community. I understand there are drawbacks, but schooling should also remain online until we are cleared of the virus, or there are at least no new cases for two weeks. You cannot expect children to uphold the safety measures necessary to stop the spread of the virus.
7/21/2020 10:14:19	Erin	Toplikar		Lenexa	I don't feel as though we should delay the start of school. I know there have been an increased number of cases but very few have been children age and it has shown that rate of transmission is low in that age group. I feel like masks are essential but not sure how the younger grades will do with having to wear them all day, I feel it may be more of a distraction than good. The kids need to be back in school learning in the classroom and being around other kids socially.
7/21/2020 10:14:21	Donna	Shubkagel	Teachers	Olathe	Please delay the start on the delay on when school starts
7/21/2020 10:14:40	Kerry	Haley	Usd 259 School Nurse	Wichita	Hello - My name is Kerry and I am a school nurse. I am so attending graduate school for public health nursing. This will be my 5th year as a school nurse for the district but I also have over 25 years of adolescent psychiatric inpatient experience. I understand that mental health is important. I have two boys with depression and anxiety disorders so I understand very well. In my experience, we need to have physical health in order to work on mental health. The rate of infection in Wichita is high and as a school nurse I have some serious concerns on keeping my students and staff safe. I work at middle school with 900 students and 87 staff members. I strongly believe we need to start school after labor day to give the mask ordinance in Wichita a chance to make a difference. As a parent myself I can understand how other parents feel we want our kids to be in school but health needs to be priority. How do we have students learning in the classroom when they are sick? I ask that you follow the science and the health professionals. Please do not take politics into this.
7/21/2020 10:14:41	Vielka	Asbury		Leavenworth, Kansas.	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay reopening schools until September 9 to protect the health and safety of our school communities and give Kansas school districts the time to gather the recently mandated supplies to protect their schools.

7/21/2020 10:14:45	Elizabeth	Parsons	USD 259 (Wichita) 5th	Valley Center, KS	I would like school to be delayed till after Labor Day but have an adjusted school calendar. Meaning, that we have the same required days but we go till June. I want to have in person school but with health precautions in place.
7/21/2020 10:14:47	Carolyn	Matthews		Wichita, Andover 385 S	I support delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. I have two children in elementary school and one child in middle school. With the increasing number of infections in our area, I am not comfortable sending them back to school yet. I assume that the district's opening plans will change because of these rising infections, so more time to prepare is in everyone's best interest. I urge the State Board of Education to approve the governor's executive order.
7/21/2020 10:14:51	Kallie	Burgardt	Self	Salina	Delaying school does not help the economy. Kids need school. The numbers of depression and suicide are higher than corona virus. School is a necessity. The governor is destroying and delaying KS that in turn creates a huge deficit with the impacts being years to recover from.
7/21/2020 10:14:53	Don	Feil		Chase	Yes, the delay is needed. A firm plan that protects the children, teachers, and the house holds they go to each evening. This is virus is real and much more deadly than the rino virus that explodes each year with school open.
7/21/2020 10:14:54	Carrie	Hoger		Wichita	Delaying school is the safest thing we can do for our children & staff. Keep everyone safe.
7/21/2020 10:15:04	Torrie	Battle	Football	Louisburg	These kids have been able to socially distance and be at football scrimmages, weights, and conditioning. They are thriving again!!! Do not delay their season. This is imperative for their physical, social, and psychological health!!!!
7/21/2020 10:15:07	Diana	Fabac	KSPTA	Bonner Springs	I believe that the Governor is correct to not open schools until after Labor Day to let the rise if the virus start to go down.
7/21/2020 10:15:11	Ranelle	Hugunin	USD 325	Phillipsburg	I am a teacher with 24 years experience. Please support the executive order. We need time to prepare for the challenges the upcoming school year present.
7/21/2020 10:15:12	Ericka	Waller	USD 287	Lawrence	I strongly encourage the BOE to vote in favor of the EO to delay the start of school. We need time to implement policies and procedures that are outlined in the reopening plan, and we need to work with our staff to ensure that we are ready for a seamless/immediate transition to online learning in the event of another full scale shutdown. We cannot leave this decision up to the individual counties, as KSHSAA sponsored activities rely on schools operating in the same way in order to set activity calendars. Please recognize the disparity that would be created if individual counties are allowed to make decisions, and how that will impact equity in the long-term.
7/21/2020 10:15:16	Todd	Calhoun		Topeka	Support the mandate!
7/21/2020 10:15:18	Brittney	Westgard	School social worker	Rago	For the safety of students, school Staff and the community more time and preparation is needed before schools open for in person education. Also no staff should be meeting in groups larger than 5 or from across different schools/districts. Not only is time needed to prepare for a safe return but more support and funds from the BOE and government is needed to meet the necessary safety requirements. I.e increased hand washing stations, PPE, health educAtion and awareness training ( i see too many school admin wearing masks only to their mouth and not covering nose they are not knowledgeable on viral diseases and how they spread and are being charged with making decisions for entire schools based on limited know how) . Please prioritize our safety, these are unprecedented times that require bold decisions and actions to keep our communities safe and that is your responsibility.
7/21/2020 10:15:32	Kristen	Scribner		Maize	Thank you Governor Kelly for delaying the start of school to help administrators as well school staff better prepare for the hundreds of children who will walk their halls.
7/21/2020 10:15:32	Johanna	Van Ness		Wichita	Please delay the start of the school year. I do not feel comfortable sending my kids to school with the increase in cases.
7/21/2020 10:15:50	Alissa	Jackson		Mission	As a teacher, I fully support Governor Kelly's plan to delay the opening of schools until after Labor Day. This will give teachers and administrators more time to implement all necessary safety measures to keep kids and the adults that work with them safe.
7/21/2020 10:15:55	Deanna	Trumble	Self	Newton	Please uphold the order to delay school until September and requiring masks for all who enter a school building. Thank you!
7/21/2020 10:15:56	Marla	Hildebrand		Overland Park	Do not delay school

7/21/2020 10:15:57	Nic	Dannevik	Parent of a senior in usd	Lawrence	Please allow sports to practice during the three weeks school has been postponed. Many schools have been participating in outdoor optional workouts successfully. This will allow athletes and students involved in activities to stay involved and allow students back in a safe manor.
7/21/2020 10:15:57	Carol	Hatfield	My family	Wichita, but a Maize Di	Once again a safety issue has been turned into a political one. As a retired educator I think it is imperative that we do what is in the best interest of our students and staff. If you override the governor's declaration in light of the increasing covid19 numbers then you truly are letting us know that you are not basing your decisions on what is best for the students and teachers of Kansas.
7/21/2020 10:15:58	Concerned	Citizen	Wichita children and tea	Wichita	I urge you to do not allow students and staff in school buildings until there have been no new cases for at least 14 days. This is horrible to send them in with these conditions. I continue to Pray you make the right decision.
7/21/2020 10:16:07	Melissa	Grimm	USD 204 Food service	Bonner Sorings	As a parent and staff member, I think it's extremely detrimental for students to not be in school face to face. There are too many kids that need their teachers. Teachers are so much more than a body that stands up in front of a classroom. They are the parent, the nurse, the disciplinarian, etc.
7/21/2020 10:16:11	Jeremy	Robison	Self/ student son	Burlingame	Laura Kelly has a one fit answer for all the children of our state. My child is from usd454 we have zero cases here. We are being treated like a large school . Her actions may have been warranted to shut things down . I felt it was to soon for our school . The size of the school should matter . This one size fits all scenario is un fair to the children. Please take that in consideration..... DO NOT PUSH BACK THE START OF SCHOOLS FOR OUR RURAL AREAS THAT HAVE ZETO CASES....
7/21/2020 10:16:12	Meghan	Shreve	myself	LAWRENCE	Please follow Gov. Kelly's EO. Having thousands of sick children is NOT WORTH THE RISK! Thank you.
7/21/2020 10:16:18	Kristen	Oberzan	LHS parent	Lawrence	I support athletes being allow to play even if school is not in session. I would also love to see family choice on school and athletics. This should be a personal decision not a mandated. If other families don't feel safe then options should be allowed. Virtual school was horrible last year. If we don't open in person classes and keep them I will be in support of taxes being given back to families to choose their school. Thank you.
7/21/2020 10:16:29	Carrie	Van Buskirk	KS school aged parent a	Olathe	As an Olathe Parent of two students, middle school, and high school, and as an advocate for disabled students, I am asking that you encourage votes for the Governor's plan delaying the start of schools. In order to adequately prepare for a safe return and to train/guide our teachers and support staff for new methods of delivering instruction and safety protocols, the schools simply need more time. We desire that our beloved and valued staff and students return; however, we want them to be safe in their educational environment.  With respect, The Van Buskirk Family
7/21/2020 10:16:30	Erica	Huggard	Emporia NEA	Emporia	These last few weeks, anxiety levels for teachers and support staff in my district have been incredibly high. I have been spending an enormous amount of my time fielding questions that I do not have answers to. I've asked them to wait patiently for the state plan, in the hopes that we would be rolling out our district plan shortly after, and questions would be answered. Unfortunately, our plan is not ready and it seems like more questions are going unanswered each day, despite the best efforts of leadership. Thankfully teachers and staff felt a break in our anxiety levels when Laura Kelly showed remarkable leadership and issued her mandate to delay schools and require safety measurers be required, not just recommended. Unfortunately, the lowered anxiety levels for staff were short lived, as we learned that her mandate would only take effect if the State Board of Ed. support the mandate. On behalf of my 275 members, I am asking you to support the Governor's mandates.
7/21/2020 10:16:49	Katie	Beach	USD 482	Dighton	Please consider letting our children start school on August 14 in Dighton, KS. We have 5 recovered cases, and the negative effects no school could have on our children could be so dire. Thanks for thinking of rural western Kansas. Please remember there is much more to Kansas than Wichita and Kansas City. Thanks for your service.

7/21/2020 10:16:51	Jeannie	Houts	The Houts Family	Lawrence	<p>I feel delaying the 2020-2021 school year is the best choice. We do not send our children to school when there is an unsafe amount of snow. We know snow is coming, but how much is never certain until those white flakes fall, and the reason school districts wait to call a snow school.</p> <p>Covid-19 is here. We have no idea how many students, teachers, staff, bus drivers, nurses, administrators, and everyone each individual person is in contact with on a daily basis outside of the school buildings. There is little know about Covid-19. We do know it is highly contagious, and avoiding large group settings is One of the best practices to avoid catching the illness.</p> <p>The 2020-2021 school year needs to be delayed or offered via online only. Keeping OUR students, teachers, staff, bus drivers, nurses, administrators, and everyone each individual person is in contact with on a daily basis outside of the school building healthy is the GOAL.</p> <p>Please help stop the spread of Covid-19 and give the scientists time to develop a vaccine and YOUR former students, who are now the nurses, doctors, hospital staff, time to care for those who are already ill.</p>
7/21/2020 10:16:53	Jeremy	Purdy	USD 480	Liberal	<p>Please support the Governor's EO delaying the start of school. This time is needed to safely and effectively implement strategies and safeguards to keep students and staff safe for reopening of schools. Trudging in without proper systems in place will create issues later where schools have to close due to higher sickness rates and will have a much larger impact on the economy than if we delay now. We often use a phrase in education which represents learning: go slow to go fast. Start slow do as you get into it you have less chance of having to start over and can move quicker through learning because you ensured the basics were learned in the beginning. Go slow to go fast now for students and teachers in Kansas. Support the Governor's EO to delay the start of the school year.</p>
7/21/2020 10:16:58	Forrest	Smith	America	Cheney	<p>Masks should not be mandatory or required. If you choose to wear one great but I do NOT believe they help whatsoever. Multiple doctors have voiced the same opinions. Pushing them on the people is going to cause issues.</p>
7/21/2020 10:17:04	Ashley	Pryor	USD 383 Manhattan-Og	Wamego	<p>I urge you to please support and approve Governor Kelly's EO 20-58. School administrations, teachers and staff need time to develop plans for the school year. Without pushing back the start of school, teachers will have days to prepare for whatever type of teaching they will be doing and also only days to rethink every single aspect of their "normal" school day. Pushing the start of school back to after Labor Day will allow teachers to plan comprehensive, meaningful lessons that can be taught through a variety of platforms (digitally, on-sit or hybrid) and give the students the education they deserve however that may look. Again, please support EO 20-58 so that we can have a safe and successful school year.</p>
7/21/2020 10:17:10	Allison	Day	Teacher in KCKPS	Olathe	<p>The governor's executive order will allow teachers and administrators to better plan and prepare for this year's challenges. Additionally, the state's current COVID numbers require leaders to put safety first.</p>
7/21/2020 10:17:11	Julie	Hamlett		Wichita	<p>I am fine with pushing the start date back, but that date needs to be set and not a moving target. I am ok with hybrid but am not thrilled with the at home log. I have a kid that will breeze thru his work, so making it mandatory that he sit on a computer for 6 hours is asinine. I have read numerous reports that children do NOT spread the virus, in fact that are considered "brakes" Some European countries did not require masks for any students and did not see any uptick. Even here in the US the YMCAs have had zero cases of transmission from a child to an adult. I think masks can be used by adults and those students who wish to do so, but making them mandatory is not necessary and will probably cause other illnesses to spread (stomach bug, flu) from touching and messing with the masks.</p>
7/21/2020 10:17:12	Jenna	Bunting		Ann Mah	<p>Please consider a later start. I don't want my daughter to miss out, but don't feel comfortable sending her with the increased cases. I'm praying you keep our kids, teachers, staff, and families safe!</p>

7/21/2020 10:17:13	Kim	Kickhaefer	My family	Abilene	I believe strongly that we need to start school in August as originally scheduled. I see no benefit to waiting until after Labor Day. The Covid numbers will not change significantly in that time. Most of our children are not able to learn properly at home. They need to interact with other students and the teachers that we are paying. While I believe there should be a virtual alternative available, society cannot function properly this way. Many of us parents work full time , to earn money and pay taxes for things like public schools and proper education for our children. We are not home schoolers, and every parent I have talked to struggled terribly last Spring with the shut down. Our kids are getting further behind every day we delay opening. Our communities also rely on our children having school to grow and learn. Parents that work and contribute to the community through taxes etc, need schools to provide our children with enrichment and social interactions. Many of us have no alternative care and if we cannot keep our full time work will then become more of a financial burden than contributor to our communities. Postponing school starting will only put our children and community further behind.
7/21/2020 10:17:16	Derek	Goon	USD 259	Wichita	Schools should not open up physically until it is safe for all people who would be in a building, both adults and children. Safe means no community spread in a particular city. This decision needs to be based on science and scientific guidance and not how an individual feels or political affiliation.
7/21/2020 10:17:19	Lindsay	Clements	LFHS	Lawrence	Please allow athletes to continue summer conditioning and sports practice during the month of August. I am in support of school not beginning until September, but please allow our athletes to continue working out.
7/21/2020 10:17:25	Anonymous	Anonymous		Overland Park	<p>There are so many reason to reject this order. Our local school boards should be trusted to make this decision.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Many graduations were delayed and scheduled for next weekend. To strip that away from seniors who had the roughest senior year, is wrong. They were patient and waited. To strip that from them 2 days before graduation is cruel.</li> <li>2. Schools and staff have worked all summer just as you have preparing. Graduation plans were just one of many events schools made safe for the public. They had plans they intended on sharing prior to the announcement of this order.</li> <li>3. If schools need more time, it should be up to the schools. Students are not all the same just as school districts are not all the same.</li> <li>4. Why delay even online school? What sense does that make it? If the idea is students CAN learn remotely, why shouldn't it be up to a district to utilize that option in August?</li> <li>5. I am an educator who believes schools should provide an option. I, personally, have no qualms about teaching in-person. We may be silent on social media, but I know many more educators like me than those demanding our lives are at risk.</li> <li>6. Options are key. It is wrong to force everyone to do the same thing. Parents and educators and school boards should not be demanded to do things against their better judgement.</li> </ol>
7/21/2020 10:17:30	Christy	Hammer	Wallace County Schools	Sharon Springs	We do not need state wide mandates for the date of school to begin. We right now have 0 cases and while we know that this may not last forever, we need to be able to go to school while we can. If We are mandated that we start late, what happens if we have an outbreak later and we need days. If you are mandating that we still need to comply with the 1116 hours, how do we adjust our already set calendars? Allow us to use our hours in accordance to how our area is handling the corona. Please stop the madness of state wide mandates. County officials can be utilized to assess our county's situation and make the best decision for us. Sorry, Topeka has no idea what we do out here and how we function. One last point, if we all have to have masks, why are we delaying the start of school? We have assessed this situation all summer. Let's get back to educating students, they are already behind from last year.
7/21/2020 10:17:34	Brandi	Peach	usd262	Wichita	Please vote yes to the EO to delay schools so districts can prepare with the guidelines and numbers can come down. I would rather delay than have to start remote because of it. Go slow to go fast

7/21/2020 10:17:40	Joshua	Funk	MCSEC#617	Hillsboro	I firmly believe that schools need to be closed until we have more time to come up with learning/enforcing our plans.  As someone with previous health conditions that are exacerbated by covid19 I am afraid of starting without more time. Does the Board of Education want to pay my deductible once I'm in the hospital on a ventilator? How would they feel to sign a waiver guaranteeing to pay for any medical costs for me?
7/21/2020 10:17:45	Deana	Shenouda	Parent	Lawrence	Please allow sports practice even if school is not in session
7/21/2020 10:17:45	Marcy	Shirk	Public school teacher, p	Emporia	This is not an easy problem in which to find a solution. Thank you for your countless hours of thought and effort. I know the discussions are not easy to navigate.  Please do not approve mandate 20-58. Please push the choice to individual school boards or county governments. I say this knowing that my district would probably push our start date back to after Labor Day. However, there are towns in Kansas that have never seen a case of Covid. There are towns in Kansas that have had zero new cases in over a month. Please do not force those students and teachers to delay until the rest of the state is safe to open. They are safe, currently, and shouldn't have to delay the start of the year.  Please take it from a teacher; we miss our kids. We want to be in our buildings with our students. We want everyone to be safe. Our kids need routines and stability. I may have to wait longer but don't make others wait on our account. Let the local governments choose what route to take for their own communities and schools.
7/21/2020 10:17:49	Elizabeth	Gilmreu		Overland Park	Please support Gov. Kelly's Executive Order. I am a parent of a high schooler who wants to go back more than most kids and even she recognizes the need for this delay. It is time to put politics asides and let the Governor govern.
7/21/2020 10:17:50	Summer	Moeckel		Madison	Starting after Labor Day will give teachers time to come in on their original contract date to plan for the new competencies model. Grade band teachers will have the time to meet and prep for several weeks in order to develop the best possible plans and procedures that focus on safety as well as a rigorous education.
7/21/2020 10:17:51	Michelle	Anderson	My family	Lenexa, KS	I am in support of Gov. Kelly's plan to delay the opening of schools in KS until our coronavirus numbers are looking better (or no new cases for 14 days).
7/21/2020 10:17:53	Krisri	Ford		Olathe	Please think about not just the students but all the staff. We have so many high risk staff and the numbers are troublesome in Kansas right now. Schools are just not ready to be able to keep us all safe yet. We need more time to get ready. So please, please, please think about the adults in the building and do the right thing.
7/21/2020 10:17:53	Diane	Vaughn	USD 420	Osage City	I have never felt so uncertain going into a school year as I do now. I've always believed the 2.5 days prior to the start of school is inadequate and this year more than ever educators need additional time to plan and prepare for a safe and rich educational experience for our students. We need to support parents whom choose onsite or remote learning and we cannot do this without preparedness. Please support the governor's executive order.
7/21/2020 10:17:57	Madison	Thompson	USD 457 Teacher and P	Garden City, Ks	I believe that we should follow the State Order. This will help ensure a safe plan of education. We cannot "jump the gun". Staring unprepared increases the likelihood that we would have to return to distance learning due to high numbers of Covid-19 cases.
7/21/2020 10:18:04	Maggie	Dieckhoff	USD 232	Shawnee	Schools should be allowed to reopen and not delayed in opening. Children need to be in school. Their mental, emotional, social and academic health depends on it!! We should not be delayed!
7/21/2020 10:18:08	Kristin	Kay	myself	Gardner	I fully support keeping our teachers safe through delaying the start dates of school and mandating masks in school. Please do not waste my tax dollars on workers comp and settling lawsuits for the state's negligence.

					<p>Delay of school okay No Mask options for students Let's get them back to a normal they know and understand kids strive to be social and active - school provides this. If we're sending them back to school without it being normal- than what is the point. If it is going to be all work and no play they might as well stay home- getting our kids back to school and make them feel as if it is a work horse or. Prison is not going to give them any more than what the last 3 months of school was last year. I can teach them more at home myself than they learned on line or will learn in school with no activities or extra curricular classes.</p> <p>Sitting in one class for 8 hours for these older kids is not feesable, they need social activities and friends and regular ability to participate in sports like normal.</p> <p>If we are not showing a huge number or any numbers in kids under 18 than why are we so focused on not allowing them to be normal kids? In school like normal? With friends like normal? Learning like normal? But we can send our kids 16-18 to the work force like normal, but not school?</p> <p>I understand it is a very confusing issues... my 6 kids want to go back to a normal school routine, they appreciate the school life and look forward to it daily, it's a part of their life, socially, activities and education!</p>
7/21/2020 10:18:10	Kristen	Baty	Parent	Goddard	
7/21/2020 10:18:11	Brendan	Jackson		Mission	I am the spouse of a teacher and I support Governor Kelly's plan to delay the opening of schools. My wife needs this time to prepare and plan for all the possibilities of educating her students during this Pandemic.
7/21/2020 10:18:16	Jim	Mitchell	Teacher USD 204	Bonner Springs	Put politics aside and the safety of our students, teachers and school personnel first!!
7/21/2020 10:18:16	Erica	Birney	Self	Lenexa	Do not delay school opening.
7/21/2020 10:18:22	Janine	Kluckhohn		Olathe	I support the delay of school. I don't think it's safe to send out teachers and children back when the numbers are rising. I would support a return with a hybrid instruction to allow time for cleaning and to utilize online remote learning with in person instruction.

7/21/2020 10:18:20	Kelly	Michael		Overland Park	<p>I am extremely troubled by the Governor's executive order to delay the start of school for many reasons, and I think it would do more harm than good. All of our districts had plans to open or were close to having such plans she appears to want to overrule them. Adding a month does nothing for those plans as they are for the most part ready. Schools have had 4 months already to plan and from what any of us can tell have done a great job of doing so. So extending that an extra month does nothing to enable schools to get ready for students or to make it safer, but rather hampers their ability to learn. If schools need more time, let them individually ask for it. And I am fine with schools providing a virtual option, not all parents feel comfortable and not all teachers feel comfortable, but to not allow any schools in the state to open does our communities a disservice.</p> <p>We live in the Blue Valley School system and that could not be more different than the 1A school systems throughout the state, most of which are in rural Kansas. The parents in these smaller communities have much different needs. My experience is that people who live in rural communities have much less ability to "work from home" so by forcing schools to remain closed you are hindering the ability of many with younger kids to earn a living, which is increased in rural communities. And for those that can work from home, you are hindering their ability to work efficiently and grow the Kansas economy.</p> <p>By going virtual for an extra month, you are extending the loss of education across the state even further. Those who are less affluent often don't have access to a lap top and/or high speed internet, so you are putting them even further behind. Virtual learning for elementary and even middle schoolers is also much less effective, so those kids are going to suffer a lot, even from one more month of virtual learning. As you get into high school, it can be more effective to have some level of virtual learning so perhaps some adjustments can be made to how they operate. But again, let the school systems figure that out, don't send commands from Topeka for them.</p> <p>Then there is the risk that students and teachers are in. As has been shown by the CDC stats several times over, the risk of death below the age of 15 is a fraction (1/5-1/15) of what the risk of death from the regular flu is. So for those students this year they will likely be safer because there is significantly more cleanliness that will be occurring. For high schoolers it's probably slightly less dangerous than the flu (<a href="https://freopp.org/the-chances-of-dying-from-covid-19-">https://freopp.org/the-chances-of-dying-from-covid-19-</a></p>
7/21/2020 10:18:24	Shannon	Woods	Teachers	Abilen	<p>First let me say, I WANT to go back! I miss my students and my job! I have years of education experience and multiple degrees and teaching is my passion. However, I want to live through the year with all of my colleagues and students!</p> <p>Please give us the time we need to make the recommendations you have passed! Asking schools to come together and to fine the resources we need in this short amount of time is going to make it even harder!! The kids are not going to fall behind and this is what is best. We need to give time for it to decrease in order to keep the kids in school. Please don't make this a political decision but rather one that will keep our teachers and students alive and healthy.</p>
7/21/2020 10:18:24	Kesha	Peters		Wichita	<p>I do not think it is safe to return to school in person until the Covid-19 numbers are decreasing and/or under control. I teach in Sedgwick County and our numbers are spiking daily. I would love to be back with my students face to face, but I don't feel it is safe for my students, myself or my family. I am not opposed to online school and actually found it to be quite enjoyable when we did it in the spring.</p>
7/21/2020 10:18:37	Karla	Viranda	Teacher in USD 506...	Parsons	<p>Please support our governor. As a teacher, I would love to be able to go back sooner. With that being said, I feel we should not take the risk of going back on original date. I ask you to help keep us teachers, students, and support staff safe. We are very concerned, and our morale will be gone if we are not listened to. Thank you for your time and dedication to education. You are very much appreciated.</p>



7/21/2020 10:18:40	Laci	Babcock	Butler county	Augusta	My husband is a teacher in the bluestem district and I work in the west elk district as an SLP. Please keep up safe as we have, unlike some, experienced this virus first hand as we are from Logan Kansas and know many of that community. It's a real thing and we need to keep everyone safe. Please consider waiting to open schools until numbers decrease. I feel like I will feel more confident doing therapy online at this time so I don't have to worry about the spreading of germs, Which I have already encountered during summer school. There are many medically fragile students who could receive support online-we just need time to educate parents on this. Students of all ages can connect virtually-through classrooms or individually on their own time. We need to use our resources and educate teachers, caregivers, and parents at this time.
7/21/2020 10:18:41	Amanda	Amador	USD 259	Wichita	Covid numbers are still too high to realistically open right now
7/21/2020 10:18:51	Alicia	Koranda		Prairie Village	I think this delay is good and should be used to better prepare and plan. As of right now, there is no plan. Just ideas.
7/21/2020 10:18:54	Kelsey	Easterday	USD 373	Bel Aire, KS	Please honor the Governor's Executive Order. Kansans need to protect each other, and the additional weeks will give us a chance to get cases back down and create the best possible education for the kids. Remember, schools aren't bubbles full of children. And children get sick too.
7/21/2020 10:19:07	Karen	Pittman	Blue Valley School Dist	Olathe	I firmly believe that we need to look at virtual learning for all students. We are putting staff members at a high risk. It is impossible to expect elementary student to be responsible at washing their hands every hour. They can't remember to keep their hands away from their noses,eyes, and mouth. Many students have to be reminded just to wash their hands after going to the bathroom. We don't know enough about this virus to make sure that we don't infect other students and staff. Once Fall comes around many students will also come down with the flu. We need to wait on opening schools! Johnson county continues to soar. Please stop and consider the faculty and students. Let's keep them safe!
7/21/2020 10:19:11	megan	king	None	Lawrence	Kids need to get back to normal. They need to get back to school in person with their peers in a classroom. They need to continue their sports that give them structure, routine, and leadership even if school is not in session until September. We know from facts that the virus does not effect this age group in a devastating way. What is more devastating is the mental depression we are loading on them Punishing them for something that doesn't even affect them.
7/21/2020 10:19:11	Tiffany	Eagle	Usd377	Atchison County	There is no evidence to support the delay in starting school in Atchison county. Less than 1% of residents that reside in the county have tested positive and we have currently 5 active cases and zero deaths. This does not support the extreme measures trying to be set into motion that is going to affect the mental health and social development of our children.
7/21/2020 10:19:12	Stacey	Martin	Elementary Special Ed	Olathe	I've had several teacher friends in other states who have already began their school year, only to stop two weeks in. Students and staff did not feel safe. I love my students, I love my job, I understand parents need to get back to work. I am trusting we will do what's best for Olathe and begin school when we have taken all steps necessary to keep everyone involved safe. Thank you.
7/21/2020 10:19:16	Leanne	Klassen		Newton	Delay the start of school! We are headed in the wrong direction and if we want schools to stay open past Labor Day we need more time. Don't make this decision as Democrats or Republicans make it as Kansans. When the Governor asked us to wear masks we could NOT listen and you see where that got us. Three weeks is a small price to pay if we can slow the spread and protect the thousands of students and staff!! Thank you for listening.
7/21/2020 10:19:17	Daniel	Woods	Parent	Abilene	With all of the differing opinions pertaining to COVID 19, I believe we should side with the medical facts. Not give in to politics. If the medical field recommends strict compliance of mask in schools or later start date, then we should comply. If they eventually determine school should be conducted online then we should do so. We need to remember once a child or teacher has contracted the virus, it will effect many other families along with their own.
7/21/2020 10:19:18	Briana	Salgado	USD 259	In Maize, Ks	Teachers and students should be safe. It is not safe to return to schools without teachers and students exposing their lives. If safety is not 100% guaranteed, then wait to open until it is. Lives are at stake and people needing sitters so they can go back to work should not take precedence over lives.
7/21/2020 10:19:18	Brandyn	McDonald		Manhattan	Please prioritize public health recommendations over public opinion for this decision. We need a decision based on science, not politics.
7/21/2020 10:19:19	Brenda	Bonham	School lunch staff	Mulvane	Please wait till after Labor Day. Listen to the experts. We can beat this if we work together.

7/21/2020 10:19:20	Stephanie	Anglin	Parent	Louisburg	I support opening schools on time this year.
7/21/2020 10:19:22	Ana	Martinez	Parent	Liberal ks	Keep schools closed to early to reopen amidst of all spikes going on! Keep our kids safe.
7/21/2020 10:19:26	Lori	Harlan	self	Manhattan	Please support the governor's decision. Lives actually depend on it.
7/21/2020 10:19:37	Neil	McLeod		Shawnee	I agree with the governors executive order. The measures taken by school districts is not enough to keep students and staff safe. In fact, I believe it may be prudent to resort to remote learning for at least first quarter if not the first semester.
7/21/2020 10:19:40	Jeff	Evans		Pratt	I think the kids need to go to school on time
7/21/2020 10:19:43	Caleb	Stewart		Salina	Please support the executive order. Thousands of lives depend on your actions. COVID-19 isn't going to just disappear. We must all take appropriate actions to help save lives from this virus. School age children and just as likely to spread the virus as adults, so putting groups of them together with older teachers, paras, and other school staff is simply not a smart decision. The governor has attempted to leave some power to the local governments recently (phase out and mask order) but local governments have proven to be unable to make the right call to save lives. I truly hope Governor Kelly will have your support in protecting the future of our state: our students. Thank You!
7/21/2020 10:19:48	Bett	Russ	PTA and parent	Kansas City	Please leave them closed until after labor day and then do online schooling. We can not risk our kids. Let's see what 2021 brings before opening.
7/21/2020 10:19:56	Monnica	Westendorf		abilene Ks	Personally I think that delaying the start is a bad idea. Kids need to go back for not only their education but for the social interaction. For some kids, school is their safe place and where they get food. For kids that have IEPs, they need their services. some don't do well with virtual e-learning for example my son who is autistic could not full complete his work because I didn't understand it. We as citizens pay taxes for their education and I want my child to get his. I am a single parent and was very hard to juggle his m school and my work. Thankfully I had a great boss that understood but not all parents do.
7/21/2020 10:20:00	Allison	Minge	Marysville High School	Marysville	As a RN, we need to open schools for the mental health of our students. We have seen increases in mental health problems with children social distancing at home for so long. PLEASE open schools on time. Give families options to learn in school or remotely. Don't hurt the teachers and students anymore!
7/21/2020 10:20:01	Jake	Klassen	N/A	Newton	This fear mongering has to stop. Get the kids back to school and get people back to work! Experts have said that masks don't even work, this is crazy to try to mandate.
7/21/2020 10:20:03	Michelle	wolfe		manhattan	I believe our children need to be in school. They need the interaction with other children and they need to learn. There is many single parents that work full time that are not able to do the online learning. Why not take a poll to find out how many kids would be coming to the school to learn and how many would be doing this from home. Maybe that would help to have those numbers, so you know exactly how many kids would be in each classroom.
7/21/2020 10:20:05	Amanda	Featherston	I am a parent - Shawnee	Overland park	There are safe ways to begin having school. Kids deserve and need more to guard from mental issues.
7/21/2020 10:20:07	Nancy	Campbell		Manhattan	I support delayed until Labor Day
7/21/2020 10:20:14	Robin	Berrey	USD 233	Paola	I would like for school to start in September allowing school more time to put into place hand sanitizer in classroom, figure out how to make classroom fit the social distancing, school figure out how to handle the mask wearing with kids, and how to get all the kid temperature checks done in a timely manner in the morning. It is too risky for our kids to go back right now.
7/21/2020 10:20:20	Kerry	Mizner	Kansas Public Schools	Shawnee	Please uphold Governor Kelly's executive order to reopen schools after Labor Day. The COVID numbers keep going up in Kansas. Many corporate offices remain closed and employees continue to work from home. Why would we put children, educators, and support staff in harms way? Schools will become revolving doors of open and close with each COVID outbreak. As a parent my daughter will not return to KU for the first semester due to COVID. We have stayed home and away from family and friends. We wear masks. This is the first summer in 34 years of teaching that has been filled with anxiety and stress. I've taught elementary school for 34 years I love what I do and would like to teach a few more years. I'd like to stay alive to enjoy my retirement. COVID is a health crisis NOT a political issue!

7/21/2020 10:20:25	Kristin	McCoppin		Overland Park	I am very concerned about the language barrier for my incoming Kindergarten if he is required to wear a mask all day. Kindergarten is already so over whelming for children and to have to be expected to wear a mask all day on top of everything else Kindergarten brings is unrealistic. Especially since learning to read is such a big part of Kindergarten, wearing a mask will put such a barrier up.
7/21/2020 10:20:27	Margaret	Gugino	USD 259 teacher	Wichita	No in person classes until spring semester. This needs to get under control and placing us and our students back in school is going to create massive spread of the virus and death. I am a special education teacher in Wichita, I have a daughter in USD 266, I want her to have a safe first year of high school. I want to see my students, I miss them terribly. But how can we be sent back under such detrimental conditions? The public is more concerned about professional sports than they are about teachers. Please help us. Please protect us.
7/21/2020 10:20:28	Kerry	Steiger	USD 475: Geary County	Abilene,KS	Please follow the governor's EO to delay until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 10:20:32	Benny	Teague		Wichita	I am retired, but I have Grandchildren that are just now getting back to work to being a viable part of the work force & taxpayer. The cost for childcare if it can be found is very high. With reasonable precautions, there is no good reason to delay the start of the school year. To delay 4 to 6 weeks will NOT increase our community safety by any significant number.
7/21/2020 10:20:32	Shannon	boone	My home & family	Wichita, KS	Please don't send our kids and teachers to school in September.
7/21/2020 10:20:33	Neal	Whitlow		Augusta	As a parent of two children in public school, I strongly prefer delaying school's start date. With Covid-19 cases trending upward, this would give extra time for put safety plans in place and for new infections possible to begin to trend downward. Outbreaks in public schools would be disastrous. Please, for the safety of my family, delay the start of schools until September.
7/21/2020 10:20:36	Dorothy	Hefner	None	Overland Park	Education is important to both the students and our society and our children need to be in school. Please make decisions after much insight from educators, Parents and informed people
7/21/2020 10:20:40	Shanna	Martin		Topeka	As a parent and public school employee, I'm asking you to uphold Governor Kelly's Executive Order to delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year until after Labor Day. It's the right thing to do for the safety of our children, faculty and their families and communities. Thank you.
7/21/2020 10:20:48	Sheryl	Ragland		DeSoto	Please support Governor's EOs for school closure till after Labor Day and use of masks and temperature taken upon entering school building. I support this for all Johnson County and Douglas County Schools
7/21/2020 10:20:56	Steve	Shanelec	General public	Wichita	As a grandfather of a public school student I fully support the governor's order to delay the start of school year.
7/21/2020 10:21:01	Paula	Davis	School Nurses/parent	Meriden	I agree with Governor Kelly. As a parent, I want my senior to be able to go to school and feel safe. I do not want him to feel threatened because he and his family believe in Science and that a mask is a great way to stop this virus from spreading. We live in a community that rejected the mask ordinance, that has been allowing mass gathering and not following basic protocols. We are at High risk here. Putting children from this population back in school under the current circumstances will just bring our community into its own nightmare. As a school nurse, I have read literature from science professionals and have based my opinion on facts and accurate statistics. My school district ordered supplies in March we have yet to receive the majority of it. I can not keep children safe without the much needed supplies. Secondly, the KSDE recommendations just came out and we will have to revamp the plan we had in place. The added time will allow this to happen. Please take these things into account. The numbers of Covid for this age group is rising. I don't want it to be my child. My staff is at risk, I don't want one of them to be affected. Thanks for listening.
7/21/2020 10:21:04	Chadwick	Sanem	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	Open schools Sept 9

7/21/2020 10:21:14	Hallie	Beardsley		Blue Rapids	Please dont delay schools and sports. These kids are suffering without their peers. If there are no sports the drop out rate will raise significantly. Im afraid for the kids who turn to drugs or suicide. They need us there teachers and the ones who provide them with love and give them courage. Please let us go back to school on time.
7/21/2020 10:21:15	Erin	Alexander	Teacher	Valley center	The children of Kansas need to be back in school. Their mental health and social health will continue to deteriorate if they stay at home. Think about their future - please don't make them fix what our generation has messed up. And also think about the thousands of kids that live in abusive homes, extremely poor homes with no food, or homes where the parents cannot be with them during the day - their only safe place is school.
7/21/2020 10:21:21	Kristin	McCoppin		Overland Park	Delaying school also delays routines, parents who are working parents and parents struggling to find childcare.
7/21/2020 10:21:30	Angela	Stiens	Parents	Shawnee	I would like for the board to respect and vote local control of our schools. In kids the virus is very low spreading to other children and the death rate is zero. Mandating masks in children under the age of 12 is not even warranted. Please let the school and the parents decide what should be followed. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 10:21:54	Mallory	Arends		Olathe	I would like to encourage you to approve Governor Kelly's order of delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. I have seen much of the data discussing the effects of Covid-19 with younger children. My concern lies with the young adults in our public schools. As a high school teacher I come in contact with at least 100 students a day. With the increasing trend of infections in the Johnson County area I think it is best to delay. These teenagers can transmit the virus to each other and to other adults they come in contact with. The spread of this disease will run rampant in middle schools and high schools where students change classes and see different peers each period. I don't see how schools can effectively prevent the spread of the virus.  Due to the ever changing nature of this pandemic, I have yet to be able to plan for this upcoming school year. I think parents and teachers alike will agree that the distance learning that took place in the spring was a failure. Teachers, administrators, and support staff need time to plan to make sure when school resumes we continue to give Kansas kids the best education whether it is in the classroom or through distance learning.  Thank you for your time and consideration,  Mallory Arends Concerned Kansan, parent, and teacher
7/21/2020 10:22:08	Betsy	Boyce		Lawrence	Please support Gov. Kelly in delaying the start of the 2020 K - 12 school year until after Labor Day. Our schools, administrators & teachers need additional time to effect the safest possible reopening, to protect both our students and staff from the risks of coronavirus.
7/21/2020 10:22:09	Laurie	Kilgore		Overland Park	Our kids need structure, schedules, normalcy. Please let them resume school at the normal date AND play sports. Their mental health needs it.
7/21/2020 10:22:13	Molly	Parker	Student	Olathe	I agree with governor Kelly's decision to delay school until the coronavirus numbers decrease and it is safe for kids to go back.
7/21/2020 10:22:13	Jennifet	Franco	Marysville High School	Marysville	I really believe we need to delay school. I know we all want to go back to normal and the best thing to do is send the kids back to school right away. But I'm afraid that wouldn't last. We need to delay school and maybe everyone will listen and be more proactive on wearing a mask and do proper hygiene as it's recommended!
7/21/2020 10:22:21	Cynthia	Nitschke	Recently retired teacher	Stilwell	Please delay start of school. Make up much of it by cutting student days off (inservice, p/t conferences, etc.). Community spread of Covid 19 is too high to safely start. Districts have not had time to read and make preparations needed for state recommendations. Appropriate social distancing is not possible in classrooms or on buses.

7/21/2020 10:22:27	Kim	Mitchell	USD 204	Basehor	Please support Gov. Kelly's executive order delaying the start of Kansas schools. As a building administrator, we need the time to plan and the time to secure additional funds to put all of the supports needed to safely open Kansas schools. Everyone desperately wants things to return to normal, but in a pandemic situation, that is just not possible until we can ensure that our students and staffs are safe. I have deep respect for all of you and the work that you do for the citizens of Kansas. I ask that you have the same respect for our Kansas educators and students and put their safety at the forefront of your decision. It's not about making people "happy", restarting our economy, or being a "patriot". It's about keeping our youngest Kansans safe.
7/21/2020 10:22:28	Annett	Amaro		Junction City	I suggest that face to face instruction begin after the end of the flu season.
7/21/2020 10:22:37	Susan	Cunningham	High school	Altamont	I agree with delaying the start of school.
7/21/2020 10:22:42	Ashley	Welsh		Emporia	The vote Wednesday should be to uphold the executive order to delay until after Labor Day. I also feel that we need to be considering virtual learning for a large portion of the school year, and if it isn't mandated at the state level my district may not require it. These are unprecedented times. There has to be a level of understanding of anxiety and fear. My own child said she was scared to go back to school. I am scared to go back and teach. I will have 200 kids in my room daily. I will be a person of huge exposure. If this is the case, how do we handle if one of our students get this - they were all in my classroom at some point that day. Close the entire school for 14 days? So many questions to answer and I'm not sure we can find and agree on the safety factors of those answers by our normal start date.
7/21/2020 10:22:46	Lisa	Martel		Overland Park	I have taught in suburban public elementary schools for nearly 40 years. I LOVE my job and my students. No one wants schools to open more than I do. That being said, given the current state of this virus, I don't know how that can be done in a manner that will keep all safe and give a quality education to kids. For example, plans to reopen say hand washing every hour. Sounds easy on paper, in a classroom with 24 kids, if 3 wash at the same time that will take 10 to 15 minutes each hour out of learning. I agree with Gov. Kelly. Let's delay school and get this virus under control. When I first started teaching school did not start until the Tuesday after Labor Day. No one suffered from a lack of education. As a state, if we are going to make a decision about children and educators please make it on the side of health following the science. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to share my views.
7/21/2020 10:22:49	Elizabeth	Bechard		Topeka	Please support the Governor's executive order. There are too many lives at stake.
7/21/2020 10:22:50	Beth	Hyder	Speech therapist	Wichita	Please do not open schools until after Labor Day! Superintendents, principals, and teachers have not had enough time to sift through the 1100 page document from KSDE and be prepared by August 13. Also, Covid-19 cases continue to rise.
7/21/2020 10:22:54	Julia	Patnode		Olatje	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day to help the curve flatten again!
7/21/2020 10:22:58	Libby	Ziegler	USD 208	WaKeeney	I am a parent of 3 and a school board member for our district. School needs to resume as scheduled. I believe each district should be able to establish their own precautions on how they see fit for their community. Our children are in great need of socialization and structure for their mental health. It was evident that online learning, for the elementary grades specifically, was detrimental to their learning and frankly a waste of time. We cannot run from this virus, therefore we need to resume school/activities while exercising caution.
7/21/2020 10:23:02	Jill	Hall		Norton	We fully support the governor's decision to wait until after Labor Day to open schools. This allows not only for a better assessment of Kansas state of health but also allows our schools more time to plan and prepare as research is being evaluated. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 10:23:05	Rexana	Prater	USD 382	Pratt	I feel like our school district (USD 382) is well prepared for the start of school and have already provided parents with their plans to safely bring children back to in class learning. A mandate for the entire state is not appropriate and should be left to school districts and counties to determine what is safe for our kids. I believe that with the parameters set in place by our school district, they can effectively determine when it's the right time for kids to return to school and not a mandate. Our school district and county health department may very well decide that it would be best for our school to push the start date back based on our current active COVID-19 cases, but that should be their decision based on our current circumstances.
7/21/2020 10:23:10	Stacy	Hook		Emporia	I do not think that school should be in person at all this year or until COVID is gone. There is no way possible to keep or expect children, especially young ones, to maintain a safe distance or wear a mask for such long periods of time.

					<p>Please please please delay as long as possible a return to school. While there is conflicting data on how badly and even if children younger than 10 are vectors for COVID-19, even 1 child harmed, 1 family devastated, is 1 too many.</p> <p>Please listen to scientists &amp; doctors about best practices and lean on their extensive expertise. Remember that every single number in the data represents a human being that could have been you, your spouse, your child or your parent, because every single one of them was that to someone else.</p> <p>We can still do the right thing. Mask up, physically distance &amp; shut it down again. Our country and our state have seen increases in cases precisely because previous shut down and mask mandates worked to flatten the curve, but because we are a society that cares far more about convenience than we do about the common good, we now have a spike that is poised to continue trending higher. Do not exacerbate that by putting kids back in schools. Think about the educators, the aides, the staff, the kids parents &amp; grandparents. Those kids may not catch it, but they will surely bring it home on their clothes, their backpacks, schoolwork, etc.</p>
7/21/2020 10:23:11	Heidi	Washington-Akers		Topeka	Be smart about this. Do the right thing.
7/21/2020 10:23:11	TINA	HIGLEY	PARENT OF MIDDLE	GOESSEL	I AGREE WITH THE GOVERNOR, LET TEACHERS AND ADMIN HAVE THE TIME FROM NOW UNTIL AFTER LABOR DAY TO FIGURE OUT HOW WE DO SCHOOL.
7/21/2020 10:23:13	Emily	Meissen-Sebelius		Prairie village	I support delaying until after Labor Day, in particular if it gives the schools and communities time to take additional precautions and mitigate risks. And I prefer in person if possible, so if delaying makes that more realistic I am in favor
7/21/2020 10:23:19	Kathy	Shanelec	General public	Wichita	Please fully support the governor's order to delay start of school year.
					<p>To the decision-makers at the Kansas Department of Education,</p> <p>I implore you to reject Governor Kelly's executive order delaying both academic school as well as athletic/extracurricular activities until after Labor Day. Our kids have already missed out on 3 months of education this Spring and they desperately need the structure that being back in school provides. They need to learn, they need to socialize and they need to participate in the activities that fulfill their social-emotional needs. The facts of coronavirus do not support this delay and school districts have been preparing for months to ensure the safety of both students and staff when classes resume. The mental health effects of this delay will be detrimental to children of all ages. Children in abusive homes will continue to fall victim to their abusers for even longer. Students with special needs will go longer without with their much needed therapies and services. The decisions to start school and how to manage that process should fall to the local districts. All school districts across the state cannot and should not be addressed with one blanket order by the Governor. This is an example of government overreach and it is up to you to stand up for the health and safety of our children and REJECT this executive order! All K-12 students in the state of Kansas are relying on you to do what is right for them ... now is your time to stand against bureaucracy and for the best interests of our future generation.</p> <p>Thank you for your time, Samantha Moore USD 233 Parent</p>
7/21/2020 10:23:24	Samantha	Moore		Lenexa	
7/21/2020 10:23:25	Carolyn	Lathan		Salina	Please follow Governor Kelly's order and keep school starting after labor day.
7/21/2020 10:23:27	Cindy	Willis	USD 469	Kansas City	Yes, keep the schools closed til after Labor Day!
7/21/2020 10:23:32	Brent	Cosens		Pittsburg	If we don't start school as planned in August, then I doubt we will start in September. The virus will still be here and really nothing will have changed. At some point you move forward and deal with consequences as per normal.
7/21/2020 10:23:35	Kirby	Smith	Kirby Smith	NEWTON	Please open our schools on time and let our kids participate in extracurricular activities. The disruption in their lives is not worth the low risk of infection from COVID-19 in this age demographic.
7/21/2020 10:23:35	Brynn	Shideler		Shawnee	Please keep the decision whether or not to delay school reopening at the district or local level. This is not a one-size fits all approach. Leave the power in the hands of the individual school districts!

7/21/2020 10:23:37	Trish	Oviatt		Wamego	I support Governor Kelly. She is not closing school she is delaying the start and offering guidelines for schools to follow. Stop making this political and support the best choice for our children, teachers and other staff.
7/21/2020 10:23:39	Melanie	Musselman	None just my personal b	Clifton, our school distri	I believe it needs to be left up to the individual counties and school districts. This situation is not a one size fits all approach. There are larger cities and communities in Kansas where they do have more cases and they can act accordingly. But for instance in some parts of rural Kansas, the virus is not a widespread problem. I agree with the temperature checks and masks, if it means our children can go back to school on time and not wait until after Labor Day. I have two high school boys who are on special education IEPs and really struggled last quarter with online school at home. I'm afraid they will fall farther and farther behind, if they don't have one on one instruction with their teachers. I understand keeping everyone safe but I feel the costs of starting later outweigh the overall benefits at least for our local community. It has to come back to local governance. Let the local school boards and county health departments decide based on their county numbers of COVID-19. Thank you for your consideration and your concern for our state's school children!
7/21/2020 10:23:41	Jodie	Rients		Andover	I wish school started EVERY year after Labor Day like it used to. As far as Covid, I feel whatever it takes to keep our kids, educators, and our families safe should be done.
7/21/2020 10:23:44	Courtney	Ritchie	Maize	Wichita	Do not delay!!
7/21/2020 10:23:45	Jessi	Armstrong		FRANKFORT	<p>I am 41 year old substitute teacher. I have a 46 year old husband who has had a kidney transplant, cancer, stroke, hemolytic anemia..... and is severely immune suppressed. I have a 13 year old daughter who has a genetic disorder that lands her in the hospital when she is sick.</p> <p>I am covering a maternity leave to start the year out. I am in a small 1A school. We had lots of teachers retire this year. We didn't fill 2 teaching positions and 3 para positions. We have 3 reliable subs, myself, another lady who is also doing a maternity leave and the other took our school nurse job. I get that kids by far fare the best with Covid. The problem is who they infect, whether that is teachers, janitors, bus drivers, parents or grandparents. We need to not rush the situation and make sure we go into this with the best possible game plan. Where the heck do you think youre going to get replacements for these ADULTS when they get sick and have to isolate for 14 days or worse?</p> <p>The governor is not being political for the love of god. Had they not threw a fit about her order to slow the state opening maybe we wouldn't have the surge in cases like we do now.</p> <p>We are a sports family by and large! My 16 yr old healthy son loves sports and is a fantastic player. I don't understand how we are even considering sports when we can't decide how to open schools. The main priority is LEARNING!!</p> <p>Please take politics out of this decision.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
7/21/2020 10:23:53	Jennifer	Collins	Parent	Winona	Please vote NO in regards to the Governor's mandate! These extreme measures are negatively affecting our youth. Not only from an education stand point but from a social & emotional stand point as well. It also is impacting families livelihoods and the ability to be able to properly provide for their families. We have got to get back to living life normally and with common sense. We cannot teach our kids to live in fear!
7/21/2020 10:24:07	Stephanie	Shephard	USD 231	Gardner	I think the smartest and safest decision is to, at the least, delay the start of the school year. I have my 71 year old mom that leaves with me and I will choose my life and hers over the continous rise of cases in our county. If I'll still having to have meetings with my administration through zoom presently, it certainly isn't the right decision to throw all 1800 students plus staff into an enclosed school environment.
7/21/2020 10:24:15	Caitlin	Peterson	Olathe Public Schools	Lenexa	Please uphold Governor Kelly's order. Our cases are continuing to trend upwards. Governor Kelly uses facts and scientific data to drive her decisions, and you should too. 10-19 year olds can spread covid just as efficiently as adults. It's not safe yet.

7/21/2020 10:24:28	Abby	Bock	Cunningham Grade Sch	Cunningham	Please do not delay. The kids are already going to be behind after no school at the end of last year. Our class sizes are 18 at the largest with only maybe 100 in the entire grade school. Let districts choose their calendar, so decisions can be made based off area facts and not state wide outlooks. You can't compare our small 1A school to schools in Wichita or KC and say it's the same. I assure you - they are not!
7/21/2020 10:24:32	Valerie	Waddell		Olathe	As a health care provider, I support the order to push the start date of school to September. Our schools need time to prepare and understand how to make schools safe for not only children but all the teachers and staff. COVID will NOT be going away anytime soon and I do not feel safe allowing my child to be exposed to an unsafe environment just because people do not feel comfortable making changes and hard decisions. It is unfair to say kids will be fine because there are still so many unknowns and potential future implications to their health. Take a step back and make the right decision for society as a whole and protect our kids and teachers. Preventing sickness and death should be the top the priority, not convenience.
7/21/2020 10:24:38	Guy Anne	Hawver	Myself	Hutchinson	Please follow Governor Kelly's recommendation to start school after Labor Day. This is in the best interests of the teachers and students. Unfortunately the health and welfare of our teachers and students has become more political than what is best for them.
7/21/2020 10:24:39	Kraig	Westhoff	Myself/ Concerned teach	Topeka	<p>I wanted to take time and reach out to you about Governor Kelly's Executive Order concerning the safe reopening of schools this fall. I am a teacher in Kansas and have been for the past 8 years, and everyday I enjoy getting to see my students learn and grow in my classroom. I know that there is a daunting task before you and you have to consider the needs of parents, students, teachers, and staff.</p> <p>At this time I am worried about returning to my classroom. With cases on the rise, I agree with the governor, it is not currently safe to reopen schools. If we delay the start until after Labor Day, it allows for schools and teachers to prepare and implement the approved guidelines.</p> <p>To be an effective educator, I know that I am best at my job when I am in the classroom with my students ,but I understand the health risks, and danger that exists for them and their families that comes with the potential exposure to the Coronavirus, and to their teachers as well.</p> <p>I humbly ask that you accept Governor Kelly's Executive Order. Please, give us the critical time we need to ensure that all students are able to learn and grow in a safe environment.</p> <p>Thank you for your time,</p> <p>Kraig T. Westhoff</p>
7/21/2020 10:24:42	Catherine	Erbert	Kansas citizen	Wichita	I am 100% for the school board's approval of Governor Kelly's ordinance to delay the start of schools. I have several grandchildren in the Kansas school system and are very concerned about their health as well as the health of all children, educators, parents and families if school starts before the virus numbers have abated. It would be irresponsible for the board to not approve the Governor's executive order to delay and would put the health and lives of all Kansans at risk! Please vote to approve!
7/21/2020 10:24:42	Sheila	Musil	USD 380 - Vermillion	Frankfort	I am a 1st grade teacher, who is also pregnant and due this fall, which creates even more stress/unknowns. Though we don't have a high amount of cases in Marshall I am worried about the safety procedures with starting school. I will have 22 students in a classroom. I have been very careful since March limiting how many people my family is around and in 3 weeks I will be in a room with 22 students and their families are all taking different precautions and some are probably not taking any. I feel that we need to delay school and give school districts that extra time to make sure we have everything we need and have all of our questions answered, such as what do we do when a student or student's family member test positive? Will my whole class go online? What do we need to do if we go online, etc. I feel that teachers have so many questions and concerns with reopening in 3 weeks, why are we rushing this? I hate that this has become so political. It's not fair to our teachers/families that are high risk.



7/21/2020 10:24:49	Jordan	Barkley	Teacher	Overland Park	Please extend the opening of schools to Labor Day. As a teacher, we need more time to prepare for a safe and distanced opening with our district representatives. Opening school at a normal time makes me fear that certain measures may not be addressed and that we may not be provided the safest work environment possible for staff or students. Administrators and teachers should use this extended time for training and preparation for what may happen in the future. Please delay the openings of schools until September 9th, 2020.
7/21/2020 10:24:54	Renee	Robbins		Wichita	I fully support the delay to reopen schools until after Labor Day. Furthermore I expect a comprehensive, sane plan to protect our teachers and children and by extension, parents and families.
7/21/2020 10:24:55	Lana	Reinhart	Minneapolis High School	Minneapolis	As a teacher in a 7-12 building, I am very concerned about starting school face-to-face with the rising number of Covid 19 cases in Kansas. Wearing masks will help slow the spread, but I'm afraid teens will forget to socially distance—I've already witnessed this with summer conditioning. There is no way to effectively keep them apart. I am in favor of delaying the start of school in hopes the spread of the virus will get under control. Online learning would be a good option for awhile.
7/21/2020 10:24:56	Brant	Peoples	Parent and Pharmacist	Shawnee	I agree with Governor Kelly. Schools need to remain closed until this crisis is showing at least some signs of getting better. It is not. Opening schools will make this crisis exponentially worse and risk the health and future of our children. That is unacceptable.
7/21/2020 10:24:59	Lara	Kaljumaa	My family - we have a c	Valley Center	I would prefer that the schools open as usual this fall, possibly with staggered days to limit the number of students present at one time. If teachers are concerned, they should be provided with N95 masks to wear. This is no different than healthcare workers having to wear masks to work. From what I've heard, the distance learning that happened this spring was very inadequate. If the schools are going to require distance learning, they are going to have to provide a much better platform. I was homeschooled through high school and obtained a bachelor's and master's degree online through Fort Hays. It can be done well but Zoom meetings are not an appropriate format, especially for young children.
7/21/2020 10:25:01	Emily	White-Winter		Lenexa	I agree that schools should be delayed to start until after Labor Day. The outbreaks need to get under control and schools need time to prepare. I also think when they do go back having classes outdoors should be considered. That would keep students at school learning and socializing, and allow their parents to work. It would also keep the students and staff safer than if they were in an enclosed room for six to seven hours.
7/21/2020 10:25:04	Christine	Wiles		Olathe	Please consider delaying schools. This EO is in the best interest of safety for students, teachers, and our Kansas community. This time will allow for safety measures to be executed and time for teachers to plan for a different way of teaching. The governor's order is both reasonable and sensible in this time of crisis. The death of one student is unacceptable. The death of one teacher is unacceptable.
7/21/2020 10:25:10	Samantha	Hicks	St Johns Catholic School	Beloit	K-12 teacher here. I am so proud of all the efforts being made for the safety of kids and teachers. THANK YOU for your tireless work. Here are my observations in my rural community: They fight the masks, they fight the social distancing, and they want to be able to make decisions for our community without "bigger" influence. Here is the problem. They reject ordinances, then we have an outbreak. They don't want masks enforced, but people are not complying! As a teacher, I fear this non-compliance more than anything else. We say masks for teachers/kids. We say social distancing. We say hygiene. If the counties choose not to enforce this, how will we stop parents from sending their kids with no mask? With a temp? After exposure? As the Music teacher, I will come into contact with the whole school. I would feel much safer if I knew that protocols were being enforced somehow. Making parents comply to keep everyone as safe as possible. In our little communities, all of the outbreaks have come from people not following the rules. I'm scared of people who buck the system and call it patriotism. I feel very unsafe when my community has shown very little desire to be compliant to ordinances.
7/21/2020 10:25:10	Caroline	Hobart		Wichita	I support Governor Kelly's order to delay school opening. We need to get this right and get the virus numbers back down to keep our kids and school staff safe and to prevent another shutdown of our economy. I believe our educators will address any loss of student progress with their typical zest, grit, and professionalism.

7/21/2020 10:25:11	Michelle	Palmer	Teacher	Derby	Covid-19 is uncharted territory, in which we need to proceed with a lot of forward thinking. We need to open schools back up, but very cautiously. I think opening schools after Labor Day, allows districts to evaluate COVID-19 and gives a longer time line to have a safe, detailed plan to move forward. As the world has opened up, COVID-19 has hit high numbers and continues to rise. So, slowly opening up schools with a detailed plan is vital. We're not only looking at the safety for students, but for staff as well.
7/21/2020 10:25:12	Ramon	Chavez	private citizen	Topeka	I urge the KSBOE to follow the mandate of Governor Kelly. While without a doubt inconvenient (as almost everything COVID-19 related has been), I certainly would prefer adjusting the start (and possibly end date) of academic year as opposed to risking the health, lives, and safety of every student and every staff member in order to make things more convenient by starting the school year on time.
7/21/2020 10:25:13	TRUETTE	MCQUEEN	MY FAMILY	BARNARD	DO WHAT IS BEST FOR CHILDREN AND THE COMMUNITY. DELAYING TILL AFTER LABOR DAY IS NOT SUCH A TERRIBLE IMPOSITION. CHILDREN ARE NOT PAWNS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. THIS IS ABOUT COMMUNITIES AND KIDS NOT POLITICS.
7/21/2020 10:25:21	Katie	Glasscock	Olathe Public Schools	Lenexa	Please delay school starting until Labor Day. Please let districts decide what works best for them. Sports and activities should be allowed to continue as these students are working toward college scholarships and shouldn't be denied that opportunity if they volunteer to keep participating in sports and activities.
7/21/2020 10:25:21	Nicole	Coons	USD 475	Junction City	Let us start school in August, please.
7/21/2020 10:25:26	Amy	Burrill	McPherson USD 418	McPherson	Please open schools on time! Thank you
7/21/2020 10:25:40	Rachel	Porter		Fontana, KS	Yes - delay; virtual learning
7/21/2020 10:25:41	Jane	Doe		Spring Hill	Deny
7/21/2020 10:25:45	Amber	Navarro	USD 253-Teacher	Emporia, KS	As a teacher, parent, and citizen of Kansas, I am writing in support of Governor Kelly's executive order to open schools on September 9th. I believe that she has created this mandate in order to protect the school communities of our state. I hope you will support her by voting yes to the executive order.
7/21/2020 10:25:55	Sara	Gerner	Teacher	DeSoto	BOE needs to support the governor's executive order. Schools should be delayed until cases see a downward trend.
7/21/2020 10:25:56	Racheal	Weaver	School	Salina	No to in person. Work with Special needs. Not okay for them.
7/21/2020 10:25:57	Yvonne	Walter	Parent/District Employee	Fort Riley/Junction City	Face masks should be a must. Yes, the district should stay closed till after Labor Day. Water bottle stations need to be more than 1 per building. Water fountains should be removed. Bus aids need to be reliable and consistent in attendance.
7/21/2020 10:25:57	Timothy	Moser	Wilbur Middle School;	Wichita, KS	I am a teacher and at high risk for COVID-19. I have twice been to the emergency room for asthma, each visit saving my life and costing thousands of dollars after insurance. I care for my Grandmother who is over 90 years old and on oxygen. I do not want my professional life to endanger her, my family, or myself. I do not want our community to experience needless pain and suffering. We do not need to rush back to school.  We can make decisions which will lead to an objectively better future. As a science teacher I know that medical science works. We should listen to the advice of medical professionals when making decisions about the spread of a pandemic! It is essential that students and teachers delay the start of school until the virus has decreased substantially in Sedgwick County for 14 consecutive days and all necessary protective actions have been taken including reducing class sizes, physical distancing, and hands off curriculum. A plethora of PPE and protective equipment should be provided free of charge to all students and staff.  We should take the time to ensure the safety of our students, our families, and our teachers. I support Gov. Kelly's executive order to delay the reopening of schools until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 10:25:59	Lisa	Wicoff	USD 257 parent and teacher	Iola	Please support Gov Kelly EO. We need time to develop the best plan for our district, but we also need some basic safety issues to be rules not guidelines. I support masks over 5. Kids can do this, we just have to make that the expectation. I DO NOT want students in my high school class without masks unless they are medically not recommended for that student.

7/21/2020 10:26:10	Whitney	Harvey	Usd259 high school teach	Wichita	<p>I feel completely comfortable returning to work and want to get back into the classroom. All of my coworkers I personally talk to over the summer feel the same. I do understand some might have medical conditions that would make it more difficult, but these conditions should be approved by a doctor. I do not think teachers should be allowed to not come to work just because they are scared. I feel that we are essential to the students. If they are too scared to work in person then they cannot fulfill their contracts. I have bad asthma, but have no concerns myself. I have a few points I would like to bring up.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I am worried that if we do go straight into online students will have no training. I feel that is VERY important to at least get some time in the classroom with students to teach them how to use the online programs and their new computer devices correctly. I used google classroom pretty consistently in my class the past two years and some students still struggle on accessing and submitting while in the classroom! When we went to online in the spring I still had issues with this even though we had been using it in class for 2 months already. I teach seniors in high school so I can only imagine issues that can happen with younger students. If the plan is to go straight to online I really stress we need some in person training for students somehow.</li> <li>2. Last spring I know many teachers and myself faced a huge issue of students not doing online work until evening and the night. Many students won't wake up to do online school by 8 am or probably not even 11 am.</li> <li>3. I feel that it is important to get students to school for their mental, emotional and often time physical well being. I have had many students reach out to me about their struggles at home.</li> <li>4. Finally, I would like to suggest if we do online schooling or hybrid I would like to be able to access my classroom to do my teaching. Working from home is difficult and I know hard on me mentally. I really would like to be able to get back physical to school and on a schedule.</li> </ol> <p>Thank you for taking the time to hear my thoughts!</p>
7/21/2020 10:26:18	Caelee	Lehman	n/a	Gardner	<p>Please take into consideration what is best for our children, teachers, administrators, and other staff at schools. While children are less susceptible to COVID-19 illness, they aren't exempt and they are interacting daily with teachers and staff who are susceptible. It is unreasonable to ask someone who is trying to make a living and support their family to sacrifice their health and safety to rush back to school. Delay it, make students go next summer, they will live and eventually they will learn from this experience as well. Uphold the executive order to delay schooling until September 8 or later if necessary.</p>
7/21/2020 10:26:25	Angela	Stiens	Parent	Shawnee	<p>Our school is ready to start. They have been preparing for 6 months. My children are ready to go back to school now. Delaying this is psychologically draining. My children did not do well with online learning. Our teachers are ready to teach. My son whose graduating is so disappointed with the way all of this has been handled. He said most of his friends don't even care about the ceremony after the way this has been so poorly handled by the adults in charge. COVID is nothing compared to the psychological effects this has placed on our kids. Please put Kansas kids first. They should be put priority. Not mandates. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 10:26:31	Sean	Murphy	LEAVENWORTH USD	LEAVENWORTH	<p>please honor the delay per the Governor's EO</p>
7/21/2020 10:26:33	Andrew	Sher	Parent	Olathe	<p>Kids need classroom learning. Educators have had plenty of time to prepare (since last March). There is no excuse for further delay. It is abundantly clear that Olathe schools do not know how to do virtual learning based on our experience last spring. The district provided nothing to keep the kids engaged and teachers basically got an extra two months added to their summer vacation. Kids education needs to be a priority. Wear masks, social distance when possible but resume school.</p>
7/21/2020 10:26:34	Melissa	Allard		Sedgwick Co.	<p>Please delay the opening of school, with cases on the rise the only reason our children are safe are because they are not in school right now. Please allow the teachers and admins more time to get more prepared and allow the city numbers to fall before putting our children, our future into the fire! Thank you!</p>
7/21/2020 10:26:40	Cindy	Huckvale	Citizen/Parent	Winfield	<p>I urge you to support Governor Kelly's Executive Order of delaying the opening of schools until after Labor Day! This should not be a political decision as some in the state are pushing for. This should be a decision about what will protect our students, teachers and staff in the school buildings. This in turn helps to protect our Kansas communities. It will also give the local school districts more time to prepare for the opening. Thank you.</p>

7/21/2020 10:26:43	Joshua	Garcia		Junction City	The global pandemic that is COVID-19 is dangerously out of control all across the country. Opening schools now is reckless and creates an opportunity to spread the virus throughout the population. While I understand that education is important, so too is following the advice and guidance of the scientific community borne of that very same education system. The schools should remain closed, or at most hold to virtual or distance education.
7/21/2020 10:26:44	Christine	Lawson	Parent/paraeducator	Wichita	I would feel less apprehensive if we started school after Labor Day. I feel this would give the districts more time to finalize their plans. I feel like a plan was put in place but no details regarding that plan. As parents there are things we need to know not just assume will take place.
7/21/2020 10:26:46	Rose	Padilla		Edgerton	<p>The health of the children isn't the most important, which is why we need to open schools. Children are not dying from this. If we are worried about teachers, only 10% of Kansas teachers are above the age of 50. If the job is too risky for them, that is their choice to make. The flu is far deadlier in children and we do not take these precautions. I urge you to open schools. These children need normalcy and structure. I'm an SLP for a school district, so I have been able to stay home for an extended time. There is a young girl that now comes to my home daily asking if she can stay for lunch/dinner and if we have had our "snack time" yet. I am certain her parents do not know where she is, nor do they seem to care. When did "flattening the curve" turn into let's stop this virus in its tracks? This is simply not realistic. There are far more children suffering in other ways including child abuse, than this virus is affecting.</p> <p>Thanks for your time.</p>
7/21/2020 10:26:49	Tarica	Lare	Let parents and commu	Manhattan	<p>I feel that our school district had a great plan in place to allow parents that option of sending their children to school or use distance learning if preferred. This allowed for each family to decide what is right for their specific needs. In my family, both parents work full time. We have three children, two school-age and now have the burden of paying for three children in daycare. I understand I chose to have children and they are my responsibility, but I also chose to spread them out knowing the financial burden of having 3 daycare payments. We will be fine and we will do what is necessary to take care of our family, but not all people have that luxury. Not all people can go from paying \$800/month for child care to paying \$3000/month. Having our school-aged children in school is a way to release some of that financial burden.</p> <p>I very much understand the risks of schools opening again. My child will return to school when they open. My child has been educated on hand-washing, distancing from others, and we've practiced wearing masks for extended times. We are prepared. The school district has put plans in place to prevent the spread. Obviously, we can't 100% prevent anything, but all tangible ways of keeping our children safe while still allowing them to get a proper education are being taken. I am proud of our educators.</p> <p>I also see rural communities with very little cases being effected greatly by the delay. There is no reason this state should have a one size fits all policy, because all communities in Kansas are not the same. Every county and community should have the opportunity to do what's right for their specific needs.</p> <p>I understand you all have an impossible decision. I also don't think you have to be the ones making the hard decisions. Being a leader doesn't always mean making all the decisions. Sometimes it's better to trust the leaders below you who know their needs maybe better than you do.</p>
7/21/2020 10:26:51	Marlo	Bratton	Parent/taxpayer	Overland Park	School must start on time and in person. The social, emotional and educational damage that's already been done is overwhelming. PLEASE stop using our children as political pawns! The medical experts have made it clear that schools opening is best for our kids.

					<p>I STRONGLY feel that school reopening should be delayed! Until ATLEAST after Labor Day. I supported our early closure of the schools in the spring, and I believe it prevented more cases. But as we have reopened the state cases are climbing out of control and if we send our staff and students back to school in less than a month we will surely have problems.</p> <p>Your plan calls for 14 day quarantines if anyone in the school tests positive, but that will lead to a horrible merry-go-round of closures. One student or staff testing positive could result in additional weeks or months of closures due to the spread from just one possible case. Why take that chance?</p>
7/21/2020 10:26:53	Jolie	Gerding	Parent and grandparent	Wilson	PLEASE KEEP OUR SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR NOW!
7/21/2020 10:26:55	Christine	Moser		WICHITA	I support Gov. Kelly's order to delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 10:26:56	AJ	Brenn		Lawrence	Please support the governor's guidelines and don't play politics with the lives of students, teachers, and support staff. Decide using facts and science which are being ignored inexplicably by all levels of government right now!
7/21/2020 10:26:56	Tyler	Clements		Lawrence	Please allow student athletes to continue summer conditioning during the month of August.
7/21/2020 10:27:02	Julie	McLaughlin	Teacher/parent	Topeka	If the delay is to give schools a few extra weeks to prepare for a safe reopening of school, I think a delay until the day after Labor Day is wise. However, if the delay is only to see if we should then delay longer, I do not agree with that. School needs to start again for the welfare of all of our children. We need to stop reacting out of fear. We took the necessary precautions in the spring, and a short delay may be wise; however, we need to start teaching our children how to face difficult times by adapting and acting courageously, rather than acting out of fear as well as political expediency. If state and local SCHOOL authorities feel a short delay is beneficial, then by all means wait until after Labor Day. But if not, schools need to reopen. I would further argue that if school is delayed, let the sports associated with school continue on time, especially for those outside sports that can easily follow the protocols of social distancing.
7/21/2020 10:27:04	Leanna	Coons	Usd475	Junction City	Let us start school in Augs Please
7/21/2020 10:27:07	Katie	Morris		Holton	I have no problem with the start of the school year being delayed and feel like districts could make good use of that time preparing teachers and staff for the possibilities this school year brings. It would also give the areas with high infection rates time to bring those numbers down so that we can start safely.
7/21/2020 10:27:08	Vicki	Hale		Columbus	<p>I am a parent and my two sons graduated from USD 493 in Columbus. I now have four grandchildren - three already in school, and one preparing for kindergarten next year. I would not wish this situation on anyone, parent or otherwise, who has children, who realizes the need for children to be in school but at the same time, knowing the devastating effects that COVID has on its victims.</p> <p>Our children deserve the best we can offer. They deserve a safe place in which to learn, to grow, and to succeed. Do we, as a state, as a nation, really believe that our children are expendable, used as pawns in a political arena?</p> <p>I urge you to support the school opening delay that is being put into place by Governor Kelly. One child sick, one child on a ventilator, one child dead, is one child too many. We can't take chances with the lives of our children.</p>
7/21/2020 10:27:10	Hanna	Eastin	Myself	Newton	There should be community supports in place to help families navigate a delayed start. And there should be a delayed start.
7/21/2020 10:27:28	Emily	Dore	Self	Overland Park	Please uphold Gov Kelly's Executive Order delaying school.

7/21/2020 10:27:29	Katy	Shultz		Kechi	<p>Delaying school opening until September 9 is prudent and keeps the well-being of the students, teachers and staff at the forefront of this decision (where it should be.)</p> <p>This is a proportionate response to the pandemic. Probably most of you making this decision didn't start school years until September! The teachers I have spoke to want to be in school and want the best for our kids. Teachers very much need extra time to prepare their classrooms for necessary changes. For instance, kindergarteners through second graders all sit at community tables. They need time to figure out and implement different seating arrangements.</p> <p>Additionally, numbers of cases are rising in Kansas right now. As a parent, I would feel much better if the number if cases were leveling off or trending down. With the increase in mask wearing, we have every reason to believe they will be in three weeks.</p> <p>I do wish the mask mandate started with 6th graders (or even 4th or 5th.) It will be very tough to require young children to wear those hours a day.</p> <p>Please do what is right, not what is politically expedient. Thank you for your service.</p>
7/21/2020 10:27:36	Trichia	Penner		Ingalls	<p>These kids need to go back to school. The school districts should be allowed to determine when their start day is. Some schools are already more prepared to begin school than others are. A school in Kansas City cannot be held to the same standards as a 1 A school in Kansas. You can't make all kids wear masks, they are just going to be a problem for teachers. And you cannot get temperature checks for every student. There is no way you can get temp checks in schools with 500+ kids, it would take all day. Make the teachers wear masks. Kids are said to not be passing it on to each other, so we need to stop freaking out.</p>
7/21/2020 10:27:41	Travis	Callaway	USD 381	Spearville	<p>The decision to open schools needs to be left up to local authority and not a state wide decision. What is safe to do in Spearville may not be in Wichita or Kansas City. This doesn't mean we shouldn't allow schools in the areas it's safe to open. Kids have been thrown in to an uncertain time and school and being there is a good way to offer then a sense of security and normal, even if it won't be the normal they know. Also, I know this isn't a deal breaker but I'm a football coach and I have already had one kids tell me he would drop out if there is no season. I fear we will see a higher dropout rate if we don't get kids back into buildings and with positive role models.</p>
7/21/2020 10:27:46	Joanna	Scharschell		Kansas City kansas	<p>You guy should listen to the parents its not safe you guys want to use our kids as test dummies did you guys stop to think that some kids cant wear a mask cause of health issues and that they have parents at home that has a compromised immune system. And taking a temperature can be normal duh. You guys need and listen to us parents and offer online learning for parents that dont feel safe sending that lids back just yet mom26030608@gmail.com 913-832-2351</p>
7/21/2020 10:27:48	Melissa	Leavitt	my kids NWKS	colby	<p>our kids are our future...our districts need more freedom to choose what's best for our own community...we cannot one size fits all--approach this.....please in this unprecedented time in our country...make big moves! Make choices you never thought of before...break it down to help every single district if necessary....find in your heart leaniance for those who are working so hard to jump hurdles we never thought we would navigate!!!! We will not return our children to public schools until masks are removed from the equation...also i should add that i respect the board...please hire a constitutional lawyer....mandates are not laws and playing politics w our kids is not acceptable. Regardless of opinion or medical recommendation people of this country deserve to choose...and we must stand our ground...that the government works for us...not the other way around.</p> <p>PLEASE...do not let our kids see us bow down to things that cannot be dictated by law....please just go an extra step to make sure that no rights a enfringed....we must teach our kids how important their rights are and support parents with this as well...</p> <p>GOD BLESS YOU ALL...AND PRAYERS THAT GOD GUIDES YOU AT THIS TIME!</p>
7/21/2020 10:27:48	Sarah	Hancock	My family (Rock Creek	Westmoreland	<p>I support the governor's order to push back the start of school and activities. This will give districts time to plan and communicate and to help teachers feel a little calmer. The teachers I know are not feeling good about starting school right now, and districts are not prepared to communicate clearly and consistently to their audiences. They need a lot of help preparing to meet the challenges ahead. More time is a good thing when peace of mind and safety are at stake.</p> <p>Please do not let a bunch of sports-obsessed parents convince you that sports are more important than safety.</p>

7/21/2020 10:27:49	Morgan	Allison	None	Greensburg	Our kids are already falling behind and out of school for far too long. The longer school is delayed, the more stress it puts on them emotionally and socially. Isolation is hard mentally, and I also worry for children in unsafe living conditions that are slipping through the cracks due to not being in school, which for some, are the only safe place they know.
7/21/2020 10:28:05	Mary Ann	Burris		Oakley, Ks	The kids need to go back to school as regularly scheduled in August. They need the normalcy and structure. They are missing out on social time and learning valuable life skills. The temperature checks, hand washing, and social distancing are feasible. The masks are not feasible.
7/21/2020 10:28:13	Sarah	Alexander	Self/school counselor	Louisburg	Fully support the decision to postpone for the health and safety of students and staff
7/21/2020 10:28:14	Jessica	Alexander	None, just a parent.	Olathe	Start school at the regular scheduled date. In person for the bus riders and free or reduced meal kids. Everyone else learns on-line. That way the number in the school is reduced and you feed the kids who need it.
7/21/2020 10:28:15	LaShonda	Hinson	Wichita DHH	Wichita	What is going to happen with Deaf and Hard of hearing children that have autoimmune disease and deficiencies? Yet they need the learning atmosphere because they have to have structure daily.
7/21/2020 10:28:23	Leann	Osner	Teacher	Kingman	Yes - give us time to prepare and make a plan
7/21/2020 10:28:23	Denise	Monson		Johnson	I believe the executive order should stay in place. Delaying school until after Labor Day isn't that long and it gives schools time to get supplies and support in place for a safe transition back. Going back right now with numbers climbing is also irresponsible.
7/21/2020 10:28:31	Nevada	Runnebaum	USD 469	Lansing	We want to come back to in person school when it is safe. I agree with Gov. Kelly that after Labor Day would be the soonest in person schooling can happen. I hope The Board votes in favor of that. And please keep in mind that some staff maybe unable to work in person due to family obligations so on line learning needs to be an option. The parents I've talked to want to have a choice of in person or online. Thank you.
7/21/2020 10:28:40	Kari	Mueller	Usd 457	Garden City	I implore you to Let these kids go back to school it has been six months and the online learning was pathetic our kids are going to be so behind not to mention in our community there is a large number of children that will be unsupervised they are going to fall so far behind! I have an active parent in my child's education and I am concerned with the level of quality education I can give them at home these children need to be out moving around getting to play sports and do all the things they were doing last year at this time covet is not going away we are going to have to learn to live with it locking these children up at home is not in the best interest of our children emotionally or educationally.
7/21/2020 10:28:45	Cari	Andrews	Holton USD 336	Holton	I currently teach fifth grade in Holton and have worried about my students all summer long. I miss seeing them and did not particularly enjoy working with them on-line. I would much rather be there in person to teach and make connections. With that said, I do worry for their safety as well as that of my colleagues and myself if we would start school in August. We know that COVID-19 is very detrimental to adults, but we really don't know what it will do to children. We are seeing reports now from all around the country that younger and younger people are contracting the disease, even those less than one year of age. I could site many more reasons and studies to support my position as I know those who take the opposite position could. The bottom line is we really don't know how this disease can or will affect our children.  I love my students and do not want to take any chances on their health and safety. Delaying school until September when the number of active cases will hopefully be under control is the only decision that makes sense to me. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns. I pray for guidance as you and the leaders of our state and country have to make these difficult decisions that affect so many.
7/21/2020 10:28:45	Kathy	Damron	Parent	Topeka	Please protect public health & SUPPORT the Governor's executive order delaying start of school. Thank you
7/21/2020 10:28:51	Kyle	Peters		Overland Park	It is imperative that my children get back to face to face learning in the schools beginning August the latest. I have noticed the adverse effect on my two daughters both mentally and emotionally since schools were closed in March. I believe that negative affect is lost on some the adults that are deciding this issue. If in class learning is pushed back indefinitely like what is being talked about, then does the state want/expect me to quit my job or leave them home alone? Forcing parents to leave children home alone or making it so parents can't provide food, shelter, and security flies in the face of what the American education system has always stood for.
7/21/2020 10:28:59	Frances	Graves	Parent of USD 506 student	Bartlett	I believe the correct decision is supporting the executive order and delaying the start of school.

7/21/2020 10:28:59	Lynette	Engelken	Shawnee Mission School	Overland Park	Please uphold the Governor's mandate to delay the start of school this year until after Labor Day. Teachers and students are in a uniquely dangerous situation while COVID is running wild in our communities. Nowhere else is someone expected to be in a small, poorly ventilated room with 25-30 other people at the same time for hours each day. Middle school students will NOT keep their masks on and will NOT social distance. Remember we are not just exposed to our students but also to all of their family and friends as well. That is how this virus works. Online learning can be extremely successful with adequate preparation and accountability. Give our schools this extra time to prepare so that hundreds/thousands of teacher and students lives are not lost needlessly in Kansas. HUGE and popular annual events all across Kansas are being cancelled -- how does that ever imply to you, the KBOE, that we should be safe going back to school?
7/21/2020 10:29:03	Hannah	Womack		Chanute, KS	Please do NOT delay the start of school! Our children have been without proper education for long enough, not to mention there are many other safety concerns of our students that aren't related to COVID-19. Many of our students rely on the staff at schools to provide them with a loving nurturing environment and many are suffering while waiting for our return to school!
7/21/2020 10:29:13	Melissa	Johnson	USD 253	EMPORIA	I do not believe we should delay schools!
7/21/2020 10:29:27	Nicole	Frank	parent of USD 489 student	Hays	How long will it take to run out of substitute teachers, with sick teachers quarantining for at least 14 days? How likely is it that a school will close, when a certain threshold of its student or faculty body is sick? Ethically speaking, we owe our students and teachers the safest environments we can create, following masking and social distancing recommendations from Dr. Fauci and the CDC. Practically speaking, our economy will crash if schools have to open and close repeatedly, due to sick teachers and students. With infection rates at their highest point yet, delaying the start of school is the right decision, no matter how tough of a decision it is. Please pass Governor Kelly's executive order so that our schools can prepare their plans and local city and county commissions can revisit masking ordinances to contain this virus.
7/21/2020 10:29:32	Randy	Winchester		Olathe	Follow Governor Kelly's executive order. Don't be stupid, a few weeks delay will not hurt anyone or thing, but may improve school safety for our children and teaching professionals and staff.
7/21/2020 10:29:33	Patty	Ware	Students in Olathe	Olathe	I am in full support of Gov Kelly's mandate to postpone school until after Labor Day. We all want our children to get back to the classroom, but we need to look at the numbers right now and wait to see if the masks help the numbers. We also need to ensure that the districts have ALL necessary protective gear and materials. We believe strongly in masks and social distancing and do not have faith that districts are ready. We also want teachers to have time to prepare for the changes that will have to happen in and out of the classroom. I urge you to listen to CDC guidelines as well as local and state health officials. Our children should not be involved in politics, this is about their safety and the safety of the teachers and staff.
7/21/2020 10:29:37	Kelly	Clodfelter		Olathe	Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 10:29:38	Stephanie	Perry		Baldwin City	I support Gov. Kelly's decision
7/21/2020 10:29:53	Tami	Vanlerberg	Mill Valley High School	Shawnee	Delay school year for planning, require face masks when not socially distanced
7/21/2020 10:29:57	Lindsey	Respress	Goddard School district	Goddard	I think it is going to be horrible if we start school... Especially with the flu coming in October... You will have a combination of Covid and the flu... Not a good mix! It could be a very deadly winter if we start school... Let's wait until after the first of the year and see how everything looks
7/21/2020 10:29:58	Michael	Scott	Special Education Teacher	Newton	I agree with the delay in school starting, but I don't agree with masks being worn all day long while in school, especially the younger ages.
					Please uphold Governor Kelly's mandate to delay the start of school.



7/21/2020 10:29:58	Carmen	Benson	My child.	Stilwell	I want the political bickering to stop immediately and for you to prove that the ONLY thing you all care about is the well being of children, teachers and school staff. I am a single, working mother with a lot on my plate. I don't relish homeschooling but I also can't afford to get sick and take a couple of weeks or more off of my life. Since we abruptly ended the stay at home order and the majority of Kansans decided not to bother being careful anymore I have had 2 friends gravely ill in the hospital and several of my employees have either tested positive or have been exposed to Covid. These are enormous disruptions in business. Use science and common sense in your decision making. My preference is to have a hybrid. Split classes into 2 or three groups and rotate the days making remote viewing of class possible on days that kids aren't there. My daughter's elementary school has over 600 kids. It is physically impossible to create enough distance with everyone there to be safe. There isn't enough work in lower grades to keep kids busy for 6 hours a day if they aren't shuffling around the school or going to recess and the less they move around the less able the teachers are to control them. I want a normal return to life right now but not if that means wishful thinking our way back to "normal" and making a complete shutdown more likely.
7/21/2020 10:30:01	Jeff	Saenger		Bennington ks	Open schools on schedule!
7/21/2020 10:30:03	Staci	Hash		Olathe	I am a teacher and a parent in the Olathe district. I struggle with asthma and a auto immune condition. One of my sons also struggles with asthma. I teach special Education K-5 so remote teaching will likely not be an option for me. This being said, I will not have the option for my kids to do remote learning. I want to go back to work and I want my kids back in school, however, I am VERY nervous about the ability of districts/individual schools to be prepared by mid August. I believe we need the additional time that the governor has ordered to be better prepared for a safe start for all! Thank you for accepting comments and allowing us to voice our concerns!
7/21/2020 10:30:06	Kari	Eastes	USD 382	Pratt	I urge you to please open up schools back up. I am a stay at home mother of 3 and my kids need school. I can tell that they are missing a huge part of what makes them happy and what they look forward to everyday. I totally understand that our numbers in Kansas continue to go up but what did you expect??? You can order everyone to stay at home for months and then expect numbers to stay low when you open back up. Common sense says numbers will go up when people start going places again. And still as these numbers continue to rise the rate of death is actually going down. My fear is that is we postpone school start date it's just going to be the start of never going back. Why not leave it up to each school Distict. I know ours has a great plan in play that they presented to us last week. You can't treat all schools the same. KC schools are much different than rural schools. My oldest has been doing summer sports through leagues and we have been at the gym 2 nights out of the week with surrounding school kids....not one has had an issue, or even a spectator at these events. These are the same kids that will be around each other come school time. Give people the option to to distance learning, which ours has, and open school back up. There is a very high percentage of kids in our area that school is their only safe haven. It the only place they get attention, love, food, and many other things. They need the schools to reopen now more than ever. I fear what those kids have gone through the last 6 months. I am a cancer survivor and if I thought that me and my children were in danger going back to school than I wouldn't send them. I don't feel this way at all. Honestly my kids have never gotten the flu vaccine and when the Covid vaccine comes out...won't be getting that either. The world is a scary place right now, let's teach our kids not to live in fear and trust our own school system. Let them be young and enjoy their school days, not fear them! I trust our local school board with all my heart and know that they will do what it takes to protect the kids if schools are allowed to reopen. I urge you to stand up for the kids, teachers and parents. Let's reopen and continue their education instead of focusing on Covid, get their minds off of Covid. It's pretty sad when my 4 and 5 year old play "Infected with Covid" instead of "tag". Kids shouldn't be talking about it, they should be playing with their friends and learning how to read like a normal child. Thanks for your time and I trust that you will trust your school systems. Proud to be a Kansas and even more proud to be a Greenback. Kari Eastes

					Please allow outdoor conditioning to continue in August for athletes preparing for fall seasons that will hopefully still be happening in some capacity. It is important for these kids to have something to continue to focus on as they wait for school to start and our coaches have been doing an excellent job of following social distancing protocol.
7/21/2020 10:30:07	Kristel	Lewis		Lawrence	I am fine with school being delayed if it will hopefully get us back in the buildings. Thanks!
7/21/2020 10:30:25	Ashley	Schlecta		Olathe	Delay
7/21/2020 10:30:27	Rhonda	Sayles	myself	Meriden	I don't mind waiting until after Labor Day to give districts time to prepare safety protocols, but I do think it would be a big mistake to mandate the wearing of masks. Let local districts make that, and other decisions. Our district is in Jefferson County where we currently have two active cases and have had zero deaths. Children and teens should not be forced to wear masks all day. I believe they will do more harm than good.
7/21/2020 10:30:31	Jessica	Britton		Cherryvale	I believe school should start at the original start dates with online learning only. I feel that knowing at some point, the school will be forced to close with positive cases, virtual learning should start from the beginning with the possibility of in person learning once covid is under control. I also feel The option of in person/virtual should be given to every parent for those not comfortable with their children attending in persons.
7/21/2020 10:30:32	Jennifee	Standley	Parent/teacher	Garden City	Our kids need to go back to school as normal as possible. No masks for kids K-6, only masks in the hallway for 7th-12th. Resume all sports and activities.
7/21/2020 10:30:32	Jaron	Thompson	Holcomb public schools	Garden City	Then executive order to suspend the start of the school year will give adequate time for teachers to understand the Navigating Change document and create a safe learning space for students.
7/21/2020 10:30:35	Jeremiah	Brown	Parent	Plainville	School should start at normal time. Rural Western Kansas is NOT the same as Urban Eastern Kansas and SHOULD NOT be treated as so. We have minimal COVID cases out here and should not have to abide by the same restrictions as the higher populated areas. Remote learning is also NOT an option for ANY family with working parents. My home has 1 kid starting college, 1 kid in high school, 2 kids in elementary school, 1 kid starting preschool, and 1 kid not yet ready to start school. Online learning DOES NOT WORK for your working families. Online learning DOES NOT WORK for lower elementary students. FACE MASKS for teachers in lower elementary is a HORRIBLE idea. Those kids need to be able to see their teachers mouths move to enunciate letter and number sounds when learning to read. Remote learning was a waste of a parents time. Our children did not learn anything in the few months that school was cancelled and it felt like the teachers received extra summer vacation. 2 weeks is not going to make a difference, school systems have had plenty of time to be prepared and ready to start school at normal time. I for one, REFUSE to participate in any form of online or remote learning. Local Counties and School districts should be able to proceed as fit for their area. COVID is nothing more than a virus the same as influenza or the common cold. This is out of control.
7/21/2020 10:30:45	Megan	Bannen		Overland Park	Thank you to Laura Kelly, whose leadership throughout this crisis has been stellar. Given the increasing scientific evidence that the virus is airborne--making large indoor gatherings (such as school) extremely dangerous--we must at least wait until our infection rates in Kansas are declining before we attempt to open schools, for the safety of staff and students. I understand that reopening the economy is important, but we cannot do so at the risk of people dying. We must get the virus under control before we can safely open schools again.
7/21/2020 10:30:45	Buffi	Brimm	Usd 457	Garden city Ks	I vote to follow governor Kelly's order
7/21/2020 10:30:52	Sarah	Huebner	Parent	Olathe	I do not support opening schools before Labor Day. Please vote to hold off school until after Labor Day weekend. I do not feel confident that my school district is ready or prepared to have teachers, staff, and students return to in-person. I am not ready to send my kids back in-person based on the case numbers of Covid rising and not being under control.
7/21/2020 10:30:57	Daniel	Snyder	Private School	Wichita	I must be misreading your order which seems to prohibit distance learning and private instruction before the Sep. date. Can a despot actually effect such a thing in this state, or in this republic? I'm pinching myself during this latest non-covid related fever dream.
7/21/2020 10:30:58	Asia	Gormley-Siemens	None- private citizen	Wichita	Not only should the school year be delayed, it should be primarily online for the majority of students. Don't put the burden of our floundering economy on children and educators. Even 1 death due to schools reopening is too many.

7/21/2020 10:31:04	Drew	Bartel	KCK USD 500	Lenexa	Please support the order Governor Kelly submitted. It is not safe for teachers, staff, their families, and students. It is not ideal, but would provide quality time for schools and districts to prepare accordingly. Virtual learning may be the safest option, even though I teach primary and the students rely on physical instruction, as do I. Lives are at stake and one outbreak could spread and effect numerous families and communities. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 10:31:07	Michelle	West	Boys & Girls Club of M	Manhattan	Governor Kelley is doing amazing and I fully support her decision.
7/21/2020 10:31:11	Shannon	Kincaid		Oakley	No to delaying school.
7/21/2020 10:31:14	Michelle	Alvarez		Goddard	Open schools with safety measures put in place. Invest in the materials needed for all schools. Single working mom of two kids need it! My kids NEED it! I shouldn't have to decide to put food on the table or school my children. How long do we wait, how behind do the kids get? We need to learn to live safely with this virus. Our future and our children depend on it
7/21/2020 10:31:16	Megan	OBrien		Emporia	I support the governors EO. I believe it is important for families to have options and for schools to have adequate time to prepare those options.
7/21/2020 10:31:17	Matthew	Crane	Student usd233	Lenexa	I would like school to start after Labor Day in the building with masks, temperature checks, and socially distant when possible because I feel that it is easier to learn in person rather than through a screen.
7/21/2020 10:31:17	Kelly	Hickam		Lenexa	School opening should be delayed. It's not safe for kids or teachers.
7/21/2020 10:31:24	Christina	Alvarez		Sedgewick	Do not open school before labor day
7/21/2020 10:31:28	Tonya	Riepe	Myself and my family	Wichita	I think that school should always start after labor day. Most places around the U.S. already do. If, for reasons due to harvest, this causes problems, I think that is understandable to change back in future years. But as of right now, there would be no way to lower our numbers by August. Of course, at the rate most Kansas accept science and are willing to mask, it may make absolutely no difference as the numbers will just continue to climb.
7/21/2020 10:31:35	Keely	Tolbert		Wichita	As a teacher and parent, I am deeply concerned about the opening of schools this fall. I fully support Governor Kelly's executive order that would delay school openings until after the Labor Day holiday. Why? It gives schools time to order, install, and implement the safety procedures that will be required to protect the health of students, their families, and staff. It gives districts time to offer meaningful professional development to teachers as to what safety protocols are required as well as giving time to adjust schedules, classes, technology needs, and allow teachers to prepare for a very different start to our school year. Not to mention being able to secure our own materials for PPE as required to keep ourselves safe (being the ones at highest risk of contracting and becoming seriously ill from Covid 19). My sincerest hope is that the BOE will make their decisions based on sound science rather than on issues steeped in politics. Let's move away from rhetoric that says masks are an infringement on rights and realize that masks are a courtesy and kindness we afford to those around us as we work as a community to keep each other safe. I hope the BOE considers recent studies that highlight transmission rates as being just as high if not higher for children ages 10-12 and up as adults and focus on how we can operate schools to keep them and us safe. I hope the BOE realizes that we closed schools in March when Covid numbers and spread was exponentially smaller in our communities across Kansas and that now, we're contemplating opening schools when spread is much more likely to negatively impact all communities. I hope the BOE considers that we honestly don't know how/if spread will occur at our schools because they have been closed since March and the increase in spread we see now is without the huge community grouping of students and adults in school buildings. I hope the BOE considers the safety of the adults involved in our schools as much as they consider the safety of our students. Please do your due diligence and make a sound choice based in science. Governor Kelly has given Kansans the chance to do our part to decrease the spread of this dangerous virus. Those three extra weeks do not endanger the education of our children, but they could endanger the lives of many children, adults, and their families if there is a push to open schools in August. I implore you to support Governor Kelly's mandate for the good of all Kansans.
7/21/2020 10:31:42	Kelly	Seibert	Parent SMSD	Mission hills	The death rate is less than 1%. I just don't understand why everything can be open except for our schools? If masks work, why can't they go back with masks??? The kids education needs to be essential. Just as essential as the grocery store.

7/21/2020 10:31:44	Jamie	Mast		Shawnee	Please support Governor Kelly's Executive Orders delaying the start of the school year in Kansas to after Labor Day. I feel this will give administrators and teachers additional time to prepare a safe environment, adjust to the changes in requirements for in-person school, and plan for creating quality remote learning plans for those families who choose not to send their children to school in-person. If in-person school is going to be offered, I think it is worth spending the extra time to ensure that everyone is as safe as possible.
7/21/2020 10:31:45	Mary	Noll	Burlingame Elementary	Topeka, Kansas	Please support Governor Kelly's delay mandate. I now personally of a family with 5/7 COVID positive. Two are elementary children with mild symptoms. The mother was very ill, but not hospitalized. The 89 year old grandmother came through fine with very mild symptoms. The other family members had mild symptoms. The two children had NO temp. at all, so the premise of taking temps. at the door is a weak detector at best. New studies are saying that 10-19 year olds are the greatest transmitters. I love teaching, children, and schools in general. I would love to go back to in person right now, but the data shows that cases are on the rise in KS. We need to get it under control before going back. This mandate will allow us time to do that. Most teachers I have talked with feel the very same. We would be very open to adding the days at the end of the year to provide the lost instruction right now. There is promise of a vaccine by spring. All the state schools should be opening at the same time for many reasons, not the least that travel between/among neighboring counties is very fluid. It only takes one person to spread this. Let us be humble and realize that we know very little about this virus yet and not gamble with the health and lives of the educational communities in KS. Please support our Governor with this very reasonable and well- thought out mandate.
7/21/2020 10:31:46	Cara	Loneragan		Overland Park	Our kids need to go back to school!!!!!! They need in person learning and social interaction with each other and caring educators! They need structure, routine, and education!!! Many students are home alone- many are depressed, bored, and isolated!!! Daycares are open! Restaurants are open! Stores are open! Camps and sports clubs are open! Schools must open for the health and well being of our community and kids! They need school activities and things to look forward to and be a part of! We are going on month seven of the kids at home - please open our schools and extra curricular activities!!!! It's time to let our kids live their lives!
7/21/2020 10:31:46	Shawnie	Schields	None- I am a parent of s	Goodland Kansas	I strongly disagree with school starting late and masks being required. If parents want to keep their children home and homeschool until covid is gone then the school system should support that. If parents want their kids to wear masks then those kids should be allowed to but it shouldn't be required for all children. If masks are required for school aged kids a lot of parents will homeschool, including myself. Give responsibility back to the parents.
7/21/2020 10:31:48	Jeffrey	Haaga		Abilene	I support the Governors order to keep schools closed until September for the safety of the kids, teachers, and Kansans as a whole. Please support the Governor so we can make one step forward and not continue to go backwards. I have 4 siblings that attend public schools in Abilene and Iola schools and their health is important to me.
7/21/2020 10:32:02	Danele	Wendland		Greenleaf, KS	Our county has only had 1 case of Covid. It makes more sense to start school in August then later as we start getting closer to flu, strep, more sickness season. The students social and emotional needs have been jeopardized since last March. It is time to get them back in the schools.
7/21/2020 10:32:03	Sarah	Uher	parent	Manhattan	I support the EO to delay school opening. We need to have a downward trend in COVID-19 cases. Also, many towns, like MHK, will have large population migrations for college and University openings. Delaying K-12 reopening will help to stagger disease spread.
7/21/2020 10:32:13	Peggy	Murnahan	My family	Topeka	If the Governor has already mandated that everyone has to wear a mask at school, which is going to be a FIASCO in itself, then I see no feasible reason why the kids have to be delayed and stunted even further by delaying school another 4 weeks.
7/21/2020 10:32:17	Jamie	Graham	Parent to two Blue Valle	Overland Park	I fully support Governor Kelly's order and our family is fully prepared to do whatever is the safest thing, not just for our family, but for those teachers, staff and others who may be most vulnerable. We feel strongly that this is a short amount of time in the big scheme of things and that the data (hopefully numbers will go down with mask wearing) will help guide the experts as to when is the best time to resume in person learning. It isn't easy teaching a 1st and 3rd grader from home, but something we will do proudly if it keeps others safe and well. Please make the right choice, and help keep our loved ones and vulnerable populations well. We can all do this together. Thanks for your thoughtful consideration and service. Jamie Graham

7/21/2020 10:32:21	Janice	Cunningham		Shawnee	Extend the Public schools start date until the Covid virus is at a "safe number" for all to return to normal activity.
7/21/2020 10:32:22	Kimberly	Martin	USD 447	Cherryvale	I would like to see the start of school delayed because we have rising cases in our county and surrounding counties. The last thing we want to do is go back only to be shut down.
7/21/2020 10:32:28	Lydia	Ottley		Oakley	I think the delay start is good idea as the virus is running high right now. I also think that it doesn't matter if we start in August or September it's still going to be around! I don't want my child to have to wear a mask! He's only 5 and hates it, it's also going to be a huge distraction for him and other.
7/21/2020 10:32:29	Tammy	De La Rosa	USD 204	Olathe	I support delaying the start of school until September 9th, but having admin and teachers return in August. This time could be put to great use for planning and involving teachers in the return to school procedures and planning.
7/21/2020 10:32:31	Glenn	Brands	Parent and Coach	Almena	Open school on time and as scheduled or allow local boards to decide.
					<p>Good morning,</p> <p>I am writing to ask you to support Governor Kelly's mandate to delay the opening of schools until after Labor Day.</p> <p>I am a school psychologist in Blue Valley, as well as one of the leaders of our district's crisis team. I want nothing more than to support my students and school community in person this fall. I want to look my students in the eye and ask them "how are you?" I want to hug my co-workers whom I miss immensely. I want to meet with parents in my office and help them navigate their teenager's mental health needs.</p> <p>However, I vehemently feel that we, the state of Kansas, are not at a safe place to do any of the above listed things. Numbers are surging daily. The state is on several other state's quarantine lists. The data is repeatedly demonstrating, day after day, that we are not prepared to safely open schools.</p> <p>We cannot ask our staff and students to risk their lives, or long term health, in order to meet a timeline. As a coordinator of my district's crisis team, I can tell you first hand that the death of a staff member or peer significantly effects the whole school community in so many ways. It's devastating beyond words. I am fearful of the long term impacts on our schools when members of the community (staff and/or students) die due to COVID-19 complications.</p> <p>I'm also a mom to an 8 month old and the wife of a pediatrician. I don't want to choose between the safety of my family and a career that I love so much. I have witnessed all of the safety precautions and PPE that my husband has had to incorporate into his practice. I am thankful the medical community is making choices that are best for their staff and their patients. I am not confident that school staff will be protected in the same ways, when in all actuality, we will be at a much higher risk based on face-to-face time with students and other staff.</p> <p>Please make the safe choice for Kansans and continue distance learning for our students until a vaccine or approved treatment is widely available.</p>
7/21/2020 10:32:32	Emily	Demo	I work in Blue Valley US	Overland Park	
7/21/2020 10:32:43	Morgan	Rochel		Gardner	<p>I have thought long and hard about school and how the rest of this year is going to impact our family. Brutally honest....my family is suffering. I have 3 boys (9, 5, 5), they are social bugs. Since March I have watched my boys change from happy social kids to unhappy frustrated lonely kids. My boys literally cried when they found out they wouldn't get to finish out their school year and had to learn from home. That was another struggle all together. We have the resources to do it from home....my kids just don't learn well from the home environment. They need school, friends, and activities.</p> <p>I am ok with school being pushed a few weeks but I don't want it to be pushed to September. I also don't want to see it get pushed to a new start date then we arrive at the start date and we are right back here fighting to get school started again.</p> <p>I am however AGAINST mandatory masks and hand sanitizing. What happened to building children's immunity? I haven't made my boys wear a mask this whole time...nor do I bathe my boys in hand sanitizer when we are out and about. I don't want my boys being afraid to go to school because they are spoon fed masks are the only thing saving them and hand sanitizer what's best for them. I know what's best for my children and if masks are made mandatory they will be home schooled until masks are no longer required.</p>

7/21/2020 10:32:43	Matthew	Crane	Student usd233	Lenexa	I would like school to start after Labor Day in the building with masks, temperature checks, and socially distant when possible because I feel that it is easier to learn in person rather than through a screen.
7/21/2020 10:33:01	Matt	Bailey		Wichita	Open the schools. Society will have to learn to live with virus, like we have with other illnesses
7/21/2020 10:33:06	Maurya	McLellan		Leawood	Schools should be able to start on time with virtual learning option for those that do not want to attend in person.
7/21/2020 10:33:08	Amber	Pankratz	USD 253–Emporia Sch	Emporia	Please support our Governor in delaying the start of school until after Labor Day to give more time to better prepare for schooling during this pandemic safely. The safety of all is most important. We should not be going back to in-person until it's actually safe to do so. We can do remote learning until it's safe to do so.
7/21/2020 10:33:13	Melissia	Go	Blue valley school distri	Overland Park	Our area has been hit hard by the virus. As a secondary special education teacher I am concerned about my school's preparedness to go back safely while cases are surging. My hope is that cases will begin to decrease, I will receive additional training on the districts cleaning agents and will have additional time to rearrange my classroom in order to promote social distancing. Many of my students are unable to wear masks because of their disabilities, therefore their health and safety lands on myself and my staff's ability to run a clean efficient classroom. I do not want myself, my staff or students to die due to unpreparedness. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 10:33:17	Catherine	Pauscher		Wichita	I support delaying the opening of schools in Kansas until after Labor Day for the safety of all people involved—students, teachers, custodians, office staff.
7/21/2020 10:33:24	Elizabeth	Crane	Student USD233	Lenexa	I would like school to start right after Labor Day in the school building with masks, temperature checks, and socially distancing when possible. Learning in a school building in the presence of others with live instruction is very helpful to me and I feel that I get a better education when I am in school.
7/21/2020 10:33:24	Derek	Goon	USD 259	Wichita	Schools should not open up physically until it is safe for all people who would be in a building, both adults and children. Safe means no community spread in a particular city. This decision needs to be based on science and scientific guidance and not how an individual feels or political affiliation.
7/21/2020 10:33:25	Ana	Houghton		Meriden and Topeka	School should not be in session if it is not safe enough for children to go without a mask. This is absolutely ridiculous. Sending children back would be a complete disregard for their mental and emotional wellbeing, not to mention the obvious health concerns. If our children come first, as they should since they are THE FUTURE, we need to keep them out of school until it is safe to do so without a shield or covering. Small children will not follow a mask rule. What will the punishment be for children not wearing their mask. What about exposures? If a teacher is exposed and doesn't find out for 2-3 days, an entire school would have to quarantine. It is best to wait until it is safe to return to life as normal.
7/21/2020 10:33:29	Melissa	Hamel	usd 305	SALINA	please follow the governors order to delay school until after labor day
7/21/2020 10:33:42	Cara	Coleman		Sunnyside School	I agree with the mandate and believe schools should be postponed until after Labor Day with further review at that time. We need to keep our children and teachers safe and healthy. We have a responsibility as a community to do this together!
7/21/2020 10:33:42	Caitlin	Thompson		Wichita	I agree with delaying school. I do not agree with children wearing masks for 8 hours a day. That in its self is not sanitary.
7/21/2020 10:33:43	Jeri	Cochran	Head Start	Basehor	I believe waiting until after Labor Day to open schools is a safe and smart proposal.
7/21/2020 10:33:47	Chad	Schilling		Hesston	I am not opposed to the delay in school starting. However, I don't understand why that needs to delay activities practices. Summer conditioning has been happening all summer already with little incident. If the delay happens I would like to see practices being able to happen as normal.
7/21/2020 10:33:52	Joel	Weide		Lindsborg	Please delay schools and give teachers and staff a chance to put together a good plan in order to teach kids during this pandemic. This is a public health emergency and should be treated as such.
7/21/2020 10:33:53	Lingling	Zhang		Hiawatha	We prefer online school to keep my kids safe
7/21/2020 10:33:59	Chrystiana	Miller	Goessel Elementary Sch	Goessel	I support the delay in school starting. We need the extra time! Staff hasn't had a chance to meet together to get on the same page to have consistent, building wide expectations. This will allow us to make decisions based on the health and safety of students AND staff, not just quick decisions because we're crunched for time. Not to mention we have a new Principal/Superintendent who is trying to sort thru it all and make decisions for our district. I would prefer we not have to add two weeks to the end of the school year in May, but would make it work if that is our consequence.

7/21/2020 10:34:01	Tina	Bellows	Parent	Garden City	Schools should open at their scheduled time. Districts have made plans and your board has given guidance to open safely. Children need to be in school for their mental, educational and physical health. Teachers are essential workers just as healthcare worker and many others that have worked through the whole pandemic. Activities should also start on time. This is a ridiculous power grab by the governor. Please stand with the kids of Kansas. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 10:34:08	James	Keeler	Concerned parent	Wichita	Delay and/or find a hybrid solution to use current staff and facilities in crucial ages or a rotating basis while others complete online.
7/21/2020 10:34:11	Melissa	Jacobs	Skyline Schools	Pratt	I full agree to halt all school activities until after Labor Day. Thank you for considering the students' well being. Have a great day.
7/21/2020 10:34:12	Misty	Mildenberger	Public schools	Oakley, KS	Late start is a great idea but to make our children wear masks will be devastating to their learning! I think we should take each and everyone's temperatures EVERY DAY and promote each class to wash hands before and after each class!!
7/21/2020 10:34:15	Robyn	Hilt	Garden City High School	Garden City	I am a high school teacher we need time to plan & adjust curriculum, clean & organize our spaces for distance learning. I am pleading for the board to vote for the executive order. This is definitely a voting issue for me.
7/21/2020 10:34:17	Hannah	Reichert	USD 308	Hutchinson	I think schools need the extra time to prepare. An extra two weeks would give schools adequate time to prepare the best possible conditions for students and teachers.
7/21/2020 10:34:20	Jane	Fergus		Lawrence	I fully support Governor Kelly's decision to delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 10:34:32	Jerrilyn	Hendrickson	My family	Clifton	We are in favor of delaying the start of school.
7/21/2020 10:34:41	Katie	Hartley	USD#465	Winfield	As both a teacher and a parent to a preschooler and 2nd grader I sincerely hope that you will support our governor by voting "yes" to delay the opening of the state's K-12 schools until after Labor Day. With Covid-19 cases currently increasing, I do not feel it is safe for the health of our students or staff to return to school in person at this time. More time would allow us to hopefully flatten the curve. Please do not put our families and our communities at risk until we have a plan and time to get supplies needed that will guarantee the safety of all involved in our schools. Our schools are the center of our communities and it is vital for them to reopen safely for the sake of our communities and state!
7/21/2020 10:34:42	Eddy	Wibright		St. John	I am a retired, forty year teaching veteran. I stand with Governor Kelly on her decision to delay schools starting now and/or in the future. She is doing her best to keep all Kansans safe in spite of many obstacles. This will not be forever, but for now, it is not possible to open schools safely!
7/21/2020 10:34:43	Jamie	kessler		olathe	Please support GOVERNOR KELLY'S executive order and protect my children and their teachers.

					<p>I will keep this short:  Please follow the guidance of the Governor in delaying the start of school. Let's not open schools for the sake of opening when we have rising cases in our state, even in rural communities. I understand &amp; agree that there should be local control, however, these are unprecedented times that call for leadership. Allowing districts to make their own decision on whether to open as planned or not does not work in this situation. There are school districts that have buildings in multiple counties. Those counties follow different rules. Which county should the district follow? There are districts that have students that reside in different counties within the district boundaries. These counties follow different guidelines. One county is phase out, another with more restricted guidelines. Students are coming from different environments and would be integrating with others. The ones who were following stricter guidelines are now around those who were not &amp; now bringing exposures home. An argument for that could be that families can choose to learn remotely. To be honest, I don't want to have to make that decision. If there are students going back in person, I don't want to further restrict my students. It will be a battle of "that's not fair, so &amp; so gets to". I also feel in an ideal situation, that in person would be best. I don't WANT my children to learn from home. I WANT them to be at school with their teachers &amp; peers. I just don't feel right now is the right choice. We all need to be on the same page doing the same thing. You also have parents that live in 1 county, kids go to school in another county, but then work in a completely different county. If you let districts choose when to start school with advice from their county health officials, you could potentially put families in a huge scheduling nightmare. They can have children attending different school districts. So one child has this schedule &amp; another child has a different schedule. Please make this more streamlined &amp; everyone starting together....later. We need to get cases down across the state so it becomes (or stays depending on your situation) safe. When you have families operating in multiple counties, the virus will spread even more across county lines. So now, a less populated county with less case numbers will see increases. Please consider the safety of your staff, students, and families these children will be exposed to. Please delay the start of school.</p>
7/21/2020 10:34:51	Amy	Meyer	Parent, related service p	Rural Kansas town	
7/21/2020 10:34:54	Stacey	Donahue	Teacher	Wichita	Please delay school until after Labor Day. It will give us time to figure things out. Thank you.



					<p>COVID-19 cases in the state of Kansas are at an all time high. Despite state mandates, many people are refusing to wear masks, and the spread of this virus has not slowed. Even considering the newest mandate from Gov. Kelly regarding masks in school, there is no way to guarantee that every individual will wear their mask constantly or correctly - as already seen by citizens everywhere and every day.</p> <p>Parents are notorious for sending children who are sick to school. With the highly contagious and rapid spreading virus of COVID-19, this is a particular concern for the 2020-2021 school year - especially with the extreme damage to health caused by the virus.</p> <p>Though typically children have a slightly lower rate of spreading or contracting COVID-19, they are not immune. There are several considerations with allowing children to return to school including endangering school staff such as Teachers, Administration, Custodial Staff, Food Service Staff and most importantly - the children. Classrooms in Kansas have a very large number of students already (especially in USD 259). There is no way for the students to social distance in the classroom, much less in passing periods, lunchrooms, gyms, assemblies, and after school activities. Additionally, trying to get children to consistently adhere to pre-existing dress codes is a known constant struggle.</p> <p>There is no guarantee that each and every student would wear their mask constantly or correctly - especially Elementary school students. Due to the asymptomatic nature of COVID-19, any of the students or staff could be spreading the virus completely unaware. Parents could send children who have tested positively to COVID-19 without informing the school. Kansas schools should not open until the Board of Education has a plan in place that would guarantee social distancing throughout the entire school day, including hallways and classrooms. Additionally protections need to be in place for teachers having paid sick leave if they are forced to quarantine due to one of their students testing positively for COVID-19. Schools of students who test positively for COVID-19 should be notified immediately by the healthcare facility that did the testing so that parents can not just take their child to school anyway. If you cannot enforce each and every one of these safety considerations (and most likely add more) then it is the responsibility of the Kansas Board of Education to postpone or cancel, or greatly alter, in classroom teaching for the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>Thank you for your time</p>
7/21/2020 10:34:58	Alexis	Goldwater		Wichita	
7/21/2020 10:35:01	Ben	Hammock	None	Shawnee	Governor Kelly is making great decisions for Kansans during this pandemic, I completely support her and so should the board.
7/21/2020 10:35:04	Emma	Coad	student of olathe school	lenexa	I would like to attend school in person this fall. students that don't want to attend in person should stay home!
7/21/2020 10:35:10	Danielle	Rebant		Sabetha KS	My kids (grades 4, 2 and K) are excited for school to start up and get back within the walls of their buildings. Especially in a small, rural community where there have been less than 40 cases in 5 months, I feel safe sending my kids to school. If the teachers need more time in our district to prepare and put regulations into place, then I see no harm in delaying school a week or 2. I do fear that the longer we delay, that the Governor will continue to make mandates and try to keep kids out. The teachers need resources - in many forms - that is my concern more than Covid. Do they have the right supplies, do they have mental health support, do they have resources for online learning (because it has to look different than last spring)? Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 10:35:11	Susan	Aulgur	Me a Kansas resident	Overland Park	We should follow the order provided by Governor Kelly. I appreciate this order as thoughtful and based on facts and science. While we all would like for our children to return to school we have to ensure the conditions are safe. Cases are rising and this not only impacts children but teachers and school employees. Do the right thing!
7/21/2020 10:35:20	Angela	Krueger	Public School Teacher	Topeka	Please do what must be done to get ALL children back in school full time to preserve their emotional and mental health, as well as meet their social and academic needs! Their parents are overwhelmed and unprepared to meet these needs. Families are hurting and need the support of their government and schools! They NEED these two institutions to function as they were designed to!

7/21/2020 10:35:20	Lisa	Kolm		Pratt	<p>Our Kansas leadership talks about keeping kids 'safe'. Certainly, we want to keep kids and teachers safe from covid but at what price? Data shows the transmission rate is low from child-to-child; low from child-to-adult. Given that the transmission rate is low, the unintended consequences seem a very high price to pay. Those unintended consequences of school closures to include: food insecurity, abuse, trauma, obesity, loneliness, mental health issues. If one is truly concerned about safely, it should encompass the overall well-being of a child--not just 'covid safety'. It feels like we're 'sacrificing' our kids in other ways in order to keep them covid-safe.....though transmission rate and risk is low for the K-12 age group.</p> <p>Reference presentation by Children's Mercy Kansas City:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&amp;v=WNh_D2a-VJk&amp;fbclid=IwAR3TP0LhypL03ZxZI54-qAUoIIDSxeWhygX9B46T2DO2QkiVC7gF6qnL_AE&amp;app=desktop">https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&amp;v=WNh_D2a-VJk&amp;fbclid=IwAR3TP0LhypL03ZxZI54-qAUoIIDSxeWhygX9B46T2DO2QkiVC7gF6qnL_AE&amp;app=desktop</a></p> <p>In Gov. Kelly's July 15 press conference, she stated, "the board (Kansas Board of Education) and I are united in prioritizing the health of our students....". Certainly, that would be the mission, however, no one seems to be talking about the unintended consequences part---which is part of their overall health. As you consider your vote to approve or reject the governors order, I humbly ask for you to make a FACT-BASED decision that considers the non-educational and social-emotional impacts and weighs that price tag against the covid risk factors for children.</p> <p>Kids need school SO much. In delaying and without in-person school and activities, I do hope the Kansas Board of Education considers ways to mitigate and 'flatten the curve' on the mental health risks our youth may be further experiencing. Many youth are already really struggling right now.</p>
7/21/2020 10:35:20	Guy	Martinat	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park, Kansas	The delay of Kansas schools until after Labor Day is a decision that must be passed. It would allow sufficient time for school districts to prepare for the new mandates that were put into action Monday. Getting the required resources, training teachers, and developing protocols is key for the successful reopening of schools. If schools reopen in August without time to adequately prepare, they will be closed again by Labor Day. Students and staff safety must be a priority. Learning can only occur in an environment which students feel safe.
7/21/2020 10:35:32	Tia	Massey	USD 262	Valley Center	Please APPROVE schools starting AFTER Labor Day!! Our district needs time to plan and prepare and our county needs our numbers to decrease.
7/21/2020 10:35:45	Sylvia	Polly		Salina	I feel like with the proper safety measures school can re-open. My students need not only the education but socialization and many other benefits gained from attending school. They do not benefit from staying home and doing online classes and I feel those who do not feel comfortable sending their students have been offered to allow them to continue their education online. I work in the medical field and I know with proper cleaning and precautions there is minimal risk to students and their families, no more than when we go to the grocery store.
7/21/2020 10:35:50	Cindy	Kearns	Meadow View USD506	Parsons	Please support Gov. Kelly's order to delay the start of school. She is considering the safety of both students and staff with this decision. It also allows time for teachers to better prepare for this unusual school year. Local school boards do not always have members with enough knowledge of school systems to make such important decisions.
7/21/2020 10:35:54	K	D	self	Colby	DO NOT DELAY OPENING SCHOOLS!!!! KIDS WILL HAVE BEEN OUT FOR 6 MONTHS!!!! This is NOT a blanket approach. Leave it the COUNTIES!!!
7/21/2020 10:36:02	Jitka	Durman		Pittsburg	I'm against delaying school. Kids need to interact with peers. Depression and abuse is on the rise. For a lot of kids that grow in poverty and others school is a safe place where they get breakfast and lunch. Please reopen the schools without delay
7/21/2020 10:36:04	Erin	Meile		Olathe	As a teacher who is at high risk of COVID complications, I appreciate this order and the fact that it gives schools the time to do the things they need to do to keep teachers, students and families safe.
7/21/2020 10:36:10	Sarah	Barkley		Overland Park	I support Governor Kelly's decision to delay the start of school. She clearly has the safety of our most vulnerable in mind as well as the safety of teachers and school staff. We are in the middle of a surge that is far worse than it was back in March when schools closed initially. While I would love my incoming first-grader to start learning with her friends and new teachers safety is the top priority!!!
7/21/2020 10:36:13	Elizabeth	Brake	Parent	Wichita, Kansas	Yes! Please open schools with safety procedures in place!

7/21/2020 10:36:19	Maya	Williamson	Williamson Family	Wichita	I strongly oppose the bill mandating that my children wear face masks in school all day. This will be more detrimental to their health than any chance of getting sick all year. We do not know the long term effects of breathing in our own CO2 constantly, day after day! Studies have also shown that cloth masks start to build up bacteria and mold within 30 minutes of constant wear. Studies also show that masks are largely ineffective of protecting us and others from the Corona virus. I feel that school should start on time and in person with out the restrictive use of face masks!!!
7/21/2020 10:36:24	Deena	Lampe		Kingman	VOTE NO TO FACEMASK IN SCHOOL
7/21/2020 10:36:27	Pam	Wolford		Parsons	I wholly, fully support the Governor's Executive Order to delay the opening of school.
7/21/2020 10:36:34	Lisa	McGowan	Parent	Pratt	Send the kids to school
7/21/2020 10:36:35	Marcy	Gansel		Hill City	I believe it is in the best interests of our children and their teachers to postpone school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 10:36:35	Ryan	Imhof		Colby	Don't delay start. Get them back in school per regular schedule.
7/21/2020 10:36:50	Brian	Bollinger	me	Paola	As you decide whether or not to allow schools to open on time, please consider all of the factors. As a teacher, I feel that it's important that the kids in our state are able to receive the best instruction available. I believe that getting kids back into the schools will help that to happen. The sooner the better. Districts have been working since March to put plans in place so that they can serve the students and parents in their communities best. By mandating that schools not open, that will require districts to, once again, adjust what they have been preparing for 5 months. Please, let the plans that the districts have been working on play out. Most, if not all, districts have been working on plans for in-school and distance learning options that would serve their communities best. They put these together knowing the specific needs of the students and parents in their communities. When you vote, please trust that the people making decisions about education in every district in Kansas are making the best choices and offering the best options for the people of their communities.
7/21/2020 10:36:53	Briana	Shepard		Hoisington	Our kids need to get back to school and to "normal routine". Some of these kids only get love, attention, and food at school. We are not benefiting our children in any way by keeping them out of school longer. Please consider getting back in school before September.
7/21/2020 10:36:57	Debbie	Gravenstein		Ness City	Open the schools. Be attentive to the requirements being made... our district/county have had only 5 a symptomatic cases; all that should be taken into consideration when recommending/mandating rules. It's sad to see the kids so down because they can't go to school or be with their friends! And I hope high school sports can return to our 'community'. We can't stop living and live with fear! Fear or faith.....and common sense.
7/21/2020 10:37:00	Dustin	Mullin	USD 379	Clay Center	I would like to express my opposition to the governor's executive order delaying the start of school until Sept. 9. The board needs to make a risk/benefit analysis of this decision and in doing so I believe must come to the conclusion that any benefit associated with a 3 week delay in the start of school does not even come close to out weighing the difficulty that this places on districts. I would ask that you please vote to not approved the Governor's Order. Thank you for you consideration.
7/21/2020 10:37:07	Rabecca	Henderson		Junction City	Our family is in agreement with the Governors decision to delay school until after Labor Day. Also we would encourage you to possibly extend that time past that. Our Schools still are not ready to implement the safety requirements you are setting forth. More time means more safety for our Schhol staff and also our children.
7/21/2020 10:37:13	Shelby	McBride		Basehor	I am not opposed to postponing face to face school until Sep 8, however I do not feel it is necessary to restrict fall sports from starting practice/competition. Most districts, ours included, have successfully been conducting practices since the beginning of June with no community spread. We had one coach test positive, was exposed in a social setting, but due to proper safety protocols, masks and coaches social distancing, there was no spread. We have been at basketball camps & tournaments for several weekends, also with no problems. To put a halt to something that is already operating successfully, just doesn't make any logical sense. Postponing school starting may make sense just to make sure schools are fully prepared, however I tend to think this should be decided at the district level. Some have been preparing for this for months and are positioned better to open now, while others may need the extra time.
7/21/2020 10:37:20	Matthew	French-Bravo		Andover	I strongly encourage the Board to support the Governor's recommendations to delay the start of the K-12 school year. Thank you for supporting the health and well-being of Kansans.

7/21/2020 10:37:23	Lisa	DeFever		Overland Park	I do not see the value in delaying school. I would like to see us adopt to a similar schedule as the colleges have planned. I understand it's a difficult situation but we have to do right by these kids in a lot of different ways. Let's get them back in a safe learning environment.
7/21/2020 10:37:23	Melissa	McGill	USD 348 & resident/par	Gardner	I am in total favor of delaying the start of academics to allow us time obtain the proper ppe and plan for our own and students safety and health. That being said, our district is doing great at keeping the HS students distanced during workouts. Please delay competition, but do NOT cancel these workouts. They have been vital in helping the mental health of my children. Thank you!!
7/21/2020 10:37:24	Sierra	Landoll		Marysville	We truly feel like it is a great idea to wait to open schools as covid is making a huge strike again. I have 2 kids in school and one at home. Both kids will attend different schools this year and be exposed to so many different people and at home my two-year-old has a compromised immune system so it greatly scares me as to what they could bring home.
7/21/2020 10:37:37	Robi	Murray	Parent	Lawrence	Please let the kids continue to practice sports even if we are not in school
7/21/2020 10:37:39	Cathy	Holtorf	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	I am a 4th grade teacher and mother of 4 school-aged children. I am very concerned about the possibility of being fully open as originally scheduled. My 4 kids are at 3 different schools (Elementary, Middle, and High) and their step brother is at a different elementary school. Their dad teaches at a different high school, and his wife is high-risk (Cystic Fibrosis). My boyfriend teaches at yet another middle school in a nearby district and is also high risk (high blood pressure). Between all of us, we will be exposed to countless people on a daily basis. Due to the current upward trend of cases in the area, I think it is unwise and downright dangerous to put every one (students, AND staff) back in to schools this early. I am asking that we wait for the curve to flatten out before going back to schools in person, and that we have access to better safety measures before we think of putting all of these people together. It is my understanding that BOE meetings have been conducted virtually. If the board sees it too dangerous to put a small number of people in a room for a brief meeting, it should not be okay to put hundreds or thousands of people back into schools. I ask that you please listen to teachers' legitimate concerns over parents who just want to "take a break" from their kids. WE are the ones who will suffer. Who will take care of us when we get sick and die from this? Thank you for considering.
7/21/2020 10:37:46	Michelle	Friedrich		Clay center	My child needs to go back to school even if they need to wear a mask
7/21/2020 10:37:52	Meredith	R		Andover	I support all delays to the school year or switching to online learning as long as necessary
7/21/2020 10:37:52	Shafeek	Blackwell	USD259	WICHITA	Schools should remain closed until public health officials can provide more evidence of keeping Students, Teachers, and Faculty safe. Covid numbers are high and continue to rise in Kansas. Safety should be the main priority.
7/21/2020 10:37:57	Ruth	Goertzen	Concerned community r	Goessel	Yes, by all means, delay the start of school until September 8! Give schools time to reorganize and this virus time to slow down. This is a no brainer! Please follow the governor's recommendation to delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 10:38:02	Bethany	Jessup	USD 325	Phillipsburg	I am not concerned about hold off school until after Labor Day other than how it will effect the students taking dual credit college classes. With colleges starting sooner and extending breaks how will that work with K-12 being pushed back? Also, if the governor pushes it back once will she continue to do so? Our kids need to be in school if at all possible with state safety recommendations, not mandates. Kids are going to play with masks no matter how old they are. We have a small enough school social distancing is possible. The hand sanitizer mandate is going to cause dry, cracked, and bleeding hands besides the issue of allergies that cause allergic reactions. If we are putting in all other kinds of recommendations it would be more beneficial for the kids overall health to change the mandates to social distance without masks unless 6ft cannot be maintained and hand washing. Each school district needs to be able to do what is best for its area.
7/21/2020 10:38:03	Jennifer	Cody	Educator	Rose Hill	I hope we are able to get school started (as regular as possible with precautions to keep everyone safe) as soon as possible with a back up plan if numbers get worse. Kids have been gathering all summer in groups, at ball tournaments, etc and need to be in school with as normal of a schedule as possible.
7/21/2020 10:38:08	Melody	Cole	Self-Employed	Lenexa	I have my Masters Degree in Public Health and understand that we are in a health crisis and agree with Gov Kelly's recommendations to delay the opening of Kansas School's until after Labor Day giving school officials more time to develop a learning plan that keeps our children, their families and school staff safe. Please vote in favor of her recommendations.

7/21/2020 10:38:13	Patricia	Klima	USD 453	Olathe	Delaying the start of school only makes sense as we try to get this pandemic under control. When school begins however, we must either begin with a hybrid model or completely online. We cannot resume as "normal".
7/21/2020 10:38:17	Bill	Fargo		Colwich	Let school districts decide start date. HS kids have been practicing together all summer. No need to have a 3 week break and delay competition.
7/21/2020 10:38:20	Fiord	Sorell		Olathe	I don't want the school year delayed. I want my kids to be able to go to school.
7/21/2020 10:38:24	Shannon	Stuckert		Hutchinson	Please support our governor and our state teachers by voting yes to delaying schools opening until after Labor Day for the safety and health of all involved.
7/21/2020 10:38:27	Nancy	Nicolay		Prairie Village	Please delay in person school until numbers have decreased for weeks
7/21/2020 10:38:35	Jamie	Ross	BVSD	Overland Park	My son will be in 1st grade and I am scared to send him back to school so early. Please take the health of our children seriously during this time.
7/21/2020 10:38:38	Kelly	Crane	Parent USD 233	Lenexa	I would like to see in school learning resume after Labor Day, with masks, hand washing, hand sanitizer and social distancing (when possible). Even if it means a staggered or modified schedule. The value of live instruction is immeasurable. Thank you for taking my and others responses into consideration.
7/21/2020 10:38:38	Amy	Schmidt	Parent	Overland Park	Please open the schools;
7/21/2020 10:38:41	Pam	McGlynn	self	Manhattan	<p>I am in full support of Governor Kelly delaying the start of the school year until after Labor Day. Here in Manhattan we are experiencing a spike in cases. It is the worst situation we have been in since the pandemic started back in March. Communities need time to try to get the cases down before opening the schools. We now have a citywide mask order in place which should help us.</p> <p>USD 383 is still formulating their plans for the academic year and parents are faced with choosing 100% in-person instruction or 100% remote learning. This is a gut wrenching decision for a parent. Having more time to bring the local cases down before opening schools is a good thing. The extra time gives me hope that we can safely send the kids back to in-person classes.</p> <p>Do not override the Governor's Executive Order on delaying the start of school. Do not take away our chance at safety.</p>
7/21/2020 10:38:44	Stacia	Baer	USD 336	Topeka	As a teacher and a parent it is beyond me how we, as Kansans, can even think to take a chance with the lives our children. So much is still unknown about this virus, but we do know that cases are on the rise. Students will not be harmed in delaying the start of school by three weeks, but they could very well be harmed by rushing them back into a place of learning we know to be unsafe. I work in Holton and live in Topeka. I have a son with asthma, a mother with diabetes, a father with heart disease, and I have asthma myself. I beg you, please do the right thing and give schools the time needed to open safely.
7/21/2020 10:38:45	Gloria	Jacob	none/ retired teacher	Lawrence	I support Gov. Kelly's plan to re-open school after labor day. Hopefully, our numbers of new infections will be going down by then. As a retired teacher with 30+ years of experience in elementary education, I know first hand the amount of preparation and planning it takes to open schools each year. Many teachers will start weeks ahead of time getting their classrooms ready, because meetings and conferences will take up much of the time during the work days teachers have before school starts. All summer I have been thinking about how today's teachers will prepare covid safe classrooms. It is overwhelming! So much planning and physical classroom changes, My heart goes out to all school personnel. Such difficult decisions must be made. Please remember, many staff members were not allowed in the school building when they were closed in March. Also remember that our teachers worked so hard with little prep time to manage on-line teaching. Please- allow school to be delayed until after labor day so that all can return safely and we a little more prepared for what will be an extraordinarily difficult opening.

7/21/2020 10:38:53	Michelle	Alquist		Clay Center	I personally think we need to start school when we were supposed to because if they are correct we do not need to be delaying school starting and end with a short semester when the cold and flu season starts up. If we get started then the kids have a chance to get as much as they can in the classroom. Holding off the start is just going to cause increased problems. Being a nurse I hate to see what the issues will be when the flu/allergy seasons hit and everyone jumps to the conclusion that the child has COVID. We need guidance on how that will be handled. My son is a SR and has severe asthma and allergies and I still feel the best place for him is to be in school to be educated in person not on line and to participate in the activities sports and clubs he loves.
7/21/2020 10:39:06	Lindsay	Hodapp	K-12 parent	Atchison	<p>Atchison is a small college community. Benedictine College will welcome about 1,800 students back to campus on August 8th. These students come from states all across the country including Florida, Arizona, and Texas.</p> <p>In the last week, our county has seen an increased in the number of community spread related cases. Delaying the start of the public schools will allow all college towns across Kansas to assess the situation in each community before adding to the problem. We are lucky to have a small hospital in our county. However, the number of college students who will be moving in this August and possible bring new cases of the virus to our community could easily overwhelm their services. Stressing the system and limiting resources for our community.</p> <p>Over 65% of the students in USD 409 district receive free and reduced lunch. Meanwhile, our local community health clinic, who meets the health needs of many of these families, has been unable to acquire Covid-19 testing supplies to this date (July 21st).</p> <p>As cases continue to rise, teachers and school need extra time to prepare for the multiple ways education could proceed this fall. This is not situation as normal. Local plans must be made in an ever changing environment. Teachers cannot be expect to come back from break ready to make all of these adaptations on a moments notice. Many teaching strategies and lessons will need modifications to meet the needs of social distancing.</p> <p>I noticed in a picture of the State School Board meeting room that all board members are separated by plexiglas. What will classrooms look like? Are we willing to protect our children and teachers in the same way? A rush to return to normal in a degrading situation is a pipe dream. Protecting our children and teachers should be the priority at this moment.</p> <p>I call on the board members to support Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-58. Give the schools time to do this right. The risks are too high. The death of one child or teacher is too high a price to pay for pretending that everything is back to normal. The children will be ok if we delay.</p>
7/21/2020 10:39:14	Jasmin	Beckman	Parent	Manhattan	I'd like to wait and see until after Labor Day. Cases are rising. Schools in Europe only started with 50% of students and had way lower cases then here. Let the mask mandate work and see if cases go down. Give schools more time to work out specifics. Watch other states that did open before us to see what worked and what did not.
7/21/2020 10:39:16	Leeann	Peck	Blue valley schools	Kansas city	I urge those voting to uphold the governors mandate to delay the in person opening of schools. Until our cases are trending down for a significant duration of time, being in a school building with hundreds of people is not a safe place for anyone to be. Also as a special educator who serves students who often tear my clothing, spit on me, and aggress towards me, I don't feel safe returning in person until we have a better handle on the virus.
7/21/2020 10:39:17	Dixon	Jowers		Emporia	There is currently a 50x greater chance for a person under the age of 25 to die by drowning as opposed to Covid-19.
7/21/2020 10:39:19	Kathy	Barnett	USD443 District 5	Dodge City	Do not delay school until after Labor Day. School won't get out until June and we will be in harvest by then. So many families will be affected.
7/21/2020 10:39:24	Hannah	Dreiling		Wichita	I'm a teacher and I am in favor of reopening after Labor Day, not only for the safety of my students, but also the safety of my 3 year old and newborn at home who could potentially be the recipients of whatever germs I bring home.

7/21/2020 10:39:25	Kimberly	Munk	Hoxie USD 412	Hoxie	I believe that the Board of Education should NOT delay the start of school. Lumping our small rural school in with big school districts is not the answer. Our local governments should have the power to make those decisions based on our community needs and how prevalent the virus is in OUR area and not just the rest of the state. Students need to return to school. Delaying the start of school is not going to do anything to slow the spread of the virus.
7/21/2020 10:39:25	Leah	Heskett	USD 412 Parent	Hoxie	Open our school on time. The kids deserve it! What's good for the East side of the state is not always good for the west! Tired of being lumped together. School 40 miles from Denver are having face to face school. They were hit harder than our area. Stop playing politics and let our local health department and school board decide.
7/21/2020 10:39:25	Kristy	Winter	Mom teacher	Olathe	If Gardner teachers have to teach virtually in their classrooms, please consider allowing us to bring our own children into our classrooms to help them with their online schooling.
7/21/2020 10:39:33	Mary	Cook	Substitute Teacher USD	Wichita	We must consider the safety of ALL students, teachers, staff and other district employees. The state of KS currently has a high rate of Covid within its larger cities. That rate is growing daily. I do not feel we are adequately prepared to stop the spread of Covid19 within these large group settings at school. Our hospitals are currently nearing capacity. Although it is paramount that our students return to school and their education, we must take ALL factors into consideration or face another large scale closure of schools. Above all, let's do this safely. I have Substituted for nearly 15 years. However, if schools are not opened in a safe manner, I will not be returning to Substitute. Many I have spoken with are in agreement.
7/21/2020 10:39:38	Fran	Moley		Unincorporated Johnson	The legislative branch exists for a reason. The executive exists for a reason. The governor taking legislative action is not a valid path in our republic. That being said, opening the schools should not come from the governor. The parents and teachers should be making this decision. My desire is to see the board reject this egregious action by the governor, but in turn pass the power to reopen to the individual districts with strong guidelines backed by valid science and interpretation of that science. The hype and misinformation is running rampant, and as such the truth is somewhere in the middle.  We are a government for and by the people, not by one person. The impact of this pandemic needs to be evaluated locally.
7/21/2020 10:39:38	Juli	Brown	Teacher	Basehor	I would like to see the delay in order to prepare our schools for a safe return. This 3 week period allows us to plan and implement what is decided. Please think of all of us!
7/21/2020 10:39:39	Kasey	Hostetler		Overland Park	Blue Valley families want IN SCHOOL SCHOOLING at the START OF THE YEAR. As long as it is IN SCHOOL by August/early September, that is what matters. IN SCHOOL SCHOOLING WITH OPTIONS FOR THOSE WHO DONT WANT TO GO. PERIOD. Thank you for hearing the voices of the families!!
7/21/2020 10:39:40	Zabrina	Maynard	Myself	Wichita	Please delay! Our household has several at risk people. We would love to be able to send our kids back, but only if cases are under control. We need that time!
7/21/2020 10:39:43	Janice	Carmichael me	Me	Olathe	Startschool now. For kids sake.
7/21/2020 10:39:44	Jason	Parmer	Colby public schools	Colby	Please do not delay the opening of schools if you allow this to happen what will the governor do next? Let them go to school and start sports!!
7/21/2020 10:39:49	john	puhr	ALLOW	kanopolis	ALLOW 20-58
7/21/2020 10:39:52	Natalie	Woods	Sunnyside elementary	Olathe	Please delay until Numbers go down
7/21/2020 10:39:57	Jolene	shove	uas 345	2030 NE MADISON 66	I am ok with delay as long as teachers/buildings are allowed (required) to be doing preparations. I think we need the extra time. Figuring out set-ups, practicing routines, we could have ALL of our PD days up front.

7/21/2020 10:40:02	Megan	Hagaman		Salina	<p>Please set politics aside and vote to uphold the executive order put forth by Governor Kelly. If we want to ensure that the Kansas economy can recover, schools can fully prepare to deliver instruction safely, and we have time to stop the spread of this virus it is essential that schools get the extra time to prepare and our state gets the extra time to try and flatten the spread. I see many people expressing that this should be a local control issue, however, pandemics don't just stay in one location. Part of the reason the virus has spread so far and so fast, is that different towns and cities have chosen different responses and that has enabled the spread. Extraordinary times call for actions that are uniform and that can best preserve lives. I for one, do not want to have students, staff. And teachers featured in memorium pages in their school yearbooks. I also understand that parents are frustrated because of their work schedules and child care needs. I too, am a parent, however it's going to be much more frustrating when schools have to close complete if we do not delay the start of the school year.</p>
7/21/2020 10:40:05	Fire	OP	EMS	Overland Park	<p>The ordeal started in March with one of Green's daughters, then the other shortly contracted it after they returned from a volleyball tournament in Colorado.</p> <p>"There was no test available for my daughters. They were sick but not near as sick as me and my wife," Green said.</p> <p>Green is also on the Johnson County Emergency Medical Science Advisory Board. It was before the shutdown, but he knew enough about symptoms to wonder if his daughters had come in contact with coronavirus.</p> <p>But soon, for him and his wife there'd be no doubt.</p> <p>"I was on a ventilator for 18 days. I was in the hospital for a month. When I woke up, I was unable to stand or walk," he said.</p> <p>He started physical therapy and about a month later was well enough to thank his caregivers with his family by his side. He returned to work about three weeks ago.</p> <p>"When I got COVID, I actually was working on departmental plans of how we were going to handle this," Green said.</p> <p>And three months later, perhaps because they saw their boss literally on what doctors thought was his death bed, he said the department is taking what he called very aggressive measures to stop the spread of the virus.</p> <p>"One of the first things that we do when we walk in the door, if you don't have a mask on, all of our patients, we are going to hand you a mask," he said.</p> <p>It's what they've always done for respiratory illness, but now it's a policy for patients citywide. The department is doing its own contact tracing for anyone who calls in sick with possible symptoms.</p>
7/21/2020 10:40:08	Michelle	Schmieding	Usd 259	Wichita, Ks	<p>As a parent and a school Speech Language Pathologist I'm concerned for my health and my kids health returning to school admits current Covid-19 numbers. In Sedgwick county the health official is looking at decreasing group size back to 15 and closing things again. It's easier for me in my position to do therapy virtually than try to do things with a mask on.</p> <p>Please consider the health of both staff and students in your decisions. Those of us who work in education are depending on you to keep us, our students and our families safe at this time.</p>
7/21/2020 10:40:09	Kaila	Schmidt	USD398	Wichita	<p>Please make the choice to keep us safe.</p> <p>Please approve the delay of K12 schools until after Labor Day! Protect our students, teachers, and school staff!</p>



7/21/2020 10:40:19	Stephanie	Simon	myself and my children	Syracuse	I have never understood why school starts so early here in the first place, as far as this year is concerned I believe it would be gross negligence to start any earlier than Sept 8th. The schools and teachers need time to prepare for the new guidelines set forth, not to mention needing to see if cases will still be going up or settling off. I am very worried about spread once school starts but I am also worried about bullying due to children hearing their parents views taking that to school and bullying kids for wearing or not wearing masks. Teachers need to be prepared to put their opinions aside and be ready to put their foot down on some issues they may not agree with, but now have to for the safety and mental stability of our youth, their families and the community we live it at large. Especially since most local governments and state governments will not. That is the truth of what has been laid on our teachers and school systems backs.
7/21/2020 10:40:22	Rachel	Brown		Basehor, KS	Do NOT open schools with rising cases! It's unsafe and will result to students and teachers dying. Please keep us safe. Our lives are in your hands.
7/21/2020 10:40:26	Nicole	Bollig		Lawrence	Please vote yes on 2058. Schools need the time to put their plans together to keep staff and students safe.
7/21/2020 10:40:37	Andrea	Scarborough	Educator - KCKPS	Lenexa, KS	Vote YES. We need the extra time for our districts to source PPE, Sanitizers, cleansers, etc. We also need time to train everyone to safely educate our kids if we have to be in-person. If we are to be teaching remotely, we need time to learn how to do it correctly - the stop-gap "teaching" we had to do in the spring was inadequate and most of us felt like we were drowning while we tried to keep up with the new platforms, technology, and responses from kids. We need more time than the four days of pre-service learning provided in our contracts to adequately prepare because this situation is so incredibly different from anything we have ever done in the schools. We just need more time to make learning meaningful for our kids. We need more time.
7/21/2020 10:40:40	Debbie	Fontana	Kansas School	Overland Park, KS	Please respect Gov. Kelly's input and keep in mind that we need to make sure we are hearing from teachers and staff on reopening. We are not in school a lot the first semester because of holiday breaks. Virtual learning can be done. Most of the ones making the decisions are not teachers, custodians, secretaries, etc. What about busing? Do you truly think taking temperatures everyday for 500-1,200 students is feasible. I don't care how many entrances you have. Do you think social distancing will not happen without mask in a high schools? Teachers will be fighting that, more then teaching. Plus students get side tracked with trying to focus and wear mask. Schools are a whole other animal. This happens once in a century. I know students need to be in school, but if it is not safe for anyone the need doesn't make sense. Please listen. Schools are so different from other businesses. If one child or one faculty member is lost, it's too many for such an unnecessary situation. Even if you offer both, in-person and virtual, it is going to be a mess. The parents will be outraged thinking the virtual are getting more then the in-person. The in-person is getting more then the virtual. This is a no win situation in my opinion and working in district for over 20+ years and 15 family members teachers and/or staff. There is so much more to this then just saying wait until September 8 to open. It gives three more weeks. It's not just about supplies. It's much, much more then that. Subs, teachers getting ill, students getting ill, busing, etc. Does the whole class quarantine when a teacher or student is positive? This is not easy. It is a life and death virus and happens once in a century. This is the time. Thank you.
7/21/2020 10:40:46	Tim	Hickman	Parent of student, spouse	Overland Park	Please uphold Gov Kelly's executive order 20-58 to delay starting school until after labor day. Teachers, staff and admin absolutely need the suggested additional time to make necessary preparations to keep our kids and our loved ones safe. This is not a political issue, this is a safety issue that helps protect our most vulnerable. Please vote to uphold delayed start to protect our kids and their teachers and admin who work incredibly hard every day. We owe it to them.
7/21/2020 10:40:48	Josie	Bahr	Parent of Kansas Student	Wichita	The BOE needs to comply with Governor Kelly's directives. She has our health and safety forefront on her mind. Her previous wise decisions regarding COVID have been excellent. The Kansas Legislature cares nothing for their constituents and seek only to oppose Gov Kelly at every turn for their own political gain.
7/21/2020 10:40:48	Elizabeth	Contreras		Wichita	I do not agree to delay school any longer, the children have asked for many classes, the children have the air to learn to live with this pandemic, and what they have learned is forgotten. Because online classes are not the same, they do not have the same interest, I agree with the plans they have and make sure as much as parents and teachers to which the students use the mask u all the time and correctly
7/21/2020 10:40:52	Cassie	White		Overland Park	I appreciate Governor Kelly pushing back the start of the school year. This gives the mask mandate time to work in decreasing cases and giving schools more time to prepare for kids coming into the school buildings.

7/21/2020 10:40:55	Kelly	Glanville	Parent & Teacher	Cottonwood Falls	Please support our Governor gives us 3 weeks to let masking take place for parents to fully prepare our children and allow the schools to fully prepare for the KSDE recommended changes to be safe. We as educators can the time that is required, I know this but I know preparation should not be rushed and time is on our side in this issue. Let us all prove we are the best for our children.
7/21/2020 10:40:57	Leah	Taylor		Prairie Village	My family is in 100% support that K-12 schools should hold off from in person classes until minimally 9/8 if not longer.
7/21/2020 10:40:58	Beth	Bacon		Wyandotte County	Please consider concern of large gatherings and travel over Labor Day Weekend. What about 14 day quarantine after last major holiday of the summer.
7/21/2020 10:41:05	Bruce	Lanter		Atchison	Schools need to be open.
7/21/2020 10:41:11	Austin + Sarah	Bruss	Secondary Educator In U	Overland Park	Good morning, Kansas State Board Members. I've appreciated the time you've taken to be thoughtful in your approach to giving us guidelines for the 2020-2021 school year. Education implementation is not the type of thing we want to rush, as our decisions will literally affect the lives of our students and their families. That being said, my wife and I are both secondary educators who support Governor Kelley's executive order to delay schools. Just as you have taken much time to be thoughtful in your guidelines, our district leaders and staff would greatly benefit from the extra time to be thoughtful in our implementation of those guidelines. Thank you for all that you do.
7/21/2020 10:41:14	Alichia	Van Slyke	Mother of student USD	Pratt KS	Please let school reside as usual and let the children practice and strength train. They need this physically, mentally, and emotionally!!!
7/21/2020 10:41:16	Kristin	Strathman		Centralia, Kansas	I believe the kids need to be in school. My kids do not learn at home. I am scared they will fall behind. I'm also totally against a mask. I feel it will do more harm for them than good. Thank you
7/21/2020 10:41:32	Billie	Esser	Self	Topeka	You want children to return for an education, but by voting down the order, you aren't listening to the educated.
7/21/2020 10:41:40	Sylvia	Holmes		Norton	I personally feel we are taking this to far. The kids have been out of school since March. It's time to stop sacrificing our children and get them back in school. They need to get back to a "normal".
7/21/2020 10:41:42	Nan	Renbarger		Lawrence	Until the curve is extremely flat and/or a vaccine exists, it is not safe for anyone to go back to school-preschool to college. Lives of all ages are too precious. Please don't rush it. Let's see how it looks second semester.
7/21/2020 10:41:51	Deb	Wertin	BV Schools-Retired teac	Olathe	Thank you for all your hard work in making sure our schools and teachers are safe and ready for students to return. I think it necessary to delay the start of schools in order to have a strategic plan in place. In addition, supplies and protective gear will need to be purchased and a well thought out plan in order to move this forward. Please, give districts, administrators, teachers and staff a chance to do that. Proper safety and planning will give parents students and staff a better chance to feel confident and safe sending their children to school.
7/21/2020 10:41:53	Christa	Ziegler		Topeka	Delay the start of school
7/21/2020 10:41:56	Darcy	Busch	Teacher	Wichita	We need to postpone our startup date of August 17 to September. Our Covid-19 numbers keep increasing. If we are to return to in person teaching, we need to ensure that students and staff are safe.
7/21/2020 10:42:04	Whitney	Endres	The Endres Famil	Overland Park	As a parent of both elementary and high school students, these kids need school. The American Board of Pediatrics says so, and I stand with them. The emotional toll it is taking on teenagers specifically is high. I am not whining about childcare, but just the well being of their mental health. Even if it's not every day, they need some time at school each week. Even well adjusted teens were struggling with online school. Praying for you all in your decision making.
7/21/2020 10:42:06	Courtney	Dold	USD 259	Wichita KS	Delaying the start of the school year will give teachers time to plan for the unknown and hopefully help some numbers godown. Teachers like myself need time. I support the delay.
7/21/2020 10:42:07	Mary	Mellen	USD 265	Clearwater	Please delay the opening by these weeks. As educators we work hard to provide stability and structure to kids. We love these kids. They mean the world to us. Please allow us this additional time to prepare for the school year.
7/21/2020 10:42:12	Dave	Kerwood		Arkansas City	As a parent and a teacher, I urge you to confirm the governor's executive order. Normally I agree that local control is paramount to our society, but our school districts are too interconnected for each to act independently. Districts might have to forfeit high school games, face a three week disadvantage in state tests, and find a way to tack three weeks onto the school year, all under immense local pressure from both sides.  This pandemic isn't a district level issue, nor is it a county level one. We rely on you to help Kansans navigate a pandemic that is truly worldwide. Thank you!

7/21/2020 10:42:19	Julie	Hughes		Clay Center	I am a high school teacher who teaches in the public schools in our district. I am not afraid to return to the classroom, but I do want to have adequate time to prepare myself, my lessons, and my classroom space itself for all of the changes we will be facing. It is extremely frustrating to be forced to wait for outside organizations to make decisions affecting my students and my job. I am tired of being in limbo. Normally I would start preparing for the return to school July 1st. We are already at July 21, and we are still waiting for direction from the state. If you choose to uphold the governors order, please define what this means for the remainder of the school year. Will these days just be eliminated from our school calendar, or will they need to be made up in May? I know it is incredibly difficult to prepare for every scenario, so I am not blaming you or the governor or anybody... I am just expressing my frustration with the entire circumstances.
7/21/2020 10:42:32	Edith	Paredes	Lawrence High School	Lawrence	Please, for our teachers and children's sake....let's not open schools! It is too soon!
7/21/2020 10:42:34	Jennifer	Puhak	Parent	Olathe	Please keep our kids safe. Offer virtual education this year. The lasting effects of this virus are unknown. If we expose our kids in 2020 what will they suffer from 2030, 2040?? It is OUR jobs to keep them safe. To keep staff and students safe please listen to the scientific evidence and medical professionals.
7/21/2020 10:42:44	Tricia	Simpson	Blue valley wolf springs	Bucyrus	I wish for the school to open back up.
7/21/2020 10:42:44	Mary lou	Dunn		6325 SW 27th Street, To	I support gov kelly's mandate to delay school till september..
7/21/2020 10:42:50	Alexander	Olinger	N/A	Garden City	I support the executive order.
7/21/2020 10:42:54	Amanda	Renner		Overland Park	I would like to voice my concern: my fear that postponing of school will result in increased social delay and the emotional consequences far outweigh the risks. Delaying school is not the right choice. We have two children in elementary education and We have been participating in youth sports this summer without health consequences. The risk for our youth contracting Covid is something that we are aware of and we trust school Officials will take the necessary precautions in order to keep our children safe. Canceling or postponing school is not the right choice.
7/21/2020 10:42:56	Nancy	Smeltzer	Educator and parent	Derby	When students are picked up by bus, are they being temperate screened before they enter the bus? I believe I'd we put this into place, it can reduce the amount of contact before a student gets to school as well as reduce person to person contact for students riding the buses with whom are in close contact to each other.
7/21/2020 10:42:56	Sarah	Malcolm	USD 251	Rural Emporia	Please follow the governor's recommendations and delay the start of school until after Labor Day. This will give teachers and coaches adequate time to plan how to provide our students with the best education and experiences possible whether their families are choosing in person or remote instruction. We want to return to school, but we want it to be safe and educationally appropriate for our students.
7/21/2020 10:43:05	BJ	Samuelson		Overland Park	Please keep Kansas kids out of schools until it is safe for them, the teachers, the staff, and everyone around them to be there.
7/21/2020 10:43:06	Tonya	Williams		Rantoul	I live in an area where the majority of people are not supportive of any type of mask wearing. I have witnessed different school activities happening this summer with no regard to trying to enforce social distancing or mask wearing. One administrator stated that he would not make his players wear masks during his practices or summer conditioning because "he can't enforce it". I find it highly disappointing that someone who has a high level position in the school isn't even trying to enforce it or model the behavior because he feels it's a lost cause. Now at least one of his students had become positive and the programs have been suspended because everyone who had attended have to be tested and quarantined. I worry this will become an even larger issue once school begins because each teacher will have their own opinions on the enforcement and I feel that our community is more supportive of going with out and laughing at those who wear masks. I do not know what the right answer is for school this year but I am very concerned about trying to do full time school and having our children remain safe.
7/21/2020 10:43:10	Ali	Marchant	Self	Wichita, KS (Goddard S	The Board should approve the Governor's mandate to delay the start of the school year by 3 weeks. Doing so would provide time for the skyrocketing number of new Covid-19 infections to level off as well as allow our schools an opportunity to review your recommendations and develop appropriate plans for reopening. Please don't let lobbying groups and politicians take over this issue. This is an issue of public health and the safety and well-being of our students and teachers. They are counting on you to make the right decisions.
7/21/2020 10:43:13	Trisha	Capps		Olathe	I agree 100% with the delay in school starting until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 10:43:16	deb	keary	counselor usd497	Lawrence	please support the delay of school so we can properly prepare for students and hopefully get things under better control.

7/21/2020 10:43:17	Jentry	McDaniel		Wichita	As an educator, I feel it is necessary to delay the start of school to ensure that districts have enough time, especially districts as large as Wichita and KC, to adequately prepare for students and staff. Safety has to be the top priority! Districts need time to acquire cleaning supplies and appropriate PPE, and to prepare for whatever type of learning that will occur.
7/21/2020 10:43:18	David	Coffman		Clay Center, Kansas	Do not delay the start of the school year
7/21/2020 10:43:20	Ashley	Freeman		Lawrence	I do not agree with delaying schools. My son has already missed a substantial amount of instruction even with the activities done in the spring. I don't understand what district work groups have been working on since the spring and why things need to be delayed further.
7/21/2020 10:43:28	Jessica	Cole	Parent in SMSD/Pre-K t	Overland Park	I urge you to support the governor's plan to postpone school openings until after Labor Day. As an educator and a parent, I have many concerns about reopening our schools while Covid-19 cases in Kansas continue to rise. This extra time would allow school districts, individual schools, and teachers to secure more PPE, sanitation supplies, and other necessities to keep students and faculty safe and healthy. If cases continue to rise without abatement, I also support virtual schooling into 14 days with no new cases. Please protect our state's youngest citizens.
7/21/2020 10:43:40	Kacie	Hastings	Teacher/Parent	Emporia	I support both of the Governor's mandates for the school year 20-21. The order to delay schools will allow me time to create more robust curriculum plans that can be taught online and in hybrid school settings. Without the preparation time using the Navigating Change document, there will be no growth between the spring semester and the fall semester in efficiency and effectiveness of instruction. As a parent of a new Kindergartner, I want my child's teacher to have the same time to prepare for both safe face to face instruction and possible distance learning. He will adapt to any learning environment we provide as long as it is well prepared for but I want to do my job as a parent and protect him from the possibility of severe illness or the underlying long-term health conditions this virus could cause.
7/21/2020 10:43:43	Kirk	Boster		Overland Park	I am writing to support the decision to delay the start of school as described. I feel that all school personnel need and deserve more time to prepare for what is bound to be a most unusual school year. This delay won't magically solve all issues but it is a common sense move that will assist people dealing with this once in a lifetime issue.
7/21/2020 10:43:45	Kay	Thompson	School	Concordia	I am in support of the governor. I feel we can use this extra time to get prepared. No matter where you are in Kansas it will look different. Yes, the schools are all different, but that should be the reason we follow this order so we all don't become overwhelmed with this virus. Then all the school districts will look the same.
7/21/2020 10:43:47	Mollie	Mills-Weis		Newton	I'm a high school teacher and support the delay. We need time to plan to have a safe environment for our kids to return to.
7/21/2020 10:43:51	Zachary	Sellers		Altamont	Schools should stay closed until after the pandemic has subsided.
7/21/2020 10:44:01	Jessica	Murray	Myself as a parent	Goodland	We have had a SUM TOTAL of NINE cases in our county. Delaying start of school might be a good idea for eastern Kansas... but there is more to Kansas west of Topeka. Here.... you're just hurting our youth.
7/21/2020 10:44:04	Dylan	Stang	Parent	Lawrence	I do not feel comfortable sending my kids back to school in person until there is a vaccine. If the state board of education can't meet in person, how can they expect students and faculty to?
7/21/2020 10:44:05	Sarah	Palikij	School Teacher USD469	Lenexa	I fully support the governor's executive order. It is a well thought out plan with the safety of all students and staff in mind. Thank you.
7/21/2020 10:44:09	Diane	Bain	Parent of students in ele	Paola	I am in full support of delaying the start of school to give districts more time to train and buy supplies to keep everyone safe during the pandemic.
7/21/2020 10:44:16	Tara	Davis	Emporia Public Schools	Emporia	I agree with the delay.
7/21/2020 10:44:20	Tonya	Quattlebaum		Wichita	I support delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. It is the right and sensible thing to do. Please protect our kids!
7/21/2020 10:44:29	Stacy	Doyle		Prairie Village	I absolutely believe the executive order should be held as it stands with a delay in opening school. We need much more aggressive mitigation efforts. The science is clear that wearing a mask and social distancing helps to prevent spread. The entire state of Kansas needs to get on board with this and we need to see a decrease in cases before we send our children back to school. I applaud Governor Kelly's efforts to keep our state safe. She is doing a fantastic job.
7/21/2020 10:44:31	A	Sayre	NA	Olathe	Ok with school starting after Labor Day. Need to hire more janitors and support Staff to keep school clean and students and staff healthy.

7/21/2020 10:44:40	Jamie	Young	Parent of Olathe School	Lenexa	The lives of our teachers, staff and students should not be used as political game. Our districts should be FULLY prepared to bring everyone back into the building. This is not something to rush into. This is something we must do carefully and with respect to science. Honor Governor Kelly's executive orders for the sake of the lives filling those school buildings this fall. Listen to your heart...you know that's the right thing to do.
7/21/2020 10:44:44	Tammie	Schaffer	Myself	Richmond	I urge you to support Gov. Kelly in giving educators more time to prepare - and the public more time to act responsibly and wear masks to help stop the increase in cases. Please make the health and safety of students and staff a priority.
7/21/2020 10:44:49	Terra	Herring	Parent of school aged ch	Ozawkie Kansas	I support delaying school . Our schools haven't had a chance to prepare the buildings or get necessary supplies to meet the guidelines . The 3 weeks will give them the extra time to help make the kids safe . Please vote to support our schools and vote yes on the order !
7/21/2020 10:44:49	Julie	Tipton	none	Topeka	Please approve the executive order to delay the opening of school until after Labor Day. The safety of our children, those they live with, and the school staff must be the top priority. Think of the catastrophe that will occur if schools reopen and it's wrong that "kids aren't affected" and we see our children and teachers start passing away. You really want that on your conscience? Our kids aren't going to "be behind" if we're all in the same boat. School can go longer into the summer next year to account for the delayed start. Strong safety measures and masks must be put into place if you are even going to consider opening schools after labor day. Someone my daughter is in contact with in summer sports activities tested positive and dealing with the lack of information from the school and the confusion and fear we've gone through since then have been terrible. Multiply that by thousands of people dealing with that if more than 1 kid gets sick. Think of the children that could be orphaned if they take the virus home to their parents. Do what is right for the children and citizens of Kansas and delay the start of school until after Labor Day or longer if necessary.
7/21/2020 10:44:51	Kari	Baker	Self who is a teacher	Topeka	Please delay opening schools. My 6 year old son already lost his father to the coronavirus. As a teacher I am very worried I will be exposed too. My son needs me. Both of our schools need to be safe before we can return.
7/21/2020 10:45:03	Kelli	Ruder	Blue Valley High Schoo	Stilwell	The infection rate in joco is .4% The mental health of your teen communities is at stake. Kids need to be in person in school and fully participating in all activities...sports, choir , band and clubs.
7/21/2020 10:45:05	Jeri	sickels	my family	lawrence	It is not safe for the kids or their families. There is no possible way to socially distance 30 kids in a classroom. Wage and company would rather see citizens dead or impaired than see Kelley lauded for doing her job. Wagle is a disgrace.
7/21/2020 10:45:18	Deanna	Clark	self	Garden City	Approving the Governor's executive order to delay public schools is the intelligent thing to do. Don't politicize it. Don't listen to anyone except the health experts, who are the only ones who really know what's going on. Don't turn this into an us vs. them situation, when it's about public health and safety. We are doomed to a repeat of May if you don't vote yes on the executive order. As a teacher, I shouldn't have to worry about getting sick and dying because of my job. I've accepted I may have to take a bullet for my students someday. Don't ask this of me, too.
7/21/2020 10:45:21	Richard	Dodd		Wichita	Open schools after Labor Day if cases are decreasing
7/21/2020 10:45:27	Rachel	Wannamaker		Hutchinson	Please stand with the governor on the executive order.
7/21/2020 10:45:36	Jill	Tanner	USD 320 Teacher	Rossville, KS	Teachers, school staff, and students lives matter. Our Governor realizes this, thus she has postponed school opening. Leave that as it is. As a teacher I will help my students regain academics but I cannot do that if I am ill or dead. This a pandemic and we will get a handle on it when science has a vaccine for it. I have been staying at home since March to help keep the numbers down.....you are asking me to throw all of that away and just start teaching as if there is no pandemic. Why? Do I not matter?

7/21/2020 10:45:40	Mark	Adams		Madison	<p>There are a couple of different concerns I have with this specific executive order. Children's Mercy recently held a conference highlighting the need for kids to be in the classroom, and the low risk carried in schools for passing this virus. With that in mind, I do not believe forcing a state-wide mandate is needed at this time. Instead, give schools the opportunity to adjust their own calendars to give them the time they need to prepare to open. In a county like mine, with low numbers of infection and enrollment, they may not need the time to prepare. In larger cities and districts, they may need more time to prepare. Setting benchmarks for reopening (and closing) schools make far more sense than a one-size-fits-all approach to a highly contextualized situation.</p> <p>I would encourage the board to examine the current infection trends in each county, and ponder the question "Is the strategy that works for Johnson Co. going to be the same strategy that works for Wallace, Rawlins, or Greenwood Co.?"</p> <p>I implore the Dept. of Education to use benchmarks as a guide to reopening instead of a universal mandate that risks hindering education of students.</p>
7/21/2020 10:45:41	Jaici	Simon	USD 489	Hays, KS	I support the Governor's Executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. This gives our school district time to plan how to implement the Navigating Change guidelines to the best of our ability. Thank you for your dedication to our schools in Kansas.
7/21/2020 10:45:47	Leslie	Rahn		Laurence, KS	I am a teacher in a public high school in Kansas. We have approximately 1700 students, and a staff upwards of 250 people. We all want to go back to school in person, but we want to do it safely and with a clear, effective strategy in place. Governor Kelly's School opening delay will allow us to do this. Please vote to ratify her executive order so we can start school after Labor Day with a clear, safe plan.
7/21/2020 10:45:47	Michael	Kennett	Teachers/parents	Topeka	Please accept and allow the governor's EO to pass. As a parent, I desperately want my child to go to school, but I'm even more concerned about his safety and my family's safety. We shouldn't be rushing children back to school when our state is among the worst in terms of virus spread. All we will be doing is shutting down again if we can't first slow the current spread. Give schools more time to think out how to best mitigate the spread of COVID within their schools.
7/21/2020 10:45:48	Stephanie	Myers		Ashland	Comment removed due to profanity
7/21/2020 10:45:51	Pam	Switzer		DWIGHT	With all the wishy-washy and back/forth with decisions, at this point districts need the extra time just to be prepared. I can only imagine the strain this has put on district officials to get all necessary changes put in place in order to be ready for students. Please think of those in the trenches scrambling to make it work.
7/21/2020 10:45:56	Dec	Moran	Belle Plaine Elementary	Douglass	Please vote to extend the start of the school year until after Labor Day. Schools need extra time to implement procedures and policies that will keep students and staff safe. Right now, when teachers have questions about the beginning of school, the answers from administration have been; "I don't know", "We can't answer that, yet", or "We'll have to get back to you on that". So many things have to change for us to have in person school, and we need time to implement those changes. I would appreciate your vote to give us that time. Thank you.

7/21/2020 10:45:56	Nicholas	Semrau		Olathe	<p>This is a very difficult situation, and I really appreciate that you are accepting feedback from Kansas residents regarding the potential delay to the start of the school year in our state.</p> <p>First, I want to be clear that I think it is very important for our children to resume in-person education as soon as safely possible. There is no question that in-person learning is superior to remote learning, especially for those under 18 who are still learning time-management skills. This view is supported by the AAP.</p> <p>Unfortunately the worldwide pandemic presents important health concerns, not just for our children, but for their teachers, all of the supporting staff in the schools, parents, and vulnerable relatives. It is obvious that the rush to return to normalcy after the shutdown this spring has resulted in a strong resurgence of the pandemic nationwide, and mounting evidence supports the observation that the resurgence is significantly worse in areas where the recommended guidelines (distancing and face covering) were not followed well or at all.</p> <p>The board of education has done a great job providing instructions to the districts for what must be done to follow these guidelines in an attempt to safely transition back to in-person learning. Unfortunately those instructions were very recently provided to the districts, and there is a significant risk of non-compliance if you do not allow ample time to review and implement these instructions.</p> <p>The delay proposed by this executive order, in my opinion, provides two benefits:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Districts will have more time to purchase or procure supplies, rearrange classrooms, and perform other necessary tasks to appropriately follow the guidelines needed to resume in-person learning as safely as possible.</li> <li>2. Despite the best efforts of all involved, there is a good chance that these instructions may not be sufficient or may not be followed appropriately, resulting in a much more severe resurgence of the pandemic this fall. As selfish as this may seem, delaying the start to our school year will allow you to observe the results of other states resuming in-person learning in August. By doing this, you can gather and evaluate real data without subjecting our children, teachers, and families to what amounts to an experiment that may have devastating consequences.</li> </ol> <p>In summary, as a parent of two children in the Olathe school district, I ask that you support this executive order to delay the start of the school year, because I feel that the benefits outweigh the risks.</p>
7/21/2020 10:46:07	George	Johnson	Self	Overland Park	<p>Children ages 5-17 do not pose a threat to the transmission of the virus according to the American Academy of Pediatrics. <a href="http://aapublications.org">aapublications.org</a> The teachers/adults in the buildings are the ones who pose a threat. They should follow Social distancing and wear face masks when not social distancing from other adults or moving about the campus. The threat of our children's well being is at stake if they don't go back to school. Follow the science, not the media.</p>
7/21/2020 10:46:11	Lynn	Kruse	Retired teacher	Junction City	<p>I believe delaying the start of the school year is a first step in determining whether students should attend school on site or virtually this year. It will give the districts the opportunity to develop an instructional process to meet the needs of the students in the district. If instruction occurs at the school building, preparation of the building will be a process that needs to be developed. Once the building is prepared for students, teachers, and staff there will need to be a process developed to maintain the environment in a way that will be safe for everyone involved. Creating an effective instructional program while students are in restricted environments will be a daunting task for all teachers involved; it will take time and collaboration to complete. Please give educational professionals the time they need to make this school year as effective as possible for the students.</p>
7/21/2020 10:46:24	Emily	DeVore		Kansas City, Kansas	<p>Hello, I understand this is an overwhelming decision with many facets. But I believe sending our children and teachers back to School is an unnecessary risk to our children's and teachers' lives. Additionally it would undoubtedly increase exposure to other members of the community and thus risking others not in the schools. Please delay opening the schools and work toward online alternatives. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 10:46:28	Joel	McClenahan	Parent	Newton	<p>The idea of delaying school is ridiculous. If you look at the data kids are not spreaders of the COVID-19. Every pediatric society in America is saying that kids are safer at school than at home. Every other country in the world has gone back to school successfully. Kids need structure, routine and education. This does not happen outside of school. The online platforms that were implemented last spring were very ineffective and many kids simply gave up. I can't imagine how many kids have been through severe trauma, starvation, and abuse since the schools have been closed. As far as teachers are concerned, there are thousands of "essential workers" who have faithfully been working and serving their communities since this began. ....I would tend to think that a teacher should be considered and essential worker. OPEN UP ON TIME!!!!</p>

7/21/2020 10:46:37	Norma	Bruning	Myself	Wetmore	Support Gov Kelly
7/21/2020 10:46:47	Dawn	Pyle	Kansas educator	Olathe	As a teacher, I am not comfortable with returning to school for in person classes at this time. Once the numbers of positive cases are declining, then maybe we can return to school.
7/21/2020 10:46:50	Kimberly	Harvey		Olathe	Please delay the start of the school year.
7/21/2020 10:46:53	Brett	Wolford	Children's Mercy Hospi	Parsons	Please delay school as long as possible. Our teachers and their families deserve to be safe too. You can't ask teachers to take a bullet for their classroom and also to die in a pandemic for those children while making 48k a year. They have their own children too.
7/21/2020 10:46:55	Bruce	Deters	Parent	Harveyville	We need these kids back to school as soon as possible. Face to face learning is the only way school works for these kids. They need social interaction and sports as well to remain mentally healthy. Delaying the start only increases their anxiety that school will be taken away from them once again. Open schools face to face on time. Let these kids heal.
7/21/2020 10:47:00	Nicole	W	Parent	Manhattan	I think the delay is fine. However, parents need more options besides in class or online. A good alternative would be alternating days of classes. Less time in the classrooms around other kids, less kids in the same space together. I think it's a win/win. Also, masks should be optional and up to PARENTS!! You will lose a lot of public school enrollment on this issue. I have seen it discussed in many online groups. This absolutely MUST be optional and a decision for PARENTS!
7/21/2020 10:47:04	Anastasia	Mellott	Self	Bonner Springs	Please delay start, and consider hybrid learning options. Alternate days for students and allow online learning to supplement. Kids were the first demographic to quarantine (schools, parks, activity all shut down) so their numbers of covid cases will naturally be lower. Please care about our kids and teachers lives.
7/21/2020 10:47:07	Chani	Perret	Usd 259	Wichita	Open schools with masks
7/21/2020 10:47:07	Amanda	Post		Scott City	Please consider that not all communities in Kansas can be treated the same. A small town in Western Kansas should not be mandated the same as the Kansas City area. Our children need their normal lives back. They have been through enough and mine in particular are too young to understand what is going on all they know is they miss school and their friends. We have witnesses the decline of my daughter's emotional health through this whole process and now we have the opportunity to correct this for all children. Wearing masks in classrooms is asinine and I think every parent agrees with that. Our children deserve better, we are setting them up for failure in life as they will be behind. In March we didn't know the risks, so closing schools seemed to be the only "logical" option. Now we have people in the advanced medical field saying they would send their children back to school, no problem. Regardless of political affiliation or stance on the accuracy of this pandemic, our kids don't deserve what they are being put through. Give them their lives back.
7/21/2020 10:47:07	Anne	Robidou		Council Grove	Schools need to be closed until after Labor Day to allow the safety for students and all school staff. This would give appropriate time to get supplies and educate teachers on their unexpected responsibilities. Teachers are risking their health and making sacrifices with their families to return to work as all essential workers are. One classroom of 20 kids with two parents exposes a teacher to the germs of 200 people, then we carry those germs home to our families. This isn't a choice we get to make, but we should be allowed to go back with all safety precautions in place. Thus giving everyone the best possible chance of staying healthy and safe.
7/21/2020 10:47:11	Amir	Bahadori		Saint George	I am strongly in favor of the governor's proposal to push back the start of the school year. It makes sense to give time for the incidence rate to decrease or transition to fully online should the incidence rate hold steady or increase. Our first priority must be the safety of children and staff. I urge you to approve her proposal.
7/21/2020 10:47:12	Deb	Graham		Nickerson	Yes, please delay until Oct/Nov - no masks. Have class outside, in gym, spread out when possible. Utilize hallways, gyms, outdoor tents, etc. Get creative.
7/21/2020 10:47:13	Elizabeth	Crane	Student USD233	Lenexa	I would like school to start right after Labor Day in the school building with masks, temperature checks, and socially distancing when possible. Learning in a school building in the presence of others with live instruction is very helpful to me and I feel that I get a better education when I am in school.
7/21/2020 10:47:19	Claudia	McAlister	USD 320	Wamego	I feel the delay is needed to give admins and teachers time to prepare to implement the 1100 page guidelines issued by the KSDE.
7/21/2020 10:47:21	Chris	Weidert	High schools	67002	Don't open the schools and propagate the spread of COVID-19. Politicians have failed us and here is a chance to save Kansas



7/21/2020 10:47:24	Jill	Elbert	N/a	Olathe	I will not be sending my child back to school before Labor Day !! Cases are increasing in our area. my family follows the science& our doctors in order to stay healthy
7/21/2020 10:47:30	Samantha	Schweinfurth	So if my kid dies from c	Odessa	If I lose my child because our president just wants money and doesn't care about our kids then who do I sue if my child dies from covid at school. Please take schooling online. Don't risk our children's lives.
7/21/2020 10:47:35	Sarah	Gideon		Holton	Please vote in favor of the Governor's EO to move the beginning of school to September 8th. Allow our schools to prepare fully to keep their students and staff safe during the current pandemic.
7/21/2020 10:47:41	Gary	Sneed	None	Lebo	This virus is serious and it is good to error on the safe side. While we all want our kids back in school it seems to me the Governor is on the right track and the additional time can benefit everyone.
7/21/2020 10:47:51	Randy	Lowe	Parent/Teacher/coach	Overland Park	Please consider allowing school and athletics to start on time. At the very least please allow athletic conditioning to continue as It is currently happening. The kids need these things for their social and emotional wellbeing. I fear we are going to have way more suicides and emotional issues if keep kids home.
7/21/2020 10:47:55	Cole	Turner	Olathe west	13185 s lakeshore dr	School should not even be considered of being canceled l. Our generation is already behind with not completing our full year this past school year. Online school is dumb you learn nothing, not all kids have wifi and it is honestly a waist of time. Us seniors have worked out asses off the past 12 years to get where we are today and I'm not gonna let you just strip that from us. Governor kelly is dumb she is not a doctor she knows nothing about the virus. Let's face it most of the world is going to catch it and 2% will die and in some cases even lower chances. Mask will help nothing. Teachers will no longer be teaching but "teaching" kids to social distance and to make sure they keep their mask on. Instead of learning about math the little kindergarten kids are going to here "oh no put your mask on". "Do t take your mask off". "Don't touch each other's faces". All you are doing is making the generation behind us dumber and do nothing for them. Please take this all into consideration with your choices as I said before us seniors didn't come all this way just to be stripped of our last highschool sports, dances, bonfires, events in general, and most of all our last school year with people we could never see again. Be careful with your decision.
7/21/2020 10:47:55	Susan	Simmons		Maize	I am a nurse para in a school with 650 students. I'm 61 years old with a husband of 71. I'm worried about starting before our school had time to prepare. I'm worried about being around someone who gets COVID and being sent home to quarantine along with my RN. Who would run our office? We have a diabetic. I'm worried about getting COVID. Please do the right thing for everyone's health.
7/21/2020 10:48:00	Emily	Ragsdale		Topeka	Please leave decisions regarding school reopening and regulations up to local school boards. Kansas's is too diverse for a one size fits all decision.
7/21/2020 10:48:01	Amy	Faunce		Olathe	Please vote in favor of delaying the start of school due to the rising numbers of covid. Our students and teachers deserve to be safe and in light of the health departments recent recommendations, I believe opening school for in person classes is irresponsible. We must protect our children from the unknown long-term impacts of this virus. Thank you!
7/21/2020 10:48:01	Mandi	Anderson		Olathe	If we delay start until Sept, why is it not possible to start online education sooner!?! We are doing our community AND students a GREAT disservice by delaying start. Is it not even considerable to do a slow roll into a full day and start with half days? Students with free or reduced lunch could be handed a sack lunch while headed out the door. If we cannot start face to face, why can we not start fully online? Our community has the RIGHT to EDUCATION and our teachers are fully capable of working with flexibility. Let's get this year started strong, and sooner than later!

					<p>As a parent I feel that it is imperative that more time be given to help school districts to help ensure the safety of children, staff, and ultimately communities from the Covid 19 pandemic. Also I feel there have been questions that have not been answered and until answered we can not allow in house school to start. Questions such as: If you can answer all these questions, you can let kids back in school:</p> <p>If a teacher tests positive for COVID-19 are they required to quarantine for 2-3 weeks? Is their sick leave covered, paid?</p> <p>If that teacher has 5 classes a day with 30 students each, do all 150 of those students need to then stay home and quarantine for 14 days?</p> <p>Do all 150 of those students now have to get tested? Who pays for those tests? Are they happening at school? How are the parents being notified? Does everyone in each of those kids' families need to get tested? Who pays for that?</p> <p>What if someone who lives in the same house as a teacher tests positive? Does that teacher now need to take 14 days off of work to quarantine? Is that time off covered? Paid?</p> <p>Where is the district going to find a substitute teacher who will work in a classroom full of exposed, possibly infected students for substitute pay?</p> <p>Substitutes teach in multiple schools. What if they are diagnosed with COVID-19? Do all the kids in each school now have to quarantine and get tested? Who is going to pay for it?</p> <p>If your kid, or a student in your kid's class tests positive, does every other student and teacher have to quarantine? Do we all get notified who is infected? Or do HIPAA regulations mean parents and teachers just get "may have been in contact" emails all year long?</p>
7/21/2020 10:48:03	Daniel	Metcalfe		Minneapolis, Ks	What's the stress going to do to our teachers? Their health and well-being? Their ability to teach? How does it affect the
7/21/2020 10:48:04	Jessica	Walles		Hillsboro	We need to have online, hybrid and in class options. For parents who can support their children online, they should do that and that clears up class space for the kids whose parents both work or have special needs.
7/21/2020 10:48:05	Cynthia	Liggett	Parents	Overland park	Please open schools ! Our children are suffering emotionally . Those who don't want to be exposed can have accommodations !
7/21/2020 10:48:07	Loree	Hisken		Belle Plaine, KS	Please approve Executive Order to delay start of school until after Labor Day. Our county is seeing a large rise in cases over the last two weeks and having such large numbers of people in enclosed spaces is not ideal to prevent the spread of COVID-19. If school is able to have a delayed start we can have more time to prepare staff and buildings for school, as well as determine the direction that cases are going and if school needs to start virtually. This would also give preparation time for virtual options and training for staff in the event that school must continue in a virtual format. Thank you for doing what is best to keep the most people healthy and stop the spread!
7/21/2020 10:48:09	Jill	VonFeldt	Blue valley school distri	Overland Park	I would still like to start in school instruction after Labor Day for my Kindergarten and second grader. I am comfortable with them wearing masks and getting their temperature taken. These kids need their peers and a real teacher teaching them. Thank you.
7/21/2020 10:48:13	Pam	Moser	USD 315	Colby KS	They need to get school back in session. I am a grandparent of two grade school kids. They are bored due to cancellations this summer. They are starting to hate things. The kids have had no interaction with other children due to closure of things. They live on a farm and have had no interaction except with parents. That will be 5 months without interaction and learning. Please open school on time along with sports.
7/21/2020 10:48:19	Jeremy	Michelbook		Emporia	As a teacher, I am concerned that districts are being rushed to figure out a way to service our students safely. We need this time to prepare for the uncertainty of this upcoming school year.
7/21/2020 10:48:20	Tess	Leach		Salina	Please keep school closed until after Labor Day to allow districts to prepare
7/21/2020 10:48:20	Amy	Watkins	USD 439 Teacher	Sedgwick	Please consider delaying the start of school until September 9. That will ensure all schools are on the same schedule and local school boards are not forced to make decisions that could jeopardize their schools. It is not fair to make school start dates an influence of student enrollment.

7/21/2020 10:48:24	Bridget	Troyer	Usd 323	Manhattan	Please consider the safety of students, teachers and other school personel. Start school after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 10:48:37	Martha	Clemens	Auburn Washburn Scho	Topeka	Kids NEED to be back IN school!!!
7/21/2020 10:48:39	Christina	Schuster		Oakwood Dr	I vote for us to have a delayed start. After Labor Day.
7/21/2020 10:48:40	Melissa	Grimm	USD 204 Food service	Bonner Sorings	As a parent and staff member, I think it's extremely detrimental for students to not be in school face to face. There are too many kids that need their teachers. Teachers are so much more than a body that stands up in front of a classroom. They are the parent, the nurse, the disciplinarian, etc.
7/21/2020 10:48:56	Jim	Howard	USD 412	Hoxie	Don't take away local control. Hoxie is not Topeka and we can make choices that best meet the needs of our students. Thank you for all your service to the state of Kansas
7/21/2020 10:48:56	Christina	Benjes	Parents	Olathe	I support sound decisions based on science and medical opinion. There is not true right or wrong answer; however I do hope that there is adequate time to plan and provide thought out details for return to education. Children need consistency. Is spending half the day washing hands and sanitizing surfaces a good use of educator and study time. Will there be gym/recess/field trips? Does the district have enough subs to handle teacher absences for illness or exposure quarantine. Will classes be starting and stopping with multiple substitute changes and as the virus ebbs in severity through colder months. For older students how will passing periods work and quarantine when a teacher or student tests positive knowing the large number of potential exposures. How will measures the districts and state put in place be enforced? We have seen workers who lack insurance attending work after testing positive and causing clusters so what is the response/reaction to ensure staff and student safety. Will teachers who are not comfortable come back and be lackluster teachers who are resentful? (I have seen this in some teachers close to retirement).  I do not envy the job of administrators now. I see social media posts of staff saying they don't feel safe yet they are posting pics at parties and BBQs. I also see teachers and parents who have not left their homes in 4 months genuinely fearful for their health. Where is the balance? Whatever the plan please be considerate and thoughtful and ensure all districts have robust plans for scenarios prior to starting. AS parents we need this to make informed decisions for our families and each family will have different needs.
7/21/2020 10:49:00	Sandra	Orellana	Teacher	Junction city	I would prefer to have a delay start of the school year. I would like our schools to be ready if we must teach in schools but preferably teach remotely.
7/21/2020 10:49:01	Kate	Burrow		Olathe	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's executive order delaying start of school. Additionally, please consider beginning the school year virtually.
7/21/2020 10:49:03	Kristi	Shingleton		Hutchinson	Please do not open schools yet. Three safety of our children is of the utmost importance.
7/21/2020 10:49:09	Sarah	Mitchell	USD 345 Middle Schoo	Topeka	Please delay the start of school. With cases rising we need to take precautions to keep our kids, families and staff safe.
7/21/2020 10:49:19	PJ	Matulka		Olathe	Uphold Gov Kelly's executive order; it's the minimum you can do to protect our children, teachers, and school staff; will you deliver the news to relatives of people who die because their kids brought COVID home from school? Do the right thing. This is our modern-day war on the homeland. Protect Kansans.
7/21/2020 10:49:31	Katherine	Kashka		Overland Park	Please approve the mandate to have school reopen after labor day. As a teacher, we need this time to better prepare for whatever school will look like. We need more training on LMS as well as rearrange our classrooms for safety. We want to see our students back in the classroom, but we want to do it safely. This extra time will give us the opportunity to properly prepare as well reevaluate the situation before making a final decision.
7/21/2020 10:49:39	Deanna	Gaither	Myself	Derby	Don't start until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 10:49:46	Keegan	Hanson		Kansas City, KS	I think it would be safest to delay the start of the school year considering the current situation. Whether we do school online or in-person, it will be beneficial to give teachers more time to prepare. The virus is too prevalent. If we go back to school buildings too soon, I worry that we will just have to immediately go online due to an outbreak.
7/21/2020 10:49:50	Kayla	Eldridge	USD 260	Derby	Please uphold the executive order.

					<p>Greetings to whom it may concern,</p> <p>In no way do I underestimate the weight of the decisions before you. I know there is information overload and a great amount of stress for you all right now. However, as a parent of four children, a physical therapist, a small business owner in Wyandotte County, and daughter of a life-long educator, I feel my perspective appreciates many aspects of the challenges in returning to school and sports.</p> <p>In March I too was in panic mode, like many teachers and administrators may be today. My heart rate hovered in the mid-90s for weeks as my business was deemed essential, patients wanted uninterrupted care, and staff was scared. I had patients and 12 staff members awaiting my leadership and direction in uncharted territory. We made it safely work in a profession of hands-on treatment with 40-minute sessions. We triaged, phased down, and eventually phased back to 75% capacity. Childcare facilities have safely made it work, and dental offices have reopened and safely made it work. There is so much we can learn and apply from these environments and their safety practices.</p> <p>Each school district has unique needs and situations. Please let them navigate these individually vs a state mandate. Teachers have the capacity to keep distance, wear PPE, and enforce safe practices for kids with sanitization and wearing masks. Though 6-foot distancing may not be applicable in a bus or classroom, the other practices can be applied. Please see the commentary /link below which cites a variety of studies on this topic.</p> <p>Hybrid and online options should absolutely be made available for at-risk staff and students alike. However, schools NEED to open for the safety, nutrition, education, and mental wellness of our children, community, and future. At-risk children may never recover academically or mentally if they do not have a safe, nurturing environment to learn. Not opening schools could be detrimental to each child, and our future as a community and state.</p> <p><a href="https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10219475853940261&amp;id=1030763365">https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10219475853940261&amp;id=1030763365</a></p>
7/21/2020 10:49:52	Beth	Hofer		Basehor	Thank you for your tireless work and efforts. Blessings and prayers to you all this week.
7/21/2020 10:49:52	Sharon	Kuchinski	USD 453 - Leavenworth	Lansing	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of school in Kansas. A delay to the school year will give us the opportunity to plan effectively for multiple opening scenarios, observe what is happening to cases in our region and learn from what is happening in other states where the school year is beginning in August. I fear for students, fellow teachers and staff members throughout the state of Kansas if we don't assess what is happening in our communities and do everything we can to protect our students and ourselves as educators. We need time and the governor is giving it to us.
7/21/2020 10:50:06	Stephanie	Strange		Overland Park	Please honor Gov. Kelly's Executive order to delay the opening of schools to provide a safer environment for students, teachers, and all staff.
7/21/2020 10:50:16	Becky	Lacey		Plainville	<p>Opening the schools is necessary. To so many children all ages, schools are a safe place. With so many disfunctional families, the children need school. Will they get taught by absent parents?.will they be safe from abusive parents or siblings? And while at school they are fed, noticed of any emotions, injuries.</p> <p>And what's going to happen with Special needs children, speech , social behavioral issues, autism, ?? Just don't ignore these needs of ALL children and teens.</p> <p>We cannot let our children slip through the cracks with lack of Education!</p> <p>We must keep going as usual, trusting in God!</p> <p>Thank you, Gods blessings,</p>
7/21/2020 10:50:19	Jenni	Ness	Olathe School District	Olathe	Please delay school until after Labor Day and consider making first semester online for us to all figure out how this will all work this year.

7/21/2020 10:50:21	Victoria	Shelton		LaCygne	My husband and I are both working parents to two middle schoolers. We work opposite schedules, meaning he sleeps when I work and vice versa. In addition, we live in a rural community where internet availability is limited. Our children suffer when school is done online, both intellectually and socially. Our kids need to be back in schools to continue to gain the necessary skills to become functional members of society. If we continue to let this virus control our lives we will never get back to "normal". The virus presents no additional harm to our students / facility members than it does to "essential worker", which my husband and I both are. We are required to be at work everyday, as should our teachers. There are numerous reasons why our students should be back in school and why we need to present them with a version of normality.
7/21/2020 10:50:22	Brandi	Barney	USD 410	Tampa, KS	Please do not allow schools to wait to open. Our children have already lost enough of a proper education with the closing of schools last year. Children need a structured learning environment. And please for all that is holy, do not require them to wear masks. There are enough distractions as there is.
7/21/2020 10:50:34	Mary	Holsworth	Shawnee Mission School	Overland Park	Please support the governor's delay of the start of schools until after labor day so we can properly prepare for school to reopen. As a state we are not ready particularly in light of the 10.7 percent positive cases. Additionally while kids are of concern so are the many adults who work with students every day in close proximity.
7/21/2020 10:50:38	Patti	Hendrickson		Oberlin	I think it is a good idea- it gives the districts time to come up with their plans for how school will work for them.
7/21/2020 10:50:38	Rachel	Sewell		Prairie Village	I am in favor of delaying school reopening until at least after Labor Day or until positive test rate is 2% or less
7/21/2020 10:50:40	J	Adams	none	Topeka	Please delay school and make as many varieties of distance learning available as possible -- including for IEP students. Such as that child is doing distance learning except for entering the building to obtain IEP related services/classes.
7/21/2020 10:50:40	Jenna	Michel		Fort Riley	I think it was a great idea to delay the start of school to let the schools figure out how to manage the reopening. I hope you are not going to extend the school year to try to make up the time. We are in unprecedented times and I am sure exceptions can be made.
7/21/2020 10:50:47	Rita	Phillippi	high school	lawrence	please support Governor Kelly's decision to start school after the Labor Day weekend.
7/21/2020 10:50:48	Anne	Herbert	Self	Wichita	Please think long term on this decision. Three weeks gives schools more time to prepare and do this right. More importantly, it may save lives.
7/21/2020 10:50:49	Julie	Klahr	Holton USD 336	Holton	I hope and pray that all of you on the Kansas State Board of Education, will consider postponing school.
7/21/2020 10:50:52	Kate	Bayhille		Olathe	Our family implores the Board of Education to uphold the governor's order to delay the start of school. Test results simply are not being returned quickly enough to be able to identify and contain the virus. Outbreaks in the school will be potentially devastating to the health of at-risk adults in the community. While we recognize the emotional benefit to returning to in-class learning, the potential grief children will face if they lose teachers, or God forbid peers, outweighs that positive.  Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 10:51:00	Julie	Martens	USD 309	Inman	As much as I want to keep all people safe, I feel we might be delaying the inevitable. I'm wondering if this delay takes place if we will be able to return to the school buildings at all. I cannot imagine, as a teacher, teaching students that I have never seen in person before. I will not be able to create the most beneficial relationships with them that I could. I realize not all people and families are taking precautions, but I am staying home all the time and only leaving for groceries and our outdoor church service. I know there will be challenges to in person school, but I think it needs to be left up to the counties/districts. Our state ranges so much from KCK to tiny Weskan. A state-wide mandate doesn't not seem like the right answer to me. I pray we can leave this up to the local level. Navigating change seems to have that laid out nicely for us with options. I'm not saying a delay isn't needed, but for that to be decided state wide seems overreaching and not the best decision for all Kansas students and teachers.
7/21/2020 10:51:03	Travis	Zirkle	I am a teacher.	Barnard, Kansas	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day or later. We need time to prepare and train our staff on COVID-19 safety procedures. I am a special education teacher in Glasco, Kansas. All of the staff in my room are either high risk or live with those that are high risk. Thank you.
7/21/2020 10:51:04	Connie	Colson	USD#336	Holton	Support Gov. Kelly!

7/21/2020 10:51:03	Sarah	Hess		Shawnee	Please keep schools closed.
7/21/2020 10:51:08	Laura	Devereux		Prairie Village	I believe that opening of schools should be delayed until cases are again under control and lower levels maintained. While the risk to kids might now be as great, they will come home to others who might be at greater risk. Additionally there is so much we don't know about long term effects or who is at greatest risk. Also the environment of masks and distancing is not ideal for kids to thrive. So much will be lost in this form of education especially with younger kids. A warm smile and connection with their teachers and peers is such a huge part of the experience and that will not exist under this new normal.
7/21/2020 10:51:15	Jennifer	Topliff		Wamego	As a mother of a senior and 8th grader, wife of a teacher, and a teacher entering my 23rd in the classroom, I am writing to ask you to put the safety of students and educators above politics and parent pressure. While I believe local control is important, I also acknowledge that some local control has turned into a political war, and decisions are being made without regard to public safety and welfare. I'm also deeply concerned that decisions about education locally are being made by people with little to no working knowledge of how the education system works. The health and safety of our children and school staff are not at the forefront. Personal freedoms without responsibilities and politics should play no part in the decisions being made by county officials, yet that is what you will allow if you don't support our governor. Please put partisan politics aside and support Governor Kelly's efforts to protect children and all of those working to educate them and keep them safe. Districts need time to gather necessary safety supplies and train teachers on life-saving procedures. Districts need time to work through complex regulations and find practical ways to implement them. Districts need time to support teachers as we will need to develop robust online learning platforms because this virus will continue to spread in its current uncontrolled manor. Districts need time. Please don't take that from us. It will be a matter of life and death, not Republicans and Democrats.
7/21/2020 10:51:16	Salena	Orr	USD 233 & USD 512	Olathe	I live in Olathe where my children attend school. I also work for Shawnee Mission as a middle school teacher. Please consider delaying the start of school. This extra time would allow districts, schools, and teachers to properly prepare our rooms and schools for sanitation, social distancing, and any other new protocols you have put in place with the reopening document. While I do not feel it is safe for everyone to go back, this delay would at least give us the chance to better handle the situation.
7/21/2020 10:51:22	Leticia	Pitman	Olathe North	Olathe	Delay for safe return to school or plan for remote learning.
7/21/2020 10:51:26	Cindy	Buentello	Wichita Public High Sch	wichita KS	I do not think delaying school until September 9th will make any difference at all. The virus will still be here on Sept. 9th. Just get the kids back in school. Their well being depends on it!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
7/21/2020 10:51:26	Lisa	Ray		Overland Park	Open schools!
7/21/2020 10:51:32	Abbey	Thomas	Olathe teacher/Shawnee	Prairie village	Please uphold the governor's order to delay schools. Schools are not prepared. As a teacher I have received no information on how we will teach this year. As a parent I have received some options but nothing concrete. I do not feel it is safe for my daughter to attend in person school. We will opt for virtual learning because our health is more important. Please give the schools time to make plans. Thank you.
7/21/2020 10:51:37	Brian	Ruder	Blue Valley High School	Stilwell	Get ALL kids back in school in person with their teachers and coaches. More damage is being done by not having teens fully engaged than this virus is doing to their health. Kids and teens should be back in person period...My tax dollars pay for the schools and online learning is not teaching. Teens in particular are suffering greatly with mental health by having school, sports, choir, band, theater etc taken from them. In Johnson county we have 3200 cases out of over 602,000 residents ...math doesn't add up. Open the schools and all activities and give me a wavier to sign...I'm not afraid of this virus and will not be taking a vaccine for it either.
7/21/2020 10:51:44	Judith	Dutton		Lawrence	I support Gov. Kelly's order to delay the opening of schools. As the number of covid 19 cases increase, sending our children back to school is extremely risky. At least allow time for the teachers and administration to put the best possible procedures in place. This should not be a partisan issue. We elected Gov. Kelly and she is doing her job well in an extremely difficult time.
7/21/2020 10:51:47	Julie	Kircher	Self	Prairie Village	As a teacher in KCKPS with family in Shawnee Mission, Blue Valley and Olathe schools I support the delay in starting the school year to be sure teachers and staff can be best prepared and to keep staff and students safe.
7/21/2020 10:51:48	Allison	Vandall	Parent of elementary stu	Lansing, Kansas	I am strongly in favor of school starting after Labor Day.

7/21/2020 10:51:48	Jana	Houston		Lenexa	Please accept this. We need time and more sufficient answers for how this is going to work. We have already seen what happens when important decisions are made as suggestions or recommendations. They are not followed. People Cary masks in their cars with them and try to go places only to be told they need their masks, which they already had but wanted to see if they could get away with it. This will continue to happen and school will be even less safe. We need the extension to make better decisions and plans for this year. Please support the delay.
7/21/2020 10:51:51	Aaron	Holsworth		Overland Park	please support the governors executive order to delay school openings
7/21/2020 10:51:53	Melissa	Howard	Broken Arrow Elementa	Eudora	As a teacher and parent I am very worried about K-12 school reopening for "business as usual." I also help to care for my elderly mother that lives by herself. I do not feel there is a way to safely reopen school buildings for in person instruction while our COVID-19 cases continue to climb in Douglas County. Please don't misunderstand my worry for my safety and that of my family and students for a lack of empathy and wanting to be back in the classroom. If I am forced to work in person, I won't be able to care for my mother, as I cannot risk taking this virus to her. I do feel that the best way to instruct elementary students is in person, and I deeply miss seeing my students in person and giving them big hugs when they need one. But, this cannot be done safely. I work in a building that still has open concept classrooms. That means two teachers and upto 50 or more students in one space. I often have to turn sideways to squeeze between students seats. So, spacing students 6 feet apart will never happen. Reducing class sizes, where will the funds come from to hire the extra teachers? Frequent hand washing, yes a great practice, but will cause little instruction to happen due to the transitions. I do feel that students can be trained to wear face masks, but there will always be some that will not follow the rules. Asking families to keep kids at home when they are sick is already a part of education, but I have had students napping in my classroom because they don't feel well and their parents won't come pick them up. Or students that have told me their parents told them to come to school even though they threw up the night before. We do have the technology for online learning, which is a great alternative, as long as we are given some leniency for what we expect this to accomplish. I had 2nd graders that had the technology and internet access as well as a parent home with them that did not participate in any online learning last spring when we had to change to online instruction. This was a choice. A choice that the parent made, not the student. I had parents doing the online work for the child. I know these are arguments for going back to the buildings, as that is what is best for learning and equaling the playing field for most students. But again, I remind you this is not safe for my health, my families health and the health of my students. I know you have a very hard decision to make. I don't envy your position right now. I do ask that you keep the health and safety for everyone as the deciding factor for how you vote. We cannot afford for lives to be lost because we cannot make adjustments during this pandemic. These are exceptional times and require adjustments to expectations and how we deliver education. I would also encourage you to look at the required minutes for the 2020-21 school year as we move forward. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 10:51:53	Chad	Kelly	blue valley southwest	Overland Park	kids need to be in school. There has been adequate time (since mar.1) to come up with plans a,b,c,d and e... with proper policies in place we together as a community can do this.
7/21/2020 10:51:55	Kaitlyn	Longbine		Pratt	I am firmly against the delay of starting school! September brings cooler temperatures and cold and flu like symptoms and possibly more COVID. As an essential employee as a registered nurse, I do not hesitate to send my child back to school. I believe each school district has been planning, for months now, to establish a safe plan to reopen on time. Let's trust them! I worry about the education our children are not getting by delaying school. I also believe if you let the governor have her way and delay school until September, she is just as easily able to say it needs to be delayed again. How can our children thrive without school. In my opinion, school is an essential activity. If sports were allowed to resume this summer then I think school should start as planned in August. I also have a child that needs a speech therapy evaluation and if school doesn't start until September the help he needs is getting delayed as well. Daycares have remained open during the entire pandemic and I have not heard of any daycare having to shut down or any of the kids testing positive. I have heard of several families deciding to homeschool their children this year and that is their right. Enrollment numbers may be lower due to this. My family does not have the opportunity to homeschool as both parents are full time (40+ hours/week) essential employees. Please consider all options and make the best decision based on a district by district basis. Kids need school!

7/21/2020 10:51:58	Cassandra	Ballentine	Parent	Wallace, KS	I feel that the governor's order makes sense. The schools need time to prepare items to keep kids safe. Small schools in rural areas such as where I live need to get schedules rearranged for social distancing. All these extra precautions take time to implement. This would also give time to hopefully see our numbers go down as they have been on a sharp rise the lady couple weeks.
7/21/2020 10:52:00	Sara	Pottorf	USD 345	Topeka	I have a special needs son and 2 other little boys who need to be in a structured environment with their teachers and peers. My husband and I both work full time and this has already been detrimental to their education as it is. This cannot go on any longer! Please allow these kids to return to school!!
7/21/2020 10:52:03	Janel	Shultz		Elwood	I believe waiting until after Labor Day to start school is the most prudent thing to do at this point. Numbers are on the rise in Kansas. I have a son who will be starting kindergarten this year and I am a teacher myself so I see the situation from both points of view. While I want my son to be back in the classroom, I want to know for 100% sure that every precaution has been taken to keep him healthy and safe. That time is needed to prepare and come up with the safest plan for our students, our teachers and all of our other staff members.
7/21/2020 10:52:07	Darin	Malcolm	USD 251	Emporia	I support delaying the start of public schools until trusted health officials determine it is safe for students and faculty to return.
7/21/2020 10:52:13	Jamie	Cox		Baldwin City	Please vote to uphold the executive order and delay the start of schools. Remote learning would be good for first semester.
7/21/2020 10:52:15	Shonesia	Lindsay	Kansas City KS Public	Slee's summit	Please consider having schools in KCK NOT open in person. The loss of life outweighs the social-emotional impact. Also do we have the financial resources to repeatedly purchase masks for our students, hand sanitizer and have we considered the social-emotional impact on staff and students if we do return.
7/21/2020 10:52:38	Joseph	Norman		Goddard	I believe that the extra 2 weeks is a prudent a respectful way for teachers and administrators to plan for this difficult situation.
7/21/2020 10:52:42	Diane	Landers		Abilene	School need to start on time. Kids have been together all summer, therefore putting them back in school on time as opposed to late is a smart move. They are delayed academically as school was not in session I. The buildings since March. They need to be in school.
7/21/2020 10:52:46	Mary	Pantle	Concerned parent	LEAVENWORTH	Please delay the start of school until after labor day. Our schools need more time to prepare and make the schools safe. The acceptable amount of staff and student illness and deaths are ZERO. Please think about our children and our communities and not your pocketbook.
7/21/2020 10:52:52	Megan	Mascorro-Jackson		Merriam	COVID-19 cases are on the rise so dramatically that Kansans traveling have been placed on state quarantine lists. There are several counties with no hospitals, even more counties have no ICU beds. To open environments that are notoriously overcrowded and underfunded is irresponsible. Keep schools closed past as long as needed.
7/21/2020 10:52:54	Jessica	Lyman	Kansas resident and school	Overland Park	Please uphold, this is a good option on ensuring an equitable school experience and allows for a better chance to start school in person again in the future as we drive cases down in our communities
7/21/2020 10:52:57	Jolene	Durler	teacher	Dodge City	Thank you for all your hard work. I trust you will do what is best for the students, teachers, and families. Please use good judgement and not go for just a political push.
7/21/2020 10:52:59	Jacob	Payne		Hutchinson	I don't think schools should open until masks can safely not be worn.
7/21/2020 10:52:59	Alan	Lehman		4205 West 71 St, Prairie	I believe the schools should obide Governor Kelly's order and not open until after Labor Day, or later if needed.
7/21/2020 10:53:12	Carrie	Alton		Clay Center	School should start in August
7/21/2020 10:53:01	Tina	Mowrey	my house hold	Olathe	In person class needs to happen
7/21/2020 10:53:20	Mary	Clark	Private retired citizen	Olathe	Given the current increase in the COVID 19 cases in KS, I concur that the school year needs to be delayed if not postponed indefinitely. It's my opinion, that several districts in Johnson Co do not have specific or thorough plans to deal with this epidemic.
7/21/2020 10:53:21	Lindsey	Faber	Catholic Schools of Wichita	wichita	please open schools as originally planned!
7/21/2020 10:53:24	Lori	Wilson	parents/community men	Zone 9 (Cherokee Count	I fully support Governor Kelly's restricts and proposal to delay the start of school/athletics, as well as the guidelines for safety.
7/21/2020 10:53:25	Tracy	Leopold	Parent	Andover	School needs to start as normal, kids need to be in class if they want and if parents don't want to send them they need to have homeschool options.
7/21/2020 10:53:32	Jessica	McDow		Mound Valley	I feel they should postpone until after Labor Day, this is a lot of lives to think of both staff and children.



					Before you rubber stamp the governor's executive order to delay school opening, please consider the health of all involved. There is no factual scientific basis for the order. There have been studies in several countries proving that children don't spread covid to adults, nor do they (with a VERY minute number of exceptions) require hospitalizations or other treatments. The mental toll on children's health by NOT being in a social environment, as well as the toll on parents health and wellbeing, are astronomical. Please consider the consequences. I understand that teachers might be concerned about the spread, but again, there is no evidence that children transmit it to adults. Many countries, like Germany, have had school without ANY restrictions, such as masks, even. Those are also not necessary, but that is a whole separate matter. Please listen to the scores of medical experts who suggest schools need to carry on as close to the way they previously were, prior to March. I could continue for many paragraphs, but I will not. Do what is best for your constituents.
7/21/2020 10:53:32	Erik	Bendorf	None	Leawood	Thank you!
7/21/2020 10:53:37	Lisa	Bauman	Blue Valley teacher, Sha	Overland Park	Please support Gov. Kelly's order and mandates. Our kids' lives are at stake.
7/21/2020 10:53:49	Darren	Epping		Manhattan	I fully support the decision to delay opening schools. Educators need time to prepare for in person instruction. The delay allows them time to do that. With cases increasing in the state it is irresponsible to start school before Labor Day.
7/21/2020 10:53:51	Joel	Eberhart	USD 204	Lenexa	I have major concerns about the validity of bringing students back to school. First off, there is limited ability to effectively social distance in a classroom setting. A majority of our classes have over 25 students per class. I have concerns that even if a student is exhibiting symptoms parents will still send their child to school or refuse to come pick up their student from the district. It will be difficult to rely on parents to temperature check their student every single day. I have concerns about what the process will be if there is an infection in the school that I work at and how that will alter the learning environment for both students and teachers. I know the majority of teachers and parents I have spoken with do not feel comfortable at all in a classroom setting at this point. I think pushing back the start date at least gives us more time to find a way for this to be come a more comfortable option to return students to the classroom or to find a way to be successful with virtual learning.
7/21/2020 10:54:03	Amy	Morales		Shawnee	Delaying school is ridiculous. These kids NEED to be in school. This is delaying their mental and cognitive health with no logical reason to backing it up. Schools have been shut down now for 4 months. Our school is small and private and have expressed they are ready and that it will cause more harm than good to keep them away. This is not a decision for a governor who is well past the age of raising small children in school and delaying for rural counties in Kansas. This should be left up to the schools. This is just another beating of the chest to prove she has control. She is a disgrace.
7/21/2020 10:54:10	Olivia	Hensley	Self	Wichita	The start of school should not be delayed. Students need to return to school.
7/21/2020 10:54:24	Farrah	Schmidt	USD 382	Pratt Kansas	Please allow districts to make their own decisions based on data within our counties!
7/21/2020 10:54:31	Mary	Deters	Parent of a Senior	Harveyville	My senior is facing a tough year already having to navigate changes in the school setup as well as her school national competitions having to take place virtually instead of reaping the reward of getting to travel to Washington DC and several trips to places like Ohio and Denver. She worked extremely hard for these trips only to have them stripped away. Now she faces new uncertainty with school being delayed or possibly not opening at all!! She didn't learn anything in the shut down this spring. She tried to learn Chemistry remotely but it was clear to her teacher that this cannot be taught that way. She has 'assignments' that were literally busy work. They wanted her to send them a meme about the virus as an assignment. Once she had to make a tiktok video about making pancakes. How is that learning?! Open school and let these kids see that somebody cares about them and their future. Thank you.

7/21/2020 10:54:35	Amy	Wildeman	Mother to My Children	Colby	Allow our local administrators, health officials, and school boards determine what is best for our kids and our district. Let them implement a plan using the plan they were provided from you the SBOE to work from to get our kids back into school without any further delay. Delaying further means it will be 6 months that my kids and husband, who is a science teacher/coach, have been allowed to step foot in a classroom. THIS IS WRONG! PLEASE do not continue to deny my kids access to a quality education simply because there are other larger cities or school districts in the State of Kansas that maybe seeing a higher number of cases or their teachers are not comfortable with returning to an in-classroom setting. Don't allow the "One Size Fits All Approach" to be forced upon ALL Kansas Kids! They are the ones suffering from it and it's not fair or right!
7/21/2020 10:54:37	Marisol	Santiago	Teacher Parent	Wichita	As a parent I am scared to put myself into the situation to bring it back to my sons. My oldest son has allergic asthma and this virus could be fatal. For my student many of my asthmatic kiddos their parent can't afford their inhalers. They don't need to be exposed. The kids don't have the maturity to go back into schools and understand isolation or quarantine when a fellow student leaves or myself. Students needs to understand hygiene and the severity of this virus. With the tear between which parents believe this virus verses the ones that don't is going to be an obstacle.
7/21/2020 10:54:38	Stacey	Noble	Seaman USD 345	Topeka	I agree with postponing the opening of schools to kids, but only until September 9 at the latest. Teachers will need some time to sort out how to teach both face to face and online at the same time.
7/21/2020 10:54:38	Jaime	Kitzmann	Classroom teacher/paren	Garden Plain	I want to see the kids back in person as soon as possible! That being said, I personally am in favor of the delayed start....as a teacher, I appreciate the extra time to prepare for safety measures, instruction planning and technology training that we may need to do our job to the best of our ability. I just don't think the traditional 1 week start before the kids begin, is enough to get all of our ducks in a row. I support the decision to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. Thank you for your time and efforts to do what is best for kids.
7/21/2020 10:54:39	Jana	Peters	Retired 2020 School Nu	Manhattan	As a RN for 43 years and a school nurse in Kansas schools for 26 of those years, please approve Governor Kelly's recommendations on schools. She is looking out for the health and well being of all Kansans. Our children and grandchildren are our most precious commodity. Please do not allow them to be guinea pigs by opening schools too soon. Let's wait the extra 3 weeks before starting schools. Give schools a chance to have the best plan for our children in place. Please do not allow them to be guinea pigs. Let's see what the covid numbers are and open schools to in person education ONLY when cases are on a steady and consistent decline. Let's use masks in schools following her order for the protection not only of our children but our teachers and other staff. One of the reasons for in person school is the social experience for kids. That experience will not be there for them this year with social distancing, etc. The other reason is daycare so parents can work. Schools primary job is to educate, not be a daycare. One child's life lost, one teacher's life. It's a high price to pay.
7/21/2020 10:54:41	Staci	Frick		Hesston	Our kids needs to be back in school sooner rather than later! Mental health is the biggest worry for them Right now. Kids are showing more resilience to this virus and their mental, and emotional state needs a sense of normalcy. Getting them back to school is so crucial! Also, mandating masks for all kids in school is dangerous! Studies done overseas are showing severe issues with kids and wearing masks all day at schools! That poses more risk to them than the virus itself.
7/21/2020 10:54:41	Billi	Wilson	USD 412	Hoxie	I am writing to encourage you to leave decisions up to local districts. This country is built upon the freedom of choice and the governor is trying to take that freedom of choice from the citizens of Kansas through her mandates. She resides in Topeka, a city where there are more citizens to be concerned about. We are a small community and the issues faced by bigger cities are not the same that we face here. Decisions need to be made at the local level only. We know our community better than you do, so please allow decisions to made by those who live within our county borders.
7/21/2020 10:54:46	Melissa	Loper	JOCO resident and smal	Overland Park	Thank you for making the hard decision to postpone the school year. As someone who was a teacher for over a decade, I appreciate you doing your best to keep the children, teachers, and staff safe as covid numbers continue to rise in our state.

7/21/2020 10:54:49	Sara	Anthony	None (Parent)	Spring Hill, KS	Really disappointed with the delay. Schools should have been more prepared and able to adapt under the circumstances to start on time, even if remotely. Things aren't going to get better in 2-3 weeks. Also -- More thought and planning is needed for full-time working parents of young children. The government is mostly acting and assuming parents can quickly adapt to different plans. This is not the case. Parents who had summer care through mid-August are now left without care for many weeks. If school starts remotely, parents who can work from home cannot also adequately supervise young kids' distance learning. Also, more care needs to be made towards household's technology and internet capacity. Also, kids on IEPs needs access to people and facilities. Lastly, if remote learning becomes more prevalent in the future, more consideration should be given to year-round school so our kids don't fall any further behind, and have more consistent touchpoints.
7/21/2020 10:55:14	Jessica	McDow	Myself	Lawrence	As a registered nurse, I support delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. Students have not physically been in school since March. They are used to not being in school physically. Postponing the start of school for 3 weeks will be nothing to these kids. The proposed social benefits of going to school for 3 weeks will pale in comparison to the negative effects of a disease outbreak. With an additional 3 weeks, the state has more time to combat the spread of COVID-19. The case count needs to begin decreasing, not increasing, in order for large groups of people to gather safely. It will be much more disruptive to students and parents to start the school year and then have to abruptly change plans after a few weeks because of an outbreak. We are not asking to postpone school indefinitely, just for a little while until we get the current outbreak under control. Additionally, if schools become super-spreader locations, that is going to put an additional strain on our healthcare workers, who are already doing all they can to help combat this virus. By keeping students home for another 3 weeks, that's 3 more weeks that health care professionals have to prepare for another outbreak.
7/21/2020 10:55:17	Rhonda	Weber	Pratt High School	Pratt	Let kids have school let them play
7/21/2020 10:55:24	Jacinda	Weat	KCKPS	Overland Park	Please uphold the governor's request to delay school opening until after Labor Day. Give our schools more time to put a safe plan in place for the return to school and make decisions based on the science and medical needs of our communities.
7/21/2020 10:55:25	Jordan	Garcia		Overland Park	As a classroom teacher I can confirm with certainty there is absolutely no way we can have in person school in a safe way. There have been studies shown that in order to do so public school would need upwards of \$245 billion in funding, and this year we've already cut the education budget by ~\$7 Million and Trump threatens to cut it further. I come into contact with 140-160 kids a day in my classroom alone, and knowing I am not equipped to be safe, I do not feel comfortable teaching. With my anxiety, and all the restrictions, stress, and fatigue we will ALL be experiencing, I know the kids will not be able to get the socialization and/or personal interaction that they so need. Personally, I have 10 family members diagnosed with Covid, and an uncle in the ICU on a ventilator, and 2 autoimmune disorders of my own. I know I won't be able to go back and put all my focus and love into those kids like they deserve. If we closed schools at such a small number of cases of Covid and effectively ended the school year, why would we rush back in when cases are 4x more than that point, and only rapidly increasing every single hour? It seems incredibly counterproductive and illogical to me. Also the fact that the board is meeting VIRTUALLY instead of IN PERSON gives you all the context you need. If you all don't feel safe meeting right now, how/why would you send me back to in person learning with 800 kids? What a shameful thing to do.
7/21/2020 10:55:36	Elizabeth	Cathcart-Rake		Prairie Village	As a physician and a mother, I implore you to support Governor Kelly's order to delay school opening. We are seeing higher and higher levels of coronavirus infections every day, and strong medical evidence suggests that opening schools will be another way infections will spread. This threatens everyone's life. This virus kills - I have seen this first hand. In Texas, hospitals and ICUs are full. Our hospitals and ICUs are filling fast and I am concerned that we will be in this position soon. Another opening will only worsen this significant issue. I understand everyone wants to get back to life as usual, myself included. But, we cannot and should not allow for the death toll to rise in the pursuit of this impossible hope. Please focus your efforts into how to support children and their parents in the pursuit of more equitable and engaging remote learning.

7/21/2020 10:55:38	Zachary	Dreher		Emporia	If executive order 20-59 is truly something districts must abide by I see no reason why we must as a state delay. This is a decision that should be made by individual districts based on the plans they have created and on how Covid is affecting their local areas. The needs of each district can vary drastically based on those two variables alone, not to mention the multitude of additional factors that are currently being monitored by each district and also used to help make their decision. Thus there is no "one-size-fits-all" plan. Please vote to against Executive order 20-58 and leave the power to decide where it belongs, with the individual districts.
7/21/2020 10:55:38	Nicole	Peters		Hays	Please get these kids back to school. If it is delayed another 3 weeks, that is almost 6 months of them being out of the classroom. I feel like the local districts will do everything they can to keep kids and educators well. Kids mental health is suffering because of this.
7/21/2020 10:55:45	Stephanie	Ashford	Parent of usd232 studen	Shawnee	Please do not delay the start of school! My child wants to go back ASAP! He misses school and his friends and activities. He did not learn much in the spring. He need to get back to learning!
7/21/2020 10:55:46	Cindy	Malay	NKESC 602	WaKeeney	I believe we should start school after Labor Day
7/21/2020 10:55:50	Aimee	Poore		Andover/Wichita	No masks for children under 10! There will be increased illness d/t mask misuse, loss, face touching and lack of concentration d/t minimized fresh air and heat. Additionally, has our governor considered the mental ramifications of her "ruling"? She is not the queen. This overreach will not be forgotten.
7/21/2020 10:55:52	April	Crosser	High school	Prairie village	Please do not delay school or sports and activities.
7/21/2020 10:55:52	Shawn	Seematter		Pittsburg	As the head football coach at St. Marys Colgan High School in Pittsburg, Kansas we have been safely conducting summer strength and conditioning workouts, as well as sport specific workouts, since June 1. We have made several adaptations to what we have done in past summers to account for social distancing. If the executive order were to pass, it would not allow coaches to work with our student-athletes (as we have for the past 8 weeks) for 4 weeks leading up to the start of practices; essentially wiping out the gains and progress we have made to get them in shape and prepare them for a season. While I agree that a shortened season would be better than no season at all, I am worried for our athletes health and safety if we don't have enough time prior to season starting to get them in shape, which is what we have been doing for the past 8 weeks. That is just the physical detriment caused from this executive order and doesn't even touch on the mental/emotional drawback. Physical fitness and healthy habits are proven to improve mental and emotional health, especially in children. Removing the ability of the student to have adequate and safe workout facilities could also be very detrimental to their mental and emotional health. Athletic activities such as Baseball, softball, basketball, and volleyball tournaments have been taking place across the state for months now, and removing that physical stimulus and natural stress reliever could be costly to our students who need it the most. Not every child has the ability to play travel/club sports and school sports are their only outlet. After having to stay at home for two-and-half months this spring, our students craved physical activity and have benefited greatly from it this summer, especially those not fortunate to be on travel/club teams. Removing it from them again will hurt those who Have not had the fortune of playing this summer.
7/21/2020 10:56:02	Cierra	Gawith		Hillsboro	It is in the student's and staff's best interest to delay the start of school to atleast after Labor Day. I am truly concerned about my kids-all ages- going back.
7/21/2020 10:56:06	Jennifer	Johnson	Teacher-Fort Leavenwor	Leavenworth	Please support the executive order from Governor Kelly delaying the start to the school year. I'm a teacher and I feel like this time is necessary to prepare for students. I don't feel as though this should be kept on a local level, as I feel like there's too much pressure on local officials. I also don't trust them to do what is right.
7/21/2020 10:56:08	Jennifer	Barnhart	Retired administrator	Osage City	I support the Governor! 1. Keep students and staff safe. 2. Give educators more time to prepare.

7/21/2020 10:56:10	Devon	Vickers		Olathe	<p>I believe that postponing school is ridiculous and unnecessary. It is my opinion that schools should be able to reopen on time with proper precautions (whether online or in person). The extra 3 weeks do not offer any benefits. There is simply NO reason why schools who have properly prepared for online schooling should not be allowed to start on time as planned. ZERO reason.</p> <p>Additionally, private schools, which are much smaller (which includes homeschools in our state) should NOT be included in the mandate whatsoever. It makes no sense.</p> <p>The governor has, once again, overstepped her bounds and needs to be reigned in. She is not taking education seriously and is only cow-towing to her political party. Our children NEED to be educated. They NEED to get back with their peers...even if it is only virtually. My children NEED interaction and they need their minds challenged.</p> <p>As an educator myself, I know that we are harming our children's future learning. We are going to have to backtrack drastically to get our students' learning back up to age-level. We will be teaching children all across the spectrum from those who have been neglected/abused/left hungry to those who have just had an extra long summer to those who have parents who have kept their brains engaged in learning throughout the past 5 months. The first two groups are the ones who NEED to get back into academia. They need their minds challenged once more. They NEED learning.</p> <p>PLEASE consider all of the factors here and not just the "it's not safe to be in person in school" factor. There is SO much more at play and we need to be concerned about the WHOLE child...not just the somewhat minimal risk of COVID.</p> <p>And don't get me started about the thought of us teachers trying to regulate masks all day... That's a whole different conversation...</p>
7/21/2020 10:56:12	Keith	Miller	Self	Westmoreland	The Kansas City Star had an article today about teens spreading the virus. In the decision to open schools or not, it is important to consider effects on teachers. How many teachers in Kansas are over the age of 50? If teachers are killed off, what young person will want to take their place in the profession? A much more effective way to begin would be for the board to say that when the citizens of Kansas decide to take this seriously and wear masks, then we will take a look at opening schools.
7/21/2020 10:56:23	Kate	Mulligan		Lenexa	School should start on time. My child has been away from the classroom almost six months. Not acceptable. Children should have temps taken at door and mandatory hand washing. NO MASKS K - 8!!!
7/21/2020 10:56:23	Naomi	Wyatt	USD 270-Plainville	Plainville	I DO NOT feel like it will solve anything to delay the school year
7/21/2020 10:56:24	Karen	Kressin		Lawrence	I support Gov. Kelly's postponement of school opening until after Labor Day. Let's give school districts more time to prepare to open schools safely.
7/21/2020 10:56:25	Deanna	Castilla	Blue Valley School distri	Overland Park	Delay start of school at least until after Labor Day 2020 and Reduce class sizes in elementary to 18-22 students per class. Thank you.

7/21/2020 10:56:25	Heather	Newcomb		Manhattan	Our school district has already prepared multiple plans for moving forward with an opening on the regularly scheduled opening date in August. Gov Kelly is attempting to micro manage smaller government who have already made the same decisions and prepped and planned to be ready on time. Their plans meet her criteria and they should be allowed to open as scheduled. I watched both Gov Kelly's press conferences and I am greatly disappointed by her becoming emotionally reactive. She literally said because you opted out of the mask mandate I'm delaying the opening of schools. I'm disappointed she's trying to punish the parents and in turn the students of this state. This decision should be left at local levels and not dictated to by her. I hope she can put on her big girl panties and see that even though power feels good emotionally it doesn't serve her constituents. And THAT is truly her job. Our children already lost months worth of education. Stop the insanity. The children deserve to learn. Leave the decision to open in the hands of those who locally have been working their asses off to have the plans and ability to open safely. Instead you should be asking what the districts who aren't ready need to become ready. That would be a brilliant and productive use of your time.
7/21/2020 10:56:27	Kailee	Dettmann	Parent/staff	Olathe	The safety of our students, staff and families are at risk. Many staff work in multiple buildings and will have exposure to upward of 800 or more individuals. We need time, and a solid plan. Not just words and hypotheticals.
7/21/2020 10:56:37	Klayton	Wilk		Topeka	Ok to delay until Sept 9th, but we need to have some form of in person schooling.
7/21/2020 10:56:39	Jody	Schmidt		Goessel	Please delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year. I am a teacher and we are not ready. With the increase in cases statewide it does not make sense to go back now. Teachers need time to come up with a COVID plan of action. Thank you for caring about teachers and students!
7/21/2020 10:56:40	Irish	Bussmann		Beattie	I agree with Gov Kelley, delaying school until after Labor Day will allow teachers and school staff to better prepare for the new challenges this year will bring. Teachers will also be better prepared to provide remote learning to students that will not be on site. We cannot expect excellence with no time to prepare!
7/21/2020 10:56:53	Jody	Metcalfe	Colby Public Schools Pa	Colby	I feel very strongly against young children wearing masks as it would prevent them from learning Social and Emotional clues. I certainly am not opposed to an adult wearing a mask if they feel uncomfortable without BUT it should have to be a clear mask so students can see their face!
7/21/2020 10:56:54	carlie	scheer		lenexa	As far as start date, I feel after Labor Day. i'm a sophomore in high school and would like to start school whether online or in person
7/21/2020 10:57:06	Todd	Burroughs	Myself	Williamsburg	I do not believe that Governor Kelly should have the final say over the education of our children. That authority should rest with the local school boards.
7/21/2020 10:57:21	Staci	Lowe	Parent, Secondary Teac	Overland Park	I believe that starting school in August needs to be strongly considered. All of the isolation is hurting our adolescents, many of which were are already struggling. They need to get back to some "normalcy" of life, with preventive measures of course. If they aren't going to start until September we need to allow them to continue their current sports conditioning, which also helps their mental health. We absolutely need fall sports!
7/21/2020 10:57:23	Chiffon	Beasley		Wichita	I personally feel the delay is necessary, because the children are the priority here. Yes I'm ready for my children to go back to school but I'm not trying to lose my children because I want them to have an education
7/21/2020 10:57:24	Chris	Weber		Wichita	I support Gov Kelly's proposal to start after Labor Day. It seems like a reasonable compromise.
7/21/2020 10:57:30	Chala	Roberts-Fife		Lawrence	I believe the start of the school year should be delayed until after Labor Day.

					<p>Well, this is real! I'm a woodworking teacher. I have some chapter work the students can do online. Safety can not be done online. Most all my students have project unfinished which needs to be in the lab. With there being said, How am I going to masks on students when it is 100 degrees plus in the woods lab.</p> <p>So if students are allowed in the building and little Susie comes down with COVID 19 but didn't know it. She has exposed the students in my class but has exposed all the students in the other classes for 7 class periods...so the school is shut down for 14 days...we get back from that 14 days and now little Johnny comes down with it....</p> <p>I drive a school bus morning and night as well...what students are getting on and off...I need to be watching the road...are students keeping the masks on??</p> <p>Is there a good solution? Please think about the teachers being exposed from many different directions. The other thing is the liability? What lawyer is going to jump on this the say it is the teacher's fault there child got exposed.</p> <p>I do not know the answers but it is not a time to say, "Oh, there is nothing to it"</p>
7/21/2020 10:57:43	Mark	Lockhart		Ramona	Please make a very careful decision.
7/21/2020 10:57:49	Kaley	Jones	Chisholm Trail and Allis	Park City	Schools should open as usual this fall. Children need the interaction for mental, physical and emotional stability.
7/21/2020 10:57:58	Kelly	Franke	USD 368 Paola	Paola	Delaying the opening of school until September will give faculty and staff the time needed to prepare lesson plans for both in-person and online instruction as well as finalize plans for transportation, janitorial/maintenance and food service. This will also give us time to secure the much needed PPE and cleaning supplies that will make our buildings safer once they reopen. I firmly believe this is a public health issue and not a political issue-we should be working together to ensure that our children and employees have what they need to make this year a success, no matter what that looks like. I urge you to approve the governor's executive order allowing for delayed school opening. Thank you.
7/21/2020 10:58:08	Sloane	Sandmoen		Overland Park	I am a teacher and think that delaying the start of school would give schools more time to prepare and make sure that they have the necessary supplies to help keep everyone safe and provide more time for teachers to figure out how to support our students best with all that is going on. Right now we still don't know enough about how COVID effects students to say that they are safe going back and if they are able to really spread it among their peers and the staff they interact with. These are real concerns for a lot of teachers who are at high risk or live with people that are. We don't want to bring it home to our families or infect our students either. Waiting would give the districts more time to follow the suggestions that KSDE just put out since it's hard to plan when you don't have those recommendations and they just got them last week.
7/21/2020 10:58:13	Bryan	Scruggs	Citizen	Wamego	I stand with the governor's decision to delay schools until after Labor Day. As a teacher and a parent, I believe it is the safest option for our students and our community. I hope that you stand by the governor is well as you look to protect the health and welfare of those Kansans you represent. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 10:58:14	Kyle	Ruder	BV high school	Stilwell	Open the schools in person with all sports and activities. Enough is enough...this is not any worse than the flu and learning virtually is not teaching. I'm an essential worker and have been working this entire time. Teachers can go teach in person as that is what is best for kids. Mental health is suffering with teens in particular ...open the schools!
7/21/2020 10:58:21	Jodi	Rice	Parent	Wichita	Please delay school and do a hybrid model
7/21/2020 10:58:26	Kathy	Price		Howard	Please allow the schools the extra time they need to make our schools safe for our children and our staff. We are anxious to get back on campus. I miss my students very much, but I can't stand the thoughts of losing one of them or a co-worker. Ignore politics and listen to the Dr's and scientists. Bring us back when its safer...please. You will be held responsible for the consequences of your actions so please if you are going to err do it on the side of safety. Thanks for listening.
7/21/2020 10:58:27	Whitney	Benson	Desoto USD 232	Shawnee	Kids need to be in school. Let's start Then IN PERSON with safety precautions in place.

7/21/2020 10:58:31	Jeff	Page	Family in USD 308	Hutchinson	It's my opinion that further delays to school and associated activities is not warranted. While we have a health issue with COVID-19, setting this precedent will potentially open the floodgates for delaying for EVERY health situation in the future. This isn't a good plan for the state's students or schools. Precautions need to be taken, but in-person learning needs to return as soon as possible.
7/21/2020 10:58:32	Brooklyn	Klahr	Holton USD 336	Holton	I support Gov. Kelly's decision to postpone school. For the safety and health of our students.
7/21/2020 10:58:35	Paige	Stallings		OVERLAND PARK	Please follow Governor Kelly's order. I have so many relatives that work for Kansas public schools or attend public schools, and I want them to remain safe and healthy. Pushing back the start date will enable them to be better prepared.
7/21/2020 10:58:41	Kelle	Oestreich	None	Bucyrus	Follow the Governor's lead.
7/21/2020 10:58:48	Virginia	Kiltau		Hayville	Other countries over seas have their schools open. I pay very high taxes for schools and teachers to teach our children in person. I feel that if our schools remain closed, then I should receive my taxes back for the time they have been closed. The teachers union should NOT control when schools should open. Maybe taxpayers should start refusing to pay school tax.
7/21/2020 10:58:52	Heather	Sims	KCKPS and SMSD	Overland Park	I understand the why for school being delyed but what about those people who work for school districts that are classified/non teaching positions? I'm glad the governor took a stand on this issue but worry about some of our staff in our school districts will be left out in the dark with no income.
7/21/2020 10:58:55	Alejandra	Contreras	Teachers	Overland Park	It would be irresponsible to open school with the current trend of COVID spikes. Think about the teachers and the adults who would have to quarantine against everyone they love simply because they're teachers. Teachers can't hide their fear. Their fear of dying. Their fear of their loved ones dying simply because they were forced to work too early and against the advice of those knowledgeable enough to predict what will happen if schools open now. Look at the different countries that have opened with the spike of COVID still trending: they have all shut down within a week of opening. Do this for teachers and students and everyone we care about.
7/21/2020 10:59:05	Kay	Blattner	Usd475	Manhattan	Please follow the governor's recommendation and delay the beginning of school.Going back when the virus is at the highest number of cases yet in KS. Is so scary. My cousin is on a ventilator in western Ks. Hopefully he is on the recovery list soon but he has been very ill for a long time. TRUE Ks doesn't have as many deaths but this is very serious. I am an SLP and I work with many students who have compromising health issues. Please keep us safe. THANK YOU.
7/21/2020 10:59:06	J	Boster		Overland Park (Olathe S	<p>Please do not overturn the governor's order. We have been given the gift of time. Please allow time to see if numbers begin to trend down. A large number of students and staff gathering indoors for 7+ hours daily is exactly what the medical professional have been advising against. Also, I fear many experienced teachers will quit if school begins while the numbers are high. How will we ever bounce back from that?</p> <p>Another thing to consider: I have heard that virtual learners will be banned from sports and extracurriculars. Please reconsider - this is a punishment. If you are truly worried about students social/emotional health, students should be allowed fo participate in what they feel comfortable with.</p> <p>For example, an individual might choose virtual learning based on the fact that his mother has cancer and they do not feel comfortable with 35+ hours spent gathering indoors weekly. But, they might feel comfortable with an outdoor individual sport such as cross country. Don't we want all learners to engage as able?</p> <p>Questions: Will the KS legislature show flexibility in the number of hours for the year? Should there be a waiver for required state testing?</p>
7/21/2020 10:59:14	Hillary	Farmee		Winfield	I believe that postponing opening school is what is best for our students and the faculty of Kansas schools. Our state has unfortunately not been able to control the spread of this virus, we are far worse off than we were in March when we were closed originally. Even with the best safety measures and the "recommended" social distancing in place, it is basically just a waiting game until someone gets sick, and we are back to where we were in March anyway. Why are we willing to wait and see how many kids get sick? Are we really willing to let educators die because the public feels like they need to go back to normal, even when there isn't even a normal to go back to yet?



7/21/2020 10:59:18	Eric	Seyb		Derby	I feel starting the school year after Labor Day would be a good thing. It will give school districts and staff time to get plans in place for the upcoming school year. Since the state BOE just released guidelines last week districts need time to plan appropriately for all scenarios. It will also give time for positive cases to go the other direction hopefully.
7/21/2020 10:59:21	Heath	Ostmeyer		Spring Hill	The delay of school starting is a great idea. Teachers need time to prepare for what is coming.
7/21/2020 10:59:31	Deanne	Mcgreg		Wichita	Please allow online and virtual schools to continue
7/21/2020 10:59:45	Michele	Schumacher	Oak Hill Elementary in 15045 W 128 Terr Leawo		I feel that KS children and teachers have no business being in the classrooms this fall. Since Kansas COVID numbers are on the rise, it would be foolish and irresponsible.
7/21/2020 10:59:49	Ashlee	Towery		Leawood	I don't really see the difference in pushing back the start date of school. I would prefer to start on time and require masks for students.
7/21/2020 10:59:49	Sandy	Trott	Kansas City Christian sc	Overland Park	Please start school. The kids will not do well emotional or physically without the discipline of going to school. There is no evidence that kids are getting COVID or spreading COVID
7/21/2020 10:59:50	Mark	Weatherford	Labette County High Sc	Oswego	No matter where people stand on this issue, there is not a more obvious common sense approach to let each local school district set their own reopening plan. Each local community has its own dynamics that can't be met by a statewide cookie cutter approach. You would do rural Kansas a huge disservice by implementing big city policies in counties that have little to zero active cases. Local districts know what is best. For school districts who believe they the best thing to do is delay reopening, that would be left in their power. The local decision making is THE most fair decision. Don't let one government official reign over the whole. Thank you.
7/21/2020 10:59:51	Fred	Fergus	Student in USD 497	Lawrence	Accept Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the opening of Kansas Public Schools until Labor Day. Please support the health of all Kansas students and teachers.
7/21/2020 10:59:54	Caitlin	Guarnero		Leavenworth, KS	I am extremely worried about going back to school. We have less than a month left and I do not believe my district is equipped to purchase all necessary equipment and PPE in a 3 week time frame. My district loves their teachers and will do anything for us but 3 weeks is not enough time to procure thousands of dollars worth of prevention. I urge the board to not vote on their feelings toward the governor but to vote on their feelings on teachers and students perishing based on the fact that Americans need babysitters.
7/21/2020 11:00:00	Anastasia	Prettyman	none	Louisburg	This decision should be made by each school district. The impacts are the not the same everywhere and some schools are already prepared to ensure the safety of children. Let our children return to a learning environment where it is safe to do so.
7/21/2020 11:00:02	Daphne	Lehman	None	Manhattan	Living in Manhattan, home to KSU, it is reasonable to wait until after Labor Day for the start of school. As a community, we saw COVID-19 cases rise drastically after bars opened and the football team returned to town in June. With KSU students arrival in August, our community will likely again see a dramatic rise in cases as that age group comprised over 50% of our cases and that age group tends to hang out in large groups with alcohol involved which leads to less adherence to the CDC recommendations to stop the spread of the virus. With community transmission, our children will be more easily exposed and it's worth waiting until after Labor Day to give our schools a chance to have onsite learning.
7/21/2020 11:00:06	Lucas	Melvin	My children and my con	Norton	Hello, my name is Lucas Melvin and I am a VERY concerned parent and teacher. My concern is for the health and well-being of our young people. School needs to OPEN on time! I saw the many negative effects that not having school in the spring had on young people, including one of my own. The mental, emotional, social and physical health of our students is being destroyed by reckless policies and edicts. Right now, young people across our state are playing baseball, softball, basketball, going to pools and etc and all seems to be fine. Students need structure, education and socialization. They need interaction with each other, teachers, and coaches.  For our young people, I am pleading with you to please strongly consider starting school ON-TIME!  Thank you,

7/21/2020 11:00:07	Donnett	Streeter	Grand children	Mayetta	As a health care worker I understand the concern but also there are safety precautions that will allow kids to go to school just like going to dance, sports and the store. These kids have spent the summer around friends and family so what is to be gained by keeping them at home but making uneducated kids. I would recommend that my grand kids go to online home schooling and stop supporting public school if you continue to delay school. Thank you
7/21/2020 11:00:08	Brett	Scarborough		Lenexa	As a teacher and a parent, I urge you to strongly consider pushing back the opening of the 2020-2021 school year. This will allow the necessary time to purchase additional equipment, provide staff with additional training, and to hopefully see the increased mask-wearing make a positive impact on the numbers of new infections in our communities.
7/21/2020 11:00:10	Elizabeth	Aldridge		Wamego	Please vote in support of the governor's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. This would give school officials and teachers time to plan and prepare safe measures to get kids back in schools. This preparation period is crucial to ensure a safe learning environment for our children. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:00:19	Deb	Zumwalt		Shawnee, DeSoto School	very much agree
7/21/2020 11:00:29	Jenny	Stewart	USD320 - Wamego	Wamego	I'm truly in shock that this has become such a huge issue. Covid case numbers are rising throughout the state! They are much higher than they were back in March. Waiting until after Labor Day gives time for the state to get these numbers under control! It also gives teachers, administrators, nurses and staff time to prepare for on-line learning on top of classroom learning. In our district, 20% of the families have already indicated that they will not be sending their students, so we need to provided both in-class and on-line learning at the same time!!! This takes time for preparation much of which will be completed on our own time. Now we are told that if we all have masks social distancing doesn't matter. What??? I'm praying it won't matter in my district, yet am preparing for the school to close repeatedly. Please push back the start date as far as possible!!! Please do everything you can to get people to wear masks, social distance and stay home over the next weeks, so the children and teachers in our state may return to school safely! Thank you!
7/21/2020 11:00:31	Tyler	Harvey	Olathe School District	Overland Park	Please move forward with Gov. Kelly's order to push school to starting after Labor Day. It is CRUCIAL that schools be given this extension to adequately prepare for new healthy and safety measures for the sake of students and teachers.
7/21/2020 11:00:35	Martha	Baker	Myself	Wichita	School should be in session.
7/21/2020 11:00:36	Paula	Vulgamore	Scott City public school	Scott City	I have a daughter that is a senior and a son that is in 8th grade. I have witnessed the heartache, emotional distress, frustration, and lack of purpose/drive among students in our community without the presence of in-person school instruction and activities. Without a doubt, this virus is going to spread. But the number of sick or hospitalized individuals in our community is so low as in many areas in western Kansas, it does not make sense to punish families for large spreads in other parts of the country. We have to let our children get back to living. We cannot continue to take away so much and force them to sacrifice when it's just not necessary or fair. The hardships greatly outweigh the risks. Even with a delayed start, so much will be postponed, cancelled and lost. They already lost a significant portion of the previous school year - we cannot continue to take more classroom time away from them. We need to have options for families to participate in online school if they are afraid or do not want their kids exposed. But we also have to allow in person school and activities for those that are comfortable with the risk. It's the only option that makes sense. Let the local districts choose what is best for their communities. Please do not take all the joy and sense of achievement away from kids that only comes through socialization and the ability to participate in activities. Kids will not remain engaged in education if we don't let them back in the doors. The longer we delay, the more harm we are are doing. Please allow us the ability to choose what is right for our community, our school district, and our children.

7/21/2020 11:00:45	Michael	Ritzel	Teachers	Roeland Park	As an educator, I am lucky that my private school has been planning how to safely return to the school campus since the end of May. However, in correspondence with friends in the field across the state, I am of the opinion that many school districts are woefully underprepared and continue to bury their heads in the sand. It is unacceptable that members of the State BOE have been responding to emails from their constituents by sloughing responsibility off on local boards of education to determine how and when it is safe to return to school by parading about civics philosophies as if they will protect the public health of children, families, and communities in the Great State of Kansas. As the overarching elected authority it must be the responsibility of the State BOE to rely on science and public health guidance to create a threshold and standard of operating quality in Kansas schools. This means following the lead of our governor and delaying the return of persons to school campuses and implanting safety standards as mandatory. Anything less will be blood on the hands of your office. I will be voting. My family will be voting. We are watching. We will remember.
7/21/2020 11:00:46	Trina	Ramirez Stephens	Self	Lawrence, KS	I have two elementary children enrolled in USD 497, Lawrence, KS. I am writing to encourage you to support both executive orders recently submitted by Governor Kelly. The uptick in cases in Douglas County is concerning and I would be more comfortable sending my children to school after Labor Day. As a community we need time to get our schools prepared, allow us more time to make smart, data-informed decisions, and heighten our ability to keep our school community (students and staff) safe. Most importantly, we need time to get the spread of COVID-19 under better control. With masks being mandated in our community now, I believe that will allow us to slow the spread of the virus. Please, I urge you to consider the health and safety of my 7 and 10 year old and the health of safety of our school staff. We need more time at home. My students will be better learners and I will be better able to support their learning if the stress of starting school in August is alleviated. Let's start school in September! And let's be masked and have our temperatures checked! Let's exhaust the ways in which we can mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Thank you for your consideration and for your service.
7/21/2020 11:00:48	Keegan	Fischer		Olathe	The supposedly intelligent politicians of our nation have made the same mistake repeatedly for months on end. Time and again the statistical analysis of world health experts is ignored by those who are clearly either incapable of understanding an exponential curve or are putting the economy or some other issue before the health and wellness of their people. The United States was founded on the idea that the government would be for the people and by the people. The decision to repeatedly endanger the people that has been made by the representatives meant to be serving them is proof that they are not invested in the idea of equality and fair governance. I implore the members of the board to not make the same mistakes that have been perpetuated in this broken system. It is up to you to break the cycle and re-institute the idea of a government that serves the people, not just those in power.

					<p>I think school should be delayed. My local community is seeing an increase in cases. Our school district is also NOT being transparent with the community as to our options for school, and are only offering parents two options: 1. Sending children to school in the building or 2. Doing virtual learning. Either decision we make, we are locked into that decision for the entire semester and cannot switch if necessary.</p> <p>NEITHER of these options work for my family, or most family's judging by the comments on the district announcement. I would prefer a hybrid school schedule, especially for my kiddo who has severe allergies in the fall... which include Covid symptoms (sneezing, coughing, congestion). If he's forced to "quarantine" for allergy symptoms, he will fall behind in the school building. But at the same time, the virtual learning in the spring was a joke! Our district uses schoology, which is trash! It is NOT easy to navigate for parents let alone children! On top of that, being home but doing school did not work for my kids. They were not focused or self directed in any way. In addition to my 2nd grader and kindergartener, I also have a toddler who is out of daycare due to Covid (our daycare is closed). I myself am also in college and work from home. My kindergartener has an IEP for speech, and NOBODY has been able to give me information on how his services will be administered in the building or online. Our district also hasn't sent out any information about what the virtual learning will entail as far as curriculum, materials provided, etc. We've just been told students will have to be learning for 6 hours per day and a daily log will need to be kept and submitted to the district to comply with the required hours for the Kansas State Board of Education. The deadline to choose in school or online learning is July 31, the district won't push it back even if school doesn't start until September. I would like the district to allow parents to switch to online learning if after a few weeks or a month that in person learning is not working for our family.</p> <p>Also, why are we talking about sending THOUSANDS of kids back to school when our school board of 10-15 people are still having meetings virtually on zoom. If ADULTS are choosing to protect themselves by meeting virtually, how can we expect CHILDREN to be sacrificed by opening schools? Children cough, sneeze, and are still learning basic hygiene. Schools are already Petri dishes. Anyone who thinks Covid will not spread in our schools like wildfire is clearly not a parent! To be honest, I don't see school opening this year, because people refuse to wear masks, wash hands (eww), or take safety precautions because "freedom".</p>
7/21/2020 11:00:53	Kindra	Smith		Fort Riley	
7/21/2020 11:01:08	Mallory	Rosenstiel	USD 265	Wichita	Do not delay schools opening
7/21/2020 11:01:08	Amanda	Daniels		Bonner Springs	I understand this is a serious situation and we need to keep people safe. If we could trust sick people to stay home that would be ideal. On the other hand I am seeing people and kids going into depression because of stress or not having jobs to support families. I know this seems silly but having a child with social anxiety this is effecting him. Not being in school is making it worse for him and if we go to online this will have long term effects.
7/21/2020 11:01:11	Jennifer	Brown		Perry	I support the delay of students starting school. The additional time will allow faculty and staff a chance to adequately prepare lessons in various formats, as well as, fully understand how to execute safety procedures.
7/21/2020 11:01:11	Natalie	Boone	Quinter Schools	Quinter	It is imperative the decisions about schools be left to the local board and community. Our entire county has only had 2 cases (people over 45) and one recovered fully and the other is recovering. Our Constitutional freedoms are being destroyed by Governor Kelly. She has become a dictator and needs to be recalled. I am a teacher and a parent and an extremely concerned about children's education and all of our freedoms as Kansans. Please vote against these socialist measures. We must start in school and not be forced to wear masks and make young children wear them. There is no proof it is effective with children. There is very little data to support its effectiveness in adults. Please listen to the Kansans you represent. Our future depends on common sense and Constitutional law! Thank you!
7/21/2020 11:01:12	Stephanie	Confer		Lecompton, KS	Schools should be closed at least until after Labor Day. Cases of COVID-19 continue to increase in the state because of the refusal to wear masks and social distance. Honestly, until there is better control of the situation we should not even be asking teachers, students, support staff and administrators to risk their physical and mental health. Please do not play politics during this time.

7/21/2020 11:01:15	Kevin	Pham		Hays/Kansas City	At the very least, schools need to be delayed for proper planning if they are not online. Students, Teachers, and Building Workers need to be protected. We need to treat this as planning for the worst and hoping for the best until treatments and vaccines are improved and created. Like I stated, delaying is the very least schools can do. Reevaluation on how to open can be made once more data is collected. Please make the correct decision for the safety of everyone. Why open up when numbers are worse than when we closed in March?
7/21/2020 11:01:23	Mason	Springer	Student Athlete	Neodesha	If school gets postponed till September, how will the schools be able to host all sports and activities? If fall season is delayed a few weeks to a month, that'll push winter sports back, then that'll push spring sports back. If they decide to flip fall and winter sports, that will give athletes less time to recover from the roughness and physical strain of the season and will have to go right back into Weights and Conditioning. Also if they get an athletic scholarship to college, all the weights and football activities start during the spring and early summer. Our school starts weights June 1st plus some camps and activities then and there. If parents and students are worried about going back to school and getting sick, could all schools offer online learning until they feel comfortable attending in person. Why could the face mask, social distancing and hand washing not be mandatory but be up to the students and faculties decision? Kids will feel pressured and overwhelmed if they have to be distanced from their classmates and friends, and want to be home rather than in school. All of this can be decided by the school boards.
7/21/2020 11:01:25	Pam	Mattheis		LeRoy	Please vote AGAINST Gov. Kelly's "mandates"! Our kids have gone thru enough having part of last year's schooling cancelled. Yes, Covid may be deadly, but we've probably all been exposed to it already, and the death toll from it isn't nearly as high as they're trying to get us to believe. Our kids NEED to be in school: for social interaction, sports, not just education... some NEED it for safety and food. Suicides, depression and child abuse have soared under these restrictions and closures and it needs to stop. Open up the schools with NO restrictions! PLEASE!
7/21/2020 11:01:43	Theresa	Gillespie	Army	Ft Leavenworth	I am in favor of starting school with as many precautions in place to minimize disease spread. I feel the emotional, mental and physical health of children is so important and attending school supports their growth and well being in all of these areas. Life just involves risk, and so I know there is some risk in attending school in person but at this point I feel the benefits outweighs the risks as long as everything is being done to minimize disease spread.
7/21/2020 11:01:46	Elizabeth	Johnson		Newton	Masks should not be required for every school. There is no one size fits all option.
7/21/2020 11:01:51	Thomas	Mika	Kansas citizen	Junction City	No. Start school asap.
7/21/2020 11:01:55	Kristin	Wiebe	Teacher and parent	Whitewater	Start school and NO masks.... it's a violation of our rights.
7/21/2020 11:01:55	S	S	olathe public schools	olathe	in person school is a deep need for my children. the ability to learn, in person, from teachers AND a diverse social group of peers is necessary for their development. sickness will come and go, and we will take measures to protect everyone, but further delays are not the answer. let's get back to IN PERSON school sept 9th and NO LATER!
7/21/2020 11:02:00	Alaina	Kreft		Leavenworth	I believe the delay of school is a wise decision to protect all of our students and staff. I also worry about school opening two days after a holiday where people gather just like they did for the 4th of July and how cases peaked again due to those social gatherings. Masks need to be made mandatory when schools reopen or school needs to be held virtually for the fall semester. I have children that are both considered high risk so they will be virtually learning or hoping for a hybrid setting. After socially distancing since March and taking all the precautions necessary for myself and family, I can not imagine going back to work and school and contracting the virus. I serve six different schools in my district and love my job, but I do worry how traveling to all of these school buildings can affect my health or the health of others and my family. I am praying that health officials and school boards weigh in the possibilities for all involved and make the best possible decision where teachers, students, and parents don't have to worry about their children and their own health.
7/21/2020 11:02:19	Sarah	Kueser		Ellsworth, KS	Delaying school will allow for proper preparation for safety in health as well as for robust learning opportunities. So much information has been thrown at educators and administrators, please allow us time to take our plans to our needs and effectively implement plans for all stakeholders.

7/21/2020 11:02:23	Becky	HILLMAN	ST PAULS LUTHERAN	CHENEY	I understand that we are facing some huge challenges as we consider heading back to school. However, I feel that a "one size fits all" order is unacceptable. Our school serves less than 30 students and we should be able to open with safety procedures in place. There are other counties and school districts that would also be in a position to open safely. I would also like all the decision makers to spend an our with a group of young children in masks. Please reconsider all the directives from the state without really knowing what my school is like!
7/21/2020 11:02:28	Matt	Rush		Pittsburg	As a parent, I saw first hand the "plan" for distance learning that was in place from Spring Break until the end of the school year. It was not the best plan and my child suffered a set back and regression in his learning. We were forced to supplement with teaching of our own. I personally have a few friends that are seriously considering home schooling. I would like for there to be a plan set in place either way. Allow the parents to adjust to the plan in place. Extending until Sept 9 without explaining what happens on Sept 9 is just postponing the inevitable. Will the extra three weeks be extending into the summer of 2020? Why not start off on distance learning to begin with, that way the children aren't missing out. What is going to happen if there is another uptick in cases? Extend again? This is all very confusing and I am aware that information changes daily, but that is what the school districts have had until March to do. Formulate a plan and go with it. Stop all the unknown and change.
7/21/2020 11:02:32	Connor	Christensen		Goddard	Ladies and Gentlemen of the Board,  I would like to thank you for your guidance and leadership through this turbulent time. I can understand that tough decisions have to be made, and that is why I am reaching out to you tonight. As a citizen of Kansas and a teacher, I ask that you support Governor Kelly's Executive Order mandating a delay in the K-12 school year until Labor Day. I want to return to school to see my coworkers and students, but I want to do it safely. I miss nothing more than the hugs and smiles from my 5 and 6 year olds. I am extremely scared of returning to school as scheduled and the impact that could have on my peers and my students. By delaying the start of school, districts will have much more time to strategically and explicitly plan for our new normal. This decision is difficult, but I believe that the safety of our stakeholders should be priority number one.
7/21/2020 11:02:45	Pam	Fortun-Young		Olathe	Thank you for your time and service.  PLEASE vote to adopt the governor's executive order for the safety of all children. Stop making this political!!

7/21/2020 11:02:42	Heidi	Sher	Parent of Student in Olathe	Olathe	<p>As a parent, I am concerned and disappointed in how our state and nation is handling education in the midst of COVID-19. I fully recognize the challenges that our schools and their employees face. However, we must rise to the challenge and find ways to overcome the hurdles. Our children are too important to be left on the sidelines.</p> <p>This past spring, when COVID struck and schools were closed, the online education that was offered by the Olathe school district was an utter disappointment. My daughter completed each weeks' assignments for all core courses (Math, Science, ELA &amp; Social Studies) within 2 hours. While I appreciate the supplemental curriculum offered, I was disappointed there was not more offered. With curriculum being shared across the district sharing (i.e. there was only one sixth grade science lesson offered for all Olathe students vs one sixth grade lesson per teacher per school), it seems each teacher could have each contributed one lesson per week and that would have allowed for one lesson /day vs one lesson/week. I recognize that teachers, must like the rest of us, may have faced childcare issues. But, many other people faced the same situation and had to find ways to still work (and we would not be paid if we did not work). I even got the impression in some cases teachers wanted to offer enrichment but were prevented from doing so by the district.</p> <p>I will note that we have another child who is in private schools. Her experience throughout COVID was a shocking contrast to our student in Olathe public schools. Her school, which has a fraction of the resources our public schools have with teachers who are paid much less, continued to conduct teaching via Zoom. Students continued growing - the curriculum was not just refresher content - and received grades, motivating them and holding them accountable to put time and effort into their work. It is unfair that our daughter has such an experience just because we can afford it. Every child deserves a solid education.</p> <p>It's not just the academic progress that our children need. It's also the meals for students who do not have food. It's a safe place for children who have nobody at home during the day because their caregivers don't have jobs that can be done at home. It's the extracurricular activities that our children can do that give them a focus and purpose, keeping them out of trouble they might otherwise find if they become bored. It's learning how to interact with others in person where emotion can be seen and heard vs relying on devices where kids which allow kids to become emotionally desensitized. School is essential to our children's mental and social health.</p>
7/21/2020 11:02:49	Emily	Nelson		Overland Park	<p>It seems a bit ridiculous that KS stakeholders have to beg you to uphold an Executive Order that is intended to protect the safety and well-being of Kansans, but here we are. There's a running joke that common sense isn't always common. This is where we are. Science is all but screaming at you to delay the start of school and yet some of you are choosing to place your political careers first. If that's you, then you need to question your role as an elected official. Do the right thing. Uphold the KS Governor's Executive Order.</p>
7/21/2020 11:02:58	Mary	Clow		Shawnee	<p>As a substitute teacher I am concerned about opening schools while cases are still on the rise. Currently we cannot open schools safely and we should not be forcing teachers into an unsafe environment. We must delay opening schools until cases are dropping and we have more time to train teachers, acquire PPE, etc.</p>
7/21/2020 11:03:00	Amanda	Pastore	Parent of k-12 student	Gardner	<p>Our children deserve to have the opportunity to learn amongst their peers. We are approaching 6 months of our children being out of school and they need to the structure of learning that they had prior to covid. Many children do not have the option of having a parent teach them effectively by staying home and proctoring their learning online. To ensure our children continue to prosper and achieve there knowledge base we need them to return to in person instruction. Please vote to send students and personnel back to school in person after labor day.</p>

					As a teacher, I want to be in the classroom with my students, learning and growing together. However, I want to be in the classroom in the safest way possible. In March, when we began online learning everyday was an adventure and I treasured the moments I got to spend with my students and colleagues on Zoom. However, we know online learning as we did in the spring was not effective in progressing learning. This means our district has spent many hours this summer preparing for how to educate our students successfully no matter what scenario we fell into, including preparing for a "jump start" summer school program to try to get students prepared ahead of the school year. This pandemic has lasted longer than originally thought and has started to spike in my area. We were planning to start our summer school program on July 20th and we still had many questions about safety. The answers to those questions were changing daily. With the unknown of Governor Kelly's order, we canceled the summer school program. My heart broke along with many parents that I had to contact. However, they all understood that we were taking the safety of their children seriously and would continue trying our best to connect with them. Thankfully, my district has been proactive in planning, communicating with both the county health officials and staff in the district, and being flexible with the continuous changes. There are still a lot of unknowns out there. I know that three more weeks won't necessarily give us any more clarity on the pandemic, but it will allow us time to nail down our safety procedures and prepare for our students in the best way we can manage. With Governor Kelly mandating the safety guidelines, our school districts need time to get caught up. Things like wipes, hand sanitizer, computers, dividers, masks, and thermometers are all going to continue to be scarce. We need to create clear-cut guidelines for things like lunch, recess, specials, small groups, SPED, and so much more. I understand that the downside to this order is treating the pandemic and school districts as "one size fits all". This situation does vary from place to place, but the importance of safety for our students, staff, and family members does not change. I hope you will consider upholding this order for the safety of all Kansans.
7/21/2020 11:03:04	Marie	Stoss		Salina	
7/21/2020 11:03:04	Brooke	Cook	Self	Ellinwood	I am worried about how far behind the kids are already getting with how the end of last year went. I am also concerned about IEP testing falling further and further behind schedule because of if we go online this can be difficult. Also, on the IEP testing, how would the observation pieces of the testing go if we did go online? This can't really be done online that I can think of. I wish to remain anonymous please.
7/21/2020 11:03:05	Eric	Van Becelaere		Topeka	I have a special needs child and this has hurt his learning horribly... kids gather on ball fields, play grounds, pools and many other places and have for months!! Please stop this political madness....
7/21/2020 11:03:10	Amy	Bartle	Free State	Lawrence	Please allow sports and other activities to practice even if face to face school is delayed. My child needs this interaction.
7/21/2020 11:03:16	Heather	Wetzel		Kansas City	Please keep schools closed till September 8,2020. Please present a calm and United front with schools and government. Hopefully masks in public will flatten the curve again, and help teachers feel safe. Please consider Teachers first in all this. How sad will a community or school be if a teacher dies due to Covid? Please have a good plan for substitute teachers for when teachers do get sick.
7/21/2020 11:03:22	Alex	Klales	None	Lawrence	Do not open schools in person. It's unsafe and a public health risk. One person dead is too many.
7/21/2020 11:03:25	Lisa	Stoller		10918 W. Maxwell Circ	Yes, I agree we should hold off in-person classes and take this time to set up parameters for when we open, when we close, how long we quarantine, etc.
7/21/2020 11:03:29	Janelle	Hernandez	No organization	Salina	Please support the governor in delaying school start. We have a daughter who is a teacher and another who is a school therapist and have grandchildren in school. Please put aside politics and put first the well being of children, school staff and their family members they will come in contact with. When the pandemic is over it won't matter that school started late...it will matter if they became ill or infected others. Please delay school opening.
7/21/2020 11:03:34	Nate	Hostetler		Overland Park	School needs to be IN SCHOOL for kids. By August // EARLY September at the latest. In school schooling is critical for the kids in our district and even the KS AAP recommends BEING IN SCHOOL. Put the kids IN SCHOOL SCHOOLING.
7/21/2020 11:03:38	Megan	Keener	Parent	El Dorado	Our children are in need of returning to school. They need socialization and homeschooling is not feasible for our household. My oldest daughter has ADHD and social anxiety and since she has not been in class she has really regressed in the improvements that we have made.



7/21/2020 11:03:39	Joey	Wood	Free State Football	Lawrence	As a high school student, and part of the football team, leaving us to do nothing for 2 months is bad on our mental and physical health. If you truly believe is making every kid better and mentally stable in Kansas Education, then this is not a step in the right direction. Without school or sports for 2 months, kids will be left to make bad decisions and lead them in the wrong path.
7/21/2020 11:03:48	Amanda	Davis	USD 497	Lawrence	VOTE YES TO GOVERNOR KELLY'S EXECUTIVE ORDER! Keep our students and school staff safe!
7/21/2020 11:03:52	Sarah	Mackey	Teacher	Hays	Being a teacher 🙄 Plus having a daughter going into middle school with type 1 diabetes, I'm very concerned going back too soon!! With the rising cases in our county I do not want my compromised daughter to become a statistic because we are too proud to put safety first!!
7/21/2020 11:03:53	Jennifer	Monaghan		Wichita	Delay School. Better yet close it for online learning. Give us a chance to prepare for school and to do what is necessary to keep our kids and community safe from the virus.
7/21/2020 11:03:59	Rachel	Steenbock	Auburn-Washburn USD	Topeka	I will be supportive of either decision, but I would prefer that our children return to school as scheduled on August 13; if not in person, virtually. They need to get back to the routine and structure of a school day, even if it's not a typical day. I agree that all precautions, including masks, sanitizer, and temperature checks (upon arrival) should be taken.  Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 11:03:59	Kelly	Elsten	Usd497 school district	Lawrence	Our sports teams are now safely conditioning in hopes of being able to play this year. They are doing a fantastic job of monitoring (potential) illness and instilling protocol (masks, social distancing) so our teams can remain safe. I ask that teams be able to continue to practice to get ready for a season. Even if the season is delayed or canceled the physical and mental positives should be enough to keep the students working towards their sport(s)
7/21/2020 11:04:06	Kimberly	Kelley	None	Hiawatha, KS	I feel it is extremely important to keep schools closed to in person classes for the safety of our students, school staff, families of students at this time. Until we see a significant improvement in the number of covid 19 cases I feel it is too risky. Even a small number of cases can quickly spread. This virus may have lasting negative health impacts even after recovery. Please support the delay to the start of our school year and keep our community healthy.
7/21/2020 11:04:24	Cory	Cochran		Olathe	There is absolutely NO reason the schools should open prior to labor day. None. Schools change the start day every single year. some are a little early and some years start a little later. This year, starting a little later will not change the outcome of any student or family. Starting earlier will kill people. There is zero downside to starting after labor day. The downside of potential death by starting prior to labor day.
7/21/2020 11:04:27	Ron	ELDRIDGE	USD 260	DERBY	Please uphold Governor Kelly's executive order pushing back Kansas schools start date to after Labor Day. Covid numbers in Sedgwick county are higher now, then back in March and April when the original shutdown occurred. This will give school districts time, three more weeks, to provide flexibility in learning plans, allow professional development for staff, allow PPE to be purchased for school districts. There is so much value in this extra time we can use. Please vote to confirm. My wife and I are both educators. We love our students and their families and have their best interests in mind. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:04:43	Juli	Jones		Spring Hill	Open schools and sports
7/21/2020 11:04:49	Lisa	Downey	concerned parent	Shawnee	no delay for start of school!!
7/21/2020 11:04:53	Jammie	Atkins	Parent	Goddard	Wanting to know why we are still paying teachers and educators or anyone that have anything to do with each district. Every job I know not working not getting paid. Teachers haven't worked for almost 6 months. All of them complain not wanting to go back. My husband hasn't been working since day one. It ridiculous what teachers are getting away with.

					<p>I strongly suggest that the State BOE adopts the governors EO regarding schools remain close until after Labor Day. A unified message must be sent out to set clear guidelines and expectations of what a successful reopening will look like statewide. With the recent rise of COVID cases in Kansas it is no brainer to delay the start of school to ensure the health and safety of not only our student, but their families as well. As many of you know our students come from many different home structures and a COVID outbreak in the home could cause significant issues.</p> <p>This is not a Republican vs Democrat issue like many paint it out to be. This is a common sense decision that protects the health of our entire state.</p>
7/21/2020 11:04:56	Joseph	Franzitta	Teacher at a Kansas sch	Ottawa	Thank you for the time!
7/21/2020 11:04:57	Stephanie	Arbogast	USD394	Rose Hill	We should open schools on time and offer the accommodation to wear masks etc as an option not a mandate. We have got to use our heads and proceed cautiously, but leave room for parents to decide on what is best for their children.
7/21/2020 11:05:05	Kristopher	Krayca	Football	Edson	Start school and sports on time!!
7/21/2020 11:05:09	Pam	Matulka	Self	Olathe	I support the order. Teachers need it to hone their instructional material for classroom and hybrid distance learning. Give them time to get their ducks in a row for this unique challenge and adequately prepare.
7/21/2020 11:05:21	Denise	Sultz	Myself	Overland Park	I believe that schools should be closed for a few more weeks. We want to do EVERYTHING for our children, teachers, school administrators, custodians, lunch ladies, counselors, nurses, bus drivers to keep them safe. This extra time gives our local school boards and superintendents the ability to be prepared for whatever happens in the future. Not every county has the same rate of COVID cases but we need to make sure that ALL children have the same academic possibilities.
7/21/2020 11:05:22	Kevin	Harrington	America	Wichita	open school as normal, no delay at all.
7/21/2020 11:05:29	Joseph	Marx	Blue Valley Schools	Lenexa	I am not eager to disrupt the education of my students, neighbors, or other Kansans. I do not want developing children to miss out on opportunities to develop social and emotional competence. Nevertheless, our schools are not designed to combat pandemic. Most classrooms have 20-30 students in 300-400 square feet. Secondary schools have these students moving throughout as many as eight of these classrooms a day, with different populations in each and a not-insignificant proportion of vulnerable adults, with their own families and some with school-age children moving in yet other populations, at the head of the room. The price for delaying school or moving it online may be great emotional and financial hardship for many families. That cannot outweigh the cost of resuming face-to-face instruction before introducing practices consistent with our best epidemiological recommendations, which is nothing less than the serious illness and, indeed, death of hundreds of Kansas educational staff, perhaps as many Kansas students, and the thousands outside our schools who would be exposed to SARS-CoV2 through the vectors we, as Kansas educators, carelessly provided. We would be mostly culpable for their deaths, to say nothing of the legal liability. Please don't ask students, staff, or their families to resume contact until you can guarantee their safety beyond reasonable doubt.
7/21/2020 11:05:37	Christin	Wise	USD 259 teacher	Wichita	Title kids need in person!!! Limit the number of kids in class!!! Staggered attendance. Use all support certified teacherS (like myself) as classroom teachers (could even pair up with regular classroom teacher). One can do online and one can do in person. Attendance will drop. Can pair up two teachers per "class" but only half are in person. Thank you for all you do. Shields for teachers not masks. Title kids have different needs!
7/21/2020 11:05:38	Shelli	Jones		WaKeeney	Delay. People's lives are more important. It is a teacher's job to educate, but that can be done in different ways if necessary. It is not their responsibility to look at it from a "keep the economy going" stand point.
7/21/2020 11:05:44	Dan	Frisby	USD 483	Plains	As the superintendent of our small district, 630 students K-12, I understand the governor's concern and call for a delay to the school year. We are a small consolidated district, which encompasses two counties. Each of our communities populations are less than 1,000. My families have not questioned or taken concern with this decision. The concern that is consistently brought to me is the issue of mandating masks. In our counties, we are not experiencing the type of numbers as larger metropolitan areas in the eastern part of the state. Our people feel that rural communities should be under the guidance of local counties.

7/21/2020 11:05:49	brandi	lewis	Tonganoxie Elementary,	Tonganoxie	Our kids are resilient. Our kids need normalcy. I think with proper hygiene, just like FLU SEASON.. our kids will push through this and be just fine!!! Let our kids go back to school. Let our kids have some normalcy! I can tell you that my 1st grader and 5th grader will never last all day with a mask on. It will be more of a distraction!! I can not see this virus being any different than the stomach flu or influenza that is passed around EVERY YEAR and school is never shut down!!!
7/21/2020 11:05:53	Rachael	Pratt	none	Olathe	I think the very least anyone could have done was to allow students and parents to begin home schooling their kids just as they did in March. I am torn between allowing my kids to do in person schooling even when that may be an option due to concerns with how COVID or those showing signs of COVID would be handled. Even with having precautions in place, we cannot control when someone has actually been exposed and carried it into the school prior to showing actual symptoms and having infected ALL kids and staff within the environment. Same as the flu, stomach bugs, head lice and etc. If those have not been contained I am not certain that COVID would be any different.
7/21/2020 11:05:58	Frankie	Huerter	Usd322	Onaga	Keep closed until after labor day
7/21/2020 11:06:04	Katelyn	Pattison	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	I am a mom of two young boys, my husband is also a teacher. We don't feel comfortable teaching in person to risk our own little lives and our own. We need virtual distance learning at least first quarter or until the cases of COVID in Kansas decrease or we go in another quarantine. Teacher lives and student lives matter! Please consider the lives you are putting at risk, thousands!!! It's not worth it!
7/21/2020 11:06:10	Whitney	Baker	Parent	Lawrence	Please delay school until after Labor Day. I'd actually prefer we keep schools online this fall. I don't see how we are going to open safely, but the more time teachers and administrators have to prepare if in-person school is required, the better. Thanks!
7/21/2020 11:06:21	Laura	Blickenstaff		Lenexa	Please keep the schools closed like the governor requests. The safety of the staff and children should not be risked.
7/21/2020 11:06:23	Tiffany	Gapske		Shawnee	To whom it may concern:  As a parent of 3 kids, I want school to reopen just like everyone else. However, I want it to open when it is SAFE and not just when it's convenient. I support Governor Kelly's delayed mandate to delay school until after Labor Day. It only makes sense to have an extra 3 weeks for people to get it together and wear masks and allow schools to get all necessary supplies and prepare themselves physically and mentally.  Our teachers and staff did NOT sign up to be frontline workers. They are not paid to be and that expectation is simply unfair. They have families, too. Their safety is just as important as the safety of my own kids. Please do not open school because you feel pressured. Reopen it when you yourself would feel safe enough to endure school days right alongside the teachers and staff. Do not ask them to do something you're not willing to do yourself.
7/21/2020 11:06:26	JESSICA	VENNEBERG		ONAGA	Thank you for your consideration. I trust human lives and well-being will rank above all else in your decision making.  YOUR JUST DELAYING THE INEVITABLE. KIDS NEED TO BE IN SCHOOL. IF THE PARENTS DON'T FEEL SAFE THEY CAN DO VIRTUAL LEARNING OR HAVE THEIR KIDS WEAR MASKS. EVERY SCHOOL DISTRICT IS DIFFERENT. KIDS NEED TO BE IN SCHOOL!
7/21/2020 11:06:31	Lisa	Colletti	Mill Valley High School	Shawnee	Start school in August and sports as notmal
7/21/2020 11:06:41	Robin	Roberts	Mill Valley High School	Shawnee	I think we need to be back at school
7/21/2020 11:06:42	Sharon	Karns	I support Gov. Kelly ipe	Holton	Follow Gov. Kelly's guidelines
7/21/2020 11:06:44	Laura	Murkin	Basehor Linwood	Basehor	Please vote to delay the start of school and keep our students and staff safe
7/21/2020 11:06:49	Lisa	Colletti	Mill Valley High School	Shawnee	Start school in August and sports as notmal
7/21/2020 11:06:57	Carly	Varner	Parent of school childre	Topeka	Our kids need to be in school! Please let local districts make their own guidelines, one size does NOT fit all
7/21/2020 11:06:58	Rebecca	Saldivar	Teacher	Derby	Please vote to wait to open schools until after Labor Day. Numbers of cases keep rising every day. We need to keep everyone safe. Thank you.

					<p>Please give the choice of when to open our schools back up to the local communities and school districts. We are not a "one size fits all" state. I am fearful that this push to start schools later may continue to be pushed back as Governor Kelly deems fit - not giving parents, schools, and local leaders the control to do what is best for their individual communities.</p> <p>I am a RN working in an inpatient setting similar to a school - ages 5-17 years old. We have kids from all over NE, Central Kansas and sometimes further eating 3 meals a day together, going to group activities, having free time playing games or coloring at tables in a living area and sometimes even having roommates depending on the need. We have not closed our doors yet through this pandemic and have not had an outbreak within our staff or patient population.</p> <p>I am also confused with her choice of start date. She is choosing to open us after a holiday weekend. Based on her prior decisions and executive orders I feel that we are being "set up" to have yet another executive order fall on us deeming the number of people celebrating the holidays has once again made school too dangerous.</p> <p>Had she let the school districts follow the Navigating Change as planned our school district would have been prepared to start in August. They gave the choice to parents to decide whether the PARENTS are comfortable with virtual or face-to-face classes. They were ready.</p>
7/21/2020 11:07:11	Maddin	Lockwood		Hoyt	
7/21/2020 11:07:13	Jacob	Demitre		Hays	It is of paramount importance that we get the safety part right. If we do not get the safety piece right that it will only result in more school closings down the road. The delayed start gives schools the chance to build a solid safety plan, have plans to address potential problems in their plan, and coordinate resources to enable its success. We should support the leadership of our governor, who is working hard to give Kansas schools what they need.
7/21/2020 11:07:13	Jill	Holder	Former USD 204 second	Bonner Springs	Dear State BOE: I am writing to URGE you to support Gov. Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school in Kansas. As a 34-year teaching veteran, I know full well that our schools are not ready to open in the face of this pandemic. They need the extra time to get the supplies needed to keep students and staff safe. There is much that would be needed to make my former journalism classroom safe during the Covid crisis: for example, how to disinfect computer stations and digital cameras for use by multiple students. My husband is a 63-year-old secondary teacher and I terrified for him to return to work. Please support Gov. Kelly and give schools the extra time to open safely.
7/21/2020 11:07:14	Natalya	Lowther	Pinwheel Farm	Lawrence	Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day to allow more time to put safety precautions in place for student, teachers, and staff. Also, please do not expect teachers to pay for protection measures out of pocket.
7/21/2020 11:07:15	Donna	Boyd	Valley Park Elementary	Fairway, KS	<p>I am a 2nd grade teacher at Valley Park Elementary in Leawood, KS. I urge you to support our governor in delaying the start of school this year. Teachers very much want to teach our students again in-person, but when it is SAFE. Right now, it is NOT SAFE! Covid-19 is spreading rapidly, and we need to protect our students, their families, and the teaching staffs. Please, please think of the citizens of Kansas and what is best to save their health and lives!</p> <p>Sincerely, Ms.Donna L. Boyd</p>

					<p>I am writing to ask that the State Board of Education approve Governor Kelly's mandate to delay the opening of schools until September 9, 2020. Due to the spike in COVID-19 cases in our state since July 4, I believe this to be the safest course of action for our teachers and students. We, as teachers, want to see our students, but in the safest fashion possible. Waiting a few more weeks gives our districts to receive necessary safety equipment and to finalize school planning.</p> <p>Thank you for your service on the State Board of Education. I know that you have our teacher's and children's best interest at heart!</p>
7/21/2020 11:07:15	Summer	Miller	USD 457	Gsrden City	Thank you
7/21/2020 11:07:25	Kelly	Demo	Parent	Lenexa	I support the governor's order!
7/21/2020 11:07:28	Joel	Colletti	Mill Valley high school	Shawnee	Start school and sports as normal
7/21/2020 11:07:30	Jill	Hendry	i am a teacher!	Emporia	<p>I support a school delay! We must keep our students and educators safe! Teachers need extra time/training to prepare quality remote learning instruction. Face-to-face instruction should not happen until this virus dies down. If that doesn't happen soon, then I believe remote learning should start. I am both a teacher, and a parent. My son had the virus, before we knew what it was. It was horrible to see him so sick. I don't want my students to suffer the way he did.</p> <p>Thank you@</p>
7/21/2020 11:07:31	Sara	Garrett		Wichita	Please, Please delay schools starting until at least Sept. 9th. Give parents and teachers time to prepare ourselves for the upcoming school year.
7/21/2020 11:07:36	Julie	Fern	Myself	Fairway	Please uphold the delay. We absolutely need to flatten the curve and allow schools time to acquire needed PPE
7/21/2020 11:07:39	John	Myres		Shawnee	Start school on time! No more delays.
7/21/2020 11:07:43	Janice	Olker		Lawrence	I think schools should not open for in person classes before Labor, or maybe even 2021
7/21/2020 11:07:45	Jane	Doe		Spring Hill	Deny
7/21/2020 11:07:46	Erin	Farber		Hoxie, KS	Please vote no to extend the start of school! Our kids deserve to get back to normalcy. We have to break the cycle of fear and teach our kids to live life instead of living fear.
7/21/2020 11:07:46	Adam	Clark		MANHATTAN	<p>I wanted to voice my support the school year delay. There are so many reasons why this is a good idea:  Allows our teachers greater time to prepare for the year.  Will give use more insight into how safe if will be on reopening school.  It has been shown that children aged 10-19 spread the virus just as easily as adults.  <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/18/health/coronavirus-children-schools.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/18/health/coronavirus-children-schools.html</a>  We need to think about the safety of the staff as well. Almost one third of teachers have a pre-existing condition.  <a href="https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2020/2020142.pdf">https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2020/2020142.pdf</a>  This would put the school opening behind college openings, which from what we have seen has caused a spike in cases. I've heard from so many teachers recently how scared they are about going back to school. So many of their family members have pre-existing conditions.</p> <p>It appears we are close to a few different vaccine candidates for the end of this year or sooner. Why are we not taking the safe approach and then with these vaccines we can fully open safely?  <a href="https://www.research.ox.ac.uk/Article/2020-07-20-new-study-reveals-oxford-coronavirus-vaccine-produces-strong-immune-response">https://www.research.ox.ac.uk/Article/2020-07-20-new-study-reveals-oxford-coronavirus-vaccine-produces-strong-immune-response</a>  <a href="https://www.statnews.com/2020/07/14/moderna-covid19-vaccine-first-data-show-spurs-immune-response/">https://www.statnews.com/2020/07/14/moderna-covid19-vaccine-first-data-show-spurs-immune-response/</a></p> <p>For this decision I ask that we listen to the health experts. losing one person, be it adult or child, is one too many.</p>

7/21/2020 11:07:59	Tyson	Eslinger	USD 216	Deerfield	As the new Superintendent of USD 216 I first want to thank all of you for your work and time as a board member. We know that if we are talking about best practice when it comes to education that we would not be talking about a one size fits all approach. I understand that certain parts of the state are seeing a rise in case numbers and that they might not be ready to open schools just yet, as other parts of the state have seen very little to no cases or no new spikes and are ready to get our schools open for our students, staff and community. Districts have been working hard all summer to be ready for August and to get our staff and students back in the building learning, being with friends, socializing, participating in activities and playing sports. As you make your decision I would encourage you to go back to what we know to be best practices in our school districts and that is to meet our students where they are at and this is no different we need to meet each district where they are at not a one size fits all approach. Thank You.
7/21/2020 11:08:02	Erica	Hopwood	Myself	Manhattan, KS	Delaying the start of the K-12 school year will give the schools in the state of Kansas a benefit by being able to see how schools and districts in other states not only re-open, but also what plans seem to work to slow the spread among students. This would give our state a chance to learn from others' mistakes and hopefully have enough time to put together a plan that will keep our young children and all of their family and friends safe and healthy.
7/21/2020 11:08:07	Brianne	Smith	USD 501 Jardine Eleme	Topeka	I agree with postponing school until September. We have to protect our teachers. If they are exposed, we won't have any in-class opportunities. Please, lets check on our data
7/21/2020 11:08:10	Kaitlyn	Pressnall		Winfield	I am in favor of pushing the start date back. As an educator and a mom it gives us time to make sure all safety measures are in place. It also allows us to monitor the rise or fall of Covid in our communities and across the state.
7/21/2020 11:08:16	Kristin	Velicer	Shawnee Mission Schoo	Overland Park	Delaying the school year is the absolute right thing to do. Keep politics out of this decision. We must look at science and do what is best for our kids and teachers. Allowing flexibility for families to decide which model is right for them and enabling students to move back and forth between distance learning and in person class, as it is safe to do so is going to be essential for the coming school year. Requiring masks, temperature checks, and regular hand sanitization is 100% non-negotiable.
7/21/2020 11:08:21	Angela	Goodner	USD 258	Humboldt	I do not agree with the mandate to postpone school opening. I believe we need to return things back to as close to normal for the good of our children.
7/21/2020 11:08:31	Erin	Clark	Parent	Olathe	Delay School until numbers are DECREASING
7/21/2020 11:08:31	Colleen	Meyer	Kansas City, Kansas Pul	Kansas City	I am a teacher for KCKPS. I want to see my students and get back to "normal" learning, but not if it means risking my life or a student's life to do it. This virus is not something we should take lightly, and the infection rates are getting higher every day. I do not want to have to see a memorial page for students and staff that were killed by this virus in our yearbook for the 2020-2021 school year, especially when utilizing remote learning for a while would protect people. Seeing their teachers and/or peers die will traumatize our students exponentially more than delaying our school year will. I teach in a school with 900+ students and staff where the idea of social distancing isn't possible anywhere in our brand new building. My music classes are large classes, and it will be impossible to distance 50 kids in one class. Please take politics out of this decision and vote to delay our school year to protect the staff and students that you speak for. No one should be thrown into an experimental Petri dish without the proper protection.
7/21/2020 11:08:33	MJ	Issa	Freestate Football Team	3300 Westridge Ct, Law	This is paying for my college. Choose wisely
7/21/2020 11:08:33	Bill	Arnold	Hayden Catholic	Topeka	Even if school is delayed let us begin sports practice before so the kids don't lose part of their season
7/21/2020 11:08:44	Loretta	Buser	Special Education	Sabetha	Please do not delay the opening of Kansas schools. These kids need to see their teachers in person and need a sense of normalcy as soon as possible. If delayed, students would be going to school into June. Thank you for all you do for Kansas students. You are appreciated!
7/21/2020 11:08:57	Courtney	Ash	Parent of students	Mission, KS	Please ensure your decision reflects science, as presented by experts. This decision will impact the current and future health of nearly all Kansans. Use science to make safe decisions for students, teachers, school staff, the community and the elderly. Opening schools with no plan for safety is a death sentence for many people. Please don't make a callous decision about our future.

7/21/2020 11:08:59	Britny	Wood	Parent of free state high	Lawrence	The gov should not be canceling all extracurricular activities between now and sept 8- that is terrible for their mental and physical health- they have been following all of the guidelines (face, mask, temp checks, social distancing) while participating in outdoor workouts in preparation for fall sports In high school - there is NO reason to shut this down - it is a huge disservice to these kids to do so
7/21/2020 11:08:59	Michelle	Cunningham		Wichita	<p>Please keep the delay and if necessary move to online/remote only instruction. It is wonderful that we have medical experts to listen to please heed their recommendations. We also have an advantage to see that some schools in other countries which re-opened have seen outbreaks in schools (<a href="https://www.wsj.com/articles/israelis-fear-schools-reopened-too-soon-as-covid-19-cases-climb-11594760001">https://www.wsj.com/articles/israelis-fear-schools-reopened-too-soon-as-covid-19-cases-climb-11594760001</a>), this MUST give us pause. We also now know that children can spread, carry and be impacted by COVID-19 (<a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/18/health/coronavirus-children-schools.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/18/health/coronavirus-children-schools.html</a>). In Florida, 31% of children tested were positive for the virus (<a href="https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/07/17/892427161/what-accounts-for-high-coronavirus-positivity-rates-among-florida-kids">https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/07/17/892427161/what-accounts-for-high-coronavirus-positivity-rates-among-florida-kids</a>). We must not ignore these facts.</p> <p>I am a child therapist (LCP) and I realize that there could be some social/emotional impact on kids' who don't return to in person school but this is a far better alternative to the social/emotional impact of losing students and staff. I also recognize there could be a learning delay for some kids if they don't have regular instruction, this is still a better alternative to anyone falling ill with potential permanent damage (that the scientific community now believes to be true about victims of this disease <a href="https://news.berkeley.edu/2020/07/08/from-lung-scarring-to-heart-damage-covid-19-may-leave-lingering-marks/">https://news.berkeley.edu/2020/07/08/from-lung-scarring-to-heart-damage-covid-19-may-leave-lingering-marks/</a>) or worse, death.</p> <p>Aside from the risk of losing friends, teachers and staff in their schools, part of what helps kids is to have stability. A decision to return to in person classwork only increases the risk that we'll have to abruptly shut it down. Create stability for teachers and students by only offering remote learning.</p> <p>I do not envy your process or decision in this matter, it is am impossible one. There will be people who dislike any decision made. I also realize the impact that staying home will have on parents who have to return to work. It is clear that if we had more help from the federal government for families to not return to work we may not be having the same discussion. So I ask that you also consider writing our congress members to implore them to create further stimulus for our citizens and I'll do the same again.</p>
7/21/2020 11:09:00	Kim	Ralston		Wamego	The delay will give school time to prepare and will give the state time to lower COVID-19 cases. Please pass this order and give our students, faculty and admin staff a fighting chance to reduce and prevent as many cases as possible. As a parent I can't imagine having to not know when my kid comes home sick, for any illness, having to think about who they may have spread to at school or through contact to other families. We should do everything possible to fight against and prevent this virus from spreading through our communities through our children.
7/21/2020 11:09:03	Robert	Sherwood	parent	emporia	I support the delay. Keep kids safe. There are still too many unknowns, and things are moving in the wrong direction.
7/21/2020 11:09:11	Jennifer	Benner-Willis		Lawrence	Absolutely delay opening schools at least until after Labor Day. We cannot keep our communities safe if we are ignoring all the guidelines and the current trajectory of Covid in Kansas.
7/21/2020 11:09:11	Jeffrey	Flinn	Parent	Valley Center	Get these kid's back in the classroom! You will not expose my children to the toxic chemicals found in hand sanitizer every hour! My child will not wear a mask all day! Teachers don't want go teach they need to find a new job! Public schools need to watch out. There are far more parents than teachers. We will find a way for our kid's. With or without public education!
7/21/2020 11:09:12	Michelle	Oettmeier	Prairie elementary paren	Mission hills	Please reopen schools in person as planned without delay.
7/21/2020 11:09:12	Sarah	Cordell		Overland Park Kansas	Please consider the health and well being of all students and teachers and vote to approve the start date after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 11:09:17	Amy	Wilson	Topeka Public Schools	Topeka	Please follow Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school. It is essential to keep both students and teachers safe and allow time to get procedures in place.

7/21/2020 11:09:19	Tricia	Myers	Mothers	Salina	I do not agree with forcing children to wear masks all day, to the point to where I am going to look into the option of homeschooling. Im afraid it will upset and bother my 3rd and 4th grader so much they will shut down and not learn as much as they could otherwise. As much as my children need the social interaction I am so worried about them falling behind. I think there can be ways to social distance throughout the day and not have to wear a mask. Teachers will be getting onto kids about wherein them and not messing with them more than being able to teach.
7/21/2020 11:09:20	Julie	Smith	My high school child	Topeka	By shutting down everything for a month including sports you are basically putting these kids back on lockdown when they haven't been the problem! They have been playing organized sports and having weights/workouts all summer long without any significant outbreak of Covid! So why are they being punished? Because taking away not only school, but also all activities will mentally break down many of these kids! I'm scared for their future and what the decisions adults are making for them will do to them! I'd love to know who decided that school and school activities were not essential!!
7/21/2020 11:09:25	Claire	Blessing		LEAWOOD	Safely is a concern, and all precautions should be taken. However, as a Grandparent living with teenagers I'm especially concerned, but in person classroom education is necessary in my opinion! It's not only about education, but mental health is also an issue.
7/21/2020 11:09:27	Shawna	Bowden		Lawrence	Please allow sports practice even if the start of school is delayed. Sports are essential for kids to be involved in for multiple reasons.
7/21/2020 11:09:29	Briana	Lewallen		NWK	This Virus isn't going away so why are we delaying education. What purpose does this help? We are only hurting our children! We have never in history stopped education when we were faced with worse diseases and we sure in the heck didn't make our kids wear masks. There are facts proving that masks do not even help so what is the point! Also good luck in getting the younger kids to keep their mask on. 90% of what the teacher will get done everyday is trying to get the kids to leave the masks on. I agree with using the hand sanitizer or just having kids in general wash their hands more throughout the day! This is something that can be done more often! Do not take away our kids chances to be kids! Do not hinder their education because the only thing you are doing is hurting their future but doing this!
7/21/2020 11:09:32	Michelle	Hooper	Kids in desoto district	MTMS MVHS	Send our kids back to school!!!
7/21/2020 11:09:42	Neva	Rowland		Girard	Please approve the delay to the school year. School districts need time to organize the safest back to school plan.
7/21/2020 11:09:54	Lisa	Gwin	Parent of Students	Great Bend	Our kids have been out of school for far too long. Please do not extend this out any longer. These kids need to go back in August and they need to go back with out these dictatorship restrictions. The masks are extremely unhealthy for any child to wear. There is a lot of information out there supporting this and no good source supporting the use of a mask. Please do not let our Governor flex her overreach any further. This woman has no background in education or medicine. She has no educational support to make these decisions. You as educators know what is best for our students. I think you can agree delaying education and masking everybody is not in our students best interest. Please allow school to start in August with no masks. I beg of you do start showing the true Midwestern and Kansas support and no longer allow a New York Native to keep her overreach. Sincerely a very concerned parent!
7/21/2020 11:09:56	Courtney	Roberts		Shawnee	No - keep the decision at the district level
7/21/2020 11:10:00	Jeffrey	Prothro	Family	De Soto	For the health and well being of children, teachers, staff I urge you to follow the Governor's requested mandate and move the opening of school to after Labor Day. I am the parent of a fourth and sixth grader and am concerned that not all the necessary safety measures are in place to ensure the health and we'll being of all involved. This would allow further necessary steps to be taken by school districts. Please approve the mandate.
7/21/2020 11:10:03	Monica	Serrano	Parent	Abilene	Irresponsible to delay children's education for a virus with such a low death rate. Majority are being treated and recovering at home. Working parents cannot afford to stay home and educate their children. It is unreasonable to expect children to advance their education to the next year without being in the classroom.
7/21/2020 11:10:04	Marni	Mills	Myself	Olathe	Please do NOT delay the start of school! Students want and need to be in the school with their friends and teachers! There has not been ANY deaths from school age children in our state. The Governor is playing politics and the children are the losers!



7/21/2020 11:10:05	Deb	Murray	I'm a school psychologist	Leawood	We really need to not have school opening pushed back. We either need to make a decision to proceed via online or in person, and do it on time. Delaying makings everything harder. There are many parents and students depending on special education services and evaluations. I am not advocating for necessarily reopening in person, because that brings about a whole host of problems. For example, when teachers get sick in a normal year, there are just not enough subs to cover sometimes. Teachers will get sick and subs will be needed even more this year, everywhere. There will not be enough subs to sustain schools. There simply is not enough room to socially distance in schools. If it is decided to do online, we MUST allow staff to enter the buildings. Staff must be able to access their supplies and files on a regular basis, and they can do that safely with social distancing.
7/21/2020 11:10:13	Jessica	Gigstad	USD 430	Everest	I would urge the State BOE to consider those children who are already behind from the spring in their decision making. I know there is awareness about those parents who don't care to teach at home or ensure that their student is sitting down to complete virtual classes. Please consider those students for whom public school is their only realistic option of a decent education. I urge you to make children, not parents, not teachers, the priority. Let's consider those least fortunate.
7/21/2020 11:10:15	Greggretta	Voth	My children	Sterling	Please show your support in delaying school until September, do not politicize this natural disaster at the expense of the staff and students of the state.
7/21/2020 11:10:19	Amy	Cline	Teacher/ self	Topeka	Please support and uphold Governor Kelly's order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. As a teacher and parent of school children, in person instruction, while there is still an abundance (and rising amount) of community spread, makes in person instruction seem incredibly dangerous and Even irresponsible. I don't believe we should put lives on the line. I agree education is important, but public safety must take precedent at this time.
7/21/2020 11:10:19	Tabatha	Granado	USD 253	Emporia	Please start school on or after sept 9th. I fear for myself, my students, my own children and my family who I could potentially expose!
7/21/2020 11:10:23	Jennifer	Hooper		Derby	I think students should remain out of school until positive cases are on the decline and much lower. I think they could start the year learning online and transition into buildings once we have a handle on the virus. I think it's irresponsible to put not only students, but teachers and staff at risk and allow them to be guinea pigs when there really is no way to know what will happen when we allow schools to open. I'm all for getting everyone back to school and return to normalcy, but think we must do so in a responsible manner.
7/21/2020 11:10:24	LACEY	FINLEY		SHAWNEE	Please vote NO to keep the prevent additional delays from the state level.
7/21/2020 11:10:29	Erin	Kuefler	Parent	Olathe	Delay school for safety resaons
7/21/2020 11:10:32	Daniel	Riley	Retired ATT EMPLOYEE	Kansas City Kansas	I agree with postponing the schools until September or until the infection rate comes down to 5%
7/21/2020 11:10:40	Angie	Evans	USD 435	Abilene	I firmly believe it is in the best interested in our children to get them physically back into school sooner rather than later. Again and again Pediatricians and Epidemiologists have stated that transmission of COVID-19 from child to child and child to adult is very rare. Please follow the science here and get our children back into school. Delaying the start of school from the get-go will provide a dangerous precedence. We need to stop this yo-yo that our Governor has us on and stick to a timeline!
7/21/2020 11:10:54	Christopher	Delay	Parent	Dickinson county	Please support the executive order to delay the start of schools statewide.
7/21/2020 11:10:58	Jamie	MacLaren	My family	Junction City	Thank you for keeping our children safe. Is there any way we can extend the safety measures until October?
7/21/2020 11:11:01	Nancy	Dettmer		Junction City	I support the governor. Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 11:11:09	Travis	Hecht	Wamego Schools, Wamego	Wamego	Open schools as normal. Kids need to be in school and the Cornavirus is being used a political tool at this point. Look at the other countries and see that kids are least affected. Get them in School!!!
7/21/2020 11:11:13	Sherri	Austin	My family!!	I live in Kingman but work in Wamego	I've worked for Maize School District for 35 years. I have seen personally that grades K-5 don't follow protocol for covering their coughs, sneezes nor washing their hands! Parents send kids to school sick until they ultimately get the call to come get their sick child! I homeschooled my 9 year old grandson during the outage starting in April. He did fine. As much as I realize the important factors of kids being in school, this is NOT the time, with numbers rising! We are the adults here that should be protecting our children. As well as, protecting staff and families that children could take the virus home too. Why subject our children, staff and families to a deadly virus that even the experts don't have the answers for! It's a game of Russian roulette if we open schools now. Are you willing to take that risk? I pray not! Thank you for standing up for our children!!

7/21/2020 11:11:34	Shawna	Miller		Baldwin City	The delay in opening schools is necessary and may need to be extended to protect students, their families, teachers and staff. Upon reopening, there needs to be a solid plan in place to mitigate any issues and provide protection for all involved as well funding to support the plan. My niece is being treated for breast cancer and her son, a high school student, should not be placed in a position where he risks bringing home a potentially deadly disease to his mother. Poll your students and their families to see how many are in similar situations. How many elementary school students have vulnerable grandparents who care for them after school? These are things that need to be taken into consideration.
7/21/2020 11:11:37	Corey	Rozean	I am employed by the C	Wichita	First I want to reiterate that the views and thoughts in this comment are mine and fo not, nor should they reflect upon the views of my employer. I have chosen to take part in the survey on my own free will, and my employer can not and should not be held liable to my point of view.  I think the executive order should be followed. Especially in Sedgeick county where we have a much denser population that most of western Kansas. I think logically it would be irresponsible for schools in sedgwick county to open before September 9th.  We need to focus on the social emotional effects COVID has had on all of us, and me must make the choose based on what is right for our communities and our families. I would love to start school in August, and I'm ready to do so. But I think it is the wrong move.
7/21/2020 11:11:37	Kimberly	Gray	Parent - USD 343	Perry	I firmly believe it's in the best interest of the children of our State that they return to school as scheduled with no delay. These children deserve to return to some sense of normalcy. I believe we have all learned a lot about social distancing and how to protect ourselves and districts will be prepared to handle this as best as possible. Children need structure and need activities, as well as the social benefits of being among their peers. The facts of this "pandemic" are so distorted by the media. Let's quit making this Virus a political game and take our children's best interest into account. And to me that means school should start on time . . No delay!
7/21/2020 11:11:39	Christi	Hoke	Parent	Manhattan	Please delay the opening of schools until after Labor Day so we as parents can make an informed decision about the fall session. Our enrollment doesn't close until August 12 and we have little information on what school will look like in the fall if we chose in class options. Please consider that this is a tough decision for parents and we just don't have enough information at this point to make a decision.
7/21/2020 11:11:49	Britny	Wood	Parent of free state high	Lawrence	The gov should not be canceling all extracurricular activities between now and sept 8- that is terrible for their mental and physical health- they have been following all of the guidelines (face, mask, temp checks, social distancing) while participating in outdoor workouts in preparation for fall sports In high school - there is NO reason to shut this down - it is a huge disservice to these kids to do so
7/21/2020 11:11:52	Stephanie	Ferney	USD 453	Leavenworth	Please support Governor Kelley's executive order to delay school openings. As a teacher, I do not see how we can safely open schools now, with cases continuing to rise daily, and I am asking the Board to make their decision with everyone's physical safety foremost in mind. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:11:52	Yadira	Pedroza	Parent	Pratt	Delay better be safe then sorry my kids are not worth proving a point to see if the Covid is real or not
7/21/2020 11:11:53	Sarah	McCarty	My family	Hays	I absolutely support Governor Kelly's recommendation to keep schools closed until after September 9, 2020! Our children are not guinea pigs. I have a child with Type 1 Diabetes and asthma. I also have an immune compromised mother and mother-in-law that I do not wish to become ill. We are all very strict with mask-wearing and social distancing so my children are still able to see their grandparents. If schools are allowed to reopen with cases spiking, this will no longer be possible. I have several close friends who are teachers who have immune compromised children. How are they supposed to protect themselves and their families if schools are allowed to reopen? Please protect our community and allow schools to reopen at a later date!

7/21/2020 11:12:00	Lisa	O'Donnell	Parent and employee in	Shawnee	I don't feel this virus is going away anytime soon so we need to live with it which means including human interaction in our lives. I would prefer to start the school year as normal, on time as we are truly not going to be in a different situation 3 weeks from now. Kids need direct interaction with friends for their social well being. In addition, many kids rely on other parts of school for enjoyment, learning and future livelihood including band, choir, shop classes, all of which cannot be done well remotely. I am all for precautions if that is what it takes to open but with science driven precautions that make sense. We need MORE THINKING AND LESS REACTING. Adults have a choice on where they work. If I don't feel safe going back into my building to work, then I can find other employment. Please get our kids back into the school buildings!
7/21/2020 11:12:01	Matt	McElwee		Maize	Follow the guidelines schools have worked on all summer and allow kids to go back to school on time. I'd rather homeschool till 9/8 then delay all kids an education. I'd rather drive my kid to school than delay because of busing fears. I'd rather work up to in class than make kids wait and get behind in education even further. I'd rather them do in classroom PE/ music/ recess/ lunch than just stop education all together. Provide clear mouth masks to teachers and don't make young kids wear them. It will be a distraction to the little ones.
7/21/2020 11:12:02	Jessica	Stoll	Free State Football	McLouth	As a State, we have a long list of many talented and decorated programs that exist both in and outside of the classroom. Many students are allowed the opportunity to stay mentally engaged in order to return to the classroom with consideration to the delayed start to the school year. Each student is owed the same consideration outside of the classroom. They take immense pride in representing their school and State. I urge the consideration for ALL fall activity workouts and practices, even with the delay of the school year. In order for the student athlete and student participants to be ready to compete, it is critical they have practiced and are physically and mentally prepared. I ask this in support of sports, marching band and any other school organization. Let's please keep our students engaged and allow them the opportunities to prepare; regardless of when in-class attendance would begin. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 11:12:05	Breanna	Blackhart		Hoxie Kansas	Please let these kids get back to their normal lives! We NEED to start their education and athletic abilities back as soon as possible! Do not delay this anymore!!
7/21/2020 11:12:06	Jessie	Cummings		Topeka	Please support the Governor's order to delay the start of in person schooling
7/21/2020 11:12:13	Julie	Schultz	Blue Valley PTO	Overland Park, KS	School is essential. We have learned how to adapt in all other essential environments during these unprecedented times. We need to define in-school learning as ESSENTIAL and build a plan to get students and faculty back safely in the Fall.
7/21/2020 11:12:15	Chandra	Doane	USD 272 Board Membe	Downs, KS	Opening schools is a NEED. This has passed the point of want. We all understand the risks are prepared to do whatever is needed for our kids. There are too many children that NEED to get out of their homes for safety, consistency, mental health, socialization and physical well being. Whether you start as normal or after Labor Day doesn't matter...it just matters that we do. Learning should be available in whatever format a family chooses. Whether a child physically walks into a school should not be a concern, that's up to their parents. We just need make sure they get their education.
7/21/2020 11:12:39	Dylan	Ashford	Student	Shawnee	I want school to open regular time
7/21/2020 11:12:44	John	Rather	Parent	Wichita	We have 4 children who attend Andover Schools. We feel strongly that school, including extracurricular activities, should start on schedule in August. We trust our local administrators and teachers to provide a safe environment. Of far more concern is the academic, emotional and health toll on students as a result of a continued delay of their return. Its already been 5 months since the kids have been fully engaged in everything our great schools have to offer. We love our wonderful teachers and believe many of them are ready and willing to undertake some risk to move forward, as many in our community are already doing by returning to work.
7/21/2020 11:12:46	Raynee	Beaty	High School , Sports, an	Lawrence ISD. (Usd497	These kids need to be active and be able to continue their learning, sports, and activities they love. They have already had too much time away from their normal lives and being stuck on their phones and not socializing and being active is not good for them mentally or physically. These kids need structure, activity, socialization, strength, and teamwork. We are letting our youth down by not keeping structure and activity in their lives.
7/21/2020 11:12:49	Teresa	Whearty		Randolph	I am scared to send my 3 children back to school, even in our small rural community. I support the delay.
7/21/2020 11:12:49	Jill	Worl	Usd #327	Geneseo	Please keep schools closed to students until after Labor Day in hopes the virus spread will have slowed down by then. This delay will also allow teachers more time to prepare their classrooms for students as well as plan for a year like no other year.

7/21/2020 11:13:05	Tricia	Simpson	Blue valley wolf springs	Bucyrus	I wish for the school to open back up.
7/21/2020 11:13:09	Sara	Hale	Parent	Topeka	Please keep kids out of schools. Let's protect everyone: teachers, staffs, etc. What happens when a staff tests positive? Do we have enough teachers in place to sub? What about custodians...what if one gets sick...how will this work. It would be safer to keep kids out of schools.
7/21/2020 11:13:18	Katie	Good	parent	Barnard, Kansas	My kids need to be in school. We live in a rural and shouldn't have the same rules as bigger cities. Start on time and with masks and see how it goes. The kids are already behind from last spring online learning. Please get the kids in school where they belong. They're our future!
7/21/2020 11:13:26	Danielle	V		Junction City	Delaying the opening of schools is a great idea. It gives our educators and administrators time to prepare for the return of our children and staff.
7/21/2020 11:13:36	Crystal	Stewart	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park, KS	I support delaying school opening until 9/9/2020, in addition to social distancing, masking of all students and staff, and hand sanitizing every hour.
7/21/2020 11:13:39	ALEXANDRA	ROME	Holy Family Elementary	HAYS	I am a music teacher in Hays, and I FULLY support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school. It is far too risky to send kids and staff to school in-person right now with as exponentially as COVID-19 has increased. - There are so many things to factor in: Getting PPE equipment, gathering sanitation supplies, masks for students who cannot afford them, people who will be in the school who then go home to high-risk family members, staff who come into contact with EVERY student in the building - or even multiple buildings, bussing students socially distanced, food service, etc. -Delaying the start of the school year would allow us more time to create a solid plan for how to keep our students and families safe. With the state only just releasing their guidelines and some schools scheduled to start in just a week or 2, that is not NEARLY enough time to get procedure and equipment in place. It would also allow the numbers of positive cases to trend downward.
7/21/2020 11:13:41	Alex	Hertel	Parent	Goddard	I support governor Kelly's order to delay school until after Labor Day. The reason I think this because COVID -19 is surging and if you fill schools up with students and school staff I feel there would be a potentially dangerous situation with a lot of different clusters. Please wait until after Labor Day to open schools
7/21/2020 11:13:44	Christie	Jones		WaKeeney	Please delay school and do whatever you must do to keep our students and staff safe. The loss of lives would be foolish when there are alternatives.
7/21/2020 11:13:50	matt	henry	taxpayer	wichita	Open the schools you bunch of lazy poopyheads. The children, mine and others, aren't learning anything from home. Their only hope is that other states are just as incompetent and lazy in their leadership so the bar is lowered universally.
7/21/2020 11:13:53	Alexandria	Pasquale		De Soto	The State Board of Education needs to prioritize the health and safety of its students, families, and staff by delaying the start of school until at least after Labor Day in accordance with Governor Kelly's order. Not doing so would greatly increase the infection rates amongst the children in our communities. Please make the safety of our children your priority.
7/21/2020 11:13:53	Tina	Palmer	Usd 367	Osawatomie	Do not delay schools, it will cause more harm than good
7/21/2020 11:13:57	Melissa	Barnhart	Working Mom's everyw	Hutchinson	I understand and fully desire the need to keep our teachers safe. That should be number one priority. I do not think, however, that delaying the start of school is going to help this. The longer we delay, the closer we get to fall which is the start of other seasons of sicknesses like the flu. It would be nice to start it earlier in order to get the kinks worked out of the day to day changes that way we are ready to combat not only Covid but the Flu, Fifth's disease, Hand foot and mouth, etc. If an immune system is slowly attacked by something, it is more likely able to fight it off. But if teachers are getting bombarded by all the sicknesses at the same time, they will have a harder time staying strong against them. Covid is not going anywhere, just like the flu. The best thing we need to do is TAKE THE PROPER PRECAUTIONS but move on with our lives. Our bodies need to learn how to fight it. They will not so this by sitting at home not being exposed. Thank you.

7/21/2020 11:14:01	Carolyn	York	USD500	Raytown, Missouri	I have been a special education school social worker in the Kansas City, Ks school district Wyandotte county. Kansas is now a red zone and Wyandotte county is one of the worst in the state. KCK is a high risk area due to the population. I am now 65 and my husband has health risks. I do not believe that staff or students should return in person at this time. We need to start online at the beginning of the school year and keep students, families, and staff safe.
7/21/2020 11:14:06	Annie	Christesen	Ottawa USD 290	Lawrence	I am a teacher and I support the delayed start of the 20-21 school year. I am very anxious about returning to school while our Covid19 numbers are continuing to rise. My entire 26 years of life I have battled with my health. In my three years that I have been teaching, the only time when I'm not sick is during the summer. I teach first grade and I don't know how we can reasonably expect these kids to adapt to so many changes. Even though I very much support mask wearing, I don't know how it will be realistic with six year olds for eight hours a day. In my personal opinion, I think we should do remote learning for the first half of the year/until numbers go down significantly. If that's not an option, then I think we should do half day sessions in elementary schools since my school district has stated the focus is math and reading. Half day sessions would ensure smaller groups of kids, time in between to sanitize, and teachers actually getting a break for lunch and being able to use the bathroom (I got my first kidney stone during my first year of teaching because I stopped drinking water due to no bathroom breaks). It would also cut down the hours that kids would be required to wear a mask, which a lot of parents are voicing as a reason they don't want their child at school. Please consider these suggestions from a teacher that just wants her students and teachers to be safe.
7/21/2020 11:14:17	Kristine	Burke	KCKPS USD 500	Olathe	I am a passionate and dedicated elementary school counselor. During the summer I remained in contact with a few families who needed extra support. One of our students contracted COVID. She was asymptomatic. Her grandfather on the other hand was not so lucky. He went into the hospital and after weeks of being on a ventilator he died. I am sure lots of people have similar stories. But here's the thing- my spouse is a dialysis patient and is immunocompromised. All I kept thinking was: this student had no symptoms, no fever, nothing. They would be in my school building, in the classroom where I teach my social emotional lessons, in my office. I am not just thinking about me and my family. Many of the students in my district live in homes with extended family who are at greater risk (grandparents, aunts, uncles). I think that it is unsafe and would be a huge misstep to have students return to our school buildings at the current time.
7/21/2020 11:14:18	Ellen	Backus		Topeka	As an elementary teacher, wife of a high school teacher, and mother of a 3 month old, I understand the dangers that come from unprepared school openings. Whether schools plan to open mask to mask or remotely, there is a great deal that needs to be prepared before then. Please vote to push back the start date so that schools can be more prepared and to give our community a chance to lower transmission rates.
7/21/2020 11:14:19	Stacie	Ogborn Turner	EDUCATORS	Wichita	It is not safe to reopen schools at this time. Gov. Kelly's delay order is the most prudent thing we can do to protect students and staff. It will give districts the gift of time to implement the plans needed to provide safe options for parents. It will also give our communities time to get Covid cases under control.
7/21/2020 11:14:20	Sarah	Lawlor		Lenexa	I'm in agreement that delaying the school year is a good idea. There is a breakout in our community and an extra few weeks will help. Also giving the district the added time to ensure the distance learning option is great is important. As a society we need to follow the science and not allow a minority of alarmists control debate.
7/21/2020 11:14:21	Regina	Erickson	Kingman High School K	Kingman	Open our schools with NO masks and NO restrictions. Or I'm suing for my tax dollars to be refunded to me for all the time you're closed. ☹️
7/21/2020 11:14:30	BRIAN	BREWER		Olathe	Please honor the executive order and delay school until after labor day. Please help our students and teachers come back to a safe environment. Delaying until after labor day will allow the mask mandate a few more weeks to work throughout the communities and bring the numbers back down.
7/21/2020 11:14:30	Phoebe	Brummett	USD 217 Rolla Schools	Rolla	Thank you for your time in serving our students. I serve on our local school board and realize not every decision that is made is popular with the constituents. I believe the decision on whether to open schools should remain local. What works for larger districts does not make sense in smaller districts. Our largest class size has 18 students and our superintendent already has made his plans on how to open safely. Our county has had only 9 cases of Covid so far and the majority of them have been in the older community members. Please leave the decision to those who are closest to the problems. Thank you!
7/21/2020 11:14:45	John	Woods	parent	Manhattan	school needs to start as originally scheduled with all students in attendance seated in the classroom.

7/21/2020 11:14:47	Jennifer	Carter	USD 232	Lenexa	Please vote to pass the executive order. We as teachers need TIME to create new learning activities in two different learning environments!!!
7/21/2020 11:14:54	Erica	Wheat	USD 497	Lawrence	I would like to recommend sports practice continue even if school is delayed. They are using masks and practicing social distancing. Let's not let these kids lose anymore.
7/21/2020 11:14:56	Laura	Fix	Grandparent of free state	Lawrence	The governor should not be cancelling all extracurricular school activities between now and sept 8- children need to feel a part of something especially now- coaches have been following all of your rules - masks, temp checks, social distancing - taking this away from them At this time is irresponsible to their overall mental and physical well being - DO NOT let the governor do this to these kids
7/21/2020 11:14:58	Sarah	Landry		Lawrence	School should be delayed until after Labor Day. If we would not send our children when cases were much lower, it makes no sense to send them now. We have no idea what long term effects are from the virus and current evidence suggests it's not good. Exposing our children raises the risks for all of us with potentially devastating impact. We need to keep everyone safe to the best of our abilities. Please align with the Governor's guidelines.
7/21/2020 11:15:01	Kelly	Wall	Myself	Lawrence	I work as a contract employee, a speech language pathologist in the Topeka Public School system. If our communities aren't safe for large groups, then our schools can't operate safely either. We all know that social distancing and following other rules, including wearing masks and hand washing, will be challenges for students. When we have positive cases, we will need quick, effective testing. Who will provide that for teachers or families of students? Who will cover the costs? How will teachers be expected to go back and forth between virtual and face-to-face teaching with these changes throughout the year? Will there be enough subs and support staff, as many subs, food service workers and bus drivers are elderly? Please support Gov. Kelly's decision to delay the start of schools until after Labor Day and help prepare schools to address these issues, as well as provide a plan for addressing the anxiety and fears many students and staff will be experiencing.
7/21/2020 11:15:03	Kerie	Barnett		Oakley	No mask required, let them start in August. Keep things as normal. Do temp checks,
7/21/2020 11:15:07	Michelle	Crook		Fort Leavenworth	Open school and have everyone wear masks and frequent hand washing and sanitation done.
7/21/2020 11:15:08	Craig	Schmidt	Parent	Goessel Ks	As COVID-19 cases in our Country, counties ,and surrounding communities spread I feel that it is unsafe at this time to start school. I think we need some extra time to figure out recommendations and regulations on how we will handle the school year for the safety of our teachers kids and community members.
7/21/2020 11:15:10	Emily	Rountree		Pittsburg	Please support the delay of reopening schools. As a teacher and a parent, going back to school is very overwhelming since we have been very careful. The risk of going back to school and potentially infecting staff, students, and families is not worth the reward.
7/21/2020 11:15:13	Hanna	Anderson	Emporia schools	Emporia	Don't open schools and put children and teachers at risk until Kansas is 14 days with no new cases!! This is so unpredictable and the outcomes and potential harmful effects should outweigh schools starting back up when cases are soaring!!
7/21/2020 11:15:15	Janna	Frydendall	Meade County, Kansas.	Meade, Kansas	I believe that the schools in Meade County should open before Labor Day. Our citizens have common sense & have been diligent in being safe. Our kids are ready for school & some normalcy. Yes, precautions have to be followed & will be. Please vote ☺ to start school BEFORE Labor Day. Our kids & administrators are ready!
7/21/2020 11:15:19	Jennifer	Wedman	Maize USD 266	Wichita	I support the delaying of school openings. I am a teacher in the district. I am worried that without proper time to sufficiently and effectively prepare a plan for safety that this situation will get worse. Teachers are going to need time to prepare and rework classroom management systems so that we may feel assured that we are doing the absolute best we can for student and staff safety.
7/21/2020 11:15:24	Dylan	Ashford	Student	shawnee	I want school to open at the usual time in August. Don't want to wait 3 more weeks. I want soccer season to start.
7/21/2020 11:15:29	Tamara	Ehr		Emporia	I am in support of delaying school openings. However, if districts are ready to open up with virtual learning prior to the delay, I see no problem with that. I also agree that all contact sports/extra curricular activities (unless they can be done online) should also be delayed. There are also exceptions to a few districts in counties where there are no current active cases; if those districts are prepared to open with a well thought-out reopening plan, then I feel exceptions could be made.

7/21/2020 11:15:51	Emily	Schmidt	Olathe School District	Shawnee, Kansas	<p>I write to you in hopes you vote to approve Governor Kelly's executive order. I am a proud Kansas educator! I am a High School Family and Consumer Science teacher at Olathe West High School in Olathe Kansas. I have lived in Kansas my entire life. I am a graduate of the Olathe School District and have both a bachelors and masters degree from Pittsburg State University. All of my education has been centered around our great state. I love being an educator and enjoy making our great state better by teaching students. During my teaching career I have always vowed to live by the following "do what's best for kids"- today I ask you to do the same.</p> <p>The executive order Governor Kelly has created gives a valuable resource to our education system, time. Time for the virus to slow, time for our districts to plan accordingly and time for parents to make the right choices for their family. I was incredibly impressed with how our state handled student learning back in March. Voting yes to this executive order will once again show our country how much Kansas values not just education but people. Please value the well-being of our schools staff and students. While I would love nothing more than to be back in my classroom, I can't in good conscience say that I'm not scared. I write this to you 6 months pregnant with my second child. I am not alone in my fear. Help make our schools staff feel safe in the midst of this pandemic. Demonstrate again to our nation that Kansas is the gold standard in both education and valuing human life. Please, do what's best for Kansas kids and vote to approve Governor Kelly's executive order.</p>
7/21/2020 11:15:54	Sara	Naaf	Parent in USD 364	Home, KS	<p>Good morning!</p> <p>While I realize you are likely getting a ridiculous amount of emails about the school situation, I would also like to give you my input.</p> <p>First, thank you for giving your time and energy to serve our students and our community. I am a constituent in Marshall County's Marysville School District, parent to 2 school aged daughters and try to be an advocate for their educational needs and those of other students in our district. I would not wish the difficult decisions you will be making upon my worst enemy...officials are in an impossible situation this year.</p> <p>My thoughts on opening schools on time versus delayed starting is convoluted, at best. I cannot say for certain where I stand. Which may lead you to wonder why I would write you a letter. The answer is, I don't think I'm alone in my hesitancy with my opinion on what needs to be done.</p> <p>On one hand, I am very concerned about staff and student safety if an outbreak were to occur in a school. I have very dear friends that are educators with compromised immune systems, as well as having friends with children who are at high risk of becoming gravely ill should they be infected with COVID-19. As a small business owner, I work with the public every day and know how difficult it is to get adults to wear masks, and worry how that will occur with children (not to mention, some adults). I appreciated the recommendations put together by the State School Board for schools to implement a safer approach to re-opening, but wish there was more clearly defined boundaries. (And maybe there are, I haven't finished reading the entire document...yet!) Such as having a percentage mark of community infection that allows schools to be open, or go to online instruction.</p> <p>On the other hand, I am deeply concerned about our most vulnerable students and their needs. Our special education students who have gone months without direct instruction or therapy services. Our at-risk students who have gone months without their school supports to check in on their emotional and mental well-being. Who is looking out for their best educational interests? How much farther behind will these students slip? Who will be their voice of advocacy?</p>
7/21/2020 11:16:06	Jessica	Thomas		Topeka	Schools should stayed closed until the virus isn't spreading as much as it currently is to keep teachers and students healthy!
7/21/2020 11:16:09	Jennifer	Tilley	USD 232	Shawnee	I believe it's the right thing to do to postpone the start of in-person classes as we are currently seeing an uptick in Covid cases. As a licensed and former state school administrator I am all for classes starting when we can do so SAFELY. I am not willing to risk my children's health, or ask that of the staff of the schools.

7/21/2020 11:16:11	Dolores	Brown	Schools	11563 W. 146th St. Olathe	Are you thinking about teachers and employees who are over 60? Are you going to throw them into harms way? Let's go back to school when Trump sends his son and and grandkids back to their schools.
7/21/2020 11:16:15	Mary	LeGresley		Lawrence	For the safety of our children and the staff and teachers, please approve the Executive Order delaying the School Year.
7/21/2020 11:16:29	Lindsey	Hatesohl	USD 108 parent	Washington	Do NOT allow the governor to overreach in her authority. Open schools on schedule as they had already planned, operating NORMALLY (no masks!).
7/21/2020 11:16:30	Brandy	Hoffman	Usd 232	Lenexa	Please have school start at the regular scheduled time and let our kids play high school fall sports.
7/21/2020 11:16:37	Jeremey	Wilcoxson	Parent	Wichita	Delaying the start will keep teachers and students safe. Perhaps try giving local school districts the option to opt out.
7/21/2020 11:16:41	Jenny	Frandsen	Teacher/mom/daughter	Olathe	Thank you so much for taking time to listen to the public. As a mom, I worry about my kids social needs. As a daughter of a teacher, I worry about my 60+ dad testing positive. As a teacher, I worry about having the responsibility of students lives in my hands. I see both sides, I really do. I want to be in school. However, I can live with the fact that my kids will miss out on a few more weeks with their friends. I'm afraid if we did start losing our children, that the teachers that poor their hearts and souls into their students will never recover. I can't live with that. Please give the districts some time to best meet the needs of our kids and some time for the positive cases to go down.
7/21/2020 11:16:46	Gretchen	Banks		Pratt	IGNORING Covid-19 will not make it go away! Do the right thing for our children! Delay in person classes!!
7/21/2020 11:16:47	Jami	Simmons		Bennington	Please do not delay schools. The kids & teachers need the structure & socialization that being on school campus provides for them. This is a virus & delaying school 14+ days is not going to make it go away.
7/21/2020 11:16:48	Brent	Wood		Lawrence	All studies show teens infected with Covid 19 have mild to moderate symptoms. Why would we shut down these structured sports practices when no problems have been demonstrated to necessitate a full closure? Without structure these kids will find other avenues in a not controlled environment to spend their time.
7/21/2020 11:16:53	John	Stefanik	None, I'm a parent	Olathe	I don't see the need for any delay but so long as the September 9 return is a hard and fast date, can accept that as a way to ensure all parties are prepared to educate our kids.
7/21/2020 11:16:54	John	Devereux		Prairie Village	School opening should be delayed until cases are again under control and can be maintained at a low level
7/21/2020 11:16:57	Terin	Walters		Manhattan	For communities with high virus numbers, please continue with the Gov.'s recommendation to delay until September.  However, I think you need to give communities discretion as metropolitan areas and college towns are much different than smaller rural communities. It may be best for some districts to get school started ASAP before COVID-19 hits their communities.  Also, thank you for your service and your effort to choose the best path for students and their families. You're in an impossible position and there will be complaints no matter what you choose. Please know you are appreciated. You are serving in the toughest of times.
7/21/2020 11:17:01	Gina	Riffel		MANHATTAN	I agree with the Governor, in person school should NOT start until the virus is controlled. If it is not safe for adults to gather in groups there is no reason for our children to.
7/21/2020 11:17:03	John	Doe		Coffeyville, KS	As both a parent and public school employee, I urge you to delay the opening of schools. I believe more time is needed to both prepare schools for the reopening and to allow the curve to flatten both locally and statewide. We were making progress months ago, but the reopening seems to have happened too quickly and ineffectively and now we're right back where we were when this all began. Schools closed initially to help, but I and those I work with believe that more is needed before we can get back to it.
7/21/2020 11:17:08	Lane	Bigge		Scott City Kansas	I believe the choice to open schools should be left up to individual counties and school districts. A 1 shoe fits all policy is sometimes not the best for rural western Kansas. I agree that schools need to have sanitizer and measures in place, but let each school decide when it is safe to open.
7/21/2020 11:17:15	Cathy	Hess	Grandparent	Lenexa	I support keeping schools closed until after Labor Day. Educators are working overtime to figure out how opening schools MIGHT be possible and safe. Give thrm the time they need.



7/21/2020 11:17:17	Jennifer	Bauman		Olathe	Please uphold Gover Kelly's mandate to delay the start of school. I would also ask for you to encourage schools to go online for the first semester this year. As a parent I do not feel it is safe to have school in person given the current path of the Covid19 virus. I know this is a very difficult decision to make. Please follow the path of science rather than politics.
7/21/2020 11:17:25	Sydbey	Topliff	De Soto High School	Kansas City	As a coach and an educator for multiple districts in Kansas, it is appalling that we are considering starting school on time with no training, no plan, and no funding for necessary equipment. Medical professionals are able to be provided with tools to keep themselves safe, as should students, teachers, and other staff.
7/21/2020 11:17:30	Elizabeth	Arnold	myself-parent of childre	Leawood	It's ridiculous to cling to an arbitrary schedule with so much at stake. As the situation with the coronavirus pandemic changes rapidly in Kansas, districts need extra time to respond appropriately. Please uphold the governor's decision to delay the start of the school year so we can do this right.
7/21/2020 11:17:32	Brandi	Norman		Olathe	I urge you to delay the start of school. I have 3 elementary school children and I fear for my entire family's safety if they must return to school while cases continue to rise. With 3 children in different grades and both my husband and I working full time we are not in a position to educate our children full time. The idea that it would be safe to have large numbers of children back in school at that time is alarming. I know this puts a strain on families but the safety and well being of our community must be the priority.
7/21/2020 11:17:33	Katie	Ollenburger		Hutchinson, KS	The governor has backed her decision by science and has made a decision to protect students and staff. As a teacher, I do not want to return with students if it is not in everyone's best health.
7/21/2020 11:17:46	Sophia	Rylko	USD 450	Lawrence	<p>I support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the reopening of schools.</p> <p>I am employed as an occupational therapist for a rural district in Shawnee County. We are in a unique situation in that we also serve students that reside in a neighboring county, Douglas County. I think that it is important for the state to determine uniform guidelines for returning to school safely because one school district may serve different counties that have implemented different guidelines and mandates.</p> <p>I am also very concerned for my own safety and the safety of my students. As a itinerant staff I feel that I am at increased risk for being exposed to and spreading COVID-19. As one of two occupational therapists serving my school district, I serve 6 different schools from a variety of age groups, from kindergarten through high school. In a majority of the schools that I work in I do not have a designated space to work with students and work with them in whatever space is available on a given day. This could include the gym, cafeteria, school psychologists office, special education resource room, or orchestra room. This provides me with less control over maintaining a safe and sanitized environment for my students.</p> <p>During the summer breaks I work as an occupational therapist in a long term care setting which is currently one of the most high risk settings for spreading and contracting COVID 19. I currently feel safer working in that environment than going back to my school based job because there are specific protocols and guidelines in place developed by medical professionals experienced in preventing transmission of the virus. My school district needs the extra time to develop these protocols, to obtain necessary PPE, and ensure that they have the necessary staff and supports in place to safely reopen. It is for these reasons that I ask that you support the Governor's order to delay reopening of schools.</p>
7/21/2020 11:17:49	Christine	Tholen		Iola	I don't mind school starting after Labor Day. That's when we always started school and I was a kid. However, the kids do not need to wear masks. They should engage in all normal aspects of school including Sports recess Art band Etc. Science shows that kids don't get it as much nor do they pass it on as much. And one size does not fit all. We have had in our County only a handful of cases that are now mostly recovered. They come from people going to Wichita or Kansas City and getting it, not from Community spread. Let us here in rural Kansas go back to relatively normal because we can.
7/21/2020 11:17:49	Troy	Hoppes	My kids	DeSoto	We need a solution to open schools not cower to fear. Our children deserve better than to just say no school.

7/21/2020 11:17:50	Tuffy	Taylor	Colby Dodge	Colby	This order should not be allowed. I very strongly recommend that schools open on time and all sports and extra curricular activities be allowed to happen as they have in the past. Our local school system and parents can handle this situation without the governor's interference. These young people should not be pentalized because some people make bad decisions. We have no outbreak in this area. We have 10 different businesses with over 50 people working and every body is working. We have to move forward. Don't let this destroy our youth's future. We have several grandchildren involved with one going to be a senior. We are also former teachers and understand how the education system works. Do not let the teachers union control our schools.
7/21/2020 11:17:51	Cassandra	Swenson		Wichita/ Goddard	I dont feel we can safely send teachers, staff, and children back to school in person unless we model the state after New Zealand and lock everything back down for 4-6 weeks. Everyone's salaries that could not work from home would need to be subsidized during that time, and food assistance would need to be provided. That being said, I would rather my tax dollars be spent this way in a heartbeat. I think we need a 100% online school plan during this time, and again with school breakfast and lunches provided to the children at various pick up locations that are socially distanced. The Goddard school district did an amazing job of this during the spring semester. Other districts should follow suit.
7/21/2020 11:17:51	Susan	Newman	Retired Kansas teacher	Olathe	Delay the start of school for the safety of students, staff and families
7/21/2020 11:17:56	Meagan	Cramer		MANHATTAN	I'm in favor of delaying the start of the school year. With the current information we have, it makes sense to delay starting until after Labor Day. It gives schools more time to prepare and it means people can travel if they'd like over Labor Day and then have time to quarantine before being around a large group of people. We're all learning as we go and there is no training booklet to prepare ourselves. The best we can do is look at science and plan for safe openings.
7/21/2020 11:17:58	Vern	Andrews	Teacher at North Jackso	Holton	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school. We all want to start school this year, but we want to do so safely for students and staff. Thanks you.
7/21/2020 11:18:04	Cathy	Robert	Brown County Interloca	Hiawatha	Our facility provides a safe learning environment for behaviorally, psychiatrically, and sometimes violent students for the school districts in Horton and Hiawatha. We have excellent leadership in both these districts, but especially in our STYLE school's situation, administrators need to be given more time to address the myriad of concerns that come with face-to-face education during this pandemic. I want to be feel safe teaching and caring for them; they need us desperately. Most importantly, I want our students safe at school. Many come from homes that are already compromised in every regard... economically , socially, parentally, etc. Give our leaders the gift of time, because the ramifications otherwise will trickle down to us all. It's a small, small request and it comes from the heart.
7/21/2020 11:18:05	Ashto	Hoffman	De Soto high school	Lenexa, Ks	Please have school start in August as planned and have high school sports played for the fall.
7/21/2020 11:18:06	Lindsay	Hartman	USD 241	Sharon Springs	School needs to resume, I have 2 of 3 kids with IEP's and mom is not a teacher along with working and running a business my kids need the teacher interaction and need a schedule that cannot be provided at home. It will be detrimental to my kids health and emotional well being if school does not resume in session, delayed after labor day doesn't hother me but then School needs to start in person teaching so that kids have a better chance at learning parents that want to homeschooling can but parents that have no desire to want their kids in school and they don't close schools for flu, etc so why should this be any different.
7/21/2020 11:18:06	Renate	Rea		Lawrence	Open School asap and start Fall Sports
7/21/2020 11:18:11	Jessica	Garrison	Parenthood	Olathe	I fully support postponing the start date of the 2020-2021 school year. This will give Kansans a chance to reverse the upward climb of COVID-19 and protect not only our children but the teachers and staff of schools as well.
7/21/2020 11:18:18	Jake	Ashford	Brother of student	Shawnee	My college in Nebraska is opening in August. I believe Kansas schools should open in August too. Need to get back to learning.
7/21/2020 11:18:29	Carrie	Skorupan	Teacher	Overland Park	Kids need school! parents need to return to work and if we make good choices with smaller class sizes and think outside of the box. We can make school work. Online school does not work in Kindergarten for students/parents/teachers
7/21/2020 11:18:38	Strphen	Cadwallader		DeSoto	Please delay the start of school to protect our children and families from the spread of covid!!!

7/21/2020 11:18:50	Chaz	Spedding		Wichita	Thank you Governor Kelly for delaying the start of the school year. I know children's safety and that of the teachers is your primary concern and we've discussed this in length lately also. What to do when a teacher or student tests positive is it a mandatory 2 week quarantine for everyone in the class? I don't have answers and am glad I don't have to make those decisions, so thank you Governor for doing the right thing.
7/21/2020 11:18:55	Kathy	Croy	Myself	Liberal	Please let us have our kids back and provide them Emotional, Educational support. Give us the means to provide what we need and keep them safe.
7/21/2020 11:19:02	Amanda	Ford	Blue Valley Schools US	Lenexa	Please vote to uphold the executive order. Schools and teachers desperately need this time to plan, evaluate options, and get our affairs in order. Starting school "on time" would be haphazard, ineffective, and potentially disastrous. Leaving decisions up for local control is what got us into this mess in the first place. Stop playing politics with people's lives.
7/21/2020 11:19:04	Theresa	Henderson	Non	66002	Keep schools closed
7/21/2020 11:19:06	Kimberly	Sturtevant	USD 497	Lawrence	Please vote in favor of the Governor's mandate to give school districts the added time to prepare safely and effectively for the return of students and staff. Put the safety of students, teachers and their families first!
7/21/2020 11:19:06	Ralph	Lilja	Parent	Zenda	I feel strongly the Governor has overstepped her hand. She can mandate all she wants but common sense would seem to me that getting young kids to wear a mask will be all but impossible. This nonsense has gone on long enough. We need to get the kids back to a normal routine and back to school!
7/21/2020 11:19:13	Kent	Brown	Citizen	Olathe	I urge you to support Gov. Kelly's executive order to delay the start of the school year until after the Labor Day holiday. Also, I urge you to consider carefully the measures needed to ensure teacher safety, in addition to student safety, especially for those teachers in one of the high risk categories.
7/21/2020 11:19:14	Jennifer	Schermerhorn	parent at USD320	Wamego	I fully support the Gov delay of schools and mandatory mask wearing. I believe schools should actually be online for the fall semester, because we should not be risking the health and safety of children and teachers. Any death is totally unacceptable.
7/21/2020 11:19:23	Jason	Nitz		Cummings	Open schools
7/21/2020 11:19:25	Ruth	Heppel-Werner	USD 402	Augusta	I would prefer the delay to adequately prepare for all of the changes for my students. I want to make our environment as safe as possible for myself, my students, and my paras!
7/21/2020 11:19:26	Dea	Birmingham		Lawrence, KS	We need to have in person school options. Online only is not good for mental health, socialization, and physical health of our kids. It is also detrimental to working parents.
7/21/2020 11:19:30	Jennifer	Wenger	Parent of 2 kids in USD	De Soto	I believe we should push back opening schools to attempt to get numbers down. I believe it is the safest option at this time to protect our children, teachers and families. Thank you for considering all of our comments and concerns. I feel like our district's hybrid option is the best for most students/faculty to limit the number of people in the buildings at one time.
7/21/2020 11:19:30	Tracie	Betz	Parent/Teacher	Quinter	We currently have no active cases and have had a total of 2 cases. We need to be in school ASAP as we may not continue to be that lucky. Our students/children need structure, to be able to build a relationship with their teachers, be with their peers and participate in activities. They NEED this for their social emotional health. I have seen the social emotional needs increase with my own children throughout this situation. Having school with some safety provisions provides students with a safe, consistent and positive environment!! If we don't start until after September 8, that will be almost 6 months of not being in a school building! As you know, schools provide so much more than just academics!! I am a special education teacher and the gap I work so hard to close will only continue to widen if we wait an additional three weeks. And who knows if we would even be able to start then, there's a chance we could have an outbreak here and still not be able to be in the school building. That's another reason we need to start ASAP; so that children can begin to develop relationships which will be imperative if we have to go to distance learning again. I appreciate the opportunity for planning with a late start. However, a district the size of mine does not need three weeks to prepare. Local control will give us the flexibility in determining what is best for our students, staff and community!! Thank you for asking for our input and representing us on the state school board!! You are appreciated!!
7/21/2020 11:19:40	Linda	Smith		Independence Kansas	In my opinion our schools need more time to work on reopening. Protection supplies need to be provided to all districts. As a parent of two teachers I am as concerned for their safety as I am for the students. With the surge of cases in our state we can't think of moving forward next month. Too many precious lives at stake.

7/21/2020 11:19:47	Amy	Theiss		Shawnee	<p>Please consider excluding small schools from this order. Small private or public schools with small class sizes have significantly less exposure and risk than a bigger school. Consider also, that the entire state isn't in the same situation. A rural Western Kansas school and an Urban Eastern Kansas school will have different risks and benefits when it comes to safely dealing with educating our students in a school environment. There should not be a "one size fits all" solution to this school year.</p> <p>I would also ask that if you do agree to delay the start of the school year, that you please allow sports (especially outdoor) to begin. Many of these children have already begun practicing for their fall sports. We've seen club and recreation sports continue throughout the summer. It would be beneficial for school teams to be able to play just as the club and rec teams have played these past several months. It is in our student's best interest to be able to interact with their peers in safe ways.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration. I acknowledge what a tough decision this is for you all and we appreciate your service and consideration of our students overall well being.</p>
7/21/2020 11:19:50	Renee	Miller		Hutchinson	<p>Please listen to the Governor and keep schools closed until after Labor Day at least. We have to keep our teachers and our children safe! Now is not the time to be sending anyone out into gatherings! This virus is still uncontrolled in Kansas! It's not safe yet!! My daughter is a teacher and I have 7 grandchildren who go to school. I feel like it's until this virus is controlled it's not safe for any of them to have to be putting themselves and their families in jeopardy. We have to protect all the teachers and children as safe as possible. Please listen to Governor Kelly!!!!</p>
7/21/2020 11:19:53	Alicia	Cameron	My Children	Wichita Ks	<p>Please stay closed till after Labor Day and Please do online classes till it is truly safe to go back to school. One life lost to virus is to many.</p>
7/21/2020 11:19:53	Rochelle	Tramp		Lawrence	<p>Please allow students to continue their sports workouts with the proper protection they have been using. It is important for kids to be able to get back in the classroom as well. Please open schools and in person learning. Those that don't feel comfortable should have an online choice. Many students want back in classrooms. Can teachers wear masks and social distance.</p>
7/21/2020 11:19:54	Wes	Lewis		Lenexa	<p>I am the parent of an 11 year daughter, who will be starting middle school this coming school year, and a teacher in a district in which I have been serving 5 different school buildings. My daughter loves school and her teachers, even aspiring to be a kindergarten teacher someday. She wants to return to the school building, make memories with friends, and open the next chapter of her K-12 education. I am a 5-12 band director in a 5A urban school district and have large class sizes, in some buildings over 100 students at a time. The growth and development of my students means the world to me. I love giving these students the opportunity to travel and have experiences that they would otherwise not receive. All of that said, the current rate at which new cases are being reported in our state, and specifically in our area, is incredibly troubling. Health department officials are urging us to delay the opening of school buildings and I believe that we should heed their warnings. While the developmental concerns of our students not being in the school building are valid, the safety and physical health of our children, faculty and staff should take a higher priority. Please uphold the governor's executive order and postpone the beginning of school to allow Kansas necessary time to prepare for the coming school year, enact safety precautions and plans, and slow the spread of the virus as we had done months ago.</p>
7/21/2020 11:19:58	Jenny	Skillman	Public school parent	Lawrence	<p>Please vote to APPROVE Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school. While districts may ultimately approach education delivery differently based on local circumstances of the pandemic, Kansas AS A UNIFIED STATE needs this time to try to slow the covid spread and for educators to appropriately prepare for what is certain to be a challenging school year. Thank you for your service.</p>
7/21/2020 11:20:11	Stewart	Trowbridge	None	Lecompton	<p>Please don't ignore the science and the numbers. Delay the opening of schools and protect the students and the staff.</p>

7/21/2020 11:20:24	Sara	Meyer	Parent	Menlo	My children attend USD 412 in Hoxie, KS. I do not believe that the school year for Hoxie should be delayed. The state of Kansas is very diverse and it is wrong to make an order for the state across the board. Communities and schools in northwestern Kansas greatly differ from eastern Kansas. I truly believe that children need to attend school in the classroom. The last weeks of the 2019-2020 school year were really hard for my children and I, and I believe they did not get the quality education that they could have by staying in school. Even though I think all children should get to go to school this August, I do understand that some districts are having more issues with COVID than others. Therefore it should be left up to the school districts to decide as they know their communities and students better than the Governor does. Delaying the school year will only compound the mental, emotional, and educational issues that have already taken place upon my children. Thank you for your time: Sara Meyer 107 F Ave Menlo, KS 67753
7/21/2020 11:20:25	Tanner	Cadwallader		DeSoto	Do not start school due to the high number of cases in Johnson county. Please give children and families a chance.
7/21/2020 11:20:25	Brian	Vulgamore	Vulgamore Family Farm	Scott City	We need to open schools and have sports at their normally scheduled time this fall. We have learned that Covid is not a threat to young people. Poor and disadvantaged kids will be hurt the most by delaying school reopening. They Have already been out of school for nearly 6 months.  Continuing to live in fear is causing much more damage to our country than the coronavirus could have ever caused. We have to stop this nonsense and get back to living life normally! Our country can't afford this any longer. It will take some strong leadership on the local and state level to go against the Governor. I hope you are willing to step out.
7/21/2020 11:20:27	Lisa	Terrell	USD204	Linwood	I do not believe, with Coronavirus numbers higher than they have ever been since this global pandemic started, that this is the time to become aggressive in our approach to reopen schools. I truly believe that you will be putting the lives of students, teachers and staff at risk. The lives of every student, teacher, custodian, para and other staff And their families rest in your hands.
7/21/2020 11:20:29	Holden	Kraus		Ottaws, KS	i am a teacher in Lawrence Public Schools. Delaying the start of school will allow local districts time to develop, supply, and implement safety plans in accordance with the Navigating Change document release last week and the Governor's EO released yesterday.
7/21/2020 11:20:42	Scott	Petry	Teacher	Lawrence	Schools need time to ensure safety all around. Do not open schools until it's safe to do so.
7/21/2020 11:20:44	Amanda	Eilders		Saint George, KS	Please leave these decisions to the local school boards! Each community can decide for themselves, based on spread and risk factors. For instance, we have zero current hospitalizations in our county - and zero deaths. It has been this way for us for quite some time!
7/21/2020 11:20:45	Leia	Anderson		Shawnee, KS	I would like to see the start of school delayed.
7/21/2020 11:20:46	Christine	Workman	None	Concordia, Kansas	Please start school at home, then check health department as to when to open!
7/21/2020 11:20:47	Ben	Phelan	Lawrence	Lawrence	Please uphold governor Kelly's executive orders to delay school until September
7/21/2020 11:20:48	Brooke	Leahy	Aunurn-Wahshvurn USI	Topeka	Please vote YES to the Governor's EO! We teachers need time to plan, redesign, and incorporate the KSDE guidelines and our district expectations. This cannot be done in a week's time. Also, the extended 3 weeks will give us time to see how other state's reopenings go and what their numbers look like after the first few weeks. I feel our Governor gave recommendations to Kansas citizens and those went ignored. We are woese off now more than ever. I support Gov. Kelly in her efforts to keep Kansas Schools safe!
7/21/2020 11:20:53	Jenna	Fiala		Wichita	We need to get kids back to school, and get them as much class time as possible before the seasonal flu season starts. Things are not going to be much different by September.  Expecting children under age 10 to wear a mask is unreasonable. They are going to be constantly touching it, their face, and licking it from inside.

7/21/2020 11:20:58	Katlyn	A		Haysville	<p>I am a teacher and a parent. I live in Sedgwick County but work in Sumner country. Both areas are seeing rapid growth in cases. Please support Governor Kelly's order. As a teacher, I feel that I need the additional time to prepare my lessons and curriculum to adjust to the recommendations and create adaptability. We need to gather needed supplies and train staff on proper protocols.</p> <p>As a parent, I am scared as cases rise that either my daughter or I could infect my high risk mother who lives with us and is my child care provider. I would like to see cases decrease consistently before we resume traditional instruction.</p> <p>Kansas has become an example of one of the worst states in terms of rapid growth. We are better than that statistic. As a state, we can still flatten the curve, but we need time to do that, as well as our leaders and citizens making the right choices, even if they are tough. This is the socially responsible decision. Please vote to delay schools. Kansas Strong.</p>
7/21/2020 11:20:58	Roxanne	Hicks		Lawrence	<p>When you vote tomorrow, please consider the students and what they need. The high schools have done a great job with all the protocols in place and teams need to keep practicing even if school isn't in session. After being cooped up for 5 months, kids need to be able to get back into a routine. Make a decision thinking of their mental health, physical health, and their sense of community with their peers. Sports and extra curricular activities are much more than a trophy or a status, its belonging to something much bigger, it's a family of friends. School and friends is their life right now, it is very important to them. Right now, they are the only ones who don't have a voice. Please let them continue to practice and condition even if school doesn't start until after Labor Day.</p>
7/21/2020 11:20:58	Michael	Comer	My Family	Shawnee	<p>My family and I are strongly in favor of returning our kids to school and in-person learning as soon as possible. Agree on requiring face masks in schools and rotating teachers and not students. Our future is dependent on our kids education and some kids (mine included) will not take online learning seriously and my wife and I both have full time jobs. If kids stay home, they will end up spending time together anyways. Look at end of last year and entire summer, kids are hanging out together anyways. Giving 3 extra weeks does nothing. My wife is school nurse and the districts sound like they are already prepared to open the schools. I would guess that Dr. Lee Norman would say that nothing will likely change in regards to COVID-19 in those 3 weeks unless we do a complete shut-down or have a vaccine, which both sound unlikely. Let's protect our kids education and get them back to school and declare Teaching as an essential service. In my opinion teachers are more essential than many other trades that are still working.</p>
7/21/2020 11:21:08	Troy	Blasi		Wichita	<p>I do not feel delaying reopening is appropriate. These kids need structure back in their lives. The risks for mental well being are more detrimental with more delay than risks of Covid-19. They have been out of school for far too long. I am fine with requiring masks but let these kids start school on time and get back to school activities.</p>
7/21/2020 11:21:10	Kara	N	Parent	Hamilton	<p>As a parent, I am torn on what is "right" or "ethical". These children need to be in school. I am college educated And a daughter of a retired educator. I am in NO WAY qualified to educate my children properly. I feel that my kids have already missed out on adequate education after schools shut down in March. The virtual was a joke! One child's teacher was active in doing something virtually and my other child got to listen to the teacher tell another guardian how to work zoom. For 2 months!! There was no "teaching" going on. My oldest will be second grade and it was hard enough teacher 3D and 2 d shape concepts. Schools need to reopen, with adjustments. There's no way my 5 year old will leave a mask on. It can be attempted, but will it stay on all day? Proper hand washing, hand sanitizing. We live in a small school district that has SMALL class sizes (most less than 10 students). Proper social distancing can happen. Maybe school nurses and county health nurses need to start pushing cleanliness again! Our district has no in house nurse and I can count on one hand the amount of times the county nurse has been involved with the school since my kids have been going.</p> <p>I get that this could be an issue With close contact of kids but we can't live in fear. Virtual school is hard for rural kids who don't have the resources not access to internet. Especially in our area.</p>
7/21/2020 11:21:19	Jessica	Sherman		Overland Park	School, no masks
7/21/2020 11:21:26	Trevor	Cadwallader		DeSoto	Please no school to help protect children

7/21/2020 11:21:26	Rita	Lungwitz		Wichita	Please open schools on schedule in August. We must get back to some sense of normalcy and rhythm. I ask God to guide you as you make this decision.
7/21/2020 11:21:29	Katherine	sanneman		Wichita	I don't think delaying school makes sense. The death rate in Sedgwick County is almost 32 and hasn't increased with the rate of positive cases.
7/21/2020 11:21:30	Karla	Viranda	Teacher in USD 506...	Parsons	Please support our governor. As a teacher, I would love to be able to go back sooner. With that being said, I feel we should not take the risk of going back on original date. I ask you to help keep us teachers, students, and support staff safe. We are very concerned, and our morale will be gone if we are not listened to. Thank you for your time and dedication to education. You are very much appreciated.
7/21/2020 11:21:43	Ryan	Essman		Grantville	Delay the opening of schools to give them time to prepare to have the kids in school.
7/21/2020 11:22:04	Donnita	O'Guin-Spickler	Shawnee Mission School	Overland Park	If the school districts and/or the Kansas State Board of Education decide that we need to go back to in-person school in August or before the COVID-19 cases are showing little to no cases within a 2 week period, are they prepared for the possible ramifications? Will the districts or the state pay for teachers, nurses, specialists, staff and students medical bills (not paid by insurance or for the uninsured), time off when our accrued time runs out. Will they pay for the funerals of teachers, nurses, specialists, staff and students? This virus could be devastating for some individuals and families financially and emotionally. Remember, when a person is hospitalized they can have no visitors due to the virus. A person can die in the hospital and never see their family. This virus is not like an illness that you may or may not get. It doesn't have a vaccine yet that can immunize at least a good portion of the population. This virus is in pandemic proportions that we are all likely to get. Because it's so new we have little knowledge of the symptoms and effects on each individual person. We do know however that people can get very ill and can die. Some individuals of all ages have been hospitalized for weeks. This can cause a huge burden on families. Sending students, teachers, nurses and staff back to the classroom at this point when this virus is out of control is irresponsible and could be devastating.
7/21/2020 11:22:06	Nathan	Rewerts	Personal	Topeka	Open schools now!
7/21/2020 11:22:07	Raven	Lauber		Great Bend	By no means should this extend out any farther than it already has. Our children need to be back in school and have the structure that school offers. They've already missed out on so much. Please do not prolong this any farther for our children's sake.
7/21/2020 11:22:16	D	Kornfeind	Parent/Taxpayer	Leawood	Our kids need to go back to school! My son, who is diagnosed with learning disabilities, developmental disabilities, ADD, OCD, and anxiety did not receive Special Education services, that are mandated by the state of Kansas, from March until May. For 3 months, he struggled with completing his assignments and did not understand them since he didn't have a Paraeducator in his reg Ed class or additional help in the resource room. He had to learn a new way of learning since it was online and also had difficulty even trying to figure out how to get his online assignments and tests. I spent several hours with his teachers trying to figure out how to make this work for him. His teachers are top notch, especially Mindy Kochuyt, and they deserve the highest praise for working with all of the families whose kids receive these services. He is just one child that receives Special Education services, and many parents that I talked to were in the same boat as we were and were so frustrated. I understand that school needed to temporarily close to keep everyone safe. But now, as the start of school is approaching, I'm afraid this is going to happen again. My daughter is at the opposite end and is in all honors classes and she did get her work done, but said it was busy work. In addition, the students were told their grades could only improve, but not get any worse. So that's not a motivation for kids to complete their assignments. In my opinion, education is of most concern to me. However, sports and activities are important as well. Here kids feel accomplished, feel part of a group, feel needed and important. Please consider kids starting on time this school year. I understand there are positives and negatives to both situations, but the detriment of kids staying at home outweighs the low cases of COVID. Thank you for listening!
7/21/2020 11:22:16	Lynne	Lundberg		Manhattan	Please delay - it gives a chance for the masks to help control the virus and for schools to develop their plan.
7/21/2020 11:22:22	Lindsay	Hamblin	Parent	Goddard	Please delay the opening until it is safe. As a mom of an immunity compromised child, going to school full time at this point is extremely terrifying.

7/21/2020 11:22:24	Linda	Mitchell	usd 335	Circleville	I hope and pray all of you on the Kansas State Board of Education will consider postponing school. Please support Governor Kelly's executive order: 20-58
7/21/2020 11:22:30	Penny	DeBaere		Topeka	I believe that delaying the start of school allows schools to obtain the supplies they need to keep students and staff safe.
7/21/2020 11:22:32	Christal	Davis	Parent	Dighton	I don't want to wear masks it should be a choice!
7/21/2020 11:22:33	Amber	Weve		Kiowa	I work with Special Education students. My students need to be in the classroom when the school year starts again. They are already nine weeks behind due to the school shut down in March. These students are unable to flourish in an online learning environment. If we do not return to school this Fall, I am afraid my students will not pass this school year.
7/21/2020 11:22:33	Pam	Kelly	Retired teacher	Overland Park	Please delay schools opening until there is a vaccine!
7/21/2020 11:22:37	Jill	Nolkemper	Parent at Blue Valley Sc	Overland Park	Please delay school opening. It is not safe right now and schools need more time to prepare.
7/21/2020 11:22:38	Amanda	Porter	Topeka 501	Topeka	As an educator, I appreciate the concern and support Gov. Kelly has for the safety and health of our students and staff. I fully support the EO signed to delay school until after Labor Day and urge you to sign. It is in the best interest of our students and staff as well as our community to allow more time for our state to flatten the curve so that we can safely open schools. Allowing a few extra weeks for this will go a long way in ensuring the safety of citizens across the state. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:22:40	Shana	Stephens		Wichita	Postpone, our children deserve to be safe and teachers and staff do too.
7/21/2020 11:22:42	Gwendolyn	Macpherson	self	Lawrence	Keep schools closed until after Labor Day, and maybe even longer. Keeping schools closed will help reduce the spread of the novel coronavirus, and reduce the incidents of COVID-19. This pandemic is not over, and will not be under control unless we stay the course.
7/21/2020 11:22:42	Megan	Doffing	Lawrence Unified Schoc	Basehor	As a public school educator in a fourth grade classroom I am worried about many various aspects regarding what education will look like this year. One thing is certain we are not ready to open. We are not ready because we have not had enough time to plan for whatever method of schooling we will be doing (virtual, hybrid, or in person). A definitive answer has not been given and we are now down to two weeks before teacher's have to return. THIS IS NOT ENOUGH TIME TO ADEQUATELY PLAN AND PREPARE! THIS IS NOT ENOUGH TIME TO BE ADEQUATELY TRAINED TO RETURN! This is also not enough time to order and implement all safety equipment and guidelines. This three weeks will provide the time for all of that. We know that it is best for students to be in school, as a teacher in a title I building, no one knows that more than us. Virtual learning was not equitable for our students. However, as educators we know we would make this shift again if it was best for students, but we need MORE TIME to improve upon what was implemented last year, and refine it so it is BEST FOR STUDENTS. Lastly, it is NOT SAFE to return to school for both teachers, staff, and students. My life is important, and my life has value. Please do not continue to reinforce the "do what is best for kids" mentality. We matter too! Let's steer Kansas in the right direction, politics aside...
7/21/2020 11:22:47	Lacey	Chalfant		Atchison	I am not for the delay of the school year completely. Start school as normal but do so in an online capacity as we finished out the school year in. Children don't deserve to lose out on their summer next year in addition to the summer they already lost out on this year.  In addition I also do not agree with requiring kids to wear masks they are proven to cause more harm than good because of the fact you are not getting the oxygen you need and are just breathing back in the same bacteria that you exhaled.  Allow the kids and their parents to decide if they want their children in the class room or learning from home like Missouri is.



7/21/2020 11:22:50	Nancy	Hammond		Overland Park- go to Ok	<p>I fully support of Governor's Kelly's executive order to delay school opening until September. I have 2 children who attend Olathe public schools who will be entering 4th and 7th grade this year. I am also a physician. With the rising case rates of COVID in our area we must take practical steps to reduce community spread. One of these steps is keeping schools closed. I understand that this is not convenient for parents who work outside the home, including myself. COVID response should not be a political issue. It is a public health issue.</p> <p>This has been a trying time for Kansans and I understand there are numerous opinions about what the best course is regarding schools. I urge you to listen to public health officials and their recommendations. These dedicated people have been studying ways to mitigate an infectious disease and keep the public safe for their entire careers.</p> <p>The SARS-CoV2 virus that causes COVID is so new we do not yet know the full scope of how it spreads and what the long term consequences of infection will be. People are dealing with symptoms for months after getting sick with this virus.</p>
7/21/2020 11:22:51	Marilyn	Breitenstein	Grandparents	Shawnee	We fully support both of Governor Kelly's executive orders to delay the start of school and to mandate masks and other safety measures.
7/21/2020 11:23:04	Jacque	Schwarz		Olathe	We were not in agreement with the governor announcement yesterday and feel like it is a misuse of authority.
7/21/2020 11:23:04	Breana	Urrutia		Emporia	How can we expect children to attain 1000+ hours at home in front of a screen if they have to transition to online? How are we protecting our teachers? Are teachers getting hazard pay for being exposed? How will we make sure children are still having a positive education? Will there be more mental health services available?
7/21/2020 11:23:05	Lisa	Loeppke	my kids	Lakin	Let our kids go back to school normally. You are causing more health and mental concerns the more we delay school and activities for the kids. No masks!!! Unless you feel safer having one. I am so done with our Governor thinking she has the right to make our decisions about our lives and health. Our kids need to have some normalcy. They have been swimming, baseball, basketball, summer weights already and are fine so let them get back to school
7/21/2020 11:23:06	Sheila	Vander Tuig	East Central Kansas Cod	Baldwin City	My husband is a high risk if he contracts the virus. I would like to see a delay for school to start. In my opinion, we are seeing a big rise in the number of cases and we need to allow time for the virus to slow down. I think delaying school starting until after labor day would help us achieve this and keep everyone safer.
7/21/2020 11:23:12	Barb	Muench	Self	Emporia	<p>I am a youth director at a church. We have been waiting for decisions from the school to help guide us on fall programming. As much as I want to get back with my youth, I think it is critical we do so in a safe way. Delaying the start of school gives everyone involved more time to work through the huge amounts of details required to do this safely. As we are dealing with many of the same issues (on a smaller scale) I do understand that many factors go into these decisions. Physical, mental and emotional safety all need to be considered. There is not a perfect solution and that is stressful everyone. I strongly disagree with overturning the governor's decision to delay the start. Students, teachers and parents have all been through enough changes and ups and downs. Another change and the uncertainty that would come with putting this decision back in the hands of counties or districts is not what anyone needs. Allow our governor to lead. We were in relatively good shape when that was happening. A delayed start just allows us to do things better.</p> <p>Thanks for your work on this issue.</p>

7/21/2020 11:23:13	Amy	Maddy	I am a parent of 2 children	Chanute	I am in favor of schools delaying opening until after Labor Day. With the increasing number of cases, I think this is a necessary measure to keep students, teachers, and school staff safe and healthy. I do not think schools need to do online only as we did in the spring; that was not helpful for either of my children. And while I feel teachers and staff did the best they could with what was thrown at them, I think overall it was a flop. I also think that if schools delay opening and all Kansas districts start on the same day, then all districts should end on the same day as well and school should end before Memorial Day (and ONLY go the number of days required by the state). Our school district starts earlier than any other school in our area and ends AFTER other area districts that start later than ours (and we go more days than what is required). In the midst of this pandemic, the 2020-2021 school year will not look the same as a typical school year and I think everyone just needs to realize that. Once the number of cases begin to level out or decrease, then we can go back to a more normal school year. However, this is not the year to go back to "normal." Let's think of the best interest for our students, teachers, and staff. I believe that Gov. Kelly's Executive Order 20-58 to delay the start of schools is in the best interest of students, teachers, and staff, and will allow for everyone to be prepared for what this school year will bring with masks, social distancing, extra cleaning, etc. Please do the right thing and delay school opening, while also mandating a set end date for all Kansas school districts that doesn't have anyone going to school after Memorial Day.
7/21/2020 11:23:13	Lanea	Losson	Parent	Carbondale	I ask that you keep schools closed as long as possible. There is more and more research coming out that there could be lasting effects in children, and I fear for our teachers and support staff. The more time we put between this virus and knowing more about it, will be critical to the health of all.
7/21/2020 11:23:13	Stacie	Adams		Lecompton	<p>Delaying the start of school gives districts (teachers) the time they need to open the doors in a safe way AND be ready to focus on social-emotional needs as well as education. Not all districts have been communicating with teachers over the summer. We need this time to get up to speed so that we are not "flying blind" at the beginning of the year.</p> <p>With the delay include a timeline for when and what districts should have in place, of you feel we must be held accountable for that time. Do NOT throw us in to the start and then be angry, disappointed or surprised when the number of COVID cases in teachers is greater than the number of subs available for a district.</p> <p>Stand-up for what is right! Parents and teachers alike want to get back to school - but there is a safe way (safer way) and then there is ignoring the science and tying our hands.</p>
7/21/2020 11:23:15	Rebecca	Funke	self	Goddard	Vote to delay! Delay the start of school for the health of the greater community
7/21/2020 11:23:16	Larrah	Bills		Salina	As an educator, my students' safety and well-being (physical, emotional, and mental) is always at the center of my work, regardless of all circumstances. I can't fathom bringing my students, whom I love so deeply, back into school buildings before health officials, school personnel, and families know exactly what procedures, protocols, and practices will be successful in keeping students and school personnel healthy and safe. By upholding this order, you will be allowing school districts to gain extremely valuable time to fine tune plans surrounding student and staff safety, provide educators the opportunity to begin to understand the ins and outs of what will be required of us and how we can still let our students know we care about them while having new guidelines that may be scary for them to see and experience, and give schools the opportunity to give ourselves a fighting chance in successfully loving and teaching our children this coming school year. While tensions and anxiety is running high for all, and decisions are increasingly difficult to make, please know that by upholding this order and giving schools the gift of time, you will be making the difference between what could be a very scary and life-altering year for students and school personnel versus a different, sometimes difficult, but SAFE and fruitful (emotionally, mentally, academically) for all.
7/21/2020 11:23:31	Erin-Louise	Chapman		Gardner	While I agree that we need more time to prepare for school in the area that I love and teach in, I think that individual school districts should be able to make that decision individually.

7/21/2020 11:23:40	Alison	Jack		Goddard	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's executive order. I am a public school teacher, and I believe that this delay will give us a chance to plan and perhaps hold school safely with some sort of in-person component. If we rush this, there's a possibility that we will end up with fewer overall days of in-person instruction, or perhaps no in-person instruction at all this fall, because we will have to backtrack. Please don't risk my health or the health of my family or students.
7/21/2020 11:23:45	Lindsey	Roberts	USD 483 teacher and pa	Plains	Delay start of school until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 11:23:50	Jessica	Stoll	Free State Football	McLouth	As a State, we have a long list of many talented and decorated programs that exist both in and outside of the classroom. Many students are allowed the opportunity to stay mentally engaged in order to return to the classroom with consideration to the delayed start to the school year. Each student is owed the same consideration outside of the classroom. They take immense pride in representing their school and State. I urge the consideration for ALL fall activity workouts and practices, even with the delay of the school year. In order for the student athlete and student participants to be ready to compete, it is critical they have practiced and are physically and mentally prepared. I ask this in support of sports, marching band and any other school organization. Let's please keep our students engaged and allow them the opportunities to prepare; regardless of when in-class attendance would begin. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 11:23:55	Sharon	Graves	N/A	Lawrence	I see no problem, and many advantages, with delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. It is ridiculous to rush kids, teaches, staff, etc. back without the proper PPE and with the virus out of control. You are even having this meeting by video conference, not in person! How do you think that makes teachers feel when you don't want to do in-person sessions. Let Governor Kelly's order stand and stop making this a partisan issue. This is a health issue. PLEASE delay the opening of schools!
7/21/2020 11:23:56	Keri	Welch	Burlingame Jr/Sr High S	Burlingame	Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 11:23:56	Raegann	Berger	Lawrence Free State Hig	Lawrence	I'm sympathetic to the need to delay school, but please don't shut down out sports conditioning. Sports has given my son the structure he's needed during an uncertain time.
7/21/2020 11:24:15	Greg	Vogrin	Parent of a 5th and 8th g	Lenexa	No, do not delay start. Continue with normal school year. Do not force virtual learning. Leave virtual learning as an option for those who are concerned about sending their children to class.
7/21/2020 11:24:15	Tim	Watta	Parent in USD 450	Topeka	It is in our students best interest to return to school full time and in the classroom.
7/21/2020 11:24:16	Laurie	Pieken	parent and educator	Overland Park	Please support this!! Allow schools the time to open safely!
7/21/2020 11:24:18	Rachel	Pickering	Parent USD259	Wichita	We feel it is safe for our children to return to the classroom in the traditional fashion.
7/21/2020 11:24:30	ANDREW	LONG	LONG FAMILY HOUS	CHERRYVALE	PLEASE DELAY THE OPENING OF SCHOOLS FOR THE SAFETY OF OUR TEACHERS AND CHILDREN. THE LAST i CHECKED TEACHERS DON'T MAKE ENOUGH AS IT IS.
7/21/2020 11:24:35	Terri	Stein	Olathe School District T	Lenexa	As a highly committed educator, I 100% support the delay of school until after Labor Day. This will allow a little more time to see if COVID cases will begin to decline once again. If not, I support virtual learning. Not only is there concern for students, but many live with extended family or grandparents. I also share concern with many colleagues over the safety of staff. Any death is another too many and the long term effects of the virus are still unknown. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:24:48	Kristine	Wesner	Washington Elementary	Olathe	school needs to be postponed until we have all the necessary PPE to do so and we can do so safely! I am a Para and who has a high risk condition and I am afraid to start back currently with the cases in the rise. Please think about the safety of everyone involved and go for a later start date or remote learning. I MISS the students I work closely with on a day to day basis but in order to do do my job efficiently I need to feel safe! Right now people are pushing for a September start date. Please do not make me choose between doing what I love and staying home with my children cause cases are rising in Kansas. Politics have no business in school !
7/21/2020 11:24:50	Sarah	Barnett	Emporia high/a parent	Emporia	I feel you should delay school or have students to remote learning with just the core curriculum.
7/21/2020 11:24:56	Baylee	Wisley		Wichita	I think delaying is the correct choice and that starting online makes the most sense to protect the kids and teachers
7/21/2020 11:25:02	Anita	Christian		Hutchinson	I strongly support the governor's executive order delaying the start of school.
7/21/2020 11:25:06	Seana	Kimzey	High school sports	Lawrence KS	Allow high school sports practice when school is not in session. These kids need outdoor activities and the feeling of team.
7/21/2020 11:25:17	Diann	Criss		Overland Park	I would like to see schools open and have students in class

7/21/2020 11:25:22	Becky	Good		Beverly	Essential workers-grocery store workers, truck drivers, people who work in manufacturing businesses, nurses, doctors and the list goes on and on. These essential workers go to work every day and have been through this entire pandemic and schools should be no different. They are essential to our kids just like the workers mentioned above are essential to adults. Parents know this and pediatricians are advising that kids need to be in school. The alternative is far worse than the pandemic. These other businesses have figured out ways to keep employees as safe as possible and there is no reason schools should not be able to do the same. Online classes for young children are ineffective. Kids struggle to maintain focus online. The world isn't a safe place, but that doesn't mean we stop living. It means we take as many precautions as possible and we push forward. No one is guaranteed tomorrow and we can't let fear control the world. We need to open schools. Thanks!
7/21/2020 11:25:23	Nicole	McBee	USD500	Merriam	As much as I want to be in the classroom, we are NOT in a place to safely do so. Other than teachers and students, this decision effects our students' families, custodians, bus drivers, secretaries, school nurses, instructional aides, nutrition service workers, and the list goes on. Their safety is important. I am HIGHLY concerned the safety protocols necessary to open school are not currently feasible. On a regular day, pre-pandemic, disinfectant, Kleenex, and sanitizer were provided by me or students' parents. Now those items are hard to access, and I can't fathom asking teachers to provide all this repeatedly during a pandemic. Until there is a clear, FUNDED plan, we CANNOT physically open our schools.
7/21/2020 11:25:24	Kenneth	Jack	Davis & Jack, LLC	Goddard	Please vote to accept the governor's order to delay the opening of school. Overturning the order would produce chaos, uncertainty and acrimony, and could well result in tragic health consequences, including deaths of students, parents and staff. This is a serious, worldwide health crisis, and we all need to do our best to protect each other.
7/21/2020 11:25:29	Andrea	Humerickhouse	Manhattan Catholic Sch	Manhattan	I feel that the delay of school opening may be necessary to allow the state time to get case numbers back under control as I know Mahattan's numbers began a steady increase after the Memorial and 4th holidays and lessened restrictions. While I do not want the delay, I feel reopening prematurely could cause a huge spike and puts our children at risk.
7/21/2020 11:25:35	Sean	Lange	USD232	De Soto	As much I would love for our kiddos to get back to school I fully support the decision to delay in person schooling for as long as needed to provide as much safety for the students and faculty. This pandemic too shall pass.
7/21/2020 11:25:34	Jennifer	Miller		Mulvane	I just think that if we aren't allowed to gather in large gatherings in the state of KS then we shouldn't be sending our students and staff into large gatherings in school buildings. My sister is a nurse and Kansas and went over and beyond with precautions - and yet she ended up catching this virus anyways. I worry what might happen if an outbreak occurs in a school.
7/21/2020 11:25:48	Kim	Barnett		Colby	Please open schools back up in August. The kids have been out far too long. The case numbers in counties in our part of the state are so low that the risk does not outweigh the benefits of reopening. Please do not allow the governor to make one decision for the entire state! Our situations are all unique. We can do this safely!
7/21/2020 11:25:54	Shaphan	Staats		Pratt	Please do not delay schools opening. . Mental health issues need to be addressed. Many children need school for their basic needs to be met.
7/21/2020 11:25:56	Allie	Bratton		Leawood	<b>DO NOT DELAY SCHOOL</b>
7/21/2020 11:25:57	Laura	Stumbo	Olathe Schools USD 233	Olathe	Please support Gov. Kelly's executive order to delay the start of the school year. I feel this delay is necessary to allow our school districts time to secure materials and to train staff on the safety measures needed to keep all persons safe within our school buildings. As a middle school teacher, I want to feel confident that school is reopening safely and can stay open!

7/21/2020 11:26:03	Tiffany	Stepien	Wichita	<p>Dear Mr. McIniece and Mrs. Hill,</p> <p>I am a mother of a childhood cancer survivor, and my husband and I work in healthcare in Wichita, KS. We are acutely aware of the dangers of COVID-19 as well as the risk to our family. Both my husband and I have master of health care leadership degrees from Friends University as well as more than 20 years in healthcare each. Please consider this letter in deciding the safety of Kansas schools.</p> <p>As of today's <a href="https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/160/COVID-19-in-Kansas">https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/160/COVID-19-in-Kansas</a> the trending rate of COVID-19 is up for Sedgwick and Butler counties, the counties that make up my daughter's school district in Andover, KS. Also, the hospitalizations in Wichita, KS hospitals are the highest they have been since COVID-19 began in our communities in March. I am concerned that opening schools in live classroom formats will be unsafe for children, staff and parents in our community. I am uncomfortable with large numbers of people gathering indoors due to noncompliance in mask wearing and the inability to stay 6 feet apart. This is a safety issue for our schools and our community.</p> <p>I do understand the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends children going back to school <a href="https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/">https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Universal face coverings in middle and high schools when not able to maintain a 6-foot distance (students and adults).</li> <li>• Particular avoidance of close physical proximity in cases of increased exhalation (singing, exercise); these activities are likely safest outdoors and spread out.</li> <li>• Desks should be placed 3 to 6 feet apart when feasible.</li> <li>• Cohort classes if possible, limit cross-over of students and teachers to the extent possible.</li> <li>• Ideas that may assist with cohorting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Block schedule (much like colleges, intensive 1-month blocks).</li> <li>• Eliminate use of lockers or assign them by cohort to reduce need for hallway use across multiple areas of the building.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>(This strategy would need to be done in conjunction with planning to ensure students are not carrying home an unreasonable number of books on a daily basis and may vary depending on other cohorting and instructional decisions</p>
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7/21/2020 11:26:03	Russell	Swanson	N/A	Emporia, Lyon County	<p>While it's true that during the spring semester we had no idea how COVID-19 would affect the population, I believe we have sufficient evidence to conclude that, in general, K-12 students of good health and standing wouldn't be subject to any more danger due to COVID-19 than they were during a flu season in 2018.</p> <p>In regards to options that parents should be able to have with students who are immunocompromised or families that are wary of contracting the virus due to their immunocompromised nature, there should be hybrid options for student attendance to meet the needs of these few families. In general, this last semester has increased the usage of online tools by teachers that would allow such a hybrid classroom setup to be extremely easy to utilize.</p> <p>In regards to teachers and other educational professionals that are ill-equipped to deal with a possible infection and are therefore wary of coming to class, there should be options for them to organize and plan instructional activities with the implementation being done by qualified long-term substitute teachers. While not optimal, the in-person instruction and social interactions between students and a facilitator of instructional activities will have a greater effect on student success in the most diverse of family and socioeconomic student situations than remote learning would.</p> <p>Anecdotally, to help illustrate this point, I taught 6th grade science last year, and found that, with remote learning, the families who were invested in their child's education earlier in the year and had extra support were the students who had success in remote learning while, in general, those families where both parents are working and students are now babysitters and learners (which was a large percentage of my students) end up suffering because their home duties are now split between taking care of siblings and doing schoolwork. This performance was no fault of the students, but a result of taking away the access to food programs and activities for family members that would help these students focus more clearly on their individual educational growth.</p> <p>In conclusion, the psychological, social and cognitive ill-effects of isolating students ages 4-18 and substantially limiting their educational interactions will outweigh the ill effects from the inevitable contraction of COVID-19-not only this year, but every year as the instructional gap compounds. On a legal note, if this reaction to new and unfamiliar microbes (or any unfamiliar situation) becomes precedent, there will be no telling how often we will be coerced to shut</p>
7/21/2020 11:26:05	Charity	Huhman	Maize district	Wichita	<p>Please please please let our kids go back to school in August!!! I have 3 kids (11,13,15 yrs) and they are all begging to go back. They need to be with their peers, they need socializing, they need normalcy! They have been out for almost 6 months since this all started and I can see how the distance has started to affect them mentally. Kids aren't good with isolation, they need each other, they need IN PERSON learning. They need sports and extra-curricular activities to resume also, these activities help them belong, learn who they are, and gain confidence in themselves. PLEASE let them go back and vote against the governor!!! 🙏</p>
7/21/2020 11:26:10	Shane	Hipp		Garden City	<p>Schools need to be open. Kids need the social interaction with other kids and in class teaching to help them develop socially and so they have a true understanding of the lessons. Many parents will continue to struggle trying to work full time and teach their kids when they are not at work. This is putting a huge burden on teachers, parents, and kids. As long as the schools follow the CDC guidelines students and faculty will be safe. I base this on my experience with my employer as we are screened, sanitizing processes put in place, and the actions/follow up when someone may be having symptoms. The government should not have a say in this decision, it should be left in the hands of the school districts</p>
7/21/2020 11:26:09	Lauren	Burgess		De Soto	<p>Delay school as long as needed in order to keep covid-19 from spreading.</p>
7/21/2020 11:26:11	Maggie	Goldsborough		Prairie Village	<p>Please vote in support of Governor Kelly's executive order outlining school opening requirements. Kansas does not want to become another Florida where 31% of the children have contracted COVID-19 or have died.</p> <p>We must all do everything in our power to ensure schools are safe for students to attend. I live in the Shawnee Mission attendance area where all professionals are extremely concerned about our children's health.</p>

7/21/2020 11:26:12	Nicole	Galley	Olathe 233	Olathe	I support the governors executive order. I of all the exposure with the numbers so high. I am also very concerned how my son's HS will function with 1800 students in classes, arriving, dismissing and being on campus at the same time. Since a hybrid program is not an option in my district, there will essentially be gatherings of 1800 students 5 days a week. They're not enough bathrooms for kids to wash hands between classes, nor is there time. Since children do not get COVID as severe what measures are being put in place to protect the teachers? Businesses don't have meetings with more than a few people, yet schools are supposed to throw caution out the window cause kids need to go back. Please help protect my family. I work in an Elementary with all students in the building. Between the high school, middle school and elementary school my family will be taking on a lot of risk. Educators need the option to teach online. Just like families are able to chose online. Thank you for your time, Nicole
7/21/2020 11:26:18	Deana	Hagan		Pittsburg	I work at a hospital I believe covid effects people older please let our kids go back to school I've seen so many kids depressed going without food they need interaction with one another my grandkids all want to go back to school they can't do anything go anywhere please please open up there schools
7/21/2020 11:26:25	Madison	Nolt	N/A	Goddard	Delaying school or not will probably not matter, because waiting a few more weeks rather than starting early will not make a difference. The numbers will probably still be rising so it doesn't make any difference to start early or start late. No matter what someone is going to come in with COVID (staff or student) and the schools will have to shutdown again. Online school would be the best option until spring semesters. I'm currently a college student and we have to go back the 10th face to face and I'm just waiting for them to say someone has COVID and it will be converted back to online. I understand for the little kids not being able to do online school but I believe no matter what this will not be resolved until a vaccine and probably after this year.
7/21/2020 11:26:44	Justin	Goldsborough		Prairie Village	Please vote in support of Governor Kelly's executive order outlining school opening requirements. Kansas does not want to become another Florida where 31% of the children have contracted COVID-19 or have died.  We must all do everything in our power to ensure schools are safe for students to attend. I live in the Shawnee Mission attendance area where all professionals are extremely concerned about our children's health.
7/21/2020 11:26:47	Chelsea	Klahr	Holton USD 336	Holton	I support the delay of school starting to protect the ones that attend and work there.
7/21/2020 11:26:59	Kara	Jackson	USD 268	Wichita	As a teacher I support the late start. I think this will give our district time to plan for these new regulations and standards. Collaboration is going to be so important this year and we need extra time to do this. As a parent I don't feel comfortable sending my kids back to school when the covid numbers are so high right now.
7/21/2020 11:26:59	Tonya	Ragan		Olathe	I would like online options to start at the regular date along with sports and extra curricular activities.
7/21/2020 11:27:00	Philomena	Leo		Walton	Please support Governor Kelly's mandate. I work at USD 373. Please give administration, maintenance, and teachers have this time to make it safe to return to school. Hopefully the numbers will flat line by then and at least a hybrid will be possible. Thank you for looking at science before making this decision.
7/21/2020 11:27:03	Carrie	Crouse	Usd458	Basehor	Delay school opening for the safety our students, educators and staff. Everybody seems to think they are expendable. But they are not. They are somebody's child, somebody's mother, father, somebody's wife, husband. They are our family and they matter. Two to four more weeks for their safety is not too much to ask. It could be worth someone's life.
7/21/2020 11:27:05	Hillary	Emerson	Parent	Great Bend	I feel like this was a good decision for the health of our kids and educators. I was having a lot of anxiety, weighing my kids mental well-being vs. their (And mine and my husband and my parents) physical well-being in regards to in person school or home learning. The anxiety will come back as Labor Day approaches and the decision will once again have to be made, but it has been nice to "kick the can down the road" for a bit longer. Gov. Kelly has Kansan's best interests at heart and it's refreshing.

					<p>As a teacher and parent of three boys in Olathe Public Schools, I ask you to please follow Governor Kelly's orders. Our numbers are higher than ever, and my children and I would be exposed to thousands of students and staff every day. I want to get back into the classroom as soon as possible, but the lives of my children, students, coworkers, and family members are far too important. Putting all of these people back into large gatherings is irresponsible, and will only put us into a position to where we need to shut down again. I want to avoid another shutdown as much as possible.</p> <p>We work hard to provide the best education for our students. Our schools are not prepared for the guidelines required for large gatherings. Please step into a school to see how this will not happen safely. Our schools are already overcrowded. Our hallways are masses of children getting to their next class. It would be impossible to socially distance at this time.</p> <p>As Governor Kelly said in her news conference, this is not and should not be about politics. This is about protecting lives of students, families, and staff.</p>
7/21/2020 11:27:17	Lindsay	Blanchard	Olathe Public Schools	Overland Park	
7/21/2020 11:27:19	Lanette	Stegman	Pratt USD382	Pratt	Please follow Governor Kelly's Executive order to start school September 9th.
7/21/2020 11:27:21	Maria	Magdaleno	Usd259	Rose Hill	Delay school openings until safe for staff and students. I agree to wait until after labor day.
					<p>Here and thank you for reading this. I am Dan Pollitt, and I believe I am highly-qualified to speak to the issue of closing / opening schools related to covid. I hold a PhD from KU in special education, am a public school administrator in a large urban school in Kansas, father to three children ages 6 and under, and am deemed high-risk to an autoimmune disease. As a career educator, I care deeply about my 750 students. I am knowledgeable regarding their social-emotional well-being, economic needs, and home situations. There are few things in this world that I want more than to see my students and spend time with them. However, schools and districts are not equipped or provided the necessary resources to open and as such, should not provide in-person schooling until significant health metrics decrease. I urge this state board to carefully weigh the cost of human life--both child and adult--and realize that an endeavor to open schools at this moment is ill-conceived and will result in death. The board should hold steadfast until covid cases are both steadily decreasing and schools are properly funded to install trustworthy safety measures. My rationale is three-fold:</p> <p>First, covid cases, including the frequency and % of positive tests, are significantly higher today, July 21, in the state of Kansas than they were in March, when schools were initially closed. It is illogical to think that now is a safer time to open schools when in reality, it is less safe than ever. For instance, the study out of South Korea reported by NYT this week cites that middle school students transmit the disease as well as if not better than adults. Children are not safe from this disease--and they transmit it to adults and family members alike.</p> <p>Second, many schools are poorly funded and ill-prepared to be burdened with yet another "hat" to wear and serve as medical professionals. My school is poorly ventilated, includes multiple fake classrooms without windows, and already has difficulty funding things like copy paper and hand sanitizer. How will schools fund covid-related expenses?</p> <p>Third, the CDC reports that covid "spreads mainly among people who are in close contact (within about 6 feet) for a prolonged period". My school has lines for the restrooms, crowded hallways during passing periods, and includes &gt;200 students at a time during lunch. Most hours, we have zero empty classrooms or open spaces. It is not possible to educate students safely in the current environment.</p>
7/21/2020 11:27:21	Daniel	Pollitt, PhD		Mission	
7/21/2020 11:27:22	Suzanne	Yunker	Grandmother	Caldwell	Please consider delaying the opening of our schools until after Labor Day. I am raising my 12 year old grandson, and I am thinking of my safety as well as his.
7/21/2020 11:27:22	Mandi	Wilczek		Gardner	If delaying the start of school will make it safer for my children to attend school in person, then that is what needs to happen.



7/21/2020 11:27:23	Cheyenne	Bitts	Emporia State University	Emporia	I believe that this is a wonderful idea but I also think just doing online would be beneficial as well. The delayed start helps teachers prepare more to become more proactive in the odd times that we are facing and it also allows schools to gain some time in deciding how best to do things. Going to online for the semester or whole year is also beneficial because that will show less of a chance to infect everyone. And it will get things going a lot faster. If you have students in the school face to face setting, there is just going to be a lot of time delayed due to cleaning and sanitizing after each use, limiting classes/subjects or time for subjects, trying to limit the amount of things a teacher and student can do, and so many other things. Yes I know that most parents won't be able to stay home and monitor their children but for the sake of them and the teachers and staff, whom all go home to family, their own children, their parents, and then those people go somewhere else and could further pass something along, it is for the better sake of everyone.
7/21/2020 11:27:23	Carrie	Lieneweg	Parents	Kansas City KS	Yes, delay. There is not question we should protect lives of teachers and students. Delay.
7/21/2020 11:27:26	Nicole	Van Denabeele	Parent	Shawnee, KS	Please help us get our kids back in school, in person, 5 days a week. The AAP supports this decision and younger kids especially struggle with on-line learning. Our kids being home for this extended period is having a negative impact on their emotional and mental health and putting strain on our jobs. Our offices are expecting us to return full time in September. I have kids in K, 3rd, and 6th. My middle schooler will do okay with on line learning but my younger 2 will not. Linking opening our schools to a decline in cases is futile and arbitrary at best.
7/21/2020 11:27:41	Michelle	Gentsch		Lenexa	Please uphold the delay to start school. The districts have no way to do so safely and time is too short now.
7/21/2020 11:27:42	Ermagene	Kraft	Colby public schools	Colby	Our community has had minimal cases of covid and have banded together to keep this at bay...with the proper plans there is no reason our schools cannot start as normal. I can understand in larger areas with more exposure and active cases but we need to be looked at individually and not lumped in with these larger cities. Please consider overriding the governors mandate.
7/21/2020 11:27:47	Jennifer	Jewers Bowlin	Myself	Lenexa	As a parent of an elementary aged kid, please do not overturn the governor's executive order. I want my child to be back in school, but not until it is safe for both him and his classmates, but also all of the wonderful staff and teachers at the school. And frankly, it's not safe now, nor will it be safe in August. It's far better to give the kids a shorter winter break, no spring break, or extend when the school year ends than the needlessly send kids back to school sooner than it is safe to do so. Science doesn't lie, and we should be following the science in this matter.
7/21/2020 11:27:49	John	Hofer		Basehor	<p>I believe the KDOE proposed plan to allow the school districts the flexibility on their schedules and reopening strategies is point on. We know this is not a one size fits all for school restarts.</p> <p>I do agree with the governor that masks, social distancing, etc.. needs to be part of the schools plan. Basehor-Linwood has set a great example of this all summer long, as we have continued to host strength and conditioning for over 600 kids (2nd to 12th grade) both inside and outside. They have also continued with Basketball, Football, Soccer and Volleyball camps, practices and games. This activity has not lead to any surges in cases. They properly social distanced, wore masks when needed and sanitized properly.</p> <p>To my knowledge, 1 student athlete and 1 intern strength coach tested positive. Both cases were not traced back to any school activities. Once those cases were identified, due diligence was completed but the activities still proceeded, and kids continue to show up.</p> <p>We all know the benefits of going back to school and activities, our kids need it!! Delaying 3 weeks and possibly longer is not in the best interest of the kids. My family hopes and prays that you vote against the delay of school, athletics and activities.</p> <p>Thanks</p> <p>John &amp; Beth Hofer</p>

7/21/2020 11:27:50	Ivan	Madariaga	Citizen	Dodge City	Delaying schools makes no sense! I mean you're still requiring kids to have masks on just a different month. Also social distancing in these schools especially high school? I went to DCHS and I couldn't even move an inch without hitting someone else.
					<p>I have been writing to my school district as a parent to learn more about the learning options available to our family. I am writing to let you know that they are NOT prepared.</p> <p>School was supposed to open for us in 3 weeks, and they cannot describe what the online curriculum would be for our family. My husband and I cannot make a decision about where to place our children this year, because our district has not yet planned for next year. Our district and our families absolutely need more TIME to figure out a real plan with a real curriculum.</p> <p>On a related note, is there any way to mandate that students can homeschooled while being a part of the district? If for one semester or one year I wanted to homeschool my kids, could we still enroll and simply align our curriculum to their standards? It would allow me to start sooner rather than later and to fit the curriculum to my childrens' needs but also have access to resources and the advice of educational experts.</p> <p>Thank you. And I do not envy you the responsibility you have in such uncertain times. Keep doing the best you can for the kids in this state.</p>
7/21/2020 11:27:51	Lisa	Mahler	parent	Salina	
7/21/2020 11:27:52	David	Schwenk	N/A	Sedgwick county	Please follow our govenors order for schools to remain closed till 8th Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:27:56	Tara	Tiernan	USD 473	Abilene	Delay the opening of schools! I am the only school nurse for a district of over 1000 students in 6 different schools, our district is 550 miles wide. We do not have the resources or support staff in place to meet the demands/needs that will be required to start on time!
7/21/2020 11:27:58	Jennifer	Taloney		Overland Park	Please use science and medical data to decide the best time to reopen schools for in person learning. Please don't put our students, families, teachers and school staff in harms way for political theatre or pressure over child care. School starting later after virus numbers are done is a good compromise. Safety first for all decisions!
7/21/2020 11:28:00	Amanda	Winch	Parents	Overland Park	State board members - please uphold Governor's Kelly EO to delay the start of school. School districts need time to prepare and we need a chance to see a decrease in cases statewide. We are asking our school staff - teachers, bus drivers, maintenance, administration - to take incredible risk. We need to do right by them. Families also need the time to obtain some peace of mind that schools are doing their due diligence to open safely. Please consider those most vulnerable when making your decision and make the responsible and safe choice to uphold the EO. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:28:00	Peter	Leyva	Teacher	Emporia	I support Gov. Kelly's order to delay school until September and the Surgeon general recommendation to wait until we have this virus under control before opening schools.
7/21/2020 11:28:01	Trisha	Delong	BV high school, BVN h	Overland Park	As a teacher I want to be back in person with my students. Virtual learning isn't working and school is more than an assignment. Middle school and teen students need connections in person with peers and teachers. It is more important at their age to development. Missing activities that give kids sense of self, teamwork and accomplishment and bring part of a team or activity provides valuable life lessons that aren't learned in a screen. Even kids in Johnson county are living in bad situations with school being their only escape. Please get kids back into school...teachers want this so stop letting the union vote for all of us.

					Individual counties and schools should be able to pick how they want to open.  It's also not practical for young kids / adolescents to wear a mask. We are seeing adults who are unable to obey by these guidelines.  We need to follow the European / Asia model that has been successful  Also kids need to be able to have recess, PE and elective courses.
7/21/2020 11:28:14	Kyle	Herspring		Wichita	This situation could provide more mental damage than anyone could think of.
7/21/2020 11:28:17	Kara	Henry Fortier	Public school teacher.	67203	Uphold the order. My life isn't a game.
7/21/2020 11:28:20	PJ	Matulka		Olathe	Uphold Gov Kelly's executive order; it's the minimum you can do to protect our children, teachers, and school staff; will you deliver the news to relatives of people who die because their kids brought COVID home from school? Do the right thing. This is our modern-day war on the homeland. Protect Kansans.
7/21/2020 11:28:21	Alexis	Peden		Mulvane	School starting needs to be delayed until our case numbers start approaching zero. It is true that children will likely not have any symptoms if they contract COVID-19, but the teachers, support staff might, as well as the children bringing the virus back into their homes, putting their parents, grandparents, and any other immunocompromised family members all at risk.
7/21/2020 11:28:22	Angie	Hammerschmidt		Hays	Let our local boards to decide for our communities. This is not a 1 size fits all.
7/21/2020 11:28:26	Aryn	Duncan		Wichita	Governor Kelly made the right choice in closing school buildings during the spring. This choice helped to delay the wave of infections that we now see. Governor Kelly's choice to delay the beginning of school is again, the correct one. We cannot within reason push for hundreds to a couple of thousand people to be placed in badly ventilated buildings while COVID infections are spiking. Do not use Kansas's students, teachers, and school staff as test subjects to see how well students transmit this virus.
7/21/2020 11:28:29	Laura	Norwood		Topeka	Please approve governors executive order. Teachers need time to prepare and understand the plan and schools need time to prepare facilities
7/21/2020 11:28:33	Jane	Eshelman		Wichita	I support delaying school openings. Active cases need to go down in Wichita & Sedgwick County before schools open here. I question whether there is enough funding & other support (staff, supplies, adequate space) to allow the schools to open safely. USD259 starts the typical school year without all of their teaching positions filled.
7/21/2020 11:28:37	Barbara	Austin		Neosho Rapids	Please delay starting school
7/21/2020 11:28:43	Brady	Stoy		Overland Park	I believe you should leave it up to the school districts. Not all areas are going through the same thing. One plan does not work for the entire state. I believe we need to protect our children, but if we keep delaying it we'll just end up online again which if they do, should start at regular time not after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 11:28:51	Taylor	Warren		Belle Plaine	school needs to be delayed or it's gonna shut down in less than a month
7/21/2020 11:28:54	Sarah	Ackerman	Shawnee Mission School	Olathe	Please wait to open schools until September. Teachers need more time to plan and prepare. We also need time to see if the mask order makes a difference and to see if our Covid cases go down.
7/21/2020 11:28:59	Coleen	Floberg	N/A	Berryton	I prefer to delay face-to-face/in-person school until such a time that we have NO LESS than 14 days (in a row) of decreasing cases of CoVid-19 in Shawnee County. In the event that does not happen, I prefer virtual learning education for all students. Any and all extra-curricular activities should be canceled/postponed until such time also.
7/21/2020 11:29:03	Melissa	Wishart		Wamego	Please, please consider special needs kids separate- my son NEEDS to go to school and learn, my other kids could survive doing distance learning (although not mentally) but my special needs son needs to go to school. His teachers want to teach him, and will take every precaution possible to ensure his safety. Please don't just close schools to everyone, close them to those who are able to learn at home, but leave it up to the districts if they want to provide in school learning for the special needs kids. PLEASE don't allow my kid to fall farther behind. Thank You

7/21/2020 11:29:26	Laura	Holloway	parent of school child in	De Soto	<p>The idea that we should be opening schools while COVID-19 cases are actively breaking records in Kansas is unacceptable. The dangers to our communities far outweigh the benefits of starting school "as normal". If cases are bad now, they will be so much worse if you open school buildings.</p> <p>Nearly 2/3 of teachers are uncomfortable coming back into classrooms where very little is planned for their protection. Communities need time and funding to find safe solutions. If not, we might not even have enough teachers willing to return. Consider how much more money they'll make in the booming private sector, where parents will also be more willing to accommodate their needs than the school board seems to be.</p> <p>It should furthermore be a serious consideration of the board to offer funding for districts to begin building robust remote learning plans as well, similar to that of USD 497 (Lawrence Virtual School). Even before COVID-19, their ability to serve every student a meaningful educational experience through technology and learning, no matter their learning style or home situation, should be looked to as a road map during these difficult times.</p> <p>I am asking that you all please approve Gov. Kelly's mandate. Her decision is well researched, based on data and not anecdotes, feelings, or politics. It might seem politically risky to approve the plan, but based on the facts we currently have about the virus, particularly the news we've had over the past week regarding its impact on children, we need this plan to be enacted for us to move forward with this school year.</p> <p>It is important for Kansas government officials to stand together right now to protect the residents of our state. The patchwork approach is failing. With the mess we've had regarding the mask mandate approval, misinformation has spread rapidly with nothing to check it, and with that spread of misinformation has come additional spread of the virus. Localities have chosen to ignore science to the detriment of the health of all Kansans, not just those residing in those areas, because Kansans travel, and misinformation travels faster. If the school board rejects the governor's order, it will lead to more chaos--confusion and frustration regarding widely varying policy and mass disbelief in public officials who are trying to do the right thing--and I'm not sure how much more of that our state can take under these current conditions. A unified message would be so helpful right now.</p> <p>If some of the school districts open up when they aren't really prepared and conditions are poor, that virus will do a number on the surrounding community *and* spread elsewhere, even where public officials have actively been trying to quell the virus. With the option to open early on the table, you have to know that some schools will open up that shouldn't, either due to high numbers of the virus in the community or due to a lack of preparedness, and when they do, there will be consequences for all of Kansas, not just that district. Other districts who try to keep kids safe by delaying opening will face backlash from misinformed families who look across the district border to other schools that are open. We need to be united here—switch to an offensive strategy to win the fight. Reacting defensively is not working. Give us a few more incubation periods for this virus to slow spreading, hopefully.</p> <p>I am a teacher and understand better than most how much kids need school. I love my job. I sincerely hope we can do school in person sooner rather than later, but I'm afraid if schools open up right away here in August, we won't have time to put necessary safety measures in place. With the numbers of the virus rising so rapidly at present, I truly believe those schools will have to shut down soon after opening, at which point we will have put kids and staff at risk just to</p>
7/21/2020 11:29:31	Sarah	Huppert		Olathe	
7/21/2020 11:29:33	Anne	Dewvall		Derby	Please delay in person school opening until at least Labor Day. Focus time and resources on preparing alternative delivery models and addressing disparities for underserved students.
7/21/2020 11:29:43	Michelle	Schrag		Goddard	I think we should start normal.
7/21/2020 11:29:45	Sage	Sandelin	Roosevelt elementary	Hays	I think it's best to wait to open school as I would hate to have it start normal Time and then have to close shortly after because numbers keep going up.
7/21/2020 11:29:51	Sara	McAllister		HESSTON	The kids need to be in school as soon as possible
7/21/2020 11:29:59	Laurie	McLane-Higgins	Retired art educator-US	Lawrence	Please honor Gov. Kelly's orders to start school after Labor Day at the earliest.
7/21/2020 11:30:01	Nick	Knight		Leavenworth	I support the delay in opening of schools and sports even longer
7/21/2020 11:30:04	Stephany	Harris	self employed	Caldwell	I feel the schools should delay opening until after Labor Day to get this virus under control.. I have school aged child and he would benefit from this delay.

7/21/2020 11:30:04	Andrea	Reece		Olathe	I am a parent of an elementary student in Olathe, KS and a school social worker/behavior specialist who travels between 3 school districts in Douglas County, KS. I fully support Governor Kelly's decision to delay school so that districts can be fully prepared with all the necessary supplies and precaution in order to open safely. I hope the state BOE will also support and follow her decision. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:30:08	Stacey	Popejoy	Self	Wichita	Please postpone school opening until there is a two week decline in cases statewide.
7/21/2020 11:30:23	Megan	Epperson		Lawrence	I strongly urge our board members to vote in favor of upholding Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of schools. As teachers, we desperately need this time to plan and set up for students this fall and this buys us invaluable time in order to do so. Thank you for putting safety as the first priority.
7/21/2020 11:30:24	Brandi	Stockebrand	Mom and USD 259 Teacher	Haysville	As a Mom and a Teacher I would like to urge you to vote in favor of keeping schools closed until after Labor Day. As a teacher I am always using data to make informed decisions about what is best for each student. Right now our numbers in Sedgwick county are continuing to rise at an alarming rate. I am aware that is not the case for some places in Kansas but I feel the EO is the best thing for all our Kansas kids. Our district has presented 3 options for learning, 2 of which are at home options. The community I serve in Wichita is a low income community and those two options are really options for them. They either don't have the means (internet, devices, knowledge of technology or capacity to help their children) or they are working and have no other choice but to send their students to school. By delaying school it gives them the ability to keep their kids safe and forces employers to be more flexible because it is not a choice the employee is making. Sending kids back to school is necessary, but not with the rising numbers and hurriedly developed plans to meet new guidelines. To do what is truly right and safe takes time and planning.
7/21/2020 11:30:28	Dan	Wooge	Self	Overland Park	As a teacher it is poor judgement to put us in danger. It is true that students may not show symptoms. But the result will be suck teachers with nowhere for students to go. The only responsible answer is to follow governor Kelly's order.
7/21/2020 11:30:34	Nathan	Rightmire		Overland Park	I fully support the Governor's proposal to delay the school year, however I don't think it goes far enough. I would like to see no in-person schooling until such time as there is an effective vaccine or treatment for COVID-19. Not only to protect children, but also to protect teachers, staff, and parents. While it is true that children appear to be less affected by the disease, they can still be carriers, and thus will increase the probability of community spread. The Board should also increase resources for schools, teachers, parents, and students to help facilitate and improve the quality of virtual learning.
7/21/2020 11:30:36	Trevor	Campbell	Parent in Blue Valley School District	Overland Park	I request that the School Districts and BOEs process refunds for each day that the child is not in school for in-person learning. The school bonds and property taxes allocated for schools were not agreed to on the ballot for remote learning/in home learning.
7/21/2020 11:30:40	Casey	Kelley		Park City, KS	I support the Governors orders and urge the Kansas BOE to approve both executive orders regarding Kansas schools. I understand the point that one size does not fit all, but in this matter, we need to be united and one. We can not leave it up to individual districts because even though we hope those individual communities will make the wisest decision, we can not leave this up to chance. When only some are following restrictions or some delay school openings, it is a mixed message and people loose confidence in what works to control the spread of the virus.
7/21/2020 11:30:40	Angela	Marcotte		Lyon County	I support Laura Kelly in starting after labor day. I do not support masks for younger grades in elementary.

7/21/2020 11:30:40	R	Michaels		Wichita	<p>The state BOE needs to (either-or / both-and) respect the governor's direction to delay the start of school for students and have school district employees start working on time to ensure virtual learning elements are high quality; AND have schools launch virtually for the year until Kansas gets the spread of the virus under control (no new cases, hospitalizations, deaths). Otherwise, simply choose to start school on time virtually for all students (regular, SPED, ESOL, etc.) until the rates all decline appropriately. People say that kids will be behind if they learn virtually . . . even in a worst case scenario, what will they be behind? Our arbitrary expectations of where children should be in their learning, even knowing that each person learns differently??? It's meaningless to worry about them being behind an arbitrary level of our own creation. We should be worried about them just being ALIVE. That's all we should want—for kids and teachers and Kansas families to stay alive. Will you feel comfortable with children's and teachers' and their extended family members' deaths on your hands if you vote to launch school in person anytime soon? If you direct starting on time with a virtual-only mandate for all students, You. Will. Save. Lives. Period. That would ensure we save not only kids' and teachers' lives, but it would save the lives of family members and reduce the spread of the virus throughout entire communities. The most powerful way to curb the spread of disease is to shut down in-person schools in favor of virtual schooling.</p> <p>School districts figured out technology to get devices to students, so they could do it again, and they helped with internet access for those without the internet. These aren't barriers to a virtual learning plan. They figured out getting meals to kids who need them. That's not a barrier either.</p> <p>Respect genuine, real science—talk to epidemiologists who don't have a political agenda or responsibility. Get smart on all the facets and make the appropriate decision to launch all schools virtually, either on time for employees and delayed for kids or on time virtually for all.</p>
7/21/2020 11:30:47	Amber	Whisler	Teachers and parents	Overland Park	<p>As a teacher and a parent, as much as I think in person classes are the best, I don't feel it would be wise. We have people moving across county and city lines to work, creating a larger area of possible exposure and spread. The metro and surrounding areas, as a whole, need little to no cases before we can all be safe to return.</p>
7/21/2020 11:30:50	Morgan	Willingham	parent	Emporia	<p>I support the governor's order for schools to open after Labor Day. As a parent, an educator, and also someone who is immune compromised due a chronic condition, any steps that schools can take to keep people safe I support. I think this is also the right thing to do as it appears as those my school district, USD 253, has yet to make any final decision about protocol or to preparations for the upcoming school year, which was originally set to open in a month.</p> <p>If meeting face-to-face, what precautions will be taken? If meeting online, how will the school ensure that students are staying engaged and that they're meeting the necessary goals for their grade in all areas of learning? If meeting in a blended format, will this still allow students to appropriately social distance when most classrooms are already overfilled? Will students have to wear masks? Will plexiglass barriers be installed? As well as many, many, many more questions that have not been answered, much less decided upon in my district, and I assume across the state.</p> <p>Give schools the time they need to prepare. Open after Labor Day.</p>
7/21/2020 11:30:50	Katie	Just		Emporia	<p>THANK YOU for delaying the start of school! I am a music therapist who enters the schools in my community. Your delay of start is allowing my students in special education more protections and opportunities for their teachers to determine how best to serve them, whether they are in-person or virtual. Thank you for choosing the health of our schools and pushing back the start of the school year!</p>
7/21/2020 11:31:02	Misty	Mccurdy	Usd309	Nickerson	<p>I want to teach...in the classroom as soon as possible!!!!</p>
7/21/2020 11:31:23	charles	Breitenstein	Grandparent	Shawnee	<p>I support Gov. Kelley's decision to delay the opening and to require enhanced safety measures until a vaccine can be distributed.</p>
7/21/2020 11:31:24	Alyssa	Hunter	Parent	Olathe	<p>I believe we should push school opening until after Labor Day.</p>

7/21/2020 11:31:25	Pam	McIntyre		Salina	Why would you not delay the opening of schools til after Labor Day? The mask mandate is relatively new, and if we can bring down the numbers by Labor Day, it seems that would be a very good thing. Please put the health of our students, staff, and faculty first in your considerations.
7/21/2020 11:31:27	Michelle	Kelly		Overland Park	If the mandate is upheld, please make sure it allows for school staff and teachers to return to work so that they can use the time to prepare. I would prefer the kids start on schedule. Kids under 10 are not considered to be big spreaders of the virus and kids over 10 can Follow social distancing protocols. I consider teachers to be essential workers and that they should be seeing this need for them to return to the classroom as recognition of their important role in society. We have asked daycares to be open throughout the pandemic and schools are just, if not more, important.
7/21/2020 11:31:31	Gae	Phillips		Columbus	I feel individual districts should have the right to open and close when they see fit based on the particulars of their community. Local districts should also reserve the right to set the health guidelines concerning temp checks, masks, etc. Every community and district is different and a state-wide mandate is not necessary. Trust the local school boards to handle their own district's needs.
7/21/2020 11:31:35	Michelle	Goodpasture	USD 409	Horton	I would prefer to open after Labor Day due to the increase of co-vid cases in our local area that is deemed community spread. Also to allow more time to follow the guidelines that were just released.
7/21/2020 11:31:42	Kristina	Bartlett		Emporia	Online please
7/21/2020 11:31:43	Allison	Lehman		Overland Park	PLEASE do not base funding on attendance this year! I'm the parent of an incoming kindergartener and second grader. Distance learning went very poorly for us in the spring, and I am leaning toward homeschooling this year. However, we plan to be back in public school as soon as possible and do not want the schools to lose funding. Schools need MORE funding this year. I'd also ask the BOE to call on legislative bodies to provide financial support for families with increased childcare costs or inability of one parent to work if children are at home.
7/21/2020 11:31:43	Julie	Cruz		Leawood	Our kids need to be in school in person! I am a former teacher. We have 3 kids one is off to college. One has IEP For learning and needs someone to work with him in person for him to learn and be a successful student. Our high schooler has a 504 for processing. Watching him try to navigate online school in the Spring was heartbreaking and frustrating for him and us. Many teachers were not motivating him to learn or motivated to teach. Online school was a total failure. Kids feel isolated, lonely and depressed. They need social interaction with peers. In person school needs to happen. They have not had a great education for 6 months and continuing on this path is a disaster for our students.
7/21/2020 11:31:46	Kristen	Ellender	Neosho Rapids Element	Hartford	I think if we are going to postpone schools for that long, we need to be thinking about if we are going to shorten the days required to attend, or think about how long the school year is going to last. I also think it's ridiculous to have students who are 2nd grade and younger to wear masks. It's hard enough to keep their hands to themselves. I also worry about the cleaning supplies and the rooms for these kids. Will we as teachers be expected to pay for them? In conclusion, I PRAY we do not go back to online learning completely because as a teacher I severely worry about my students well being, as well as the learning gaps they are going to experience due to lack of support from parents.
7/21/2020 11:31:49	Janet	Zimmer	SMSD	Roeland Park KS	Open schools please. No further delays!
7/21/2020 11:31:51	Teresa	Shippy	none	Manhattan	Please vote to delay the opening of Kansas schools until after Labor Day. As a parent, I feel strongly that the current COVID-19 situation is too uncertain to consider starting school sooner. Moreover, the school districts and individual teachers need more time prepare for the required changes.
7/21/2020 11:31:51	Joe	Hildebrand		Overland Park	Our kids need to go back to school as soon as possible. The data of this virus is available and it's a virus that isn't any worse than others we have faced in the past. The damage being done by politicians is treasonous. This needs to stop
7/21/2020 11:31:53	Julie	Clark	USD 362	Lacygne	I have a 14 year old returning (hopefully) to be a sophomore, and I don't want him to wear a mask. If delaying school until after Labor day makes it so masks won't be required that would be worth it. Please, please make school normal as possible, if masks become mandated, I will remove my son and homeschool him. Thank you for listening.
7/21/2020 11:32:08	Dayle	Dryer		Lawrence	Please postpone school until AT LEAST after Labor Day. By then we can start to gauge Covid numbers after college students return. It will be safer for students and teachers if we wait until numbers are going DOWN.

7/21/2020 11:32:10	Whitney	George	Teacher	Manhattan	I am okay with the delay on schools. However, I am not okay making masks mandated in our schools for all ages. It should remain grades 5 and up, especially because so many communities have zero cases.
7/21/2020 11:32:11	Nic	Dannevik	Parent of a senior in usd	Lawrence	Please allow sports to practice during the three weeks school has been postponed. Many schools have been participating in outdoor optional workouts successfully. This will allow athletes and students involved in activities to stay involved and allow students back in a safe manor.
7/21/2020 11:32:13	Betty	Yung		Lawrence	Please approve Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school until Sept 9th. We need more time to prepare for school and to see how the virus is spreading or if masks and social distancing is reducing the spread of the virus
7/21/2020 11:32:16	I will not allow i	Thomas	Stay at home mom	Wellington	I will not allow my kids to attend how dare you put them in danger when this is something we know nothing about
7/21/2020 11:32:21	Kelly	Batten	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	I hope they support Governor Kelly's decision to delay the start of the school year. As a teacher, I do not feel safe returning to the classroom until cases are going down and we have the proper safety measures in place.
7/21/2020 11:32:23	Krystal	Frank		Scott City, KS	<p>We need to be in school with as little restriction as possible! I hope you are taking the kids social and emotional health into consideration. As a parent, a registered nurse, and now an elementary teacher I can tell you our children need to be in school. The expectation of children ages 5-9 wearing masks throughout the school day is unrealistic, let us sign a waiver.</p> <p>Have we looked at the mental welfare of our children? Instead of just worrying about covid statistics, we need to consider getting these kids back in school (to some of our students this is their safe haven)!!!</p> <p>Keep sports- these kids will find other avenues to socialize and be together. I'd much rather see them doing sports than experimenting with drugs and alcohol after school at someone's house!</p> <p>Considering the phase two I hope you take into consideration the number of parents with 5-8 year olds whose parents work. Daycares will be overran and parents will be very stressed paying thousands in childcare (myself included).</p>
7/21/2020 11:32:25	Sarah	Slaughter		Shawnee	It is necessary. I work in healthcare and my patients are dying. Masks should be required for ALL students going back to school. It is the only way to protect everyone. My 4 year old wears a mask better than most adults. No distraction, no touching her face, she has no problem wearing it. I have 3 children needing to go back to school but for the safety of everyone I will not be sending them this fall especially without a mask requirement for all students.
7/21/2020 11:32:33	Dayna	Breitenstein	Parent	Leawood	The fact that you are meeting virtually really says it all, doesn't it? You are literally meeting via Zoom for your safety to determine whether or not you should send hundreds of children to school in person together. Think about that. There is a reason a very red state elected a Democrat for a governor and a senator. The people of Kansas are tired of business before people.
7/21/2020 11:32:43	Hollie	Niblett	N/A	Overland Park	I think it would be irresponsible to send kids and staff back to school buildings this fall. Our decisions should be based on science and expertise, not politics.
7/21/2020 11:32:49	Kari	Hicks	Parent in USD 259 scho	Wichita, KS	I support the school start delay and support the use of masks and other safety measures. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:32:56	Galen	Yunker	retired	Caldwell	Due to my age, 69, I am at risk for the virus.. I think a few weeks delaying school might help get the covid virus under control and I could be around my grandkids.
7/21/2020 11:33:00	Carol	Stockton	me	HUTCHINSON	I applaud our Governor for standing her ground. This is NOT a political issue! I am a teacher. Do I want to be in school,? YES! Do kids need to be in school? YES! But does the Covid risk outweigh all of it? YES! Not one life is worth it! Please sign to give us more time to prepare. Thank you!
7/21/2020 11:32:57	Stacey	Harper	Winfield Early Learning	Winfield	I am a teacher and mother of a senior in high school. We need to get back to school BUT as administrators and educators we need time to do it safely. There is much to adjust and lots of training to implement. Please support this order that gives our district the time it needs to look at all of the guidelines and open safely and correctly so that we have more of a chance at staying open, thriving and educating our precious children for the year. Thank you!!
7/21/2020 11:33:05	Angie	McGuire	Cunningham Jr/Sr High	Cunningham, KS	As a teacher, a coach, and a parent I believe it's time to get back to school and activities. Please, don't delay.



7/21/2020 11:33:07	Amy	Gehlbach		Paola	I would like to encourage the Board to go with their original plan for reopening schools. This plan was a workable option for everyone-parents who were concerned could keep their children home and those who wanted to send children to school in person could do so. Numerous experts spent hours coming up with plan, and each district is different. Let those districts decide what is best for them-not a one size fits all. Keeping children at home really hurts those in the most vulnerable situations. Not all families have parents who can stay home with their children indefinitely and another month of child care is unaffordable. If children being in an indoor facility together is a problem, then why are day cares able to be open? Let parents, educators and districts decide for themselves-which is exactly what the plan was before Governor Kelly discarded all the hard work of those involved. One person does not need to be the deciding factor and be able to override the expertise of all the people who were on the reopen committee. Please do not let the children of Kansas fall further behind. In addition, if teachers are not going to return to school, they should not be paid. This is how it is for all other "essential" jobs.
7/21/2020 11:33:14	Deborah	Kreie		Ulysses	It only makes sense to wait until after labor day, if students and teachers have no safe way to attend/ hold school. Based on the online options and safety precautions we can take, it does not make sense to wait three more weeks. There is no guarantee that the numbers will be less at that point.
7/21/2020 11:33:17	Justin	Varnes		Sewaed	We MUST open schools. Our children are suffering and online learning is not working. There was nothing sent home over the summer of where my student was academically and what they needed to work on. I tried doing basic arithmetic flash cards and she couldn't even do 3+2. Our children are failing. It is not a death sentence to put them back in the classroom. Do the right thing and open the schools.
7/21/2020 11:33:27	Austin	Burke	Lawrence Free State Foc	Lawrence Kansas	Please do not cancel the season, wait it out or if you have to move the season to winter/spring . Thank you and please consider
7/21/2020 11:33:34	Kelly	Rasmussen	My family	Pratt	Each school district should be able to determine what works in their district based on a multitude of reasons. One size does not fit all- to do that makes it appear political. Don't make it political- thank you.
7/21/2020 11:33:34	Amber	Lawrie	My Kids	Haysville schools	My son and I have asthma so please think about remote learning and providing laptops/computers. I don't care when school starts as long as he doesn't have to physically go.
7/21/2020 11:33:34	Josh	Runyan	Usd 383	Manhattan	I would like more time to get ready to be online. We are not a 1-1 district
7/21/2020 11:33:37	Elizabeth	Cathcart-Rake		Prairie Village	As a physician and a mother, I implore you to support Governor Kelly's order to delay school opening. We are seeing higher and higher levels of coronavirus infections every day, and strong medical evidence suggests that opening schools will be another way infections will spread. This threatens everyone's life. This virus kills - I have seen this first hand. In Texas, hospitals and ICUs are full. Our hospitals and ICUs are filling fast and I am concerned that we will be in this position soon. Another opening will only worsen this significant issue. I understand everyone wants to get back to life as usual, myself included. But, we cannot and should not allow for the death toll to rise in the pursuit of this impossible hope. Please focus your efforts into how to support children and their parents in the pursuit of more equitable and engaging remote learning.
7/21/2020 11:33:41	Bryan	Rickard	Pike Valley USD 426	Scandia	I ask that the State Board of Education not vote in favor of delaying the start of the 2020/2021 school year until September 9th per the Governor's Executive Order (E.O.). The Governor's E.O. is not supported by science. The science (AND THE DATA) shows that the infection rates and subsequent transmission rates from children are extremely low. While the death of one of our citizens is one to many, by delaying the school year, we would be greatly adding to the duration that Covid-19 has a strangle hold on our State.
7/21/2020 11:33:41	Shay	O'Brien		Monterey, CA	I love several children, teachers, paras, and counselors in your district. Please protect them all by at least delaying the start of in-person school. Be creative. We can educate AND support AND save lives.
7/21/2020 11:33:42	Chad	Tremain		Shawnee	I find it extremely important that school opening is delayed to allow districts to get their plans in order. It seems everyone spent the summer waiting for Federal guidance (which never came) and are now scrambling to get something put together. Also, given the news that Sedgwick County is limiting gatherings to under 15 people, I don't see how it make sense to shutter children into schools, especially when it is starting to become evident that older children are vectors of the virus.  Please take the responsible approach and use this extra time to get this right so we can get children back to school safely. A failure to do so almost ensures we will be back to full time remote by the fall.

7/21/2020 11:33:43	Donna	Burchfield	Blue valley school Distr	Shawnee	Please consider the impact opening schools will have for teachers at risk. One student Or teacher dying from COVID is not acceptable.
7/21/2020 11:33:47	Michelle	Vink	Parent	OTTAWA	<p>First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas.</p> <p>Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <p>Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</p> <p>No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</p> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>I am one of the over 6,200 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay.</p> <p>We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know that you have our support.</p>
7/21/2020 11:33:54	Jeremy	Long	My daughter	Great Bend	This new order is absolutely ridiculous. Looks at the research that has been presented about the extremely small changes of children transmitting the virus. You have zero ways of enforcing who has legit exemptions and who has made up exemptions. Also how are you going to control allergy season with kids wearing masks taking them off and on all day to blow or wipe their noses. Also who is paying for multiple masks each child will need. Who is going to enforce the child's mask to be cleaned everyday? Exactly no school has the time to do all the things required to mandate masks.
7/21/2020 11:33:55	Laurel	WoodwardBreckbill		Newton	I fully support Governor Laura Kelly's executive order to delay the start of schools for fall 2020. This delay is critical is allowing schools to evaluate the safety of their communities and acquire materials or plans needed to insure safe schooling going forward. Kansas is experiencing a distressing increase in coronavirus cases and sending kids to school before schools have adequate time to prepare is not only dangerous for those working with the students but for our entire community outside of the schools (families, at-risk community members, health care workers, essential workers). Thank you for taking the time to review feedback.
7/21/2020 11:33:59	Carrie	Halbert		Marysville	Please realize that just like every child is different so is each county and school district. Please allow the schools to reopen as normal in August unless the specific county and/or district feels that the school should be delayed. Our district has in place a plan for those who are concerned with their child returning to in person classes. So please vote to allow those who are comfortable with their children to return without any additional delays.
7/21/2020 11:34:06	Milissa	Brunetti	Teachers	Topeka	Schools should delay start untreated 1 after Labor Day per Governor Kelly's order. She is looking out for the students and staff.
7/21/2020 11:34:08	Amber	Duensing		Olathe	Schools need to be virtual joco is a hotspot and has been since the beginning
7/21/2020 11:34:19	Randi	Dumler		Westmoreland	Please allow our kids to start school and without the requirement of masks. I have 4 children in public school and will homeschool if they are forced to wear masks all day.
7/21/2020 11:34:26	Rachel	Rosell	Yes we need time to kee	In Wichita	Thank you
7/21/2020 11:34:29	Jewell	Radke		Great Bend	I believe we should wait until at least Sept 9 to allow numbers to go down. I want my children and myself to be safe.
7/21/2020 11:34:30	Katherine	Carey	Teacher	Kinsley	I think school should be delayed to ensure safety. Teachers may be immune compromised like myself. Children can get the virus and spread the virus as well as adults. Our lives are important and matter. Let us feel safe. Other activities that are in groups have been canceled or postponed but not school and WHY?? Life's are important!!
7/21/2020 11:34:33	Becky	Brown		Prairie Village	Support delayed start and remote

7/21/2020 11:34:34	Wendy	Miller-Tarlos		6306 W 149th St. Overl	Do not agree with a delay of school. Let's processed as planned. We've been out of school way too long already. Kansas kids are going to fall behind.  Schools should be allowed to start on time online.  Students should be allowed state sponsored extra curriculum such as theater, music, and sports even if they choose remote schooling. It's the difference of hundreds of kids versus tens. Otherwise it feels like schools are strong arming residence of school aged kids to go back to brick and mortar by denying all state funding activities.
7/21/2020 11:34:44	Lori	Bigler	Self as a teacher and hea	Meade	Please vote to delay school openings and mandate face coverings in schools. Though we all appreciate the idea of local control, our school board has already refused to take into account the safety of our students and teachers in refusing to enforce any mask mandate, even for teachers. They refused to consider having fewer people in any one room and refused to enforce temperature taking. We need common sense safety measures by those who know. The US Surgeon General TODAY said schools should NOT open. Please let politics go by the wayside right now and know that students and teachers are depending on you for our safety. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:34:47	Don	Ross	Hilton	Wichita	I feel that the decision should be based on spikes in Covid and with the new spikes we are experiencing, school should have on line classes until the first of the year.
7/21/2020 11:34:54	Kim	Dean		Hardtner	I just want to voice that I think the delay of school opening is a great idea and would help to appease people on both sides of this subject. For me personally, I know it will help me breathe a little easier for a period of time. As a parent, and full supporter of a strong education, I'm extremely hesitant to put my child back into a school full of people. In many instances, the meetings in which decisions are being made regarding putting our children into a school building, are even held remotely, so it makes me extremely uneasy to think it to be wise to put our children in buildings with many people. And not just for the children's sake, but for everyone involved. Previously we weren't even allowed to bring our children to the grocery store. We live in a rural area and although our numbers are low, surrounding counties are higher, and I've read somewhere that in the smaller areas, even a small increase of numbers of cases can be alarming. Although I am aware it is difficult to find the right answers as no one can possibly get everything correct amidst a pandemic from a new disease, so I do take any information I can find lightly, so I'm not saying that statement is accurate, there really is no way to know it seems. As a parent, trying to make the right choice of what is best in this situation is extremely difficult, and I can only imagine how difficult it is for all of our leaders such as the KS Board of Education. Thank you for your time. Have a good day.
7/21/2020 11:34:56	Annetta	Hurt	Teacher and grandparen	Lyndon	I support Governor Kelly's mandates. I feel giving the schools two-three weeks will help them prepare and hopefully get the state to decrease the amount of COVID cases by following the safety guidelines. With the increase of cases it would be dangerous to put the students and staff in an enclosed classroom.
7/21/2020 11:34:58	Kyle	Unruh	McPherson High School	McPherson	Please vote to APPROVE the Governor's executive order. The policy will give Kansas schools the best opportunity to provide quality education this semester while maintaining the greatest probability of health and wellness in our communities. Those who oppose the order, do so (I believe) for commendable reasons, but I with faulty logic. Like them, I ALSO want to get back to teaching students, and I ALSO am concerned about their social/emotional well-being. I ALSO believe in-person schooling is most effective, and I ALSO believe that the structure and opportunities our schools provide are irreplaceable. HOWEVER, if we push onward with starting school on time, and refuse to acknowledge the growing dangers in our communities, we may quickly find ourselves back where we were last spring, or worse. To ignore the medical and scientific community at this critical time is distinctly contrary to the values and ideals we claim to strive for in Kansas public education. It is high time we see proactive leadership, rather than inactive deferral. Please do a brave thing, and set partisan loyalty aside to support educators and students in a safe return to the school year on Sept. 8.
7/21/2020 11:35:03	Ariel	Starr	Elementary School Teac	Johnson County	I believe that schools should be delayed until after Labor Day. We need to get this virus under control before we jump into congregating children in the same space.
7/21/2020 11:35:03	Rebecca	Osborn		Wichita	I have a child in USD 259, and I'm deeply concerned about sending my daughter to school while numbers are on the rise. Please delay the start of school so she has a chance of being able to attend in person.

7/21/2020 11:35:12	Sara	Garza		Abilene	<p>Schools should open as normally scheduled, in August. Not even taking into account that kids are less susceptible and generally get better faster, take into account is single parents. I already had to wipe out all my savings to pay for a sitter for the extra 8 weeks when school was at home last school year, but to have to find money for another 6+ weeks?! Where is that money supposed to come from? I HAVE to work to pay our bills.</p> <p>As for the masks, I think you should definitely take into account that they're not safe for anyone, especially kids. Mine won't be wearing them.</p>
7/21/2020 11:35:12	Mark	Bowden	Freestate HS	Lawrence	<p>I feel that mental health Of our youth is being overlooked during these challenging times. With Covid numbers no stronger than they are I feel we need to Way out the long term affects of mental health with our youth being robbed of everything they have worked hard for. Things such as graduation, senior year of high school sports that is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and most importantly spending time with their peers. Let's get these kids back on the fields and back in the classrooms ASAP! Thank you for allowing me and my family to have a voice</p>
7/21/2020 11:35:17	Shelly	Weir	Teacher - NEA	Overland Park	<p>Follow the science. My class sizes at BVN High are 28-30. If you can't reduce my class size, there can be no social distancing. I am 56 and have asthma. I fear that I will get Covid from students who aren't social distancing. I understand that parents want there kids back in school, but let's get a handle on the Covid spread before we meet in person. Also, if I am sick, do we have substitutes to fill in for all of sick teachers. Lastly, we cannot sacrifice safety and have a student die, have teachers die. Our profession is about compassion, empathy. We need our board to look out for all students, there families, and every BV employee.</p>
7/21/2020 11:35:26	Jennifer	Stock	Teachers	Topeka, KS	<p>As a special education teacher, I work with some of the most vulnerable students in schools. Learning is difficult for many of them, and learning during a pandemic can be nearly impossible. I want to be in the best possible position to help my students while keeping everyone safe. As cases in Kansas hit new highs, beginning school as previously scheduled is the wrong thing to do. Even the extra 3 weeks allotted by Governor Kelly are not enough to do all of the things we need to do to keep Kansas kids and school staff members safe. Schools should not reopen until we see a steady decline in the number of new cases for 14 days. I want to see my students, but I also understand that to take care of all of their needs cannot be done in the current situation. I urge you to vote for the delay, so teachers can do everything in their power to make classrooms safe, nurturing, and empowering spaces in this unprecedented time.</p>

7/21/2020 11:35:51	Julie	Irvine	BVSD 229	Overland Park	<p>Our world is at war--with a virus--and we are presently losing. During active war times in our country, education was interrupted. School needs to be interrupted now as a matter of life and death. I work in 3 buildings with high school and young adult populations. We have 1600 high schoolers squeezed into tight quarters (all of our mobile units were taken away this spring and all of those classrooms are now squeezed into already over-crowded quarters to allow for an extension to be built.) Many of the students with whom I work have the cognition of a 2-6 year old and constantly hug staff and students, pick their noses, sneeze all over people, stick their hands in their pants, etc. regardless of how many redirections, prompts, social stories, etc. are given to them. I am a huge proponent of working on social skills with our students. However, what do we think 'social' will look like? There aren't going to be any lunch table groups, lockers, recess games, study halls, sitting next to friends, talking to people in the hallway, dances. So, when we say that we want the kids to benefit from the social experience of school, we must realize that there will not be in-building socialization. Kids and Parents want to return to "normal" but there will be no "normal".</p> <p>We do not even consider putting our office employees into the same situation we are contemplating putting our children into. There are instances when commanding officers will not put actual soldiers into the kind of indoor environment we're contemplating for our children. How do we work from home because buildings with recycled air are not safe, because we don't trust other people to not spread the virus, and then with the same breath send our children into buildings?</p> <p>My district alone has 22, 907 students. At a death rate of .0016 (although recent studies are showing that the percentage, in reality, is MUCH higher than that for the age of students with whom I work) we are looking at 37 students dead. What if one of these students was YOUR child or grandchild? Would you vote for school to resume? With 3436 employees in the district, assuming most adults will become infected given the situation we are being placed in, even with an adult death rate of 3.4%, we are looking at 117 dead employees. 154 people dead in one school district alone because the decision was made to barrel on while numbers continue to exponentially rise. That's the number you're talking about for ONE district. It's very easy to sit behind a keyboard and diminish and dismiss the risk you're advocating other people assume. Take a breath and think about that. This doesn't take into account the number of people who will get this and die from the exposure to their children who will be carriers of the virus. Johnson County</p>
7/21/2020 11:35:58	Valerie	Patterson	Emporia Public Schools	Emporia	<p>As a teacher, if our districts are planning on going even partially online, teachers need time to prepare. All teachers have spent the entire summer in limbo and haven't been able to properly prepare for the upcoming school year. If we do postpone to September 9, all district student hours missed should be forgiven and the year should not be extended. Let teachers use this time to collaborate, plan, and prepare a solid plan that would help our students. This would allow teachers time to prepare. I don't want this year to be like the ending of last year. We took the approach, "something is better than nothing" and that isn't beneficial for anyone and is stressful for everyone.</p>
7/21/2020 11:36:00	William	Johnson	Teachers	Valley Center, Kansas	<p>Sedgwick Co. is now limiting gatherings to 15 and closing any public festivals, parades, or public gatherings. Kansas is in the middle of an outbreak because people refuse to stay home and wear masks. Where is it logical to open any public service at this time much less school where children that have been home for six months are suddenly seeing each other? I understand that children need to be back in school and I am wanting to be back in the classroom as well. Forcing this during a pandemic is infantile and will warrant an extreme backlash possibly leading to more school closings with staff and students paying for political games. Please support the delay and look at the data and science to decide when it is safe and proper to open.</p>
7/21/2020 11:36:12	Kendra	Witthuhn	USD 303 Ness City	Ness City	<p>I do not support opening schools later! We need this instructional time with our students.</p>
7/21/2020 11:36:14	Marci	Schaal-Roark	Blue Valley NW high sc	Overland Park	<p>I am concerned about the late start of school and the potential for sports to be taken away from these kids. This is how the connect in the school and is very important for mental and physical health.</p>

7/21/2020 11:36:16	Melissa	Wiltrout	USD 320	Manhattan	I am in support of delaying the school year. Teachers need time to adequately prepare for the expectations we are given as it relates to a safe reopening approach. I would rather have more time to ensure our school is ready, than to start on the "normal" date and potentially end up closing a few weeks later, because we weren't prepared and case numbers went up. Starting the school year without having a detailed plan will put teachers in "emergency teaching" mode, which does more harm to staff and students than good. We also need to consider (and keep at the forefront of our minds) that many teachers travel for work. This fact affects the ways in which districts should be looking at infection numbers and risk factors.
					<p>Our communities have not taken the necessary precautions to control and mitigate the spread of coronavirus. There are many people still refusing to wear masks, still hanging out in public places in large groups and the recent increase in cases has shown this.</p> <p>We are expecting the impossible of our already fragile teachers and school ecosystems. We are asking our teachers to put their own families at risk, to write wills and districts are drafting letters for potential loss of staff and students.</p> <p>We know that teachers will be the ones providing the PPE to the students that have none, the teachers will shoulder the responsibility of deep cleaning their spaces at the end of each school day and the teacher will be expected to conduct in person learning while providing enrichment to those students whose parents have chosen to keep their students home.</p> <p>This is an impossible task, the risk of burnout is high and unfortunately I don't see tons of new teachers lining up to take their place when our current staff resigns or retires early due to lack of support.</p> <p>Our students will bring this virus home to their families. Many students live in multi-generational households where older relatives will be at risk. Those students who live in multi-generational homes often are those that lack access to the most basic medical facilities and primary care.</p> <p>We should have been better prepared to start this year virtually, but rather than allow teachers to come to the drawing board the opportunity was squandered this summer. If we won't listen to our teachers regarding what is best for kids then where are we as a society?</p> <p>I hate this virus, I wish it would go away, I hate how it has divided our great country. We need to come together to beat this thing, and having 1000+ kids in a building is NOT a step in the right direction.</p> <p>Make the right choice on Wednesday, vote to support our Governor in starting school after Labor Day, and then back it up by supporting our teachers in planning for the next phase of what education will look like in Kansas this fall.</p>
7/21/2020 11:36:20	Alexander	Cook	Past employee of KCKP	Overland Park	
7/21/2020 11:36:30	Rachel	Basden	Shawnee Mission School	Olathe	I live in Olathe and teach for Shawnee Mission School District. I know that tomorrow's vote for or against the governor's Executive Order is important and probably weighing on you, as it is on all educators along with staff related to the running of our schools, families and students. It is cruel to consider that those who work in education in any way and students may have to return to school buildings before it is safe to do so, risking our lives, our families lives and countless others. We are not expendable. I have never experienced so much stress in my life, and I have been through A LOT in my lifetime. I implore you to do the right thing and vote for this Executive Order for the sake of thousand upon thousands of lives. I trust that you accepted your position in education to do what is best for us all. Now is the time for you to do what is right. Education can move forward safely in other ways, especially with what we've learned from fourth quarter and since then. Tomorrow is your moment to step up and let us know that we matter, that we are heard, seen and understood. Our lives matter.

7/21/2020 11:36:36	Erin	Perkins		Topeka	There are too many students state wide who would be done a disservice if schools are delayed in starting, mainly students in rural areas where cases are not high and students with disabilities who can't get their full educational needs met virtually. School is a place for socialization as well as education, and if we are living in a world where socialization is going to change due to pandemic illness, then students will need to learn that and practice it. Learning isn't just "sitting and getting." It has to be put into action for it to stick. Delaying a start date is just delaying the inevitable. Maybe with the next few weeks we cut case numbers, schools can create back ups to their current plans, but I can say with confidence that districts have been working hard to put solid plans in place to start and start safely. At some point we need to let it happen, let districts, administrators, and teachers show that they are ready to help students navigate this new world. Waiting increases the anxiety and apprehension that things will ever be perfect or safe enough.
7/21/2020 11:36:40	Cindy	Hertel		ELLIS	I am member of the USD 388 School Board, but I am speaking from a personal perspective. When we began discussing reopening schools, I was of the opinion that everyone should wear a mask at all times in school. However, last week I attended a meeting at 10 am at our elementary school during which we were social distancing. Thirty minutes into the meeting all of us adults were struggling with keeping our masks on due to the heat in the room. Even with the window AC unit running, the masks became wearisome very quickly.  I propose that students wear a mask when they cannot social distance, such as passing in halls, inside recesses, or working in small groups. When students can social distance by 6 ft, they should be allowed to hang their masks on a lanyard around their neck. Maybe floor tape or signage can also help remind students of the six foot spaces. I have seen plexiglass partitions divided into quadrants for round classroom tables. These would also allow students to interact without masks. Please consider.
7/21/2020 11:36:46	Sage	Sandelin	Roosevelt elementary	Hays	I think it's best to wait to open school as I would hate to have it start normal Time and then have to close shortly after because numbers keep going up.
7/21/2020 11:36:58	Megan	Winter	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	I am fully in favor of delaying the start of the school year. Governor Kelly cares about our communities and has our best interest at heart!
7/21/2020 11:37:01	Jay	Young		Tribune	Don't force our kids to wear masks. My child has autism spectrum disorder. He has a hard time understanding social cues. Making him wear a mask will hinder his development. He also has issue with being over stimulated and sensory issues. He will freak out if he has to wear a mask. Also if he is exempt from wearing a mask he will get picked on. Please don't force him to do so
7/21/2020 11:37:03	Sandra	Urban	Children	Lawrence	Keep our kids and teachers safe. Do not open schools at least until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 11:37:08	Diana	Coster	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita	As a school nurse in a school with a population that is 100% students with special needs, I urge you to approve our Governor's EO to delay the start of school. In a time when COVID cases are increasing in Kansas and especially Sedgwick County at the highest rate yet, we need this extra time to put measures in place to ensure that our students, our staff and our community stay safe. This is not a political decision, it is a health and safety decision. We all know that kids need to be back in school, but we are bound to provide educational services safely and responsibly.
7/21/2020 11:37:09	Sue	Bain	Teachers	Lenexa	School openings need to be delayed until the numbers are staying down. There needs to be 14 days of no cases. If schools need to open, it should be online only for the 1st qtr. Teachers cannot teach in person and online at the same time. In the spring, it took me 3 full days to complete my plans and record for the following week. That did not include faculty meetings, parent meetings, grading, zooming with my class. I would work 10 to a 12 hours a day. Show respect for the teachers, paras, aides, and all the other staff it takes to run a school. Value the teachers and their families. Help keep everyone safe.
7/21/2020 11:37:13	Amy	Roadhouse-Swind	Pratt High School	Pratt	Delay the 20-21 School Year, it should be College as well.
7/21/2020 11:37:15	Joleen	Hertzenberg	Retired teacher	Olathe	Thank you Governor Kelly for making the decision to protect our students, teachers and families by delaying the starting date Of our schools until after Labor Day. I totally support her decision and wish we had other politicians that put our health and safety first.

7/21/2020 11:37:18	Mandi	R		Leawood	Children enrolling in school are required to have vaccines for illnesses that aren't posing immediate threats. Therefore, it is unconscionable that anyone would require them to return to school during the height of a highly contagious & deadly virus pandemic, with no known cure or vaccine, that's passed around in groups even from those who show no symptoms. The domino effect goes far beyond the day to day ... who pays for sick leave for teachers if they catch COVID? Their families would be at risk. It would be another rapid school closing. Would districts even be able to find substitute teachers? What happens if they get sick? This is a no-win situation ... but there is a way to mitigate the inevitable crises ... keep kids and staff at home as long as possible.
7/21/2020 11:37:20	Kelly	Kemp	Parent and coach at Trip	Winona	I disagree with the delay. When I told my daughter there was a chance school would be delayed, she broke down in tears. Since the start of the initial shutdown, her anxiety and depression have become almost unmanageable. Not because of the fear of COVID, but from the lack of social interaction. Since she's been able to spend some time with friends again, her mental health has improved somewhat. I fear delaying now will open it up to further delays and will negatively affect the mental health of not only my child, but many others like her.
7/21/2020 11:37:21	Michael	Herbert	Self	Wichita	I support the delayed opening of schools based in the advice of healthcare professionals. This should not be a political issue but a health issue.
7/21/2020 11:37:29	Gerri	Lawson		Shawnee	Please vote against the governor Kelly's order. These kids need to back to school, whether it be online or in the classroom. I have 3 kids in the desoto district.  A survey should be sent out to each parent and teacher. Match the students with teachers who feel comfortable in the classroom. Then match the students and teachers who want to do online school. This will help keep the numbers low, and more people will be happy.
7/21/2020 11:37:32	Dani	Hartwell	Norton Community High	Norton	Kids need to be back at school. A normal day if school.
7/21/2020 11:37:37	Tristen	Denham		Salina	What could 2 weeks possibly do? Please let us open on time. The students need more time because of their "shortened" year last year. Especially the elementary students.
7/21/2020 11:37:40	Parikshya	Bhattarai	Single mom	Wichita KS	Open school on time not delayed, bills don't stop coming and children's future is on the line.
7/21/2020 11:37:45	Michael	Rea	Parent	Leawood	I believe the benefits of in person education outweigh the risks and that children should have the option of attending school as they normally would. For those families that are uncomfortable, stream video from the classroom and allow them to participate remotely at the level they are comfortable with. Just don't penalize the children who need (and want) social interaction as part of their learning journey.  For those teachers that do not feel comfortable or have a restriction that prohibits them from teaching in person, provide options for furloughs or jobs they can do (one-on-one teaching via videoconference) remotely.  I'll gladly expand more via phone if helpful.
7/21/2020 11:37:47	Lori	Stahlman		Concordia	School should start in August. It should be based on individual towns as the numbers of Covid vary across the state. It is a greater risk for our families that children are not in school due to education and social emotional growth and well-being. Our summer programs have been running successfully without considerable spread of Covid and our school system has shown that if cases come up they are capable of dealing with it and stopping the spread already.
7/21/2020 11:37:54	Cheyenne	Bartz		Lawrence	We cannot put the brunt of our terrible economic situation on our children. We have to stop in-person classes until our local leaders are willing to step up and enforce the safety procedures necessary to keep our communities from continuing to spike in cases. I understand there are counties with numbers that are reducing, however there are still far too many cases. Our children will not be returning to anything that's resembles a routine or normal, so I can't fathom how social skills is even on the list of reasons to return. We had months to work out online education and get up to date in new technologies, which quite frankly should already be in place, instead we refused to listen to science in hopes that everything will be fine in the fall. It is beyond inconceivable and an absolute outrage that we would even have to voice our opinion to NOT risk the lives of our children, our teachers and faculty, and quite frankly the rest of the community. Stop this nonsense now, NO IN-PERSON CLASSES until we are able to comply with the recommendations of the CDC.



7/21/2020 11:37:58	Tammy	Reeves		Basehor	The negative mental/psychological impact of not getting children back into school far exceeds their risk of contracting COVID-19. Teachers and their work are ESSENTIAL and if they wear the appropriate PPE and perform hand hygiene they will be fine just like health care workers, truck drivers, grocery store clerks, etc. Our children need to get back into the classroom sooner rather than later and resume a normal, educational and socially interactive environment
7/21/2020 11:38:00	Rebecca	McBroom		Newton	Please open the schools back up in August. Our kids have already lost so much valuable time. Don't make them pay the price of missing out on much needed time. Other states are opening. Kansas needs to as well.
7/21/2020 11:38:00	Kristine	Meyer	Self/Taxpayer	Chapman	As a past BOE member, I strongly believe the Kansas Board of Education should follow the Governor's order and delay the opening of school, at least.
7/21/2020 11:38:02	Toni	Kefffer	USD405	Lyons	Delay school start
7/21/2020 11:38:05	Julie	Riffel		De Soto	I do support local control BUT...with a pandemic and the fact that people are sooo mobile my husband and I (both retired school teachers of 34 yrs each) support the Governor's decision!! AND YOU SHOULD ALSO!!
7/21/2020 11:38:13	Melissa	Barnett		Coffeyville	I support the governor's decision to push back the start date of schools. I can't believe we are playing politics when it comes to safety.
7/21/2020 11:38:16	Shelbe	Smith		Wichita	Online school only.
7/21/2020 11:38:18	KaiLei	Petz		Pratt	Send the kids back to school!
7/21/2020 11:38:18	Gretta	Hug	None	Scranton KS	I would hope there is some consideration given to shortening the required length of the school year.
7/21/2020 11:38:19	Melissa	Welch		Junction City	I have two children that attend high school in Junction City and as a parent I think we should open the schools on time. I know my children need to be back in school but I know that they will adjust to what happens. The ones I am worried about are the younger children that have not been in school since March. The ones that need the extra help that are being left behind because as much as I hate to say it the online schooling was a joke. This summer has had baseball playing tournaments and traveling to different towns and not one of them ever showed signs of the virus. The faster we can be back into school the faster we can teach the safety precautions in place for the students. The children need to be in school and it is hurting them more to be out of school.
7/21/2020 11:38:27	Julie	Quakenbush	Catholic schools	Hope to have schools go	Like to have schools open on time but understand the start date, both parents in the house still work and it's very hard for us to homeschool them and not have them fail In there work and knowing what they need to be doing.
7/21/2020 11:38:28	carl	kissell	self	Pratt	<p>Covid is real, no question about it. It is highly contagious, no argument about it. But since it has been around for months, it is pretty much everywhere. It is likely that everyone has come in contact with it. So, many would test positive for it. It is something we all must be aware of.</p> <p>However, it is not something we should have a knee-jerk panic over. It has nearly a 99% survival rate so nearly everyone who does catch it will survive – it may be tough, but they will survive. The flu is sometimes tough, but we are not panicking over it. Pneumonia is tough, but we are not panicking over it. People have died from Covid, but in no greater numbers than from the flu or pneumonia; so what makes Covid so different?</p> <p>Truth is that nearly all of us have already encountered the Covid virus. We can't avoid that and no amount of social distancing, wearing of masks, or any other "solution" will change it.</p> <p>Our children are suffering more than anyone over this adult panic. They don't understand and react emotionally different than adults. This fear will be engendered into them for the rest of their lives and no one knows what the eventual results of that will be. Children are social beings and denying the opportunity to socialize with other children can have devastating effects on them.</p> <p>We hear about "flattening the curve" and over-and-over have postponed many things for the 14 days requested. How many times do we have to do the 14 days thing to flatten the curve? It seems that such a plan has not worked except to keep everything in turmoil.</p> <p>Let's get back to life. Let's start by letting our children get back to school. If 14 days delay has not helped much in the past, what is another 14 days delay opening our schools as our governor has implemented going to help?</p> <p>I encourage the Kansas School Board to reject Gov. Kelly's executive order and allow our schools to open as scheduled!</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

7/21/2020 11:38:29	Justin	Summers	Hays high school	Hays is	My three kids were devastated last year missing the last few weeks. I beg you and my kids beg you to open up schools on time never have is seen a senior, sophomore, and 8th grader wanting to go to school. Please open up with out mask, just look at the stats of kids getting this virus...
7/21/2020 11:38:35	Katie	Jackson-Stenlund		Salina	I think we need the extra time to get supplies and prepare for students. Starting this early with this type of uncertainty is irresponsible.
7/21/2020 11:38:35	Laura	Archer	Olathe moms	Olathe	My high school student NEEDS to go back to school for his educational needs and social interaction.
					<p>The Kansas State Board of Education needs to support Governor Kelly's mandates regarding the delayed start of school. The present levels of Covid-19 are only going to rise over the next few weeks.</p> <p>But that is only a start. The Board needs to follow the guidance of health professionals, not the wishes of politicians who think that the best path forward is the quickest return to "normalcy". I do not see how the Board can expect schools to reopen to in-person instruction, even with a delayed start. History shows us that this pandemic will claim many more lives. The Board has the power to determine just how many innocent people will pay the ultimate price.</p> <p>We do not yet know the full extent of health damage caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, nor the long term effects. We do not yet know it's impact on children. We do know how it will affect the adults who manage our schools. Teachers around the country are already dying from SARS-CoV-2 exposure in school settings.</p> <p>Not having in-person instruction is not ideal, but it is far more preferable than the cost of its implementation during this time. We can make up for lost time once schools can safely reopen. We won't be able to do that for children who suffer from life-long disabilities as a result of Covid-19. It will be a more difficult task if we don't have the experience of teachers who die, or are unable to return to work.</p> <p>We are challenged by circumstances that last occurred during my great-grandparents' lives. We must make decisions based on long-term goals, not short-term desires.</p>
7/21/2020 11:38:39	Clark	Peters	myself	Manhattan	
7/21/2020 11:38:40	Carrie	Paschke	Mom of 3 athletes	Overland Park	With all due respect, Executive Order 20-58 is not, at all, 'in the best interest of the students' as it states. Our students need to be back in school, they need to be allowed to play sports and participate in activities for their own mental health and overall well-being. The sole factor to justify keeping healthy kids at home can not be a number of cases of Covid in Kansas. There is so much more to the story than that as study after study is showing us. Kids are not getting very sick if they are getting sick at all. They are not found to be major spreaders either. Keeping them from participating in life right now does a greater disservice to them than anything. They can go to school and they can play sports TODAY safely. Dozens of countries around the world are showing us that through their numbers and statistics. Iowa and Nebraska said they will start school in August and play sports. Let's make that same choice here in Kansas. Let's not get fooled into thinking we don't know anything more about the virus now than we did in March. Let's not continue to think we have to make the same choices today we did months ago with the presence of new information. Let's not let fear drive the decisions that will impact our kids for the rest of their lives. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 11:38:41	Elke	Lorenz	Self	Manhattan KS	Please respect the decision as announced on July 15 by Governor Kelly, Commissioner of Education Watson, and Head of KSDH Norman. These three experts have the insight, knowledge and expertise to make decisions in the best interest of All Kansans. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:38:47	Allyson	Jasper		Olathe	Delay of school re-opening is essential and the only sensible choice. I should not have to compromise on the health and safety of my children. Kansas has more positive cases per capita than almost any other state. With cases growing by the day, I cannot make an informed decision on whether to select in-person or online learning for my children given the uncertainty. School districts and parents need more time. I have always placed my trust in the school system. Now, I'm not so sure. Please do the right thing and do not politicize my children. Vote to support the delay.

7/21/2020 11:38:49	Alex	Avey		Atchison	<p>As a parent and an educator, I respect all the different views and opinions that are currently out there in regards to the upcoming school year. I want my children to be able to go to school but at the same time, I want them to have the best chance at a "normal" school year as they can.</p> <p>I know with the extra time the governor is trying to give us, it will allow school districts, administrators, and teachers the time to gather supplies and ideas/procedures that will be necessary to start the school year. It's my understanding that my school district has items ordered but we are still awaiting their arrival. We aren't going to be able to begin the year as we normally do and this is un-chartered territory for all of us. We were thrown into distance learning back in March without the training or experience and did the best job that we could. Now we are given the chance to take the guidelines/recommendations/mandates and get together the best plan for our school districts to give all students a quality education while keeping everyone as safe and healthy as possible.</p> <p>We are in education and although we are "in it for the kids", it is very disheartening that is the phrase I hear to justify why teachers should be ready to go back in August without the worry or fear of the unknown. I want to be back with my school family but I don't want it to come at a cost of my own family. I want to be prepared to take on the school year and I believe these extra couple weeks will give us a chance to do that. We are teachers, we are flexible, we always expect the unexpected and we love our kids.</p>
7/21/2020 11:38:52	Deanna	Dunlap		Wichita	Opening schools just seems to have "disaster" written all over it for our community. I know the importance of learning, the role the schools play in the lives of both our children and their parents. However, if we do not get this pandemic back under control, none of us will return to work or school for any meaningful time period without being shut down again. Businesses will suffer when an outbreak occurs that impacts even more people than we have seen thus far. Science is providing information that children, especially middle school up, are just as likely to spread the virus; children can become very ill from this virus. Listen to science.
7/21/2020 11:38:53	Sheila	Johnson	Pratt High School	Pratt	Please don't delay!
7/21/2020 11:38:58	Brandi	Griggs	Clay center community	Clay center	Please do not require our kids to wear masks. My child has an IEP and already struggles enough as it is. Requiring him to wear this will be detrimental to his ability to learn and function during the day. People are making this much more serious than it is. Fight for our rights and don't approve the order to wear masks.
7/21/2020 11:39:02	Whitney	Howard		Alma	I believe this should be left up to the school districts and counties as a blanket coverage will not fit everyone. We have counties who have been very diligent and have very minimal cases where this would just add hardship to families. There are other counties where this could be the best option, but to me this feels like a one sized fits all approach that does not fit and is not best for our entire state.
7/21/2020 11:39:03	Kishan	Hall	None	Shawnee	Vote no to Governor Kelly's Executive Order.
7/21/2020 11:39:04	Alisa	Branham	The University of Kansas	Lawrence	Please delay the start and encourage online classes for the safety of everyone, including teachers and staff!
7/21/2020 11:39:04	Stacy	Robins		Shawnee	I would rather start virtually in Johnson county as planned then go start after Labor Day. Because there is such an unknown what it's going to be like after Labor Day. Let's at least get started. I do not want to go to school in June next year.
7/21/2020 11:39:08	Janelle	Brower	Blue Valley Schools em	Overland Park, KS	Please support executive order 20-58 and delay the start of school to allow districts to put uniform safety measures in place to protect students and adults and slow the spread of Covid-19 in our state. Thank you for your work to protect our communities.
7/21/2020 11:39:17	carlie	scheer		lenexa	i'm a sophomore in high school and would like to start school whether online or in person
7/21/2020 11:39:20	Deborah	Montgomery		Olathe	I am in full agreement with delaying the school year and moving away from in-person learning to keep our children safe.
7/21/2020 11:39:22	Diana	Tapp	Blue Valley school Dist	Overland Park	I would appreciate having more time to safely get prepared for students. I have a spouse who is at risk, so any protective measures I can take would be appreciated.
7/21/2020 11:39:24	Nora	Perry		Shawnee	I agree with Governor Kelly and delaying the start of schools
7/21/2020 11:39:28	Paula	Sears	Cheney USD 268	Cheney	Please use the adopted plan in the Navigating Change document! It is a safe, good plan and LOCAL districts should decide how they'd like to proceed with school based on their spread. It should NOT be a statewide decision. Thank you for your time and consideration during this difficult time. Sending prayers!

7/21/2020 11:39:28	Clayton	Bradley	Elementary School Para	Wichita	Making masks a requirement will cause more problems for the teachers and staff of all levels. In elementary, they would be whining about wearing them and constantly messing around with them. In high schools, it would allow the students to get away with more things like talking back, and using chewing tobacco and this may not be a big problem in big city schools, but out in the smaller schools, this would become a major problem.
7/21/2020 11:39:36	Taylor	Scrivner	Blue Valley	KC	Please don't open schools. Even if students are less likely to die from it, we have to move away from thinking of cases as exclusively "deadly" or "mild." We don't know the long term ramifications on a child's health, and what we do know is that it will have a distinct negative effect on mental health if students feel like they've accidentally killed their parents, teachers, staff, or loved ones.
7/21/2020 11:39:42	Brownie	Simpson	Kansas City Catering	Shawnee	We need to get our children back in schools. Everyone is at risk but we need to think of our children first. If a teacher is uncomfortable they can stay home. We put our emergency workers on the front line teachers need to go there too. Children are loosing ground daily by not being in school. We have lost our business and are trying to rebuild it. It will take a lot of sacrifice to get through this. Everyone needs to be on the front line.
7/21/2020 11:39:44	Callie	Danner		Gardner	Please keep closed until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 11:39:46	LaDeena	Johnston	Oaklawn, Wichita and A	Wichita	I watch and help transport my grandkids in the above districts when there is no school and before/after school. They range in age from 5 years to 15 years. I am an RN and I have an autoimmune disease [RA]. I watch the children so their parents can work. If/when one of them transfers Covid-19 to me, their parents will be out of work and I could die. As a health professional who has little faith in non-health professionals determining the safety of children returning to the classroom, I would suggest on-line lessons continue until there is a successful vaccine or viral spread has been significantly lessened. That would benefit the business world and the people like myself who have vigilantly social distanced and avoided this plague.
7/21/2020 11:39:47	Anonymous	Anonymous	Teacher	Kansas City	Please back up the governors executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. Please continue with remote learning (with updated expectations that will be formulated during August) until the confirmed case numbers steadily decrease for at least 2 weeks.
7/21/2020 11:39:49	Jae	Kim	Parent of Blue Vallye Sc	Olathe, KS	Hi. I am a mother of two boys, upcoming 5th and 2nd grader and my youngest is special needs with autism and gifted. Please consider to reopen school in person especially for special need students. My special need son has struggled with online learning and it's not possible to get the IEP services online. I am so afraid he will regress if schools continue to close and delay his IEP services. Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/21/2020 11:39:49	Little	Barlow	None	Hutchinson	According to the science, this virus is equal to or less deadly than the seasonal flu. According to the science, thus virus isn't as dangerous to younger people. According to the experts, all we need to do is wash our hands and wear a mask. If I can go to Walmart, Home Depot, Lowe's or the local liquor store, then why can't kids return to in school learning and sports? These teachers that are concerned about returning to class do not seem to be as concerned about shopping in the local stores.
7/21/2020 11:39:51	Deb	Lewis		Lenexa	I support the governor's Executive Order. As the mother of an incoming 6th grader and the wife of a high school educator, I believe that delaying the start of school will give schools more time to get plans in place to protect the student, faculty, and staff. Please uphold the governors order so that families across the state can stay safe and healthy.
7/21/2020 11:39:51	Amanda	Arevalo	Emporia Public Schools	Emporia	The delay of school is important to the health of our students, teachers and staff.
7/21/2020 11:39:53	Angie	Thissen	Maize	Wichita	Open schools!!
7/21/2020 11:39:53	Jenny	Skillman	Public school parent	Lawrence	Please vote to APPROVE Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school. While districts may ultimately approach education delivery differently based on local circumstances of the pandemic, Kansas AS A UNIFIED STATE needs this time to try to slow the covid spread and for educators to appropriately prepare for what is certain to be a challenging school year. Thank you for your service.
7/21/2020 11:39:55	David	Comer	Self	Overland Park	Kids need go back to school in August as scheduled.
7/21/2020 11:40:00	Christine	Woods	Teacher	Overland Park	For the safety of our students and staff we need to delay the start of school til after Labor Day

					<p>It is imperative that the board accepts governor Kelly's executive orders as they relate to schools. School districts like ours have small administrative teams and need time to ensure we are opening our buildings in a safe fashion. We need time to engage our staff and community so we can be sure to have plans to open our facilities that meet the specific needs of our community. If we do not delay the start of the school year, we will have to rush to put a plan in place which is not ideal given the magnitude of this pandemic. Kelly is providing much needed guidance for schools using outstanding sources for her decision making. It would be counterproductive for our leadership to contradict those who are making these recommendations. Leaving politics out of this is absolutely essential. I can tell you I am no democrat, but I support this decision. Private businesses have the right to make appropriate decisions to keep their environment safe, and we should have the same right as our own entity. The fact of the matter is that if this is left to individual school districts to decide, we will have a mess on our hands keeping the students in Kansas safe. Right now, public education is its own entity, just like Walmart, and our leadership is recommending the same things governor Kelly is ordering. I urge you to approve these executive orders so we can safely serve our communities in these difficult times.</p> <p>Steen Danielsen CJSHS Assistant Principal and Athletic Director</p>
7/21/2020 11:40:01	Steen	Daniele	USD333	Concordia	
7/21/2020 11:40:08	Anthony	Lewis II	Free State High School	Lawrence	Allow all sports. The staff and coaches are doing a good job from stopping the spread. Let the kids play
7/21/2020 11:40:10	Kristin	Westgard		Wichita	<p>Please do not support this proposed Order. It is harmful to children and their families to preclude them from any academic instruction through a public or accredited private school until after September 9. The proposed order is not in the best interests of Kansas children or their families. This proposed action is unwarranted given the studies from other countries that have reopened schools showing the low risks to children of COVID and the lack of "hotspots" triggered by re-opening of schools. You are forcing working parents into an impossible situation by postponing school and harming the mental and physical health of our children as well as their academic progress by denying them academic instruction and school sports for a month. If you insist on taking this action, please exclude licensed private schools from the order. Further, you should exclude sports from the ban. Our children have been practicing safely through their schools since May. There is no valid or reasonable basis to deny them access to school sports practices from August 10 through September 9.</p>
7/21/2020 11:40:14	Rachel	Chushuk	Teacher - Blue Valley S	Spring Hill, KS	<p>I encourage you to uphold Governor Kelly's executive order. At 30, I would, on paper, be in the "safer" age group. However, I have a compromised immune system, putting me at higher risk of complications from COVID-19. We teachers want nothing more than to be back in the classroom teaching students. But, with the cases rising, I do not think it is currently safe to do so. If schools open on time, I believe you will have many teachers retire early or leave the profession. Since we struggled to find subs pre-pandemic, I cannot imagine we'll be able to fill in all of the gaps returning too soon will cause. Please approve Gov. Kelly's order. This will give districts and teachers time to prepare as well as giving us more time to slow the spread.</p>
7/21/2020 11:40:26	Brenda	Benter	USD 259	Wichita	<p>I think the start of school should be delayed. Teacher lives and student lives are more important! COVID cases are higher now than when we shut down in March. The school board is sitting there between their partitions but we won't have that in the classroom. The virus is too out of control right now to do face to face learning. Start online!</p>
7/21/2020 11:40:27	Kathryn	Schroeber		Olathe	<p>I feel strongly that we should hold off until after labor Day. Any extra time to get Covid or even get it so it's going down instead of up is a plus. I'm sure they can figure out how to make up the days if that's an issue. We have family that is very compromised one just had open heart surgery last week and the thought of putting anybody at risk for the sake of 3 weeks seems idiotic. Teachers didn't get their teaching degree with the knowledge that they would be told that they had to put their lives in danger unnecessarily they don't get paid enough in all reality no one gets paid enough for that. To make this a political battle and not about people's health and safety is so selfish and unfathomable I just can't even comprehend why we even have to discuss this. I am hoping and praying that everyone will be able to put politics aside and try to keep everyone safe healthy without the worry of having to pick between kids learning their safety family safety and Friends safety.</p>

7/21/2020 11:40:27	Amy	Maskil	parent of a K-12 student	Kansas City	For the safety of our community, we need to delay the opening of any and all schools until we see consistent decrease in CoViD-19 cases. Schools should have the same capacity, social distancing, masking requirements as any other business or organization. Right now, we would not allow any other indoor event with hundreds of people in an enclosed space with poor ventilation and no ability to appropriately social distance. Opening schools will create such an "event" for 7 hours a day, 5 days a week. Leaders who allow schools to open are negligent in their responsibility to help ensure safety of their communities, counties, and state if they allow schools to open before we have a consistent reduction in disease spread for at least 14 days.
7/21/2020 11:40:32	Toni	Berrie	My family- Olathe Public	Olathe	I think it is a great option to delay the start of in-person school to after Labor Day!! We are not having gatherings over 40-50 people, but you want my kids to be indoors with 400+ elementary kids, 800+ middle school kids and 1700+ high school kids!?! Each district needs to have time to adjust their plans, especially since all of guidance is slow and ever changing!!
7/21/2020 11:40:32	Kelly	Seward	Olathe School District	Olathe	Please do not start school until after Labor Day!!
7/21/2020 11:41:04	Shauna	Rinearson	I teach high school in the	Overland Park	Given the increasing number of positive COVID 19 cases in Johnson County, as well as the data finding that young people 10 years old and over, I do not feel safe returning to in-person classrooms. I typically have 30 (or more) young adults in my classes, and we do not have the physical space to distance ourselves by even three feet. Additionally, I expect it to be very difficult for students of all ages to appropriately wear masks all day. Although I miss teaching face-to-face, delaying the start of the school year and/or beginning virtually will help protect students, parents, teachers and other school staff, the community—and, in turn, the Kansas economy. Please support Governor Kelly's executive order.
7/21/2020 11:41:05	Bobbi	Enneking		Sabetha	Please follow Gov. Kelly's order and keep schools closed at least through Labor Day. As a Mama of school aged children and an educator of 20 years I am begging you. I know parents want our kiddos back in school, I know children NEED school. But, I can catch them up when they are safe. I cannot bring a child back to life or heal life-long health issues caused by this disease. Also, teachers basically learned a new profession in a weekend back in March when we told them to move all teaching online. Give them a few weeks of breathing room to get everything figured out while they're "on the clock" instead of working for free during their uncontracted summer.
7/21/2020 11:41:08	Casey	vohs	Louisburg usd 416	louisburg	I believe individual school districts and counties should have the right to make the decisions that are best for them. Every district will take multiple things into account and do what is best for their students and staff. Governor Kelly isn't personally involved with the different schools and there for my not know what is best for each school. Please consider overturning her bill and allowing school districts to choose what is best for their schools.
7/21/2020 11:41:16	Myka	Albert	Goddard High School	Wichita	I don't feel school should be delayed. The same safety protocols will be in place now versus later. The kids need to get back. School officials have been working all summer on plans. already.
7/21/2020 11:41:16	Catherine	Coulter	Usd361	Wakita, OK	If delaying school starting helps keep our staff and students safe, perfect!  The one thing we need to keep in the very fore front, regardless what we do or offer, is public health safety. We need to be very flexible around this primary contingent. (Constantly paying attention to community numbers etc.)  Wether we offer on site, online, or a blended curriculum is really secondary, don't get lost in all those details.  Everyone must feel safe, even staff. There must be processes in place to allow breathing room. If someone is not sure about their health, they need the space to quarantine (or test). We tend to just plunge on when staff don't feel well, in this situation that can't be the norm! How do we know if our fatigue is from a busy day or corona?  Schools need to be clean! With so many bodies sharing facilities day in and day out, this is an absolute necessity!! There needs to be iron-fast rules about school cleanliness!

					<p>I am writing to urge you to vote to uphold Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school in Kansas until after Labor Day. I am a teacher and parent in the Olathe school district. I love my job. But I am scared to death to go back to work. Johnson County continues to trend up in the number of new Covid infections. I love spending my days with teenagers, in fact, the kids are by far the best part of my job. However, kids are not exactly famous for their ability to think about the consequences of their actions. Teens by nature feel they are bullet-proof. That's a normal part of development and growth for them. How are kids behaving during this pandemic? Look around on social media - overwhelmingly, kids are not wearing masks or social distancing. I don't want to risk my health based on the behavior of teens.</p> <p>I signed up to teach kids. It's a hard job and I am good at it. However, I did not sign up to put my family and myself in a position where we could become gravely ill or even die from exposure to a virus in the workplace. It is unfair and unreasonable to ask teachers to make the choice between work and health. We are in a global pandemic and must do our part to control the spread of this virus, i.e. suspending in-person school until this virus is under control in our region.</p> <p>Even though we want to go to school, and in spite of the burden on families, students, and the economy, opening schools safely is not possible when the number of infections is rising. My hope is that the members of the board will base your vote on the data from our infectious disease experts and delay the start of school.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 11:41:24	Christine	Setley	Teachers and parents	Lenexa, Kansas	
7/21/2020 11:41:26	Stephanie	O'Sullivan		Overland Park	Please do what's necessary to keep students, staff and families safe. Err on the side of caution and safety. Pay attention to CDC guidance.
7/21/2020 11:41:29	Patrick	Wheat		Lawrence	Please allow sports to practice even if school is not in session.
7/21/2020 11:41:31	Cindy	Blagg	USD 260 Derby	Derby, KS	Each decision that we have to wait for from BOE and, in turn, our county health commissioner, causes a delay to our timelines for enrollment, teacher training, and transfer meetings. We need the extra time to implement all of these mandates in mindful and safe ways for students and staff.
7/21/2020 11:41:31	Jessica	Karr	USD 261	Wichita	Please continue to keep our students and staff as safe as possible by extending the order of school buildings closed until it is safe to return. If people continue to be reckless with mask and social distancing mandates, keep buildings closed until there is a vaccine.
7/21/2020 11:41:36	Manjaree	Lavers	Parent	Lenexa	KEEP SCHOOLS CLOSED! Do not endanger the kids, school staff, parents and relatives. Listen to what is being recommended by scientists; the risks outweigh any benefits. Focus instead on providing quality online instruction.
7/21/2020 11:41:42	Elizabeth	Krumins		Topeka - grew up in Sta	<p>I hate that this pandemic has become political. I hate that people are talking about a percentage when they talk about kids dying. Any kid dying from this will be awful and any teacher dying will have a devastating effect on a whole group of kids. I understand that there are counties with very few cases and I truly hope they stay that way. I grew up in St. John in Stafford Co. My graduating class was 45, the largest class to pass through there for some time. I see that they have only had 2 confirmed cases of COVID so I understand why they, and counties like them, want to get back to in person school. However, what worries me is that it is these counties especially that do not have the infrastructure to deal with more than a couple of severe cases of COVID, if any. When I was young my mother had an infection that required hospitalization. The community hospital in St. John was able to take care of her for that as all she required were IV antibiotics, monitoring, and rest. However, I highly doubt that little community health center can handle a case of COVID that requires an ICU or intubation. Where do people go who need care? Great Bend, Hutchison, Wichita? Those cities would soon see their ICUs full. As a teenager in a small town my friends and I were always going somewhere. Great Bend, Pratt, and Hutchison were always good choices. Now with the talk of kids going back to school we are at higher risk of community spread in those larger towns, the very same towns that small towns residents rely on for their shopping. If counties were self-sufficient and residents didn't have to travel 30 miles for groceries or a Wal-Mart for basic supplies, I could get behind them starting school in a few short weeks. Unfortunately, they aren't, and viruses don't care what county you live in. Please protect all of our students and teachers and vote for Governor Kelly's Executive Order.</p>

7/21/2020 11:41:57	Jessica	Danford		Emporia	The dangers of the covid19 pandemic are more uncertain now than ever before. For the safety of our students, our teachers, and our community at large we need to delay opening schools.
7/21/2020 11:41:58	Jessica	Dome	Woodland Spring Middl	Gardner Ks	As a teacher in a Kansas public school, I ask the State BOE to please support the governor's EO. I feel if we are to give students quality education, either in person or remotely, the teachers and staff need adequate time to prepare. If my district were to return on Aug 12th as planned, and teachers Aug 7th, we would not be prepared. 3 days is a crunch to prepare under normal circumstances. It is all but impossible with the new regulations and guidelines. Student education will suffer. I worry if staff is not trained and ready we will inevitably be in another shut down situation. When schools do open, I want them to stay open to provide a stable learning environment for all students. Thank you for your considerations.
7/21/2020 11:41:58	Kim	Lee	Skyline Schools	Pratt	<p>I urge you to vote no to the Governor's executive order to keep all schools and activities closed until September 9th. First of all, my biggest concern is that schools and school districts don't lose our local control. School calendars can not and should not be dictated by the Governor. They should be left up to local control.</p> <p>As a teacher, I have absolutely no problem with waiting until September 9th to start classes so that we are more prepared, but again, that should be a local decision that works for each district and not a blanket state-wide order. I do have a huge problem with letting all our kids continue to do sports and activities now and waiting until August 10th to shut them down and then delaying all the school activities until well into September. If circumstances are that bad, shut them down NOW and let us be ready to begin all those activities on August 17th as planned. THAT IS STILL 4 WEEKS AWAY!!! If we shut all activities down now for 4 weeks, why couldn't we be ready to go on August 17th!?! The kids have been playing and competing all summer. If we are so co concerned, why are we letting it continue until August 10th? Why do we continue to ignore the statistics about our students mental health and their great need to be involved in school activities?</p> <p>Again, I urge you to vote no on the Governor's executive order and return the control to the local schools as it should be!</p>
7/21/2020 11:42:02	Beth	Behrens	School bus employees	shawnee	<p>To whom this may concern:</p> <p>Governor Kelly is requiring students to have a temperature check to enter the school. Since Covid 19 is this serious, the children need to be checked before entering the bus as well. The checks at school are after the fact. If a child has symptoms, can we not allow them on the bus?</p> <p>Beth Behrens 10706 W. 72nd St. Shawnee, Ks 66203</p>



					<p>We have always asked our teachers and educators to do a tremendous amount with very few resources: very few funds, very few hours, very few amenities, very few supplies. We cannot ask them to now risk their lives daily with potentially high exposure and prolonged contact to COVID-19 with even less.</p> <p>As the wife of a music educator and the mother of two children in the school system, I URGE the Board to APPROVE the Governor's executive order to postpone the opening of schools. This delay will allow the educators time to prepare their curriculum and classrooms to adapt to the critical environment for maximum safety for both themselves and their students.</p> <p>I understand the pressure placed on the Board to start school as close to normal as possible - many families depend on schools as a safe place for their children during the day while they work - not every family has the luxury of working from home. Other families express their inadequacy as homeschooling educators. However, this should not be the only factor considered when opening schools. SAFETY, above all else, is essential; opening schools in a dangerous situation of rampant infection is risking lives unnecessarily. COVID-19, unlike the flu, causes lasting physical damage to those infected. Survivors may incur disabilities that take away their abilities to work and provide for their families. As a community, we need to demonstrate that we care for these valuable members of society: educators and children.</p>
7/21/2020 11:42:05	Elizabeth	Love	My Family	Olathe	APPROVE Executive Order 20-58 (Delaying the 20-21 K-12 School Year).
7/21/2020 11:42:11	Aimee	Minnich	my family	Lenexa	Please allow elementary and middle school students to start school in August. Scientific studies show these young children are viral dead-ends. There have been zero cases of the virus being transmitted from pre-pubescent children to adults. Furthermore, the kids need to return to learning and routine.
7/21/2020 11:42:22	Joseph	Fix	Self	Lawrence	I understand holding school until Labor Day. But extra-curricular work for sports should absolutely be allowed to continue. These are being run in full compliance with guidelines including masks, separation, etc. physical and mental exercise is critical for these kids - and they face less risk than older people. The governors blanket approach to everything is the "easy way to avoid criticism". Keep the kids involved or you will lose them
7/21/2020 11:42:27	Marsha	Howard	usd259	Wichita	please keep schools closed till September 9. Don't play Russian roulette with the teachers lives or the students lives. If they catch the disease they bring at home to their own family. We have lost enough lives during this pandemic please don't make teachers and students a political issue bringing them back to school too early.
7/21/2020 11:42:29	Tammy	Karin		Manhattan	If the schools want to start before September 8th, then start with distance learning. Please do not put our children, their teachers, and the school staff on the front lines of this war. The extra time can be used for the teachers to be better prepared and to see what happens at schools in other states after they've been open for 2 weeks.
7/21/2020 11:42:34	Kara	Gourley	Parent of student	Lawrence	Please, Let the kids get back to school!
7/21/2020 11:42:36	Stacy	Anderson	Parent	Baldwin city KS	<p>I'm a very concerned parent and would like to Express my views on the reopening of school. I know that school is to open after Labor day and I'm thankful for that. I am high risk, my immune system doesn't work and I have respiratory failure. I fear for my child getting sick and bringing it home. I fear for teachers, staff and others children and their families getting sick</p> <p>I'm writing this because I would like online learning to be an option for this school year.</p> <p>During the winter months schools can barely contain the spread of the common cold or the flu. I'm worried there wont be enough supplies or staff to sanitize the school. I'm afraid the burden of ensuring students follow mask rules will be too much for the teachers and staff. If I were to get sick I probably would not survive. my child excelled doing homeschooling so I would like to be able to continue that. I also feel kids want to go back to school and I know socializing is important but it won't be what they had. I'm not willing to risk my child, myself or my family to this ever changing virus</p> <p>Please consider homeschooling for those families who feel the same way as myself</p>
7/21/2020 11:42:39	Julia	LeFevre	LeFevre household	Goddard	Thank you Sracy Anderson Please let the kids return to school.

7/21/2020 11:42:41	Gloria	Johnson	TPS 501	TOPEKA	Please approve Governor Kelly's executive order to have schools start on September 9th.
7/21/2020 11:42:43	Jon	Bigler	Self and family	Meade	I agree with Governor Kelly's mandate. Moreover I think the Kansas state senators should let her do her job! We didn't vote her in to have the Republican senators tie her hands!!!!
7/21/2020 11:42:45	Stephanie	Dein		Olathe	I am the parent of an incoming kindergartener and a relative to two teachers. I am asking that you please vote to follow the Governor's executive order to delay the start of school. Please put politics aside and think of the well being of teachers and other faculty as well as students. This delay allows school districts additional time to fully prepare buildings and classrooms, as well as put in place safety guidelines, so that everyone can have a safe return.
7/21/2020 11:42:49	Susie	Wilson	Parent of high school stu	Lawrence	Thank you for this consideration.
7/21/2020 11:43:09	Emily	Smith		Pittsburg	Please delay the start of school. We need more time to prepare and bring our numbers down. I want to keep students AND staff safe and feel we need more time.
7/21/2020 11:43:10	Amanda	Johnson	Pawnee Heights School	Rozel	I wholeheartedly support Governor Kelly's decision and would even like to see a virtual only or even longer delay. As a teacher and mother of four, I'm worried about my older kids or myself exposing my newborn to the virus. Our first concern has to be everyone's health and well being and providing a safe space for kids and faculty and I don't think we are capable of doing that at this point.
7/21/2020 11:43:12	Poop	Piss	Reddit	Flavortown	I think it is critical to agree with our governor!!! Schools need the time to figure out how to teach school amid this crisis. Our numbers are climbing every day. We need to buy supplies, receive professional development on social emotional needs of our students and families and we need to develop plans to how this will look in each of our buildings. Please delay the reopening of schools. And yes everyone should mask up!
7/21/2020 11:43:14	Chris	Exum	Washburn Rural High S	Topeka	No comment
7/21/2020 11:43:22	Karrie	Biggs	Wilbur Middle School	Wichita	I think school should open on time, but with mandatory mask and other precautions.
7/21/2020 11:43:25	Tula	Shamhart	Usd 435	Abilene	Schools needs to stay closed until after Labor day, or online for the fall semester. As a parent, I don't feel like sending my child to school to wear a face mask for the entire day is the best way to go. How are kids going to hear/understand the teacher, how are you going to keep kids 6 ft away in the halls during passing period. I would feel better if schools went online for the fall, and evaluate for the spring depending on if we have a second round.
7/21/2020 11:43:27	Jill	Haack	Jeds	Olathe	I think it is necessary to close schools to prepare for the new accommodations. I dont think schools should open until the rate of transmission has lowered. We don't know enough about covid 19 to know the long term chronic health risks to students, staff, and families. I also have a lowered immune system, how are you and the district going to keep me and others like me safe. I am far more likely to contract the virus and die from it. My doctor told me to act as if everyone around me has it and take every precaution. I work with 4-7 year olds, they are far more likely to spread germs then an older student or adult. These are my concerns. Also, please remember closing school does not mean no school. Children can learn and will learn remotely. It is not what any of want but to keep everyone safe it seems to be the best alternative.
7/21/2020 11:43:35	Kelsey	Baker		Scott City	Please delay school until last Labor Day for our children and teachers safety. Online would be preferable through the year or until safe.
7/21/2020 11:43:35	Michelle	White	Jefferson West	Meriden	Do not require kids to wear masks!
7/21/2020 11:43:36	Tonya	Applegarth	the children of Kansas--	Pratt	I think each district should have the ability to choose to open in August Or wait until September using the ksde recommendations on staying safe.
					Please fight to keep local control with the local school boards. Every community is different and each student population is unique. This is not a one size fits all--never has been and never should be. I am saddened that this governor has deemed herself the "keeper" of everything and when people do not succumb to her demands, she rules where it hurts all of us the most--with our children. She has separated the two EOs for a reason and it is upsetting that she has put schools in this position. Please vote "NO" on EO 20-58 to give control to local schools to make the decisions based on their own student population and communities.

7/21/2020 11:43:42	Michelle	Sours	Parent if USD250 student	Frontenac,ks kids in Pitt	I am fully in support of Gov. Kelly's order to delay start of school. As a parent and as a paraeducator, I understand that these are extraordinary times and we need to err on the side of caution. Since our county re-opened cases have continued to climb. PHS alone has over 900 students- plus the staff- in one poorly ventilated building. Lakeside Elementary has over 400 students, plus staff. According to research by Georgia Tech, gatherings of those sizes have a greater than 99% chance of at least one person with COVID-19. In years past, I have watched how quickly cold and flu viruses can tear through a school even with the most stringent preventative measures. I am frankly terrified of what could happen to the rate of community spread if we rush into mass gatherings of this size. I am also seriously concerned about availability of the cleaning and sanitation products necessary to contain this virus. Again, we need to err on the side of caution to keep students, staff, and the wider community safe. If we fail here at this point, we risk another broad, devastating shutdown. We also risk our own health and lives.
7/21/2020 11:43:47	Laura	Fix	Grandparent of free state	Lawrence	The governor should not be cancelling all extracurricular school activities between now and sept 8- children need to feel a part of something especially now- coaches have been following all of your rules - masks, temp checks, social distancing - taking this away from them At this time is irresponsible to their overall mental and physical well being - DO NOT let the governor do this to these kids
7/21/2020 11:43:47	Deanna	Perkins	Parent	Wichita	Please do not delay opening schools. My son is severely autistic, barely verbal and was just starting to make huge gains when school closed in March. We tried distance learning but were not successful. He learns in ways that we as parents are not equipped to teach. He has regressed in many educational areas since school closed. Delaying school increases the possibility of further regression for my son. Delaying the school year would also cause districts to redo their already approved calendars, and force families to modify vacations already planned, possibly eliminates much needed breaks during the year, or extend the school year which would shorten summer break in turn. Please do not delay opening schools.
7/21/2020 11:43:47	Kerri	Zorn		Emporia	I support the delay in schools opening. They need more time to prepare and gather information in order to keep everyone safe. We have one son who will be a Junior at Emporia High School.
7/21/2020 11:43:49	Dani	Bichelmeyer		Shawnee	I am hoping to delay the start. I have a new baby at home who I need to pick up from daycare by 4:30. I won't have time to go home and shower. I worry I will carry/spread.
7/21/2020 11:43:55	Sarah	Miller		Abilene	I think public schools need to get back into session in Aug to give our kids the education they deserve as well as the social interaction they need. These kids have been in groups all summer going to sports tourneys, etc, so what's different about them being in a controlled classroom environment? There are measures that can be taken to keep them safe, but keeping them inside for another month gets us nowhere. Parents are already back to work for the most part, so homeschooling isn't an option during the day, which means hours spent in the evenings on schoolwork. We tried this in the spring and the dedication and commitment to it was less than stellar. These kids need to move forward with their education. Let's get them back in school on time. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:43:59	Bradford	Elsten	Family USD 497	Lawrence	The sports teams have demonstrated strong oversight and controls during summer conditioning. I feel that it is important to allow the sports teams to continue to practice for the mental well being of the high school kids. There are certainly more oversight and controls at the high school facilities then there will be if the athletes are all left on there own.
7/21/2020 11:43:59	Malinda	Just		Hillsboro	In favor of executive order 20-58 (delaying the 20-21 K-12 School year)
7/21/2020 11:44:05	Randall	Miller		Gardner	Open school.
7/21/2020 11:44:08	Troy	Gourley		Lawrence	Covid-19 isnt going anywhere. The mortality rate small and going down. Kids arent at risk. Delaying a month will accomplish what? The need to be in school.
7/21/2020 11:44:08	Twaila	Wiley		South Haven	Delaying the start of school during the warmest 3 weeks left of this year does not show forethought. Viruses typically show themselves in winter months and you are leaving no room for this. Nowhere have I read that you are reducing the number of contact hours students are in school, so this makes no sense. Also, masks only work if worn properly which includes not touching the face. People, including children, touch their masks constantly which only serves to spread concentrated contact from the hands!

7/21/2020 11:44:20	Angie	Ratcliff	Sekf	Wellington	<p>Yes please give the schools a bit more time to come up with a good plan that will keep students, staff, and the community safe.</p> <p>Parents want kids back in school. Teachers want kids back in school and I believe kids want to be back in school but we MUST provide a safe environment for them. The Covid cases are on the rise in our county and the age of the persons affected is getting younger and younger.</p> <p>Just give the districts time to get their plans in place. So they need to go three weeks longer in May. Is there anything wrong with that??</p>
7/21/2020 11:44:31	Katelynn	Brown	Edwardsville Elementary	Kansas City	<p>Thank you Governor Kelly for putting aside politics and putting our educators and children first. As a teacher, I am in favor of Executive Order 20-58. In my district, teachers have traditionally reported to work one week before school starts. I don't believe that providing teachers only ONE week to rearrange and for some completely re-think how we teach will be enough. Before students even step foot in the building, teachers will have to be trained on COVID-19 protocol, completely rearrange classrooms and plan out classroom procedures to comply with COVID-19 protocol, as well as complete our yearly mandatory professional development (Bloodborne Pathogens, mandated reporters, etc.)</p> <p>After not being in my art room since March and being told I will most likely be on a cart, I personally need more than a week to fully prepare to educate my students and learn how to properly sanitize supplies to keep my students safe. What I am saying is that teachers are going to need more time for education and guidance on how to teach in-person in a pandemic. Delaying school until after Labor Day, will allow districts more time to get necessary materials to keep students safe when they return, allow teachers more time to receive education on COVID-19 protocols, and will allow superintendents and health officials to continue watching the COVID-19 statistics to make the best decision possible for their district. We CANNOT go back to in-person schooling when the number of cases is increasing at an alarming rate. I desperately want to see my students, but not at the risk of students, staff, and parents getting sick. Thank you for realizing we need more time to prepare for the school year.</p>
7/21/2020 11:44:44	Crista	Dorsey		Emporia	<p>My husband and I are both healthcare professionals and are very concerned about what is being suggested by the governor concerning education. Please vote to uphold your original recommendations and allow districts to go forward with the plans they had worked all summer to implement. This is an extreme over reach by our governor and we believe you, as a body of professional educators, know what is best for the children of Kansas. It makes no sense to delay the start of school and upend entire calendars. Our kids need to be back in school and sports and return to some kind of normalcy and education above all else must be valued again. There is no scientific or medical data that supports this delay. We also ask that you remain committed to no masks for the younger grades. Again as healthcare professionals we think that mandating masks for this age group is ridiculous. Daycares, YMCA's, CDC's across the country have been operating without masks or social distancing throughout this whole pandemic without any outbreaks. Children are extremely unlikely to spread this virus.</p> <p>We would appreciate you taking a stand for the children of Kansas!!</p>
7/21/2020 11:44:48	Melinda	Ham		Clay Center	<p>While I understand parents need to get children back to school, I feel that the safety of staff and students should come first. The thought that children are going to return to school wearing masks is a joke. The masks will be a huge distraction that will actually hinder learning. Children are not going to social distance. If there is concern about spread, this needs to be taken into consideration.</p>
7/21/2020 11:44:49	Lisa	Deal	Teacher	Dodge City	<p>Please keep school closed til Sept 9. Give us a chance to have the best plans in place for our students so we can teach them live or virtually, their choice. Give us the ability to get all safety procedures in place and train all teachers how to respond to cases or quarantine. We want to be back—but we want to be back safely and prepared for our kids!!!!</p>
7/21/2020 11:44:51	Lori	Halfhide		Concordia	<p>Please delay school until after Labor Day. It's not worth risking our children.</p>

7/21/2020 11:44:52	Rachel	Reisig	Geary County Public Schools	Junction City	I support executive order 58 from Governor Kelly to push back the start date of schools. As a public school teacher in Kansas, watching the number of COVID-19 cases rise is very worrisome. We know that COVID spreads easily and will spread in schools to not only kids, but the teachers and staff as well. While the mortality rate is low for kids we need to think about them spreading it to the school staff and their loved ones who may be older and/or immunocompromised. Mortality isn't the only thing we should be worried about. We have seen cases where individuals have very long, tough recoveries with a chance of lifelong ailments as a result. I urge you to support this executive order and protect Kansas kids, families, and school staff.
7/21/2020 11:44:52	Dena	Johnston	Parent	Lawrence	I approve of the delay, if not continued delay of schools until safety measures and or a cure is in place.
7/21/2020 11:44:53	Wadona	Henson	USD 226	MEADE	I stand with the governor. As a parent and a teacher, I want to know that the safety of my self and my students are top priority. Masks and social distance measures need to be enforced. The school delay gives us as educators time to learn the measures and prepare our classrooms to be the safest we can make them.
7/21/2020 11:44:54	Chris	Hamman	Parent (SMSD) Instructor	Lenexa	VOTE YES!! I implore you to sign off on the executive order delaying schools. As a parent in Shawnee Mission and an educator in Kansas City, KS I am very concerned about bringing everyone together even with precautions (which we all know won't happen as they should). We need more time to prepare for this. Please vote yes on Governor Kelly's order.
7/21/2020 11:44:59	Robin	Grathwohl		Hiawatha	Please get these kids back to school. They mentally need it. We are so far behind because of the shut down last year. If we don't get them back to school they will just keep falling behind.
7/21/2020 11:45:07	Brock	Gann		Lenexa	Put our kids back in school ASAP
7/21/2020 11:45:12	Todd	Caudle	Students of Atchison Co	Atchison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Local school districts are better positioned to know if they should start on time</li> <li>•Kids need to be in school, there are many negative consequences to not going back. (Depression, lack of supervision, lack of motivation, etc.)</li> <li>•It could be better to start early, to give the flexibility to wind up classes by Thanksgiving</li> <li>•Many surrounding states are going back at normal time or giving kids an option and Kansas can accomplish this too: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Colorado Aug 17th In-Person or virtual</li> <li>2. Iowa July 1 Normal activities</li> <li>3. Missouri Local level, encouraged to open on time</li> <li>4. Nebraska, Local level, Omaha starting on Aug 11th</li> <li>5. Oklahoma, Local Level, OKC on time and virtual choice.</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p>Kansans can adapt and overcome the challenges of being ready for a normal August start time. Trust the people of Kansas to rise to the occasion. Remember that "Kansas leads the world in the success of each student."</p>
7/21/2020 11:45:17	Sarah	Wernecke		Talmage	Online school until it blows over
7/21/2020 11:45:19	Houston	Clearwater		Emporia	Do not open schools until there are at a minimum 14 days of no new cases of covid 19. Alternatively if you do open schools, teachers should be compensated with some form of hazardous environment pay.
7/21/2020 11:45:24	Zetta	Harshaw	Self	Lawrence	The kids are going crazy with all the social distancing and not being able to really hang out. It's causing a lot of major depression and some kids and also suicide. Wearing all the mask in the world doesn't matter because if we're still going to get it then we're going to get it. It can't be prevented. This is just a time for everyone to eat healthier and take better care of themselves. But school should start back regular as it always has. Because Even being quarantine people still have to go to the store and in that moment they could catch the virus and bring it home so either way we're not gonna be safe completely. It's better to just go ahead and live life, and try to be as normal as possible. I think school should open right back up the way it always has for years. Sports should go forward, Because with or without this virus life will still go on.
7/21/2020 11:45:27	Lori	Rowe		Topeka	Please support the governor's order for delaying the start of school. I don't think it is safe or wise to start school while our state's cases are rising. The later start date will also give the teachers and the entire staff time to get things ready for the students.

7/21/2020 11:45:28	Storm	Shaw	Blue Valley Southwest	Overland Park	As much as I love being with my students, I am terrified of being in a room with potentially Infected people. If we are expected to go back to school then a delay would at least allow us to be better prepared to handle things safely once we do return. Please consider the safety of the adult teachers that have to be in close quarters with the students who could be infected.
7/21/2020 11:45:45	Bryn	Mosbarger		Goodland	We do not support the decision to delay school. I am not going to ramble on about the low percentage of children affected by coronavirus because you already know this. These children need to be in school.
7/21/2020 11:45:46	Harmony	Gerlach		Newton	I think delaying the start of the school year is not only best for the safety of our students, teachers, and school staff but it also allows for schools to truly find out what their residents want and need and can work to make it happen in a way that is best for everyone. If we push to start on time schools will be scrambling to make any adjusted schedules work and that puts more unneeded stress on teachers and parents (who will need to come up with childcare for any kind of hybrid schedule).
7/21/2020 11:45:47	Donna	Calderon	USD 497	308 Sharon Dr.	We need to have physical contact with our students. We need to have brick and mortar schools. This is how my students learn best. This is how they engage in learning and form relationships with their teachers.
7/21/2020 11:45:55	Natalie	Hopper		Overland Park	Please do not delay let's get started
7/21/2020 11:45:56	Emily	Crabtree	USD 257	Iola	I get that there are no good options when facing the school year. As a teacher I want my students safe but I know that home is not safe for many of my students. I want them to feel safe but online learning is not feasible in a district where 40% of our kids do not have access to internet. My district leaders often take to heart the guidelines that are provided to us (we were the only district locally that prescribed to the less is more and grades not dropping advice during continuous learning) as such they have been waiting until we received guideline to start mailing final plans for the year. Leaving teachers and staff with 2 weeks to prepare for all scenarios before our regular start date. All I ask is that if your votes are against the delay please make it possible for those that need to delay if needed.
7/21/2020 11:45:57	Katie	Loughmiller	My family	Manhattan	I fully support the delayed start of school to allow our teachers and staff the time to develop effective ways to teach our students during this pandemic.
7/21/2020 11:46:04	Lacy	Ralston		Colby	I am a teacher, and I fully support delaying the start of school. I understand how important it is for students to be in school. However, I also feel it is imperative that our doors not open until we can insure that all schools can provide a safe and healthy environment for our students, teachers, and staff. The delay will give adequate time for schools to put safety measures in place as well as allow teachers time to adjust their learning plans and classroom design to better support those safety measures while still providing the learning experience our students need. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:46:05	Dorian	Graham		Wichita	I believe schools and school activities should begin and proceed as planned. The implementation of masks, hand sanitizer and social distancing should be the measures put in place, not pausing school. At the least, private schools should be allowed the freedom to operate separate from the order, should it pass. Freedom of choice for our children's education is one of the reasons we choose private school. It should apply to this order as well.
7/21/2020 11:46:19	Sherry	Eklund		Kingman	No you CANNOT make me or my kids wear a mask! It is not safe!!!!
7/21/2020 11:46:33	Rhonda	Teater	Grandparents for normal	Kansas City ks	Open school on time and stop pushing it back. Let each school district decide what to do. Enough of this nonsense-educate our children and stop teaching them fear!

					<p>As a teacher, I have been apprehensive about returning to school. When Governor Kelly announced the postponement of school until after Labor Day and mandated safety precautions within schools, I breathed a sigh of relief. When I realized the following day that the state school board could reverse Gov. Kelly's orders, my anxiety returned.</p> <p>The delay makes sense. The required safety precautions make sense. School district administrators, teachers, and other district employees need the time to make sure their schools can open safely and implement KSDE's guidelines to the best of their ability. Now that the guidelines are available, schools need time to effectively implement them. This is not a situation that we can enter into without proper planning and preparation.</p> <p>I care about my students and look forward to seeing them again, but it is because I care about their well-being that I want to return to school only after proper safety precautions are put in place. Doing otherwise would risk the health and lives of all who enter the doors of our Kansas schools.</p> <p>Please support Governor Kelly's executive orders.</p>
7/21/2020 11:46:42	Rebecca	Knowles		Kansas City	
7/21/2020 11:46:43	Stacia	Weilert	School teacher	Hutchinson	<p>Our schools have no way to realistically keep students apart, therefore, we KNOW people will get sick and some will inevitably die. You wouldn't let other crowds congregate, why us? We closed school in March with far fewer cases, why open them with more?</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
7/21/2020 11:46:44	Lisa	Glover	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita KS	<p>Numbers in Sedgwick Co are continuing to climb and our hospitals are filling up. I am a teacher recovering from a serious cancer diagnosis and my husband is also high risk. I do not believe delaying school will be something kids cannot recover from but being exposed to covid will be something they or their families may not recover from. Please listen to common sense - there is enough trauma in schools already without adding more stressed out children to what we already have. Academics don't mean more than the lives of students and staff. We as a society need to step up.</p>
7/21/2020 11:46:46	Erika	Saleski	Parent of public school	Prairie Village	<p>I fully support the Executive Order to delay the start date of schools. Our public health - the health of our teachers, students, families and all KS citizens - must be our first priority. With rising infection rates in KS, the state and local school districts need more time to plan and prepare for opening schools safely. This is the best course of action right now.</p>
7/21/2020 11:46:52	Alcinda	Daniels	Myself	Near Lecompton	<p>Thank you so much for your wisdom and care when dealing with our loved ones during this pandemic. I value and trust your judgement. Thank goodness you side with science and facts and care more about human life than our current president.</p>
7/21/2020 11:46:52	Kristina	Roberts		Junction City	<p>Thank you for protecting our children and our teachers. We closed school when there were far less cases than now and it seems so unsafe sending them in the middle of a pandemic for a full week 7 hours a day.</p>
7/21/2020 11:46:53	Jamie	Gabriel	Free State High School	Lawrence	<p>2020 has been tumultuous. Our student athletes have been disappointed and discouraged. But these teens remain patient and hopeful that they will have a fall sports season. I support the governors plan to delay in person classroom instruction until Sept 9th but ask that you please consider allowing fall sports teams to practice ahead of the school start. Staff, coaches and players all understand the seriousness of Covid 19 and are being careful and vigilant about screening and health. Please allow fall sports teams to meet for conditioning, workouts and practice. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 11:47:08	Stefani	Prieto		Garden city	<p>I think school should be online until after christmas break. It will help everyone get over flu season as well. It may also give everyone time to adjust to new rules schools will have.</p>
7/21/2020 11:47:12	Darlene	Koger		Lawrence	<p>Schools should stay closed. Eventually opening in stages. Small groups of at risk students first, then add half sized classes of primary grades only, add half classes intermediate grades, etc. Middle and high school should only be for at risk, special education, and courses that require hands on like labs .</p>
7/21/2020 11:47:16	Angela	Rogers	Parent of two students.	Shawnee	<p>I am writing to ask the board members to support the delay of opening K-12 schools until after Labor Day.</p>

7/21/2020 11:47:16	Lisa	Gering		Lawrence	I fully support the governor's order for schools to remain closed until at least September 8th as well as the safety procedures she recommends that need to be in place to reduce risk for our children, educators and school employees.
7/21/2020 11:47:17	Sarah	Kloster	Do not delay the school	Fort riley	SEND THE KIDD BACK TO SCHOOL
7/21/2020 11:47:23	Sara	Barber	KCKPS	Kansas City	I think an added three weeks not only gives school time to prepare but also allows the mask mandate time to see if it can mitigate the spread of the virus. At this point we are only going up in not only positive cases, but also deaths. It seems absurd to push students and staff of schools to put themselves at risk when there is clearly an evidence-based precedent that masks can, and if adhered to, will reduce the spread of Covid 19.
7/21/2020 11:47:27	Melissa	Dempsey		Lawrence	Please do NOT start school in the fall! For the sake of the teachers, children, and our families, USE SOME SENSE. Do what is RIGHT, for goodness sakes!!!
7/21/2020 11:47:29	Kathryn	Nielsen	myself	Sylvan Grove	I think that waiting until the rising of cases has slowed down is a good idea...and hopefully that will work for 9/8...I am tired of the most important part of school being sports and those schedules...would rather kids be doing more in humanities and so forth...what about more history so they aren't idiots like the president on this subject. I think students could do for one year without sports or just do winter semester sports this year. Seems like Football and Volleyball are more dangerous for sharing Covid. I'm a grandmother and I would like to see testing before people have to go back to school. If the President and sports players can have tests, then students, teachers and other school employees should be just as important if not more so...these people are our future.
7/21/2020 11:47:29	Joni	Braddock		Manhattan	I can't possibly understand why the school's starting after labor day would be a problem. It gives Manhattan a chance to see what the covid numbers are after all the college students return. We have a 10 yr old grandson living with us and we both have underlying conditions. I worked at our high school until Jan 2020 when I retired and I know from experience that it's impossible to keep that big school sanitary. Way too many students and way too much space. How are the desks going to be sanitized between every hour so that they are safe for the next student coming in. Seems like there is going to be more cleaning than class time!
7/21/2020 11:47:30	David Day	Day	Usd 453	Leavenworth	Students need to return to school sooner rather than later. Online learning does not work for all of Kansas kids. Many low income students don't have access to internet or parent to help them. It's not because parents can't but because they don't have the time with returning to work.
7/21/2020 11:47:44	Robert	Davidson	Self	Ottawa	Dont open until there is a vaccine or no new cases for two weeks.
7/21/2020 11:47:46	Carrie	Reece		Rozel	With an extremely low rate of child to adult and child to child transmission, there is NO evidence to support forcing our children to wear a mask. This is not feasible for students. If you have ever set foot in a classroom, you know this to be true. The evidence on the effectiveness of masks is also not clearly showing justification for wearing them. Please let our children have some normalcy in their lives. The risks of Covid to students is MUCH less than what we are doing to them with all this nonsense.
7/21/2020 11:47:46	Alicia	Stremick	my family	Overland Park	I hope that the first day of school is delayed. I believe the schools should have to show how they are going to accommodate social distancing and other guidelines to prevent the spread of covid-19 prior to the schools opening. I am especially concerned about my middle school child- students at that age may purposefully try to break the guidelines. He has relatively severe asthma and would be at a higher risk if he caught a respiratory disease. I am also concerned about students bringing home covid-19 to family members. I do think in-school education is needed, but it also must be safe. I think a part-time option would be a good way to mitigate the risk. My daughter is supposed to have 27 students in her small classroom this year which very much concerns me.
7/21/2020 11:47:47	Whitney	Endres	The Endres Famil	Overland Park	As a parent of both elementary and high school students, these kids need school. The American Board of Pediatrics says so, and I stand with them. The emotional toll it is taking on teenagers specifically is high. I am not whining about childcare, but just the well being of their mental health. Even if it's not every day, they need some time at school each week. Even well adjusted teens were struggling with online school. Praying for you all in your decision making.



7/21/2020 11:47:49	Sherry	Wolf	USD 293 public school,	Quinter, Ks	Please let the school year be a normal one, the kids are the ones who are suffering the most and yet the least affected. They will have been out of school for 6 mo if wait til after Labor Day to start, that is WAY too long. Just doesn't work for a lot of moms to do virtual school so let's just get back to a normal year. Our community is small, 900 people and we haven't been affected much at all, don't treat us like the big areas, it's different here, we are already isolated. Thank you!!
7/21/2020 11:47:56	Cynthia	Tilden	USD 480	Liberal	I am very glad the governor is delaying school opening until Sept. 9. Liber has seen an increase in the virus as well as the entire state as I understand it. It will be hard enough packed in to rooms with kids and getting them to comply with masks and such as it is without exposing is all before need be. Yes, the kids need to be back at school but not at the expense of student or staff lives.
7/21/2020 11:48:01	Karen	Henderson		Salina	Start school on time!!!! I do not support delaying the start of schools. They have had since last school year to start making accommodations for extra safety measures and different learning platforms.
7/21/2020 11:48:02	Patricia	Gau		13901 Flint Street, Over	Thank you for your service to Kansans and our community.I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening. I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following: Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities. In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions. This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense. Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.
7/21/2020 11:48:04	Kathrine	Tuiasosopo	My family	Manhattan	I am thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading us through the Covid-19 pandemic. Please delay and allow this spike to plateau
7/21/2020 11:48:09	Beth	Beall	Myself	Wichita, KS	Has anyone thought about outdoor classes? Instead of making kids sit behind plexiglass and wear masks, maybe have class outside? I don't like the fact that kids will not have any type of outdoor time at all. Is this something that can be considered since we are being told when you are inside, the virus spreads more than outside? They can still physical distance the kids, even have classes 3 days outside, 2 days online. Or even have classes inside but have all windows and doors open? Just a thought.
7/21/2020 11:48:11	Robyn	Gennett		Abilene	Hello, I am writing to you on the Governors' orders to mandate masks in schools. This is the first year my child will go to school and I am terrified of these mandates for them. I am terrified for the kids who are already shy and are now being told to wear a mask, how are they are going to speak up in class when called upon. How is a teacher supposed to teach 1st grade when kids playing with their masks and constantly touching there face, removing it, it'll be a huge distraction in school as well.We are treating children like they are our biggest threat when in fact they are not a threat at all. We are causing more harm to our children than this virus could ever do. I think people are forgetting that last year was one of the worst flu seasons in our schools but until the media came out and put fear into our lives and started to talk about COVID did the panic start. Last winter schools had a month where attendance was low due to the "flu" and we didn't need to put any extreme measures into places like masks or temperature checks. Please stand against this dangerous agenda which is being pushed upon the children and the whole population. There is NO need for our children to have these extreme mandates by our governor in our schools. Let school start on time, let the kids have some sort of normalcy. If you push back now who's to even say if they will allow our kids to go to school at all this year.
7/21/2020 11:48:16	Katie	Mitzner	None	Osawatomic	I believe the schools need more time to safely prepare the schools and develop a plan that will be successful for all kids attending whether that be in-person or home-based.

7/21/2020 11:48:23	Rebecca	Harris	None	Spring Hill	Open schools with a normal mid-August start date with both in-person and on-line options. This preserves the constituents rights to select the best option for their family and allows for the best educational opportunity. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 11:48:30	Deena	Sharpe		Scott City	We can't keep sacrificing our children's educations! They need the social interaction and physical interaction with their peers and teachers! It has not only affected my kids but several others emotionally, psychologically, and mentally! And physically! If you keep children out any longer thing of the ones who don't have loving homes! The ones who have been subjected to abuse for the past 4-6 months. Or have gone without food because their parents simply do not care.! And DO NOT REQUIRE masks!!! If you require masks the school districts shall be responsible for supplying them! As not all families have the means to afford them. Or simply put. I'm not going to make my children wear masks at school!
7/21/2020 11:48:37	Jennifer	DeHaven		Olathe	I am a first grade teacher and a parent. I'm scared. Please, I beg you to honor the Governor's proposed delay to the start of the school year.
7/21/2020 11:48:45	June	Trieb	Substitute teacher	Wichita	Schools need to open. Teachers and students who don't feel safe have the freedom to stay home.
7/21/2020 11:48:46	Angie	DalBello	USD232	Prairie Village	Delaying the start of the school year until matter Labor Day is the SMART and SAFE thing to do. The health of students and faculty at schools IS NOT worth the risk of starting schools in Kansas too early. Covid cases are increasing in Kansas, we should not be putting large numbers of people together in indoor spaces. Use science to guide decision making about when and how to open Kansas schools.
7/21/2020 11:48:48	Melissa	Hebron		Wichita	Open schools after Labor Day
7/21/2020 11:48:50	Ashleigh	Darnell		Emporia	Please don't open schools without 14 days no new cases to further ensure the health and safety of staff and students. Teachers are scared.
7/21/2020 11:48:52	Jessica	Michaelis	Mother of USD 329 stud	Maple Hill	I am ok with delaying school opening until after Labor Day IF the main reason is to help schools better prepare themselves for reopening due to increased restrictions or requirements due to COVID. I am not ok with delaying school simply because positive cases have increased. My kids want to go back to school but not if it means it will be like being in a prison!
7/21/2020 11:49:06	Nicole	Caravella	SMSD Parent	Prairie Village	I completely agree with the delayed start of school. We need to see these numbers going down before we can even consider any version or variation of in person schooling. I'm %1000 in favor of remote learning. Even if numbers start going down there are too many unknowns and it's not worth risking the lives of our children or our teachers and staff. I do feel that private schools should be included in this mandate as they are in Texas.
7/21/2020 11:49:07	Andrea	Young	Usd 305 and parent	Salina	As an educator and parent, I want school to begin and be done with Covid. However, I do not feel safe myself nor safe sending my kids. This public health threat is not going away and my 2 kids and I will be in the mix of 1,000+ people everyday.
7/21/2020 11:49:11	Jodi	Dineen	Lawrence Frer State Foo	Lawrence, Ks	I would like the kids to be able to practice before school starting in Sept. if parents are comfortable with it then I think kids should be able to practice! If there is going to be school then there should be sports and fall sports kids can be ready so the whole sports schedule doesn't get messed up! If things change then we can be flexible! Thank you!
7/21/2020 11:49:14	Jason	Cohorst	Shawnee fathers	Shawnee	We'd like the kids to go back to school sooner than later! They need it

7/21/2020 11:49:14	TERRA	MOON	PARENT	DERBY	<p>I THINK THE DELAY IN THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR ALLOWS FOR SCHOOLS TO PREPARE FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING AND REQUIRING PPE. IT ALSO ALLOWS FOR TIME TO IMPLEMENT THE ONLINE SCHOOL PROGRAM, ALLOWING THOSE WHO FEEL UNSAFE, OR IMMUNE COMPROMISED, A CHANCE TO LEARN FROM THE SAFETY OF THEIR HOMES. IT CAN EVEN ALLOW TEACHERS WHO ARE ALSO AT HIGH RISK TO CONTINUE TEACHING REMOTELY FOR THE ONLINE KIDS.</p> <p>I BELIEVE THE HYBRID SYSTEM SHOULD BE SCHEDULED. IF WE USE STATISTICAL DATA, WE CAN ROUGHLY ESTIMATE THIS TIME AND LET PARENTS, EMPLOYERS, AND TEACHERS PREPARE. IF WE DON'T NEED IT, WE CANCEL HYBRID AT THE SCHEDULED TIME OF. IMPLEMENTING A HYBRID SCHEDULE LAST MINUTE CAUSES WORKING PARENTS TO SUDDENLY REDUCE THEIR SCHEDULE AND POSSIBLY EVEN LOSE THEIR JOB. HIGH STRESS AND LOW PLANNING ON THE TEACHERS. MAJOR STAFF SHORTAGES AT EMPLOYMENT SITES, INCLUDING HEALTHCARE LIKE MYSELF WHERE OUT OF FIVE OF US THERE WOULD BE 3 NO LONGER WORKING A FULL WEEK IF AT ALL. WE HAVE SPECIALIZED CAREERS PREVENTING ANYONE UNLICENSED OR WITHOUT TRAINING TO STEP IN AND DO THIS JOB EASILY. A SCHEDULED HYBRID ALLOWS FOR PLANNING AND HIRING OF ADDITIONAL STAFF, MAYBE MOVING JOBS THAT WORKS WITH HYBRID HOURS, OR EVEN PLANNING FINANCIALLY TO BE WITHOUT AN INCOME. I AM FORTUNATE THAT WE WOULD LIKELY GET BY JUST FINE BUT MANY WONT WITHOUT INCOME. A SINGLE PARENT CAN NOT NAVIGATE A SUDDEN CHANGE SUCH AS THIS. WE NEED TO BE INFORMED AND PREPARED. THANK YOU FOR THESE CONSIDERATIONS.</p>
7/21/2020 11:49:16	Shawna	Allen		Olathe	Please delay school to allow teachers and staff to prepare to safely reopen. As a parent, I do not feel confident that the school districts have fully prepared to safely reopen and am concerned about the safety of my children, their teachers, school staff and their families. As a substitute teacher for the Olathe school district, I will not feel comfortable returning without some sort of training on how to keep myself and students safe. At this time Olathe has not offered any such training.
7/21/2020 11:49:19	Alexa	Jimenez-Juarez		Topeka	I think the interest of teachers and students need to be kept in mind. I urge you to delay the opening of the 2020-2021 academic school year.
7/21/2020 11:49:22	Eric	Rogers	Parent of students	Shawnee	I think the school delay should stand, and be extended until the health & safety related to covid can properly handled for all those in the community.
7/21/2020 11:49:23	Ally	Galbraith	Olathe moms	Olathe	Don't postpone school.
7/21/2020 11:49:23	Mallory	Lovell		Basehor-Linwood	I urge you to side with the Governor on delaying schools until after Labor Day. I am concerned as a mother, wife, and teacher. My husband is at a higher risk due to his autoimmune disorder. His office is not allowing people in the office until after January of 2021. I wish schools would follow a similar suit. Thanks for your consideration.
7/21/2020 11:49:28	Angela	Shaw		Pittsburg	As a medical professional, I advise that school opening be delayed. It makes sense to allow time for appropriate planning. Rushing to get school started in a haphazard way, is not a good idea for anyone.
7/21/2020 11:49:32	Laura	Leeper	Parent	Overland Park	Please delay opening schools until it can be done right. I know that most of you are conservative and feel that you will best represent YOUR voters by opening on time. But it is your job to represent EVERYONE. Imagine how you will feel WHEN the first person dies because you chose politics over logic and science.

7/21/2020 11:49:35	Ryan	Disbrow	Class of 2020	Garnett	<p>First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas.</p> <p>Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <p>Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan  No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</p> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>I am one of the over 6,200 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay.</p> <p>We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know that you have our support.</p>
7/21/2020 11:49:40	Katherine	Olson	Middle School Teacher	OLATHE	<p>Dear School Officials,</p> <p>I have stood by and supported all of your decisions the last 25 years of my career, even those which I may have seen as questionable. Now, teachers and students need you to support them and keep them safe. I fear teaching only via remote, but I fear dying or being isolated from my family due to exposure more. My mother lives with my husband and I, and my brother who visits is high risk. We have spent the summer keeping safe, and in one move by you, I may be spending the school year in our basement isolated to protect them. Please delay school and give our state time to figure it out. Teaching is my passion, but illness and death are not worth the risk.</p> <p>Educator, Mom to 3 teenagers, wife, daughter, and sister,  Kathy Olson</p>
7/21/2020 11:49:41	Jaysen	Prophet	My Family	Wichita	<p>Do not delay public schools from opening in August! Our kids are not in a high risk group for this virus and studies have proven over and over again that they not at risk.</p>
7/21/2020 11:49:41	John	Williams	Public School	Wichita	<p>I believe that this situation cannot have a one-size-fits-all approach. Every district is different and every district is facing their own problems. Counties like Harvey cannot be treated or punished because of Sedgwick county mistakes. Let every district decide for themselves when they can see students.</p>
7/21/2020 11:49:49	Tiffany	Smith	Tracher	Olathe	<p>Please delay start of school for the safety of my newborn baby, my husband with a compromised immune system due to cancer, myself, and my students and their families.</p>
7/21/2020 11:50:06	Amanda	Nelson		Benton	<p>I do not support executive orders that cover all areas regardless of specific risk factors or other considerations.</p>
7/21/2020 11:50:13	Eden	Detrixhe		Lawrence	<p>Many parents are thankful for the extra weeks Governor Kelly has given school districts to prepare plans, staff, and supplies for school during a pandemic. The time also allows the contagion rate to decrease where it has spiked. Her decision was a good one.</p>

7/21/2020 11:50:14	Brooke	Clements	My children and their te	Olathe	I am FOR delaying the opening of school. Cases in Johnson County are currently on the rise and we have been given no information on a plan for what should happen when cases are on the rise in certain areas. We have also been given little to no information on what in person school will look like and what remote learning will look like. I am very disappointed in many of the leaders in Kansas right now. Why has no plan been put out to the public yet? Why are we not listening to science? Why do rising numbers of cases seem to not matter to people? These are our kids and teachers health that seem to be on the line! My own children are all aged 10 and older, which from some research I've read recently is the age that is more likely to pass Covid to adults. Do teachers and their health not matter to people? Cases should be on a downward trend before in person school takes place. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 11:50:14	Frances	Garman	My children	Spring Hill	I urge you to please uphold Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school openings. My daughter is a senior this year and also has special needs. I am hoping this time will give the schools the opportunity to get things in place and also that the wearing of masks will help numbers start to drop so that I feel comfortable sending my daughter into the school to enjoy her SENIOR year.  I just want to add that I have not had a lot of confidence in our school district and their plans to start school on August 12th. With Governor Kelly's Order, they have the teachers still starting in August and I feel this extra time will give the teachers the time to safely set up their classrooms.  On top of all this, our school district has already send out an email saying that September 8th will be the start date and now they are saying that it could change back. That is completely irresponsible and inconsiderate! Please give us the extra time for the masks to take hold and teachers to get their room set up.  Thank you for your consideration!
7/21/2020 11:50:25	Chloe	Skidmore	Berean Academy	Newton KS	The governments job is to protect my freedom not to protect my health. This is an abuse of power.
7/21/2020 11:50:30	D	Smith		Gower	Either delay the start of school or do distance learning for first quarter. That is the third option. It does not have to be either we start if delay. We could start as planned but only online with the hopes that the health situation will improve.
7/21/2020 11:50:51	Kari and Eric	Hess	USD253	Emporia	Staged approach with science based decisions. Please take into consideration not all buildings are equipped for social distancing options. I believe Eastern District needs to take this into consideration when making the decision.
7/21/2020 11:50:52	Angela	Zugelder		Spring Hill	Keep schools closed until it is safe for them in the classroom!

7/21/2020 11:50:52	Robin	Wolgast	My children	Topeka	<p>While there are some unknowns regarding the lasting physical/neurological effects of Covid-19 on recovered children and adults, we know that such long-term damage is occurring. While there are some unknowns regarding a child's ability to contract and transmit Covid-19, we know (through a recently released study of 65,000 people in South Korea) that children aged 10 and older transmit the virus as efficiently as adults. While there are still some unknowns regarding the transmission of Covid-19 through surface contact, we know that the virus is primarily an airborne disease, and that its active particles linger in the air long after an infected individual has left the area. I have yet to see a school-opening plan that includes HVAC upgrades; I suspect most school facilities in our state have HVAC systems that would need to be completely replaced in order to ensure that we aren't simply re-circulating Covid-19 particles. I have yet to hear what level of hazard pay and other disability allowances will be made for teachers and staff – how will you replace them during their 2-week quarantines? Our local ERs were at capacity last winter with influenza patients – how will they handle Covid cases on top of that? (And how does Covid-19 interact with Influenza in those who are exposed to both? I fear we will find out in a few months.) Finally, how do we reassure taxpayers in these school districts -- many of whom are elderly – regarding the nightmare scenario of our children carrying the virus back to their neighborhoods? As a mother of 3 school-aged children, I know kids learn best with in-person instruction; but Kansas school districts are simply not prepared to welcome students, teachers, and staff back safely to brick-and-mortar school sites.</p> <p>Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this difficult issue.</p>
7/21/2020 11:51:08	A	W	USD 232	Overland Park	<p>Delaying school until after Labor Day would allow school districts to purchase the necessary PPE equipment to keep school staff safe. Even by delaying this decision until July 22 you have inevitably set school districts back by yet another week. That is a week wasted, which could have been used for ordering supplies and finalizing district plans. Unfortunately, several of the people making these huge decisions haven't been a teacher, let alone in a school for a number of years. PLEASE, listen to the teachers. We are certified professionals, we know what we need in order to be safe at work, and it's time we are taken seriously. It's time we are allowed a voice when it comes to our health and safety, instead of being treated like submissive robots who "do it for the kids".</p>
7/21/2020 11:51:26	Fernanda	Jasso	parent	olathe	i do not feel safe with sending my kids to school with the covid situation i feel like it way to soon to be sending our kids to school
7/21/2020 11:51:32	Cj	Stremick	Concerned Parent	Overland Park, KS	Please do not rush opening schools.
7/21/2020 11:51:35	Shirley	Brogna	Myself	Olathe	I support Governor Kelly's mandates to delay opening of schools until after Labor Day & to implement safety protocols.
7/21/2020 11:51:38	Tabitha	schlack		fort riley	I am wondering why remote elearning cannot begin for everyone on aug 17th and the brick and mortar classes be offered in Sept as instructed by the governor? I feel there's no reason at the very minimum that the elearning cannot begin. Most students still have their laptops and for any new students needing one, y'all could set a date and time and have a drive up to sign one out. No one would even need to set foot inside the school, masks and gloves worn for distribution. Yes its ONLY 3 weeks difference but I think that 3 weeks of atleast elearning would help the kids so more much than just waiting and not doing anything.
7/21/2020 11:51:42	Kathy	McBride	USD 447	Cherryvale	Please support & approve the executive order to delay the start of school.

					<p>I am in favor of Kansas schools not starting until after Labor Day in accordance with Governor Kelly's executive order. I plan to send my child to in-person school, but it's neither prudent nor smart to send students or teachers and staff back before we can safely do so. One child, teacher, or staff member ill or is dead one too many. From a Kansas State Board of Education perspective, it seems that the overall Board would agree that it is not yet safe to have school in-person as the Board's meeting tomorrow is a remote meeting, and the group is choosing not to meet in-person.</p> <p>I hope that you and the rest of the Board continue to put everyone's safety and health as a top priority by keeping schools closed for a few more weeks, and allow the school districts to use the added time in August to unpack the latest information and guidance on how to open safely. Each district will be different, and while there must remain local control, the opening must be well-planned and take into consideration all controllable aspects of a pandemic that is out of control. I urge you to please support the Governor's recommendation.</p>
7/21/2020 11:51:53	Robert	Bowlin	myself	Lenexa	
7/21/2020 11:51:59	Ashley	Fagan		Topeka	Schools should not be delayed. This is a disservice to our children.
7/21/2020 11:52:07	Taryn	Whitmore	USD 475	Manhattan	As a second grade teacher I ask you to please delay the opening of schools until after Labor Day. I feel this is what is needed to keep students and teachers safe during this time. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:52:10	Susie	Gilson		Olathe	<p>PLEASE keep the schools closed for at least the fall semester --- re-evaluate in late October for the spring. My daughter is a teacher and already has severe asthma, if she contracts this disease, it would most definitely land her in the hospital. My mother lives with me, shes 78 and has COPD. If my daughter is in a school classroom everyday, I will not be able to see her at all due to the threat to my mother.</p> <p>PLEASE keep the schools closed this fall!</p>
7/21/2020 11:52:15	Meghan	Evans	Parent of a usd 450 stud	Topeka	I support the EO made by the governor to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. Our teachers, administrators and us as parents, need that extra time to get plans in place and work all the kinks out. Not only is it not safe to return to school right now, but even if it was, school districts are not ready to go "live" with their "draft" plans. They (we) all need that extra few weeks!
7/21/2020 11:52:25	Taunya	Westerman		Isabel	Our kids need to be in class learning and being with their peers. They need sports and education and being IN the classroom. We do more harm with their mental health by keeping them out. We do more harm to high schoolers by them not being college ready because they will be behind or overloaded at home with no help. We happen to have very slow internet because we only have 1 option for internet because we live in the country. We have trained our kids into sitting in a classroom and having access to teachers in the room. Changing that on high schoolers isn't helping them its hurting them. I want my kids in class. I watched them the last 8 weeks of last school year. For kids that do fairly well to struggling and wanting to throw in the towel. I know my kids aren't the only ones who felt that way. Kids need to be with other kids. The low numbers of cases in kids shouldn't prevent opening.
7/21/2020 11:52:25	Lesley	Dillon		Fort Leavenworth	I fully support Governor Kelly. She has handled the pandemic response remarkably well. When things go south in Kansas, it has only been because of interference from the far-right political wing. A virus shouldn't be political and I appreciate how Governor Kelly makes decisions based on science and advice from medical experts. She has Kansans best interests at heart, even when the decisions are difficult and unpopular. I could not be happier that she is at the helm during these unprecedented times.
7/21/2020 11:52:41	Brittney	Scott		Goodland	I would like to see each school district decide what is best for them. I think sometimes people in Eastern Kansas, don't realize that it's not the same as Western Kansas. Sherman County only had 9 cases of COVID-19 and no one was hospitalized or passed away.

					<p>I have many concerns about delaying in-person school, several of which I will very briefly lay out below.</p> <p>First, COVID-19 simply doesn't pose the risk to children that it does to other Americans, nor do children spread COVID-19 to adults like adult-to-adult contact does. Thus, especially for K-5 children, the risk of transmission is quite low if schools take appropriate precautions to distance staff from one another.</p> <p>Second, the children need the structure, support, and education they receive from in-person learning. Not only are they missing academics, but they are missing crucial other contributors to their development while not in school – gross motor, fine motor, social development, and emotional development. While some of these can be done at home, the reality is that many working parents do not have the time and/or resources to devote to full-time homeschool and supervision, nor are there nearly as many opportunities for socialization and play right now due to COVID-19 shutdowns.</p> <p>Third, as an attorney who has significant experience in child welfare law, I know that there are many children who are being abused and neglected in their homes without the watchful eyes provided by school mandated reporters. Without that regular “welfare check,” I am very concerned that many children will suffer and/or die. I am already concerned about the potential influx of child-in-need-of-care cases that we will undoubtedly see when school does resume. These children need to be back in school.</p> <p>The American Academy of Pediatrics states that it strongly advocates that all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with the goal of having students physically present in school. Please check out the resources below for further support of how this may be accomplished. I know first-hand that our local Bel Aire/Wichita schools had plans in place consistent with these suggestions, prior to Gov. Kelly's mandate.</p> <p>This article published and supported by the Kansas chapter of Academy of Pediatrics, Kansas chapter of American Academy of Family Medicine, and KU Wichita Pediatrics is worth the read:  <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FdwPFA8jMZQYGfPCmaxwO7R4ybKYFVX6/view">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FdwPFA8jMZQYGfPCmaxwO7R4ybKYFVX6/view</a></p>
7/21/2020 11:52:44	Jordan	Kieffer		Bel Aire	
7/21/2020 11:52:48	Will	Henderson	Parent	Prairie Village	I am very much in favor delaying the start of school to try and get the outbreak under control to allow for the potential hybrid approach to schooling (if the data and science supports the hybrid approach).
7/21/2020 11:52:53	Audrey	Goebel-Hall		Topeka	I'm a teacher who's at high risk for contracting COVID. I love my job, and I miss my students. However, I shouldn't have to risk my life in order to do my job. With cases on the rise in Kansas, opening schools right now would put the lives of thousands of Kansans at risk. Please, allow schools the extra time for cases to drop. Give educators and county health departments more time to figure out the best and safest plan for students and staff to actually return to buildings and learning. Don't make people decide between their lives and the lives of their loved ones and their jobs. We already have a teacher shortage in this state. Sending teachers back to work in deadly conditions is not going to encourage educators to stick around.
7/21/2020 11:53:09	Julie	Zollinger	Usd489	HAYS	Please accept the governor's mandate to delay the opening of school until after Labor Day. School staff, parents and community members need time to review the KSDE Navigating Change document, determine what is needed for their school, make plans for implementation and communicate and educate all stakeholders.
7/21/2020 11:53:27	Blake	Hodges	Olathe School District	Overland Park	I am not sure delaying it is necessary if we go remote. I am personally terrified of returning knowing how schools and students actually work, not ideally work. The questions regarding protocol of when someone tests positive seems like enough to realize an in-person return at this time is irresponsible. Assuming numbers continue to rise, I am not sure how anyone can justify putting lives at risks. Testing is a mess right now as well... if that was working better I think going back to in-person learning would be a lot easier.



					<p>I know that you have tough decisions to make this week in regards to our children going back to school. My husband and I feel strongly that the closures in March were to ensure that all of us did not contact the virus at the same time, thus overwhelming our hospitals nationwide. This was achieved and it seems that thankfully we will not see the projected 2 Million deaths that were feared in March.</p> <p>Throughout this pandemic there have been millions of American's that have continued to work. In talking with several friends that are USD 232 teachers, I have heard overwhelmingly that they are ready to go back and feel comfortable doing so. There are 2 teachers in my personal neighborhood that are choosing to leave the teaching vs. teaching in this crazy masked environment. Not because they are afraid, rather because we are making this more difficult and political than they feel it should be.</p> <p>Every year we face illness in our schools. It is not uncommon to have outbreaks of Influenza, strep or mono that can be deadly to some, especially the immunocompromised. While Covid-19 could be different from other contagious diseases, it also appears to have many similarities in that for the vast majority it's a very minor illness.</p> <p>It is our opinion schools should continue on as planned by each individual district. Keeping the decision local makes the most sense for many reasons in a state with such diverse population densities as Kansas. Disinfecting could be increased, but other than that life needs to move forward. Further, the physical and mental threat of this virus to our children and teachers will not be mitigated by adjusted schedules.</p> <p>If teachers don't feel comfortable being in the classroom then they should be given the option to be furloughed just as a worker in the private sector would be. As a tax-payer funded business in a state where budgets are already stretched, our schools can not continue to pay salaries to employees that are not working full time.</p> <p>We feel confident that those families that feel strongly about not returning to the classroom physically can find other systems to plug into. There are already many homeschool and virtual programs throughout Kansas. It isn't your job to create unlimited options for families, your job is to provide the best education experience possible in a safe learning</p>
7/21/2020 11:53:28	Shannon	Doser	my family	Shawnee	
7/21/2020 11:53:33	Vanessa	Watkins		Overland Park	Agree with Gov Kelly's order to delay start until after Labor Day. Thank you Governor for your strong leadership at this time.
7/21/2020 11:53:33	Jane	Moore	Self	Topeka	I support Governor Kelly's decision to delay the start of the school year.
7/21/2020 11:53:34	Joel	Cachero		Haysville	Vote yes for the delay of school to keep teachers/staff and students safe.
7/21/2020 11:53:39	Alex	Chen	Parent	Overland Park	Given the current scientific uncertainty into how Covid affects young children and their ability to transmit it to others; given the rising number of Covid cases throughout Kansas (in fact, there have been no indications that the trend will actually improve on the near future), I am in support of delaying the start of the school year as a first step in doing what we can to protect children, teachers, school staff and the overall community.
7/21/2020 11:53:47	Hilary	Fuller	Blue valley school distri	Overland park	Please continue to put safety first as we gather scientific data
7/21/2020 11:53:50	Denise	Hoffmann	USD233	Overland Park	I believe opening schools should be delayed until at least after Labor Day. I have Grandchildren in the district, and am extremely concerned with their health and well-being. Obviously I understand the need for social interaction, however, I don't feel that it is safe, nor is it in their best interest, or, in the teachers best interest. Teachers and school staff need to have time to plan and make appropriate arrangements to effectively provide a safe learning environment during this difficult time.
7/21/2020 11:54:02	Elizabeth	Tinsley	Parent	Olathe	Please delay opening of school until Labor Day for staff and children's safety!
7/21/2020 11:54:03	Linda	Nealy	USD 412	Hoxie	Please get these kids back in school where they belong. I do not believe they should be given an option of classroom vs viral education as the educators spend enough time preparing and teaching for classrooms for the pay they receive. I also believe there is no reason for school to be extended out into June.
7/21/2020 11:54:08	Bobbi	Hunt	District USD 232	Shawnee	Our kids should start school after Labor Day!! They all need their education!!
7/21/2020 11:54:09	Anya	Arnold	Shawnee mission school	Prairie village	I'm in favor of the delayed start.
7/21/2020 11:54:13	Edith	VonFeldt		Manhattan	I strongly support delaying the beginning of the school year. The health and safety of our children and USD faculty and staff should be our top priority.

7/21/2020 11:54:18	Anita	Wendt		Ulysses	Please start school with precautions as scheduled in August. Let our very capable school districts do what they do best and decide what is right for us.
7/21/2020 11:54:20	Aaron	Brett		Wichita	The health and safety of teachers and students should be #1 priority and bases on the case increase and not political driven. I will not send my kids to school and risk them, teachers or my kids brining the virus home to me or grandparents. Make the right decision and delay school reopening until we have better control of the virus.
7/21/2020 11:54:25	Kyle	Shively	USD #315	Colby	I support the governor's mandate to begin school after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 11:54:30	Teri	Welker		Scott City	Please leave the opening of schools up to the individual counties. Western Kansas should not be treated like the metro areas in the east. Our kids have been together all summer training and conditioning for fall sports and we have no major outbreak of cases or any hospitalizations. To tell them no school or sports til after labor day or maybe never will be devastating to them. We can not continue to let them live in limbo. Business are back open and moving forward so how can we keep our kids for doing the same. The governor says keeping them home is for their safety. I disagree. Leaving kids at home with no socialization and access to the internet is not safe! They need to be in school and all the extra activities that come with it. And if you dont let them start in August do you really think things are going to be better in 3 weeks to start in September? We will get to Sept and she will say the numbers are still not good enough. When will they ever be good enough for her? She shut school down in march with no cases and I am afraid if you dont override her order she will not allow them to open at all this year.
7/21/2020 11:54:30	Kim	Orth	Parent and Teacher	Lawrence	Please support Governor Kelly's mandate for a later start to the school year. Schools need to start after Labor Day in order to give districts to plan for what is happening in their counties. It would be unwise and unsafe for districts to push for a sooner opening when Covid-19 cases in the majority of the counties are rising. Districts can use this extra time to get appropriate safety measures in place, get PPE for staff members, and plan for what to do for activities like emergency drills, transporting students to and from school, transitioning students from classes to lunch, recess, etc... There are many aspects to this non-typical school year that need to be addresses and districts need this extra time to figure it out. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:54:31	Jessie	Thompson		Hill City	I wholeheartedly believe the Governor's executive order should be adopted and school openings should be delayed. Even in my small community, the effects of COVID are beginning to show and it would be catastrophic to allow schools to reopen without the appropriate precautions in place.
7/21/2020 11:54:32	Lora	Winters		Pittsburg	I support the delay of school starting. As a parent, I want to keep my kids as safe as possible.
7/21/2020 11:54:47	Taylor	Hoffman		Lenexa	Schools SHOULD be delayed in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19
7/21/2020 11:55:02	Candice	Hamilton		Kismet	I fully support both of Governor Kelly's executive orders to delay the start of schools and to enforce necessary safety precautions.
7/21/2020 11:55:09	Audry	Flores	Usd 312	Hutchinson	I believe school should be delayed!!!!
7/21/2020 11:55:10	Anna	Foote	(self/community membe	Lawrence	I implore the Board and its members to set aside politics and bear in mind the health and wellness of our state's students, families, teachers, librarians, administrators and staff. The governor's order is an important way to protect the health of Kansans. Thank you.
7/21/2020 11:55:10	Gina	Pearce	My 89 year old yoga pra	Wichita	Out of my mother's 4 kids I am the one who lives closest and helps her as needed. She still lives in her own home, pays her own bills, practices yoga with her teacher twice a week and is unable to drive due to foot drop. She manages her heart disease and was told by her cardiologist that she was the patient that made him love his job. I want to go back to school but only when I know we have made it as safe as possible. Please give us that time. Please don't put me in a position to potentially bring Covid to my mother or myself. Just give it some time.
7/21/2020 11:55:11	Ruth	Foster		Lawrence	I believe we should start Lawrence schools and sports ASAP.
7/21/2020 11:55:25	Katie	Perez		Hutchinson	As an educator and a parent, I urge you to vote to support EO 20-58 to delay the start of the school year. This will allow more time to monitor the curve of the virus as we hopefully move it toward a downward trend. Perhaps more importantly, this will allow schools a longer period of time to plan for this coming school year. While it is vital that our students return to school as soon as possible for social-emotional needs, it is also imperative that the school is as prepared as possible for their return.
7/21/2020 11:55:31	Renee	Worthington	USD 416	Louisburg	I'm ok with delaying until Labor Day but don't want it to be delayed beyond that. I think teachers should be allowed to start working early in August to get their classrooms prepared though.

7/21/2020 11:55:40	Crystal	Aceves		Emporia	I support the delay in starting the school year. I have a senior and a 2nd grader. I support remote learning for those who have health concerns or fear (my 2nd grader gets sick every fall due to allergies and faces respiratory asthma) and I'd like exposure to the virus minimized as much as possible in our household. I feel options should be available and children should not be put at risk. Let's keep our children and families safer by waiting.
7/21/2020 11:55:42	Sarah	Samuelson	Private K-5th grade sch	Oakley	Please do not mandate and force our children to wear masks all day! I have a child with breathing issues, and 3 others who I do not want to force to wear a mask for 6-7 hours per day! I encourage temp checks and hand washing, but please reconsider the mandatory masks!
7/21/2020 11:55:43	Tara	Eichorn	Emporia High School	Empiria	Please do not delay the school year. The kids need to be back in the schools. Online classes do not work! Teachers are essential workers and should be required to go back to work.
7/21/2020 11:56:00	Christopher	Blanchard	Parent of children in Ola	Overland Park	Please follow the governor's executive order and the recommendations of public health officials and wait to open schools until safety measures can be implemented adequately and effectively. The safety of our children and teachers should be the number one priority of the district and the state board of education.
7/21/2020 11:56:01	Keesha	Hervey		Frontenac usd 249	There is absolutely no harm in delaying the start of classes. However, there is a possibility of great harm to students and teachers by starting classes without proper caution. School board members who are woefully uneducated inatters of science should be required to LISTEN to medical professionals over politicians. If they don't and children or teachers die, they are responsible for those deaths.
7/21/2020 11:56:01	Kevin	Gaeddert		Goessel	please support the governors Executive order delaying school until after labor day
7/21/2020 11:56:02	Carrie	Poersch	Parent at USD 253	Emporia	I am a parent of a 9th grader in Emporia Public Schools. I fully support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school. I feel this is the best action to give schools, teachers and staff the time to create a plan and prepare to educate our children while still keeping them safe. The mandated hours can still be met by extending the year in the spring. In fact many schools in other states already have a schedule like this. Right now the priority needs to be making sure the schools have everything they need to keep our children safe. In addition I believe the fact that you are having this special meeting over video conference gives you the answer you need in whether or not its safe to open schools in two or three weeks and have hundreds of children gathered in person.
7/21/2020 11:56:05	Stephanie	Katzer	USD 497	Lawrence	Data needs to be used to reopen schools safely. Other states have laid out a clear cut plan for reopening schools. In some states, schools are in brick and mortar only if they are in phase 4 and the designated transmission period has a 5% transmission rate or less. If it goes over 5% for the given data periods, schools are back online. In Kansas, the opening date of schools would affect everyone. However, as an educator and parent, I support Governor Kelly's decision. The extra time would give hard hit areas of the state time to better prepare safety foundations for students, staff and all we go home too. It would also give all districts tine to discern the 1100 page document given to school districts just recently. With the current early return to school dates, school districts and school boards do not have adequate time to address this document and the information within. Safety if all should be the number one priority. As educators, we are challenged constantly to provide optimal learning environments. Safety and time to prepare are enormous pieces in this equation. Despite districts working throughout the summer to help with these, increasing rates and recent direction from the state warrant more time for all involved.
7/21/2020 11:56:09	Mary	Holland		Fort Scott, KS	Please act in a way that ensures a safe way forward for our students and staff. Please delay the opening of school until it is safe to do so. I am asking you to follow our governor's order for the safety and health of our entire state.
7/21/2020 11:56:12	Robert	Hisle		Topeka	Approve the order. Districts need more time then 3 weeks to plan and prep for situations they don't even know will arise. Teachers will most likely have to do double duty of online and in person lessons, they need time to plan, they hardly get enough time during the week as it is, having to plan/grade on nights and over the weekend.
7/21/2020 11:56:14	Pam	Engelken		Overland Park	Please delay opening schools for in person classrooms. Put more consideration into alternative teaching methods that will lessen the risk to teachers, school staff and students. My daughter is a high school teacher and is scared to return to classroom teaching. You may lose a lot of great teachers this year, if not to COVID, just to changing professions.
7/21/2020 11:56:20	Elizabeth	Handley	none	Hiawatha	As a para in the elementary school here, I'm very concerned for the safety not only of our students but the staff as well! We all know how children are, nose picking, finger licking, germ spreading little people. I'm not certain we will be able to adequately provide a safe and clean environment for ourselves because we will spend the majority of our time monitoring the students to be sure proper guidelines are being followed during the school day.
7/21/2020 11:56:23	Bonnie	Gaeddert	Usd411	Goessel	I think it is a great idea to at least wait until Labor Day to start school. I support the governor's recommendations.

7/21/2020 11:56:31	Patrick	Kobylinski		Roeland Park	Support the governors EO delay start of school and then do virtual until no new transmissions or vaccine.
7/21/2020 11:56:43	Zachery	Nowels		Olathe	There should not be a return to regular school for the first semester.
7/21/2020 11:56:43	Bethany	Thimesch	Self	Kingman	Let schools make decisions to best suit them and their students. The corona virus is here and if a vaccine is developed, it most likely won't totally prevent it. That being said, kids mentL health needs what school can provide. There are so many illnesses/viruses that could cause a temperature. So are you going to require they be tested for Corona virus every time they have a fever? You should concentrate your efforts on trying to figure out wht tests results are scewed and why people that left the line before they got tested somehow got a positive test result. We have to learn to use safe practices, but continue to live because what is the purpose of life, if we don't contine to move forward. Corona Virus is here and most likely won't have a cure. So now what... is what we should be concentrating on.
7/21/2020 11:56:45	Michelle	Nix		Scott City	Please open schools and allow sports to start at its originally scheduled time. Delaying the start of school hurts our children, by effecting the level of teaching and learning they can acquire. The family life is impacted greatly due to the amount of stress this adds to parents to not only be the providers for the family but also now the educators as well. Families that have multiple children and both parents working or those single parent household will greatly struggle. Please vote against Governor Kelly's order for the wellbeing of our children.
7/21/2020 11:56:47	Mildred	Howard		Coffeyville	I think that the safety of students and staff should be utmost priority not when school actually begins. Time is needed to properly ensure the safety of everyone during this unprecedented time. If we cannot ensure that everyone will be safe from covid 19 then we should take the time to make sure that all are safe with social distancing and face masks and disinfecting the school on a daily basis then we should postpone the start of school. Contact sports is another issue that is a potential hazard for our children and staff and should not take place this year.
7/21/2020 11:56:47	Jayden	Hunt	District USD 232	Shawnee	I want school to reopen so I may continue my education/ sports my senior year instead of being robbed of it!!
7/21/2020 11:56:49	Aaron	Tompkins	USD435	Abilene	<p>Giving local control over this decision will be another botched mistake that will cost so many lives. People (local BOE's) will disregard common sense - this is a pandemic! Don't meet in groups! SendIng kids to be the catalyst in herds to bring it to all of the rest of their communities and either kill or permanently negatively impact so many people, for what?</p> <p>One size doesn't fit all... WHAT? It's a pandemic!! The only reason it isn't EVERYWHERE is because school isn't in session yet- that is the #1 way it will spread to parents then to workplaces.</p> <p>Face masks temp checks and hourly hand washing won't make a difference when superspreader events are statistically forced to happen at every school in Kansas by putting normal temp asymptomatic carriers into the same building. Masks help, washing helps but they are no match for being together for 7 straight hours with an asymptomatic carrier. If you've watched the biggest findings in the last two days, and give local control, shame on you for all of the deaths Kansans will face.</p> <p>I'm a teacher, I love to teach, I'm compromised with lung issues. I will die this fall, and I'm only 46 and could passionately teach for 2-3 more decades if you don't make this choice to kill me, as well of tens of thousands of others with many more permanently impaired by it.</p> <p>Kids are resilient, they will be fine. It's foolish to let local control in areas that are hardly impacted so far be the conduits that light the biggest virus fires. It's sure to happen, and only you can stop this nonsense before it happens.</p> <p>Thank you for making this hard decision. Virtual learning isn't perfect or any substitute for in-person learning. This is clearly not the time for in-person school anywhere in this country with the virus raging like it will be shortly after schools open.</p>
7/21/2020 11:56:56	Jennifer	Power Steketee	Blue Valley Highschool	Overland Park	School needs to begin on time— look at the stats— the deaths around Covid are not around kids of highschool or elementary age— they are around LTC facilities and older populations!!!!

7/21/2020 11:56:56	Tabitha	Pavlik	Parent and educator	Emporia	I support the governor's decision to wait to start in person school. As a parent and an elementary school counselor, I fully understand the ramifications of not having children in school. However, as an educated person, I also understand the possible ramifications of spreading the disease are also strong. Our community had already had deaths. I am not as concerned about the children's health as I am the adults' health. Staff contracting and spreading covid, as well as families, may lead to loss of staff members, parents and grandparents. I don't want to lose my friends and colleagues. My husband is also an educator. I don't want our children growing up without a parent. The stress on teachers has never been higher. Consider what you are asking them to do. You will see a mass exodus - from illness or burnout. Please honor the governor's request.
7/21/2020 11:56:56	Katherine	Trout	USD 466	Scott City	Please do not delay school. I do not think pushing back school is going to change the numbers. Kids need their schedule and as a teacher I want as much time as possible with my students In the classroom. We need to bridge the gap between last years online instruction and now. Do not make our time for instruction even shorter!
7/21/2020 11:57:07	Andrea	Seimears	Parent	Lenexa	Please vote against the governors executive order (BOTH OF THEM!).
7/21/2020 11:57:08	Debbie	Martin	none	Wichita	As a grandparent that helps to raise 6 grandchildren ranging in ages from 3 years old to 15 years old, I think it's a bad idea to start school at the normal time. I feel it's in the best interests of the children, families and the teachers and staff to delay the start of school until the covid numbers are flattened over a reasonable amount of time. My healthy 35 year old daughter was one of the first in Sedgwick county to have covid and after several months, she still suffers effects of this disease. My household has a 73 yr old grandparent as part of our home and he has serious health issues. Our grandchildren will be exposed to this virus and then will potentially bring it home. Online schooling, remote learning will not harm our children's learning process for a short time. Please consider the repercussions of the vast exposure this can have upon our entire community.
7/21/2020 11:57:08	Elyse	Bigler		Liberal	Parents out here are not going to make their kids wear masks unless it's required. Please keep our schools safe and require kids to wear masks. I'm a physician assistant and have been caring for patients with COVID. It's a nasty horrible illness. It has hit our meat packing plants out here hard. Health over politics any day.
7/21/2020 11:57:08	Anna	Mitchell	USD 385	Benton	Please delay the school start date to provide safety for students and staff.
7/21/2020 11:57:09	Jodi	Heim		Olathe	I feel school should be postponed until Sept. 9th. It will give districts time to get the needed supplies, formulate a plan for the Governor's mandates, and time for teachers to be better prepared. And hopefully the positive Covid numbers will start trending down before Sept. 9th!
7/21/2020 11:57:14	Jessica	Paxton		Kansas City	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school openings until 9/9 in order to keep Kansas teachers, students, and families safe. This will also give teachers and educational professionals more time to review the guidance document you recently approved and plan for how to most effectively provide high quality instruction to Kansas students.
7/21/2020 11:57:23	Beverly	Presley	Northeast USD 246	Arma	I think delaying the opening is a good idea. Perhaps with a little more time people will have the chance to process all the changes necessary to keep us all safe. Children need to see us all working together for the greater good.
7/21/2020 11:57:29	ZAC	WILDER		Haven	Please, if you must delay the start of school, allow athletics to return on time. For some of these kids athletics is an opportunity for them to help pay for college that they otherwise can't afford. Don't take away their futures. These kids need to be active.
7/21/2020 11:57:35	David	Harris	None	Spring Hill, KS	Open schools with normal August start date, providing both in-person and on-line options. This allows families to choose what is best for them and provides for the best educational experience.
7/21/2020 11:57:38	Ron	Crow Jr		De Soto	I support Governor Kelly's action to delay school till after labor day. If cases keep surging I support a total virtual school year.

7/21/2020 11:57:43	Shandra	Woody	Parent of a student	Pratt	No. Please get these kids back to school! The emotional damage that has been done to these kids already is is going to have repercussions long past this virus. Pratt Community College is located in our town and my daughter will be taking College classes while attending high school. PCC begins August 19th. PCC has found a way to fumigate after each class. Why can't the high schools do this as well? My daughter is a three sport athlete who is now in in mental health therapy She is not being coddled. She witnessed the death of her friend who attended a party and fell and died. All the kids were drinking unfortunately and several witnessed this tragic accident. The use of alcohol and drugs is escalating due to all the high school kids being out of school for six months already and no certainty when or if school will start again. It is our belief that if school is extended it will be again and again. Just like before. It was one week, then two, then no school at all. Please find a way to give these kids their desire to get up in the mornings and accomplish something instead of hiding in their homes deteriorating and abusing alcohol.
7/21/2020 11:57:45	Cherilyn	Dahlsten	My family	Hesston	<p>This is not a pandemic response. This is over-reaching to the extreme. To ban online and home education and tutoring is preposterous!! Local school boards are aware what is happening in their county. All counties are not the same. Get out of the way and let school boards do what they need to do. And leave the homeschoolers alone! You have no authority to dictate how parents educate their children in their own home. What is your motivation Governor? It certainly is not safety or health and well being.</p> <p>The data is clear. This is not spreading through athletics or through kids. Quit punishing our children and start leading with vision and honor, not fear!</p>
7/21/2020 11:57:50	Katie	Berkley	Teacher	Tescott	As a teacher it would be nice to start after Labor Day to make sure we as a school have all our safety protocols in place. We also need time to receive materials to help prepare our classrooms for the social distancing and other measures. It would be very beneficial for schools to have this time to acquire materials that are needed.
7/21/2020 11:57:50	Ashley	Poland	West Park Elementary	Kansas City	I agree with the decision to delay the start of in-person school. My parents will be watching my 8 month old and I do not want to expose my family to anything. Virtual is not the best for engagement teaching, but it is the safest option. I hope that is taken for consideration.

				<p>Hello and thank you for this dialogue. As a history teacher, I implore my students to use facts to support their arguments. I teach them that historians argue what happened, not what they hoped, or thought should happen. Following this ideology, the school year should begin after Labor Day.</p> <p>By no means do I want schools closed, in fact, I opted for in person teaching. It is the best way that my passion for teaching about economics, race, gender, technology, politics, and government is expressed to my students. With that said, hopefully, a fifteen-day delay will keep me and my students in the classroom by suppressing the virus. A new study, just released out of South Korea, found that those between the ages of 10-19 transmit the virus like adults. To be fair, those younger than age 10 transmit it less (<a href="https://www.baltimoresun.com/coronavirus/ct-nw-nyt-older-children-covid-spread-study-20200718-5q5eo4ylibcwppd2haxwvdp6re-story.html">https://www.baltimoresun.com/coronavirus/ct-nw-nyt-older-children-covid-spread-study-20200718-5q5eo4ylibcwppd2haxwvdp6re-story.html</a>). Furthermore, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) which has been cited for advancing the idea that schools should work to reopen “with the goal of having students physically present in school” has, in fact, clarified their statement. Working with the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), National Education Association (NEA), and The School Superintendents Association, the AAP has made it clear that “Returning to school is important for the healthy development and well-being of children, but we must pursue re-opening in a way that is safe for all students, teachers and staff. Science should drive decision-making on safely reopening schools. Public health agencies must make recommendations based on evidence, not politics. We should leave it to health experts to tell us when the time is best to open up school buildings and listen to educators and administrators to shape how we do it.” (<a href="https://services.aap.org/en/news-room/news-releases/aap/2020/pediatricians-educators-and-superintendents-urge-a-safe-return-to-school-this-fall/">https://services.aap.org/en/news-room/news-releases/aap/2020/pediatricians-educators-and-superintendents-urge-a-safe-return-to-school-this-fall/</a>) Therefore, Dr. Lee Norman, Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, should be an expert you turn to. Unfortunately, he indicated that schools should start after Labor Day and that Coronavirus cases, in Kansas, are going in the wrong direction. In dealing with the virus, he stated, “We have fumbled the ball. . .”</p> <p>For those making this critical decision about when schools should start, I hope that you do not argue what you hope should happen. Instead, use facts, evidence, and science to best determine what is happening in the state concerning the virus and let that guide your decision making.</p>	
7/21/2020 11:57:52	Anthony	Ruiz	PRAIRIE VILLAGE	Thank you.	
7/21/2020 11:58:00	Amanda	Barnum	Rural Teacher	Meade	We need extra time! And a push from the state to take COVID-19 seriously. Many rural schools were currently NOT planning on taking any precautions. Teachers and students need the state to watch out for them, because it won't happen on the local government level in rural areas. I am not necessarily advocating for a complete shut down again, but there must be options and a way to stay safe. **more options than just all or nothing-- online or in class. Need to have hybrid options available
7/21/2020 11:58:04	Brett	Skiles		Wichita	As a parent of 4 children, 3 of school age, schools should be opened and starting on time this August. Children are substantially less affected by COVID-19 and there are studies that show, children may not even transmit the virus to another child or adult at the same rate as adult to adult transmission. Education is one of the pillars of our society and delaying or having mostly remote learning would be extremely detrimental to our young people. There are many children that, school is the only structure and sense of normalcy that they get. There is also another segment of the child population that I don't think many people are thinking of. That is the children with special needs and learning disabilities. Many of these children cannot function in a remote learning environment. I have a child that fits this category. She is extremely smart, but she cannot stay focused for an extended period of time on a computer screen to do the majority of her learning. This would cause her to fall behind and will affect her future, not just the here and now. Also, older kids who are preparing to go to the next level of education, not opening schools can have a negative impact on their ability to achieve academic or athletic excellence, which could affect getting scholarships that kids need to be able to afford to go to the next level. There are many educational reasons to open up schools, but also kids need the peer to peer socialization. If a parent doesn't want to send their kid to a school building because they feel the risk of the virus is too great, then that needs to be their choice and there should be online options for them, but, let us parents decide what is best for our kids!
7/21/2020 11:58:05	Dot	Powell		Norton	Children should not be political pawns! That is what this is about, opening schools to make TRump look better. Should kids be IN school? Yes, BUT NOT UNTIL IT IS SAFE FOR THEM AND ALL SCHOOL PERSONNEL!

7/21/2020 11:58:12	Kerry	Loewen		Cimarron	I believe children need to get back into the classroom. They need to feel like things are going back to normal, like everything will be okay. They are starting to stress out, wondering if things are ever be okay again. They need to be their friends & classmates. They are starting to feel isolated.
7/21/2020 11:58:26	Brittany	Garcia-Espinoza	Kansas City Kansas pub	Kansas City, MO	Please extend the start of the school year until after Labor Day. We need time to prepare our rooms and get training to be as safe as possible during the school year. As cases of Covid 19 rise, I believe in addition to the extension of the start date, school should be conducted completely virtually. We can always recover a child's education but we cannot recover a child's life or a teachers life.
7/21/2020 11:58:27	Katie	Tadtman	USD 379	Clay Center	I feel like every family has a different set of circumstances and that schools need to be back open as soon as possible. My kids have a pretty great home life but even with that they need to be back in routine, they need to have the influence of other adults in their lives. They need to grow socially, and emotionally and with those aspects of their lives we have hit a wall. My husband and I both work outside the home and we were both considered essential so our kids have had to be home since March and it has taken a huge financial tole on us. It's time to get back to the schools. I feel like this should be by county like everything else is.
7/21/2020 11:58:28	Darren	Baker	USD 383	Manhattan	Reopen school now. USD 383 will be prepared.
7/21/2020 11:58:33	Lindsey	Hulbert	Kansas State University	Manhattan	Teachers need extra PAID time to adjust course curriculum. I had to redesign ONE course of over 7 years for hybrid and to do a good job it takes MONTHS of work. Kansas teachers need our support!
7/21/2020 11:58:40	Jamie	Davis		Louisburg ks	Please reopen schools. We can not continue to dammage the economy and short change our children. The goal of the shutdown was to flatten the curve not prevent every single person from getting the virus. This is completely impossible to do. This virus lives amongst us now and we will all be exposed at some point.
7/21/2020 11:58:42	Carolyn	Hall		Topeka	This has to stop, get the kids back in school.
7/21/2020 11:58:45	Moriah	Obermueller		Overland Park	No need to delay the start of school
7/21/2020 11:58:47	Amber	Scott		Pomona	Allow school to start with no mask
7/21/2020 11:58:49	Nicole	Dooley		Lawrence	Please consider revising the mandate to allow athletics/activities to safely continue during the proposed shut down. Our city, along with many others, have successfully run our outdoor summer athletic programs all summer. Please consider allowing our kids and coaches to continue during this time period. It would be negligent to the health and well-being of our students to stop for a month prior to the start of school. Thanks for the consideration.
7/21/2020 11:58:50	Jon	Bigler	Self and family	Meade	I agree with Governor Kelly's mandate. Moreover I think the Kansas state senators should let her do her job! We didn't vote her in to have the Republican senators tie her hands!!!!
7/21/2020 11:58:50	Janelle	Riedy		Hope	I am retired and a substitute teacher who is to do a maternity leave when school starts! I would prefer that school not open until after Labor Day to keep kids and staff safe!
7/21/2020 11:58:53	Michele	Hill	Daycare provider, parent	Olathe	Please delay schools opening this is too risky of a situation for our families!
7/21/2020 11:58:56	Randi	Martin	Parent	Colwich	No delay
7/21/2020 11:58:57	Matthew	Gerlach	NA	Newton	Pushing the start of school back a few weeks only helps to ensure safety of students and teachers. It also gives more time to implement quality plans for the 2020-2021 school year.
7/21/2020 11:59:11	Kaitlin	Jaramillo	Parent	Lenexa	With the spread of covid on the rise please delay school starting until it's safe. I support governor Kelly to the fullest extent.
7/21/2020 11:59:32	Tammy	Shively		Olathe	NO
7/21/2020 11:59:32	David	Williams	Usd 373	Newton ks.	Please delay the start of the school year as the governor calls for in the executive order. This gives schools time to prepare for the new guidelines. Please protect students and teachers based on actual science
7/21/2020 11:59:32	Mary Januea	Fleck	Teacher	Wichita	Schools should be delayed to help prepare for proper safety procedures as well as training for teachers Incase schools have to return to remote learning. Cases are too high and too risky to start in August.
7/21/2020 11:59:35	Drew	Zimmerman		Hays	Delay school openings. This is imperative to make sure our children will not have a higher than usual chance of being infected with SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19). The science is clear on the adverse outcomes of this disease. Not giving ample time for our schools and teachers to prepare is pure ignorance.
7/21/2020 11:59:36	Elizabeth	Kosko		Bonner Springs	I think in person schooling should be delayed significantly, if not prevented at all. Why are so many events and music venues canceling when they are only in enclosed spaces for a few hours at a time, not 40 hours a week if this isn't a real threat?



7/21/2020 11:59:42	Jamie	Oettle	Parent/Teacher in Kansas	Goddard	<p>As the parent of a high risk student, I support Governor Kelly's EO to delay the start of school until after Labor Day.</p> <p>*My child would like to attend face to face instruction, but the covid19 infection rate is growing too rapidly. Delaying the start of school allows the mask mandate to take effect and the spread to slow down.</p> <p>*Schools are naturally a place for the spread of viruses and bacteria due to proximity and shared spaces/materials. Delaying the start of school while the infection rate is high will allow schools to rearrange classrooms and for teachers to recreate lessons to avoid activities that might not be safe.</p> <p>*There are too many unknowns at this point for parents to make informed decisions about whether or not to send their children back to face to face instruction. Districts are scrambling to formulate plans and communication has been spotty for some districts with so many unknowns. Delaying the start until September will allow districts to share their plans and for parents to make informed decisions.</p> <p>*Some educators and school staff work in districts much larger than where they live. The virus could spread quickly to these smaller districts where they might not have the medical resources in the community to safely handle a pandemic. Having a state wide order proactively protects communities that might not see the danger yet.</p> <p>*There is a growing body of evidence that Pediatric Inflammatory Multi-System Syndrome is on the rise in otherwise healthy children who have come into contact with the virus. As the wife of a childhood Kawasaki Disease survivor from the 1970s, I can testify that inflammation in the body can cause life altering long term damage. Assuming children who don't show immediate symptoms of Covid aren't affected is putting children in danger.</p> <p>*Many states start school after Labor Day and delaying the start of the school year by a few weeks will cause districts to alter their calendars, it is not unrealistic.</p> <p>* As a teacher, I am confident that I can adjust to starting school after Labor Day if the infection rate is declining and will in turn be better informed, prepared and set up for success.</p> <p>*As a state, we need to do what is best for children. Right now parents have plans in place to take care of their children while working over the summer. Delaying the start will allow them to extend those plans. Starting school when numbers are rising and then having to switch to online instruction due to school exposures will cause more of an upheaval for parents who must change their schedules or scramble to find last minute childcare.</p> <p>*There is no decision from the state or locally that will be right for all families and educators, but delaying the start of school allows for more informed decisions and proactively protects communities that have not yet been affected by the</p>
7/21/2020 11:59:42	Linda	Taylor	Southwind Plaza etal	Colby	<p>Please do not pass this Executive Order. Our schools need to open, sports and all activities need to happen on time. Our students need to go back to as normal a life as possible. What is happening in Kansas and nationwide will have a tremendous negative impact on our youth for along time. This is exactly what China and the liberals want to have happen. Please do not allow our children to go down that path of self destruction. Our local school districts, our teachers, our parents and community are very capable of keeping our children safe and healthy. Let them do their jobs. Start school on time and don't shut us down. Also don't let the teachers' unions and other political group rule our Kansas education system and this board.</p>
7/21/2020 11:59:44	Melanie	Hammer	USD 447	Cherryvale	<p>Yes, I think we need additional time for planning the return of students.</p>
7/21/2020 11:59:49	Mark	Meyer	None	Olathe	<p>I am in favor of keeping schools closed until September 9 as long as... SCHOOL EMPLOYEES CAN RETURN TO WORK ON TIME SO THAT THEY MAY PROPERLY PREPARE FOR THE SAFETY AND INSTRUCTIONAL REVISIONS THAT WILL BE REQUIRED. THIS WOULD REQUIRE SCHOOL TO END AS SCHEDULED IN MAY AND FORGIVENESS TO THE STATUTE MANDATING A MINIMUM NUMBER OF DAYS/HOURS FOR ATTENDANCE.</p>
7/21/2020 11:59:59	Daniel	Ruda		Topeka	<p>Please support the governor. I am a teacher and a parent. I want my kids in school, but I want them to be safe first. Governor Kelly's order allows for the necessary changes to be implemented correctly and effectively. Delaying the start of school is not a political move it is a safety move for the people of Kansas. We need one uniform voice in this unsettling time not 100 voices.</p>

7/21/2020 12:00:10	Jenna	Casteel	Flinthills Intermediate S	El Dorado	<p>I am in favor of delaying the start of school and/or moving to totally online school for 20-21. Thank you Governor Kelly for mandating masks and believing in common sense science. Thank you for moving to push back the start date, I fear however it is prolonging the inevitable. It's not a matter of "if" people will get sick and die but a matter of "when and how many." As a teacher I'm taught to make DATA DRIVEN decisions. The data tells me someone in my family, my class, or my staff WILL get sick. Someone I know WILL likely die. This data should not be ignored. KSDE has a responsibility to make data driven decisions too, especially when it is LIFE OR DEATH.</p> <p>Some more data affecting my personal livelihood: my husband and I are both teachers. We have a 9th grade boy, a two year old girl, and a newborn baby boy. I believe my husband, 9th grader, and I will do whatever is possible to stay safe and well when and how ever school starts. But I am very concerned for my two small children to be back in daycare. The last day my daughter was in daycare was March 6th, she's set to start August 1st along with our newborn that was born May 4th. For our two children to attend daycare full time it costs \$1,300 a month (that's the cheaper center in town). As a teacher after taxes and insurance my paycheck alone is a little less than \$2,000 a month. (My husband's paycheck alone would be similar). If one of my family members gets sick and dies (especially my husband) I would no longer be able to afford my house, our daycare, my student loan payment, or many of our basic needs. I know at this point many of us are considering leaving teaching to stay alive. There will be no school with no teachers and I can't teach from a hospital bed or a coffin. Please listen to us. PLEASE take care of us.</p> <p>Thank you for your time, Jenna Casteel</p>
7/21/2020 12:00:14	Glenna	Reinert	Myself and my family	Great Bend	<p>We really don't want to start school after Labor Day because our kids will still be in school in June. However our bigger concern is the wearing of masks. Our kids are under 10. If we require these kids to wear masks, it will be pointless to send these younger kids to school. All they will be doing is playing with the masks and complaining. The teachers aren't going to be able to get anything done. Our schools shouldn't be a prison. Please think of our kids mental health at this time as well.</p>
7/21/2020 12:00:14	Elizabeth	Koon	Usd 309	Nickerson	<p>Schools districts need the delay to be able to figure out how to get all questions and concerns addressed the best we can. But I do not agree with the order where no extra curricular activities can happen. The students have been training all summer and activities have been held. I believe that practices and training should be held, that auditions for musicals should still be held, that marching band camp should still be held. Our students need these activities. Our school districts need time to make the classrooms safe for all, but our students should be allowed to continue summer scheduling.</p>
7/21/2020 12:00:20	Neil	Siemers		Lawrence	<p>Please do not re-open in-person schools after Labor Day. We are still in the middle of a pandemic. Our leadership should be supporting us, not forcing us to end quarantine early.</p>
7/21/2020 12:00:23	C	B		Lawrence	<p>No in school after Labor Day, online only. Not safe for kids to be surrounded by other kids whos families are not practicing safe measures and our kids bringing the virus home to other members who have health issues.</p>
7/21/2020 12:00:24	Ji	Spencer		Olathe	<p>School should resume as planned.</p>
7/21/2020 12:00:27	Shannon	Johnson		Shawnee KS	<p>I think the safety of our kids and teachers has to be our #1 concern. I want the kids back in school too, but safety is the priority, and if waiting a few extra weeks gives our schools more time to make proper preparations and precautions, it is not going to set our kids back significantly from an education standpoint. I support the governor's order and there is no easy answer. Also, our kids get SO MANY random days off (3-4 day weekends) during the school year - we could take away some of those days to make up for the late start.</p>
7/21/2020 12:00:31	Jim	Shively		Olathe	<p>NO</p>
7/21/2020 12:00:31	Michelle	Kile	Usd232	Shawnee	<p>I say postpone school til it is safe for everyone. INCLUDING STAFF!</p>
7/21/2020 12:00:38	Christian	Ammerman		Wichita	<p>Pass this. This is not only safe for our students, but every other person that works in a school building. Human health and safety should not be a political issue. I know more than anyone that students and staff want to return to schools, but it shouldn't be at the risk of their own lives to do so.</p>

7/21/2020 12:00:38	Kathryn	Tolle		Wamego	I support the governor's decision. I don't understand why this has taken so long to address, but if schools need more time, let's give them the time to do this in a responsible and thoughtful manner. Please consider closing bars and restaurants so that we can more safely open schools. They should be the priority.
7/21/2020 12:00:41	Ellen	Goode		Pittsburg	Please support the governor's order! Our schools need time to prepare for a safe and effective return!
7/21/2020 12:00:44	Dana	Reinecke		Seneca, KS	I vote our school districts are given the option as to when schools start rather than being forced to delay their start.
7/21/2020 12:00:49	Melinda	Jurczak	My child	Overland Park	OPEN SCHOOLS IN AUGUST. Our kids NEED to be in school. My son will be a junior and takes honors classes. Despite our teachers best efforts, he learned NOTHING from March to May. He NEEDS school for ACT testing. I'm begging you, put these kids back in school. He's been depressed without social times with his friends. These kids mentally and emotionally and physically NEED school and their teachers. Please please send them to school. They'll wear masks... ANYTHING... just send them back to school. Please.
7/21/2020 12:00:52	Terri	Dunstan		Beloit	Please overturn the Governor's executive order and let the decision be made at the local level.
7/21/2020 12:00:56	Whitney	Black		Olathe,KS	I am a high school math teacher. I ask that you approve the order for the late start to the school year. This will allow us as teachers to have more time to actually examine and utilize the document that the task for was so kind to put together for us. This is a major curriculum piece that will take time to look over and make any changes needed. We also need time to figure out how we will run our classrooms in a way that keeps everyone as safe as we can when doing in person instruction. If you don't approve then teachers everywhere will be overwhelmed with the changes that need to be made and they won't get done as well, this will happen even if it's in a district that has few COVID cases in the area. Also if you don't approve the order teachers, who already spend some of their summer vacation planning, will feel that to do a good job they need to start super planning now and actually working when they aren't paid to be. Teachers should be allowed to spend these last few weeks of summer with their families spending good quality time before the scariness of the school year begins. Don't leave this up to local districts to do because we have see what happens when it falls to the local level with the mask order, they won't do it.
7/21/2020 12:00:56	Emily	West		Manhattan	I think sending kids and teachers to school this fall would be sending them to the slaughter house. We are in the middle of a pandemic, if we pulled them out at the beginning of the pandemic why would we put them back in at the peak of it?
7/21/2020 12:00:58	Kay	Drews	Grandma	Larned	Please follow governors guidelines
7/21/2020 12:01:02	Christian	Martinez		Pittsburg	As an educator I miss working with kids very much. However, if we are forced to go back I truly don't know if I can return to teaching if it's going to put my family at risk. Please do the right thing and wait a few weeks to at the very least see the curve go down. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:01:03	Jenna	Krehbiel		Salina,rural (USD 306)	I am a parent of two children that attend Southeast of Saline Elementary. I am also a child mental health therapist in Salina that works nearly exclusively with school age. I feel the best option of school for this first semester is a hybrid learning model. Most children need to be in school but I feel it unreasonable to be able to meet all the health requirements (hourly hand washing, etc) with a class of 20+ children. I also have no issue with the governor's order of suspending class until after Labor Day. Our Covid cases continue to increase in the community and if everyone was back in school, the cases would rapidly rise. I have much more to comment on but this is the basic.
7/21/2020 12:01:10	Peyton	Hunt	District USD 232	Shawnee	I want to continue my education/sports! I should have the right as a student to further my education etc.
7/21/2020 12:01:12	Allison	Armstrong	Piper USD 203	kansas city	Governor Kelly's order 20-58 should be upheld. Lives are at stake. I appreciate her leadership.
7/21/2020 12:01:16	Jill	Tatum	USD #383	Manhattan	I don't see how postponing will help, it just delays the inevitable. I'd like to see more information presented on what happens when/if we shut down again, how are hours made up by postponing, or if we have to shut down, and if kids are absent. Also, kids have been out for a long time, now we're postponing the start and therefore adjusting PD days to make up for the move, possibly taking those days off away from the kids and pushing them to makeup the time that has been taken away from them. I always hear kids are resilient but this seems a little overboard. Also, historically we've seen a spike after every holiday - Memorial Day, 4th of July, why would we believe Labor Day would be any different?
7/21/2020 12:01:26	Natalie	Aramburu	self	Wichita	Please approve the Governor's EO regarding a late start for schools. The current rate of infection in Wichita is 12.5%. She genuinely has the best interest of students and staff in mind. Due to politics this has been pushed to you. It shouldn't be about politics.

7/21/2020 12:01:26	Tara	Smith		OVERLAND PARK	I have 2 kids in public school. I support delaying the beginning of school. The schools will have more time to prepare and hopefully the Covid cases in our state will begin to drop so school is safer for everyone.
7/21/2020 12:01:29	Caitlyn	Donahue	Blue Valley	Kansas City	As an educator, I am fearful of returning to work in Johnson County as the number of COVID cases continue to rise. Please consider supporting Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:01:29	Brandy	Nicholson	Parent	Emporia	I strongly suggest each district to make their own choices regarding in person/online/hybrid.  Each superintendent/ principal knows their buildings best and can determine if social distancing is possible or if it would be a hardship.  I would appreciate my teens getting access to more online class setups so they can complete some classes that wouldn't need a teacher's guidance.
7/21/2020 12:01:30	Audrey	Heyl	Wallace County	Sharon Springs	We live in a county with ZERO covid cases. I think the best solution would be to leave it up to the local school boards. It is not a one size fits all type of situation. This is not fair to the kids.
7/21/2020 12:01:31	Duane	Banzet	None	Neodesha	A two week delay in the grand scheme of things is not a big deal. I believe this to be an appropriate measure to allow the school systems more time to prepare for and receive supplies for dealing with the pandemic. I know first hand how hard it has been to get supplies. I am still waiting on PPE I have ordered for my employees last March and April.  I personally would like to see this change permanently. Starting the school year before labor day has always been stupid. Costing schools high cooling bills and giving students a break just as they are getting settled in to a routine. The school year could then end closer to Memorial Day.
7/21/2020 12:01:38	Elizabeth	Dexter		Rural Emporia	I do not believe that opening schools late will do anything to improve our circumstances due to Coronavirus. Starting now, or starting in September, will not be any different. We will still be required to deal with our state of affairs in the same manner: social distancing, sanitizing and mask wearing. It will, however, delay learning, incapacitate working parents, cause young children to be left unattended, lengthen our imprisonment to this virus and solidify our loss of freedoms.
7/21/2020 12:01:43	Molly	Claassen		North Newton	I would encourage you to change the wording to allow online and virtual Kansas public schools to start before September
7/21/2020 12:01:48	Stephanie	Katzer	USD 497	Lawrence	Data needs to be used to reopen schools safely. Other states have laid out a clear cut plan for reopening schools. In some states, schools are in brick and mortar only if they are in phase 4 and the designated transmission period has a 5% transmission rate or less. If it goes over 5% for the given data periods, schools are back online. In Kansas, the opening date of schools would affect everyone. However, as an educator and parent, I support Governor Kelly's decision. The extra time would give hard hit areas of the state time to better prepare safety foundations for students, staff and all we go home too. It would also give all districts time to discern the 1100 page document given to school districts just recently. With the current early return to school dates, school districts and school boards do not have adequate time to address this document and the information within. Safety if all should be the number one priority. As educators, we are challenged constantly to provide optimal learning environments. Safety and time to prepare are enormous pieces in this equation. Despite districts working throughout the summer to help with these, increasing rates and recent direction from the state warrant more time for all involved.
7/21/2020 12:01:54	Leila	Coester	Emporia State University	Cottonwood Falls, KS	PLEASE delay the start of the school year for the sake of the students, teachers and staff. Let us get a handle on this pandemic before "opening up" too soon brings on a new wave of the virus. We have learned this lesson in general - why on earth would we not benefit from what we know and not make the same mistake again.
7/21/2020 12:01:56	Dana	Thompson		Pittsburg	School should be online only till vaccine
7/21/2020 12:01:57	Susan	Sherry	Needham DBS	Overland Park	I would hope that the schools would be able to open on time safely (with masks and the appropriate protocols) and allow the kids to participate in sports. If opening on time is not an option, I would hope that we could delay opening schools until there is an option to learn at the schools at least part time. Distance learning should not be seen as an answer. It was a failure for Kansas.
7/21/2020 12:01:59	Antoinette	Covington	Parent	Merriam	Open the schools for in person learning option.
7/21/2020 12:02:01	Susan	Sanny	Me	Wichita	School should not open until there is a drop in cases or a vaccine.

7/21/2020 12:02:06	Tatiana	Schafer	I am a teach and coach a	Topeka	I am looking forwArds to getting back into the classroom and Coaching. I hope we are allowed to have fall sports.
7/21/2020 12:02:13	cynthia	carlson	sedgwick county residen	wichita ks	I absolutely do not want school to be delayed or displaced in any way. I have been a teacher and a substitute teacher for over 30 years. I continue to volunteer in two schools. The science shows that kids do not get the virus and do not pass it on. We are the only country playing around with our kids and their futures. More damage is done when children do not return to school! And masks are definitely unhealthy for children to wear for any extended period of time. So a mandate on that will drive even more parents to consider home schooling. Our economy needs working moms to return to work and that means their children need to return to school and very soon. I sincerely hope you do your own research and see that science backs up the safety of children being in school. Just look at the lack of sickness in daycares all summer. And these children were not wearing masks! They are a prime example that children gathered together are safe and so are their teachers. Please fight against our governors very political mandates and instead do what is right for our children. They really are our future.
7/21/2020 12:02:17	Claire	Cici		Lawrence	If teachers start out behind, they will never catch up. And the consequences of that will be borne by the students and their families. Give teachers a fighting chance to support actual learning. Many teachers did a TERRIBLE job in NORMAL times. Let all teachers adapt to the very agile task at hand by giving them paid time to prepare.
7/21/2020 12:02:26	Maggie	Berning		Cheney	Focus more on the how instead of the when. We need to put in more effort on how we are going back, protocols to follow, instead of kicking the tin down the road. That's all Gov. Kelly is doing - delay, delay - but we all need to move on with life even in a pandemic. Optimism and adaptability are all important especially for a child to learn. Do not delay opening and focus on plans, protocols instead.
7/21/2020 12:02:27	JR	Hunt	District USD 232	Shawnee	My children deserve to have an education and play sports!
7/21/2020 12:02:30	Katherine	Lesando	Blue Valley School Dist	Olathe	As a high school teacher I supposed the delay of opening schools. I currently feel as though I am be tasked to put my life on the line just as cases start to spike again. I personally would be much safer going back to work if the delay stays in place. I commend and appreciation Gov. Kelly's decision. Clearly she has the health and safety of the future of our state in mind.
7/21/2020 12:02:30	Erika	Durman	SMSD parent	Prairie Village	Please vote to keep Governor Kelly's order to delay the school start date. I have two children in public school and feel the delay is important to mitigate community spread of COVID and to allow the district time to fully prepare for both on site and remote lessons.
7/21/2020 12:02:35	Leah	Heinen	None	Seneca	I want to see our kids go back to school in August as planned. I have 4 children in school and believe our district has already taken great measures to make our school a safe environment. They have much to catch up on and need this time. Please don't delay.
7/21/2020 12:02:41	Andrew	Bauer		Halstead	There are some things that are best left to local control. Combating a global pandemic is NOT supposed to be one of them. Please show some leadership on this. Schools are a petri dish of infection. Kids WILL get sick, they WILL infect their parents, and the spread will not simply respect one district's boundaries.
7/21/2020 12:02:51	Kristi	Breese	USD 214	Ulysses	I believe we should follow what Governor Kelly decides on this. Many students, parents and teachers are already concerned with the opening of schools. A few more weeks will not hurt anyone. The health and safety of all those that will be in the school buildings should be first and we need to have every precaution and safety measure available. Delaying it is in the best interest for everyone right now.
7/21/2020 12:02:54	Susan	Peters	Teacher USD 512	Shawnee	Please consider waving 3+ weeks of attendance requirements to allow districts flexibility for in-school attendance based on local COVID needs.
7/21/2020 12:02:55	Judith	Vulgamore		Scott City ks	Please do NOT accept the governor's executive order to not start school until September. Our kids need to be in school especially in counties that do not have very many cases. Maybe the Wichita and Kansas City districts need to wait but our counties in rural Kansas need to get the children back in school. Please over rule her executive order or at least make it that each school district can decide for themselves. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:03:02	Stacy	Sanger	Home	Larned	Ok

					I believe each county and each school district should be able to make their own decisions regarding when and if their school should open. Not every county has the same count. In-fact I am a nurse at a health department and at our local hospital. Out of the 105 counties in this state 10 of them contribute for over 18,000 of our 23,334 cases. That's not made up that is facts! There are some counties that don't even have cases and to make them wait to open their schools because of a county across the state is crazy. Furthermore daycare's have been open all summer and they don't wear masks and social distance when possible but unable to at all times due to them being kids and there is only 38 cases across the state that are attributed to daycare's and around 40 that are related to sports and most the time the sports cases came from a person traveling out of state to a hot spot. We have had our pool open all summer, we have had basketball camps, we have had a softball/baseball season and many other activities for kids and no out breaks in our community. Our cases in our community are all adults with very mild symptoms . We at some point need to all do whats best for our children and if people want to keep their kids home to home school them that's fine but when parents work all day in health care then we are unable to do that and our children still deserve an education. If my school board met and said they thought we should delay school because they weren't comfortable starting yet then I would respect that because they are my local officials having to guide through this but to have a governor make a mandate for the whole state is not acceptable. This is not a one size fits all approach. Each county and each school district has their own needs.
7/21/2020 12:03:11	Katie	Nicholson		Beloit	Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 12:03:15	Robyn	Dreher	Parents	Wamego	Delay start of schools to keep kids and teachers safe.
7/21/2020 12:03:18	Calvin	Davis		New Cambria	Need to open things up and let kids get back to being kids this is destroying our economy and more importantly our children's emotional and social health
7/21/2020 12:03:19	Dan	Knight		Holcomb, Ks	Please open the schools, and begin activities as originally scheduled. Do not delay.
7/21/2020 12:03:35	Trish	Batemon	Atchison Middle School	Oskaloosa	I believe it is important for students to return to school, but we have to do this safely. I am in favor of Governor Kelly's executive order of pushing back to start of school and activities till after Labor Day. This will allow school districts and teachers to plan for students return to the buildings or learning online (whichever is best for the students and their family). Thank you for supporting this order.
7/21/2020 12:03:41	Lisa	Meise	none	Baxter Springs	Our schools need to be open now. We should not be delaying the opening of them. Teachers and students should not be forced to wear masks. Research has proven it is not good for ones health!
7/21/2020 12:03:45	Melinda	Gilman	Shawnee Mission School	Independence	Please support Gov. Kelly's proposals to kepp our students and communities safe.
7/21/2020 12:03:48	Heather	Smith		Wichita (Goddard School)	Please open schools! We need to continue to live!!
7/21/2020 12:04:01	Abby	Smith		Salina	With the number of cases in Salina, I believe it is not responsible to open schools until we start to see a decline. Teachers also need this time to fully understand and plan for the different modalities of teaching that will be utilized during this pandemic.
7/21/2020 12:04:08	Taleshia	Arnold	Educator	Kansas City	Delay or No in person school!
7/21/2020 12:04:11	Jayson	Smith	Myself	Kingman, KS	I object to Governors issue of mandated masks and delayed school start up. I feel it's a one size fits all decision as well a power move to appease the political powers that be above her. I feel, and I can't prove this, that her aspirations to stay in politics after her term expires is what's driving her decisions. I also think she doesn't look at all the data before making these decisions. We aren't all blessed with common sense...
7/21/2020 12:04:16	Michelle	Webber		Liberal KS	I am a teacher in USD480, I don't represent anyone but myself. I believe waiting until after Labor Day is prudent as it will allow school districts some extra time to make sure they have masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, plans for lunches, and so on.  Our schools do not have room for 20+ students to be properly social distanced in classrooms. We are used to having our students work in groups of 2-4 at least. In my classroom, if I place desks at 6ft apart, I can have about 12 students. On average classes are 20-25 students.  Please help us to remain healthy and serve our students. We want to teach. We want to help our students. Our mental health is suffering just as much as our students are, but we are scared. The worry about their health, their families, our health and our families is overwhelming. We need help and guidance.

7/21/2020 12:04:25	Becky	Finck		Lawrence	As a parent in the Lawrence community and a teacher in the Topeka community, we need the delayed start to give schools an opportunity to make preparations to return to learning. Returning to school will not be the same as in the past and buildings need the opportunity to ensure they are able to logistically implement health safety protocols. With some schools still not having a plan released, teachers also need this time to develop and create lessons that will work best to educate students within the structure presented. The delay also gives communities an opportunity to use recommended safety measures to get spread of COVID in check and make it safer for students and staff to return to in-person learning.
7/21/2020 12:04:28	Alyssa	Dawson	USD 388 Ellis	Ellis	As cases in Western Kansas and Ellis County surge, I asked the BOE to please consider the public health issue at stake here. We need a unified state response, not a piecemeal county-by-county one that is doomed to fail (like the mask mandate, which was rejected, and then we watched cases continue to rise like crazy). Please take a strong stand to help get COVID-19 under control in our state and support the governor's delay of school until Sept. 9. Many businesses are also contributing to this effort by requiring masks, like Walmart, Dillons, and Walgreens. Education can do their part, too, and voting to uphold the EO will do just that.
7/21/2020 12:04:32	Kathryn	Whitcomb	USD 252	Emporia	WE NEED TO GET KIDS IN SCHOOL
7/21/2020 12:04:33	Michelle	Gaddis	Parent	Smith Center	I appreciate all your efforts to keep my daughter and myself (as a Food Service Worker), safe. We will do whatever we need to do to make safety a priority. Thank you!
7/21/2020 12:04:34	Christy	Trinkler	My sons	Overland Park	Please uphold Governor Kelly's order to postpone school and give educators the chance to plan effective distance learning that ensures the safety of everyone involved. Distance learning with teachers from my kids' school that know and love them will be better than district virtual teachers. A hybrid 2 days in class with smaller class sizes and 3 days virtual would be a great approach for social and safe learning.
7/21/2020 12:04:38	Tara	Lehrman		Goessel	I agree with the delay of school. I think numbers should go down before the student's return.
7/21/2020 12:04:43	Kandice	Crawley	373, Harvey county	Newton	School needs to start a little later and we need every other day in school after that.
7/21/2020 12:04:44	Linda	Morse	Individual Citizen	Manhattan	This is to request that you as members of the SBOE support Governor Kelly's efforts to keep Kansas children as safe as possible by delaying the start of Fall semester. Please support the Governor's Executive Order. Pandemic measures should not be politicized. As your professional background is in education, her background is in public health. Please respect that you are not experts in science or in pandemics. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:04:44	Jennifer	Foltz		Manhattan	Please open up schools for this school year. My 3 children really struggled with online schooling and they are honor roll students. It was hard for them to be motivated and they were so isolated at home. Even if the in person time is reduced it would be much better than no in person school at all. Since they have gotten to do some summer activities there mental outlook has been much better.
7/21/2020 12:04:46	Ryan	Braddock		Manhattan	As a parent, I feel very strongly that with the current situation, it is not only unsafe to allow students to return to classrooms, it is highly irresponsible. The safety of all involved is at risk. From the students to the teachers, to parents and grandparents, and from family members to the general public. Put aside political differences of opinion and think about the general welfare of our society. I have no problem paying taxes to ensure that the buildings remain in good order and salaries are met as usual. My children not be attending in class but will choose a virtual option. To shut down the schools back in March when the cases of covid-19 were not what they are today and then consider reopening when numbers are much higher, is laughable. Getting children to social distance, sanitize, and wear a mask for an entire school day is quite a tall order. Adults seem to be having a problem with this very request, how can we expect K-12 students to do any better? Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments.

7/21/2020 12:04:58	Amber	Weigel	Hays High School & Ha	Hays	I would love for the kids to be back in school BEFORE Labor Day even if this means requiring them to wear masks. I cannot go through the "homeschooling" option again. I work full-time and find it extremely difficult to keep my child, who has ADHD, motivated to complete his schooling after I get home from work. He takes his medicine in the morning and by the time I am home from work the medicine is starting to wear off. While I am at work, I am not there to help with questions about this course work. I usually am not home until 5:30 or 6pm so that leaves 2-3 hours to do a lot of homework in one night. When it comes to my high schooler, he became lazy and did not think he needed to complete his assignments. It took a LOT to push him to finish his homework. Please consider opening schools before Labor Day... a lot of parents rely on the in school option as they are not cut out to be home-school teachers, myself included.
7/21/2020 12:04:59	Stefanie	Hinman	Parent Blue valley schoo	Overland park	Please open schools on time and allow the kids to play sports. Our kids need to be back in school!
7/21/2020 12:05:02	Kelly	Vuong	Parent of a SpEd child in	Overland Park	My son has had to work twice as hard to become anywhere close to his peers educational level. Through the school closings we have watched him lose the skills that he and the SpEd team at CPE worked so hard for. He is losing confidence in himself as well. Online learning was not a good, comparable or reasonable match for a child with a learning disability. Please allow parents to make the decision on what feels best for their family situations. Rely and look to reputable and knowledgeable sources within healthcare spectrum to help make a decision. Please do not continue to allow people with no medical or healthcare care knowledge make the choice for our children. There are many studies that have proven children who continue to struggle to read in middle school do not graduate high school and make other bad choices due to their struggle to learn. Please give our kids every chance possible for them to learn and grow.
7/21/2020 12:05:11	Douglas	Frederick	Parent	Auburn	Please open the schools on time
7/21/2020 12:05:13	Laura	Sapp	Manhattan High School	Manhattan	As a high school teacher, I encourage the board members to vote "yes" to Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of the school year. In Manhattan, we have begun to see serious Covid-19 cases involving individuals in their teenage years.
7/21/2020 12:05:13	Lori	Trow		Salina	I have no problem with delaying the start and I understand the need for protection. However children with special needs or anxiety disorders are not good candidates for mandatory masking or at home learning. I know my grandson who will be starting kindergarten has anxiety and needs routine and structure. At home instruction or online instruction is not beneficial for him nor is mask wearing. What do we do for him and for children like him?
7/21/2020 12:05:16	Lisa	Beilman		Hays	<b>DO NOT DELAY OPENING SCHOOLS AND REQUIRING OUR CHILDREN TO WEAR A MASK IN SCHOOLS! ITS AGAINST OUR LIBERTY AS AN AMERICAN!</b>
7/21/2020 12:05:19	Susan	Peterson	Private citizen	Manhattan	I do not envy your positions during this time of public health emergency. But keeping schools closed and providing the best online educational practices would seem best for our state. We would be endangering many school personnel and many students families by opening. We must create a new normal during this time of pandemic duress. We and are institutions will be and are resilient. We should reopen when are cases are falling and we have a better understanding and better followed health practices in place. Thank you for allowing public comment. Stay well and healthy.
7/21/2020 12:05:20	Julie	Waterhouse	Educators in Topeka	Topeka	Please follow Gov. Kelly's recommendation for the health and safety of teachers, staff, and student's families.
7/21/2020 12:05:25	John	French	Self	502 South Neosho , Cou	I think public safety is Paramount of importance but I don't agree with delaying or canceling School.I also feel that school children are at a very low risk and the risk and the impact that it has on families is far greater if they don't go back to school in a timely manner.
7/21/2020 12:05:29	Jenny	Viernes	Mom	Wichita	I firmly support keeping schools closed until this pandemic is beyond resurgence. Regardless of the BoE decision my husband and I choose to homeschool. We do not believe the state has the best interest of our children and the community.



7/21/2020 12:05:43	Tabbatha	Householder	Lawrence	<p>I support Governor Laura Kelly's executive order to delay K-12 public school until after Labor Day. This gives districts and educators more time to make schools safe for everyone. If you force schools to open in August I want to know what your answers are to the following questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Are you telling school districts that you're okay with teachers coming back at nothing less than 100% safety levels? 80% safety? 50% safety?</li> <li>•Will elementary specialists be offered hazard pay for being exposed to hundreds of students since it is likely they will have to go to every classroom in the building and be exposed to more students/staff?</li> <li>•Why are school board meetings still virtual if it's safe to have kids in classrooms?</li> <li>•How will it affect students and faculty when the first teacher in their school dies from COVID-19? The first parent of a student who brought it home? The first student?</li> <li>•Will the state provide testing for all employees and students returning to work as we know 40% of all cases are asymptomatic?</li> <li>•Are Kansas schools really not going to require children under 12 to wear a face mask or facial covering? If so, that's terrifying.</li> <li>•Are we going to restrict travel of our teachers, students, and parents?</li> <li>•Is there any kind of hazard pay for those teachers that are willing to teach face to face because there is a need and they need their job?</li> <li>•If a teacher tests positive for COVID-19 are they required to quarantine for 2-3 weeks? Is their sick leave covered, paid</li> </ul>
7/21/2020 12:05:47	Shane	Hipp	Garden City	<p>Schools need to be open. Kids need the social interaction with other kids and in class teaching to help them develop socially and so they have a true understanding of the lessons. Many parents will continue to struggle trying to work full time and teach their kids when they are not at work. This is putting a huge burden on teachers, parents, and kids. As long as the schools follow the CDC guidelines students and faculty will be safe. I base this on my experience with my employer as we are screened, sanitizing processes put in place, and the actions/follow up when someone may be having symptoms. The government should not have a say in this decision, it should be left in the hands of the school districts</p>
7/21/2020 12:05:51	Anne	Harvey	Goessel	<p>I'm a special ed para, married to a middle school teacher. Delay is great to give our schools time to make plans and then for teachers to figure out how to teach given those plans. Teaching remotely doesn't just happen! We prefer to start with distance learning -- cases keep rising and we are both over 50 and I'm compromised. We love our jobs AND need the insurance! Please keep us working safely!</p>
7/21/2020 12:06:08	Jamie	Heydenreich	Rossville	<p>Please either require online learning until COVID decreases or delay the opening of schools. This isn't political. This is a matter of life or death for our children and loved ones. Respectfully, I thank you!</p>
7/21/2020 12:06:08	Travis	McMillan	Parent Bel air	<p>If we are really concerned about children and the economy why are we racing to open schools. 1. Schools for the first 2 months are petrie dishes of sickness. 2. Children will not abide by the practices that will help keep everyone safe as they are children. 3. If counties and cities are closing bars and limiting the number of people gathering how will this be accomplished? And 4. Why are people not listening to medical professionals who have been saying for months that masks and social distancing work?</p> <p>But the nincompoop politicians who know more than Drs. That specialized in these fields. Want to force our children into a situation that the outcome is unknown is dumb.</p>

7/21/2020 12:06:10	Heather	Fusilier	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita	This delay until September is a good thing. It will give districts much needed time to process your guidance and to see what case numbers do in the interim since, as long as cases are rising, we really should not have in-person classes.
7/21/2020 12:06:12	Carol	Shimeall	School District Patron and	OLATHE	I support Governor Kelly's order to start school after Labor Day. Students and staff must be safe.
7/21/2020 12:06:13	Jamey	Hancock	public citizen	Eskridge	don't delay..you killed the economy, now you are going to kill schools
7/21/2020 12:06:39	Crystal	Finnegan		Garden City	No delay in opening schools and NO MASKS!!
7/21/2020 12:06:44	Dana	Barrientos	Teacher	Wichita	I would Like to voice my support of each individual Board of Education making decisions about the start of school for their own community. A school district the size of Wichita with 50,000 students versus a town in western Kansas with maybe 2000 students do not have the same needs and cannot be treated the same.
7/21/2020 12:06:46	Kayla	Stigge	KNEA	KCK	This delay is our best chance to return to the classroom safely and prepared.
7/21/2020 12:06:50	Benjamin	Reiswig	Kansas City University of	Wichita	DO NOT DELAY SCHOOLS. It will put a rift in our education system and have detrimental effects in the long term. We have medical care and healthcare teams in place in the event that someone that contracts the virus actually needs hospitalization and ICU care. WE ARE READY and ABLE to help. DO NOT overreact and delay schools. The FLU has caused more deaths and infected more people than COVID has... We are simply losing sight of this statement.
7/21/2020 12:06:55	Kim	Mitchell	USD 204	Basehor	Please support Gov. Kelly's executive order delaying the start of Kansas schools. As a building administrator, we need the time to plan and the time to secure additional funds to put all of the supports needed to safely open Kansas schools. Everyone desperately wants things to return to normal, but in a pandemic situation, that is just not possible until we can ensure that our students and staffs are safe. I have deep respect for all of you and the work that you do for the citizens of Kansas. I ask that you have the same respect for our Kansas educators and students and put their safety at the forefront of your decision. It's not about making people "happy", restarting our economy, or being a "patriot". It's about keeping our youngest Kansans safe.
7/21/2020 12:06:56	Aimee	Hennigh	Parent and teacher	Hillsboro	Normal start time-Aug 20, no masks for K-6
7/21/2020 12:07:01	Brittany	Hauck		Wichita	Please delay school and think about our safety . I have an autoimmune disease and going straight back to school has me worried.
7/21/2020 12:07:10	Travis	Witte		Lawrence	I support delaying the start of classes until after the Labor Day weekend. With returning to in-person instruction as the goal for the good of students, waiting an additional number of weeks will allow for more prudent decision making in planning a safe return to instruction.
7/21/2020 12:07:12	Brenda	Breese		White City	Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day. This gives communities time to review and plan based on the State Board's recommendations. It allows time to acquire all items needed for safety and for needed training. It provides teacher's more time to put in order anything that needs addressed (health, legal, etc.) as they are going into an environment where social distancing is not required and not all people will be wearing a mask (based on health, medical, etc.). Recommendations say to do all of these: face mask, social distance and hand washing not just one or two of these things. Taking temperatures will not identify all individuals who may be sick as an asymptomatic person may not present with a fever. This will also allow time to flatten the current surge. Allowing counties/cities to make decisions obviously does not work as once they were given control the numbers began to rise when they chose not to follow executive orders given by the governor. I realize that kids need to be in school. I want kids to be in school however, with a surge in numbers I do not feel that is the best decision for students and staff at this time. Also, starting after Labor Day is not that far-fetched as many places throughout the country start school right after Labor Day. Please do not make the lives of kids and staff political.
7/21/2020 12:07:14	Jolie	McDaniel	Parent and school employee	Elkhart	I am in favor of delaying school to give Administration and staff time to coordinate efforts for implementing the new school year. When we went remotely in the spring semester it felt like we were just trying to stay above water. This will give us time to implement the plan appropriately. As a parent I also feel that our state needs to get a better handle on cases and how we can keep our children safe.
7/21/2020 12:07:18	Kellie	Bivens	Parents	Overland Park	I support delaying school until after Labor Day. I also support increased funding for schools to ensure they have the resources to buy things to help With social distancing measures. More teachers, smaller classes!

7/21/2020 12:07:22	Calysta	Macdonald		Shawnee county	I support delaying the start of school and redesigning the structure of the school day in order to meet the needs of families who are not able to accommodate learning at home. Students should be distance-learning if they are able until infection rates have stabilized. If school buildings could be used to facilitate supervised distance-learning in small groups for students who are unable to learn at home, teachers could better plan and prepare lessons to meet the needs of all, and higher-risk teachers could teach safely. The needs of teachers and students cannot be met while providing in-person class at this time. Students and staff will be required to quarantine, perhaps multiple times through the year, and policies for leave and attendance are not adequately understood. We have no idea what to expect in this scenario. Distance learning provides some stability. Thanks very much for your time.
7/21/2020 12:07:30	Emily	Millspough	Myself, and teachers	Wichita	Please keep schools closed until after labor day. As a teacher who is also married to a teacher, who has a first grader, I am fearful for my safety and my family's. More than that, I am concerned about the kind of environment our students would be returning to - nothing about this world would meet their social-emotional needs.
7/21/2020 12:07:32	Erika	Saleski	Parent of public school	Prairie Village	I fully support the Executive Order to delay the start date of schools. Our public health - the health of our teachers, students, families and all KS citizens - must be our first priority. With rising infection rates in KS, the state and local school districts need more time to plan and prepare for opening schools safely. This is the best course of action right now.
7/21/2020 12:07:33	Jared	Viernes	Parent	Wichita	Delay opening.
7/21/2020 12:07:41	Therese	Finan		Shawnee	as a physician myself, i without a doubt believe the power needs to remain on the local, not state level. Our governor is overstepping her power as well as not listening to our local health care systems (children's mercy) on recommendations for our children's return.
7/21/2020 12:07:43	Christy	Moore	Parent	Emporia	In person classes should be delayed until no new Covid-19 cases are detected for 14 days or more.
7/21/2020 12:07:55	Carson	Shively		Olathe	No
7/21/2020 12:08:01	Buck	Rogers		Hutchinson	Need to start sports on time
7/21/2020 12:08:08	Kari	Griffis	Pawnee Elementary	Overland Park	Thank you for allowing public comment. This virus is too new for us to open fully with children at risk. There is absolutely no way to adhere to social distancing or mask wearing guidelines for a full day in the classroom. It would be reckless to try. For one, the building I work in is too old to rely the HVAC system sending out clean air, we have a moldy basement that floods when it rains and only 4 sinks available for every 6 rooms and that includes two bathroom sinks. Teachers cant afford to buy cleaning products and hand sanitizer. If we wash hands every hour there won't be much teaching going on anyway. I have children at home too and struggle with the home-work environment but this is a pandemic, not just a bad flu season.
7/21/2020 12:08:10	Lynn	Wilson	USD480	Liberal	Please do not open schools until after Labor Day. Additionally should the risk of COVID19 continue please provide instruction when possible via Zoom or other avenues of online learning. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:08:10	Genilyn	McCaffrey		Manhattan	Please allow individual school districts to make the decisions that best fit their circumstances. Kansas is not a "one size fits all" state and should certainly not be governed as such. Please do not allow political power-grabbing attempts to override the realities of day-to-day life for the citizens of this state.
7/21/2020 12:08:13	Mahleah	Lavin	Parent of USD 260 stude	Derby	As a parent and teacher, it has been very stressful trying to plan for what is happening this fall. Things seem to be changing almost daily. Delaying school will allow parents and teachers to make and test a plan for how procedures will change. Specifically for teachers, some are having to change their whole way of teaching curriculum because of this. Extra time will allow us to implement new technology and modify teaching to accomodate students in school and those learning remotely.
7/21/2020 12:08:14	Jessi	Wigdahl		Wichita	I support Gov. Kelly's order. It is in line with the latest recommendations from the medical/epidemiological communities, and gives us the best chance at the possibility of sending students back in person when the school year does start. This should not be political. It should be based on science and public safety, pure and simple.

7/21/2020 12:08:21	Sharon	Milligan		Olathe	I think it is fine for schools to not open until after Labor Day. HOWEVER, schools need to be ready to resume then. They need to use the extra time to prepare. Teachers need to be using this time for Professional Development on setting up a classroom with the new protocols. The end of the year was a disaster and students basically missed out on school. If teachers aren't in the classroom then classes need to be set up like Zoom meetings. District office staff should have this in hand with a concrete plan in place with actual teachers having input. I DO NOT think students should be out of the classroom for the entire year or semester. I know the governor is using this as a backdoor around the legislature and teachers are lobbying hard to stay home. I know it will not be easy but students deserve an education. Fear mongering is rampant right now. I suggest clear faceshields for all in the building at a minimum. There are a lot of options instead of just keeping schools closed indefinitely.
7/21/2020 12:08:25	April	Ramos		Lawrence	After reading about Israel's back to school issues, we definitely need more time and probably need to look at online only for the near future.
7/21/2020 12:08:29	Kelly	Rippel	concerns citizen, spouse	Topeka	As a spouse of an early childhood educator, (both of us with compromised immune systems, and both of our sets of parents do as well) I would like to submit the following comments to the Board of Education regarding the school plan for this fall. I am not an expert on epidemiology, but I did work in public health for over 4 1/2 years, served as a contractor under KDHE and have been trained by CDC in risk communication. Having known teachers who led summer camps this year, I have been made aware of multiple risk factors that cannot be guaranteed if schools were to open on time. These include of course wearing masks, physical distancing, and washing hands. Especially when talking about younger populations there is no 100% guarantee these behaviors can be controlled. What this means is the only way to completely mitigate or eliminate risk is to not allow the opportunity for the potential of the virus to spread. Therefore, I strongly urge and recommend the Board of Education to uphold the governor's plan to start school at least by Labor Day, and if need be evaluate the situation at that time to see if an extension is warranted. What we have seen over the summer is if it has been this difficult to ensure adults follow these risk mitigation behaviors how can we expect students to do the same? And the question the board has before them is: Is it the most responsible thing to protect public health to force schools to open, potentially endangering our communities & future generations? The answer is not political and should be clear. Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/21/2020 12:08:31	Rachel	Szmed	Teacher at usd469	Lansing	Delaying the start of the 2020-21 school year until after Labor Day is the safest decision for all parties. Last week Kansas was ranked #2 on the list of most irresponsible states supported by the number of COVID-19 increased drastically. We must limit contact until the number of infections declines drastically or stops completely. Forcing schools to open before this happens is dangerous and irresponsible.
7/21/2020 12:08:43	Molly	Cornell		Shawnee	I absolutely disagree with the executive order to delay all Kansas schools. This overreach by the governor disgusts me. The counties and local boards are best equipped to make decisions like this. Absolutely nothing prevents an individual district from delaying school if it is appropriate. There is no benefit from issuing this order. It only serves to further strip local power. Our children need to get back to school. I believe the governor plans to continue delaying the start of school until it forces schools to use a remote learning model only. Please, prioritize our children! By and large, the benefits of in person learning outweigh the risk of COVID-19 for kids. Use your power to protect the voice of parents like me.
7/21/2020 12:08:50	ZAC	WILDER	School Parent	Haven	Please allow schools and sports to resume on time These kids need to be active. Some kids are trying to get scholarships to help pay for college that they otherwise can't afford. Don't take away their future. They only have a small window to get scholarships and for some it's already been cut short last spring. Please reject the Executive order to delay schools.
7/21/2020 12:08:51	Marcie	Smith		Fort Riley	I think school should open up as remote learning starting the 17th of August, and then after Labor Day it can be either remote or in person. That way summer won't be delayed for those who have things planned on a yearly basis.
7/21/2020 12:09:02	Melissa	Riley		Olathe	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day for the safety of students, teachers and staff.
7/21/2020 12:09:05	Teresa	Andrade	Olathe school district	Olathe	Our kids need to be back in school. ALL aspects of their health and wellbeing are important. I have kids in Elementary, Middle, and Highschool. All three kids want to be back in school.

7/21/2020 12:09:07	Dan	Brennan	Capital City Equality Ce	Topeka	I am against reopening schools in Kansas until the pandemic is under control. Currently it is still increasing in new cases. Combine that with the fact that seasonal influenza is spread mostly through schools, it behooves us to be extra cautious in reopening during this pandemic.
7/21/2020 12:09:10	Kristina	Bramwell	Elementary School Teac	Rago, KS	Recently having two grandparents contract COVID from a grandchild who is in 5th grade, having all students come back into classrooms, especially if masks and hand soaps/sanitizers are not available provided a very risky situation. Before schools open at full capacity and until they can make sure all precautions can be met, it only makes sense for school to open later. Although many children and young people will not get very ill, putting family members and teachers and staff at risk is not a humane option. I am for opening when things are safe and well thought out, but not prior to.
7/21/2020 12:09:12	Lauri	Kuntz	Parent	Eudora	I believe that the individual school districts should be allowed to determine their own start dates. The state is very diverse and should not be treated as if we all have the same level of virus numbers. Let each district decide what is best for them. Thank you!
7/21/2020 12:09:20	Traci	Hards	Teachers	Topeka	I am a classroom teacher who is extremely concerned about beginning ANY KIND of in person instruction with the spread of COVID-19 at this point in time. I do not feel that we are adequately prepared with a detailed plan in place that allows everyone in our buildings to be protected. At this point as an educator we have had VERY LITTLE information to be able to prepare our personal classrooms and be ready for all the new things being asked of us. Not only do we have our school community to consider but our own personal families as well. For the first time in 22 years as a classroom teacher I'm contemplating if returning to the classroom is the right move. I am extremely concerned for everyone's safety and well being. If we have adults that won't sit in a meeting without adequate safety measures in place why are we asking our staff and students to return without that same courtesy when our numbers in the community are far from going down?
7/21/2020 12:09:41	Brittany	Lavender		Overland Park	Please delay the start of school. Allow teachers the chance to adequately prepare for the school year. If you are meeting virtually do you really think it's smart to send us back into the classroom?
7/21/2020 12:10:08	McKinsey	Hall	USD 214	Ulysses, KS	I 100% support delaying the school year! As an educator, it will help us prepare for all situations that might happen over time with COVID-19. There is such a learning curve when it comes to teaching during a pandemic and the safety of my students and my family are of the utmost importance to me.
7/21/2020 12:10:20	Karolyn	McFee	My family, friends, Kan	Garden City	Please please follow the governor's order. It's not about politics. It is about saving lives!
7/21/2020 12:10:25	Heather	Blanton		St. George	Districts need the extra time to prepare for an unprecedented school year. Teachers can't just come early, that's not how contracts work. The infection rate in several parts of the state is prohibitive to in person school now, anyway. Have you seen the study that just came out that says that children older than ten have the same infection and transmission rates as adults?
7/21/2020 12:10:28	Barbara	Cameron	My grandchildren	Bonner Springs	I urge you to support requiring schools to open after Labor Day in order to allow the districts to adequately prepare the facilities and staff to deal with the pandemic.
7/21/2020 12:10:30	Jamie	Francis	usd480	liberal	I think waiting is a great idea. I know kids miss school and their friends but this gives more time for covid to hopefully become more manageable and allows educators to prepare their classrooms to be a safe learning environment.
7/21/2020 12:10:30	Cali	Ridder	S	Wamego	Strongly disagree with both of the governors mandates several medical institutions including children's mercy have advocated that children should return to school. Parents have always had and still do have the option to homeschool their children if they do not wish to send them. I resent her taking that decision away from parents
7/21/2020 12:10:32	Gennifer	Birk	Children	Gridley, Ks	It is pertinent that our students that live in counties that are able NEED to be back in school.
7/21/2020 12:10:33	Valerie	Schrag	Teacher - USD 497 Law	Lawrence	I urge you to support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of the 2020-21 school year until after Labor Day. Schools need this additional time to implement the recommendations found in the Navigating Change document approved last week. We need this additional time to get things right, not rushed. Please put political affiliations aside and vote in favor of the public health and safety of all Kansas schools & communities, large or small.
7/21/2020 12:10:37	Alyssa	Beck		Wichita	Support Gov Kelly's Executive Order to delay the start of the school year! We need more time to prepare. Teachers (me included) are scared and worried about their health, the health of their families, and the health of students. Do the right thing! Our cases are surging!
7/21/2020 12:10:38	Neil	Swenson	N/A	Wichita	Close the schools or go online only, but keep paying staff

7/21/2020 12:10:38	Nancy	Dollar	Resident/parent	Prairie Village	Please do not delay schools from opening until after Labor Day. Our children are hurting and need to be in school. The evidence does not back waiting or delaying school in Kansas. Please don't make this political but look at the needs including: mental, physical, and emotional health which far outweighs any risk. Our hearts are burdened especially for the underserved. Please look at the statistics of Truman Medical center and their emergency room department and other local hospitals and what they are dealing with that is about the breakdown of the family and children being abused due to domestic violence and the stress many families are experiencing without jobs, being quarantined and substance abuse. Those children especially need a safe haven at school with structure, nutrition, emotional and mental support and education to have opportunities for their futures. It's horrific. Thank you!
7/21/2020 12:10:43	Katie	Ray	Southwest elementary school	Pratt	Start school in August!
7/21/2020 12:10:44	Janna	Skinner	USD 497	Lawrence	<p>I have two boys—one in middle school, one elementary. I am employed by the district as a special education behavior consultant. My domestic partner is a transition special education teacher. He teaches adults ages 18-21 who continue to receive special education services. Students with feeding tubes, wheelchairs, on respirators, have hygiene deficits, and most likely the very students who will be exempt from wearing masks. My other three family members go to different buildings. I, myself, support several.</p> <p>I ask how the current plan purports to respond when one of my family members is asked to quarantine? Do we all? Do my partner's students have to quarantine if one of the boys is quarantined and my partner is a close contact to our son and his students? What happens when my son's classmate develops Covid? It's bound to happen. How do I explain that. Has the state prepared for those responses?</p> <p>This is just a couple of scenarios and these are going to be occurring daily, maybe even hourly across the state. The intermixing cannot be controlled or taken out of the equation.</p> <p>Sports teams, club practice, students who travel to other buildings for classes, students who live in two homes due to joint custody, students who go to regular mental or physical appointments, chess club, high school classes, multi-school families with several kids or two parents who work for the schools or even across districts, chorus, band, bus routes, kids waiting for the bus, kids walking to school—these occur daily. We are nowhere near staying in front of the spread of this virus. And now we want to add in all of these additional contacts, unsupervised moments, and even supervised organized mishaps. When you have this many moveable parts, mishaps happen. And the virus will spread.</p> <p>There are too many moving parts. The current plan is only proactive in the ongoing daily business of wearing masks and hygiene. One proactive step ahead. There are no preventative steps beyond that. Testing teachers regularly? Daily symptom screeners for all staff everyday to help with contact tracing—I haven't seen it. Parents volunteering to do random screeners with their family.</p>
7/21/2020 12:10:47	Nicole	Drake		Clyde	Even our Leaders aren't wearing masks when they are publicly being observed. They are our leaders. They are educated I am not in favor of delaying the school start date. The reasoning given was that it allowed districts to gather supplies, but I think most districts have been gathering supplies for a while already and do not need the extra time. If a district is having those issues, they could decide locally to go that route. I'm more concerned that all districts should offer options for families. We all bring varying experiences, situations, and concerns, and this is not the time to go back to "normal" or as close as possible without letting parents have choices.
7/21/2020 12:10:48	Nathan	Troyer	Concerned parents and teachers	Lansing	I am a parent of a student and a teacher in USD 453. I ask that you uphold the Governor's EO to delay the opening of school until 9/9/20. The delay in the start will allow for the schools to prepare for the unknown challenges that lay ahead. Teachers and school administration also need time to prepare. It is all of our hopes that the state of Kansas will start to trend downward and no longer be a hot spot for the virus. Thank you for guidance and putting the safety of all stakeholders first.

					<p>Our children need to go back to school without masks. All summer, most kids have been around their friends at pools or ball games. Our kids need social interaction. The online school system was a joke from March to May. I understand that teachers worked hard to continue to teacher students, but not all were successful. For example, I had two teachers who would notify if my child wasn't at the class meeting or didn't turn in an assignment. While yet another teacher, did nothing! My child was missing 18 assignments and yet ZERO communication! The chromebooks that are suppose to be used as an educational tool at school, turned into a toy at home.</p> <p>We talk about the lack of communication skills our children have due to texting on cell phones, they do not know how to handle confrontation. What are we teaching them by continuing to attempt to educate them online? Elementary and High School Re were students should be learning basic life skills, how to communicate in person, being held accountable for their actions, and how to interact with diversity just to name a few. This virus is not going to go away. It is a virus! No different than the Influenza A or B, in terms of being a virus. Daycares have been allowed to stay open this entire time because of essential works needing daycare for their kids. That age arrange of daycare children is anywhere from 0 to at least 5. Have you ever tried to teach a 3 year old to cough in their elbow, wipe their nose, wash their hands, etc? How many daycares were closed because someone got COVID? But yet, we can not let children ages 5 to 18 attend school because of the possible spread of the virus? At least the school age range of children can be taught to cough in their elbow, grab a Kleenex, use hand sanitizer properly, and wash their hands. How many of those school age children were abused or set at home by themselves while their parents had to go to work to keep providing for their families? How many did not get at least one balanced meal during the day? What are we teaching our children? How media can scare and control our lives? How a virus that has a survival rate of 99.98% is so deadly that we can not be in public? We need herd immunity. The sooner we all have it and exposed to it, the sooner our bodies can learn to fight it. Yes, there has been deaths, most of them because the patient had an underlining condition. Our immediate family has members who are at high risk, so we understand the concern to keep them safe. That is why they are the ones staying at home and not going out into public places, not those of us who are healthy. Did you know that our school district alone had 40 plus kids missing daily for about a two week time period in January and February due to an "upper respiratory infection." They tested negative for Influenza A or B, strep, and mono. These kids were out for any where from 7 to 14 days. Our schools didnt shut down. We need to help our kids get back to as much if a normal routine as possible. Gov. Kelly already ruined dozens of students Senior year with her snap decision to shut down schools back in March. Those</p>
7/21/2020 12:10:55	Loretta	Cole	My family of 2 JR high	Belleville	
7/21/2020 12:10:57	Tracy	Archibald	Retired teacher	Wichita	This delay will greatly improve the odds of having a safer and thus successful reopening of school classrooms. "Pay now or pay later" continues to play out every time we have moved too fast.
7/21/2020 12:11:01	Jane	Clark	My family	Pratt	Get school started-if it's important to educators they can finger out a way to do it. They've had since March to develop contingency plans based upon different senarios. Children are suffering and the long term effects of the continued shut down are tragic! Teachers are also essential! Glad our hospitals didn't shut down to figure out how to get their job done!
7/21/2020 12:11:15	Robin	McKee	Catholic School parent	Wichita	I want schools to open! I love my children and want them to be safe. I'm fine with schools opening in early September but any longer is unacceptable. My children are not totally quarantined to the house. We have been to church, to the store, and out to eat. My husband and adult children go to work and come home every day. They are not totally isolated. I'm hoping the school and children can be responsible and make this work. I will be cautious but I will not live in fear. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:11:18	Kimberly	Thompson		Olathe	Good day. I live in Olathe and teach in the Blue Valley District. We are inviting tragedy opening schools any time soon. After decades of destroyed communities at the hand of gun violence, and subsequent anemic responses to such destruction, it should surprise no one that local, state, and national leaders wish to, again, put the lives of children and their teachers on the line. This time, though, we can be proactive instead of reactive. PLEASE keep school buildings shuttered before we are forced into retreat as a response to the illness and deaths of thousands of community members. Learning may be more rich and rigorous in person... but is that the proper priority at this time? It is ok to say we know distance learning will be unusual, even difficult... but nothing is more difficult than burying the bodies of children.

7/21/2020 12:11:35	Tiffany	McCandless		Lawrence	I think that school should officially start after Labor Day. I think teachers should have to report (at home or at the school building) at the originally scheduled time. Give them a couple weeks to plan and collaborate. It will give them time to plan lessons, learn ways to successfully distance and in person teach, and learn all of the new protocol for this year. This will help them feel confident going into the school year. As a former teacher, I know there are so many stressors at the beginning of the school year for teachers. Time is so helpful on a regular school year. I know this year even more so! This will also help the school year be as successful as possible for everyone involved.
7/21/2020 12:11:37	Jen	Fescoe	SMSD- Teacher	Overland Park	Schools should remain closed until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 12:11:44	Tessa	North	ONEA	Olathe	Please Vote Yes on opening schools after Labor Day. We need time to get systems in place to keep our kids safe and to keep the staff that works in the school safe. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 12:11:57	Carl	Walston	Self	Lenexa	Respectfully as the KS State Board of Education to open school on time. In my non-medical opinion, 17 days is not going to make a difference. It is also my opinion that positive cases are going to increase rapidly once school starts, and school will switch to on-line. So let's get the process going. Open schools on time, and switch to on-line if/when the increase of cases. This way students can get their education going and settle into a learning mode.
7/21/2020 12:12:00	Rea	Parker	none	Lenexa	I don't believe that the schools should be opening at this time. The rate of the virus is higher currently than when the schools were closed in March. Let's just slow our roll and protect our families. If the students need to start their learning at the same level as when they left so be it. This situation will pass and conditions will be such that there isn't a risk factor involved to teachers, students and family members. We still have many employers mandating that their employees work from home... until it is safe for working together. Lets do the same for our children. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:12:05	Jo	Blevins	USD 512	Olathe	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school. All of our public health officials have said that we cannot safely open schools until our number of cases are trending down. We continue to see cases escalate in the state of Kansas. It is important that the state provide LEADERSHIP in this pandemic with decisive action to keep our students, teachers, and families safe.
7/21/2020 12:12:06	Jim	Darnall		Topeka	Understanding the science behind this there should be no problem with putting children back in schools. In fact it is in their best interest to do so. It is very sad to see this governor making rules as she goes along to delay returning to normal. This virus is one that has become a tool for political use. As people of this nation our leadership has disgraced the Constitution and the rights of the people based on false science and disinformation. We already can see nations and states that are operating closer to normal with little problem. This whole mess was created by panic and fear and it was all done intentionally!
7/21/2020 12:12:07	Jacinda	Vinduska	Abilene schools	Abilene	I'm okay with a delay if it helps make school safer for kids.
7/21/2020 12:12:21	Tara	Jennings	Parents	Olathe	For the safety of our students, staff, and families we should delay opening school until covid is under control.
7/21/2020 12:12:29	Veronica	Spires	Parent	Olathe, KS	Please open after Labor Day. Please equip administration, custodians, and especially teachers with all the items needed to make school a safe place for students and teachers.
7/21/2020 12:12:38	Julie	Hughes		Clay Center	I am a high school teacher who teaches in the public schools in our district. I am not afraid to return to the classroom, but I do want to have adequate time to prepare myself, my lessons, and my classroom space itself for all of the changes we will be facing. It is extremely frustrating to be forced to wait for outside organizations to make decisions affecting my students and my job. I am tired of being in limbo. Normally I would start preparing for the return to school July 1st. We are already at July 21, and we are still waiting for direction from the state. If you choose to uphold the governors order, please define what this means for the remainder of the school year. Will these days just be eliminated from our school calendar, or will they need to be made up in May? I know it is incredibly difficult to prepare for every scenario, so I am not blaming you or the governor or anybody... I am just expressing my frustration with the entire circumstances.
7/21/2020 12:12:38	June	Bender		USD 483 Plains, Ks	Please go with keeping schools closed until after Labor Day. We need to give things a chance to settle down so that our kids can safely return to the classroom. We have busses that carry many students and there's no way that we can have enough busses and keep the children distanced. Thank you for your time and dedication.
7/21/2020 12:12:39	Sarah	Moreno	Parent	Shawnee	Please keep schools closed past labor day.



7/21/2020 12:12:43	Ron	Ridley		Lakin	I do not agree with the order from Governor Kelly. Any and all decisions regarding children in schools are best left to the local school boards. They are elected by the district they serve and represent the best interests of the students. Kelly's one size fits all approach ignores the wishes of parents and ignores the differences between districts, counties and the associated rates of transmission in those counties. Please vote against the statewide order, so that local decisions can be made by the people directly affected.
7/21/2020 12:12:43	Angela	March		Cherryvale	I believe we need to open our schools back up on time and as normal as possible. We are letting kids across the state down if we don't. My child is a strong student and person in general and I can see how hard this has been on her. I can't imagine how hard it had been on children who don't not have a good home life! The numbers do not show a large impact on kids. And if you believe that they have not been around one another since March, you are blind! Also, the numbers are not any higher that other disease processes so I don't understand why we are responding like we have. We did not shut down schools during influenza seasons or when the swine flu hit when half of the schools were home sick so why would you do it now!
7/21/2020 12:12:57	Amy	Gillen	Parent	Garden City	I am a firm believer that our children need to be in school. Making your mandated to fit everyone is unrealistic. Every child, school, and parenting styles are different. Sime do well with on line some DO NOT. I was a teacher for 25 years and decided to resign due to your mandates. It is not logical to DEMAND mask in school. Just another issue our teachers will be faced with. Also the bully issue "his/her mask is better than mine..WHY are you trying to control us.
7/21/2020 12:12:58	Jeremy	Strahm	School, Heritage Christi	Topeka	Please ensure that government orders and mandates from Governor Kelly do not apply do private schools. Private schools do not force or require attendance, remote learning is available. For those choosing to attend in person, it is only logical to maintain that Liberty.
7/21/2020 12:13:03	Pam	Smith	USD 259	Wichita	I support Govenor Kelly. Please offer remote learning until it is safe for students and staff to return to work. I want my 2 children back in school ASAP, but I only want it to happen if they are safe to do so.
7/21/2020 12:13:13	Megan	Poindexter	My own family, as well	Lawrence, KS	<p>I do not, whatsoever, *not at all*, want to do virtual learning/ distance learning/ homeschooling/ whatever you want to call it. However, I think that if we jump the gun and put kids in schools before our state gets the rate of spread of COVID in Kansas under control (back to where it was in April/ May), we are making a grave mistake. I think the low numbers of children who are COVID+ is only because they have NOT been in schools; in fact, children have almost no where they can go to be together in close quarters. School settings will change that, and the way COVID manifests in children is terrifying, as evidenced by the existence of Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome.</p> <p>I do not want outbreaks of COVID in our schools which will lead to sudden closures, quarantines, children with COVID swabs being shoved up their noses, sickness, and yes, death... but the most immediate and wide-spread impact is a whiplash of inconsistency for the children, their families, employers, and more. Yes, children need to be in school for many reasons, including their own safety and health. But if there is an outbreak in a school, that school is closed right back up again, putting those children back at home.</p> <p>I do not want outbreaks in the schools which would lead to outbreaks in all other parts of our communities. I an the Executive Director of the Senior Resource Center for Douglas County, and I have learned from a survey to Douglas County's senior population (60+ yrs old) who have said in no uncertain terms that they do not feel ready to jump back into society with the way Kansas' general population is ignoring Gov. Kelly's mask mandate, and people are ignoring it aggressively without concern for anyone other than themselves in, what I believe to be a childish, selfish, short-sighted mindset. The subsequent rapid spread of COVID since Gov. Kelly was stripped by our legislature of her Executive Powers to manage this situation supports the opinions of those seniors who feel their health and safety is compromised.</p> <p>I am optimistic that by giving Kansans an incentive to wear their masks and truly social distance, those who have deemed these actions to be something they are unwilling to do previously will find this a good reason to follow the practice and help stop the rapid spread of COVID.</p>
7/21/2020 12:13:28	Lynn	Kilgore	Retired teacher, substit	Leon	Keep schools closed until after Labor Day! Our schools are not meant for an experiment in this pandemic we are living through!

7/21/2020 12:13:28	Jennifer	Comer	Parent	Shawnee	They need to go back ASAP. This is affecting their mental health and is producing children that are improperly educated. We all know that we will most likely be put come winter. We need to get a jump start and get their education started.
7/21/2020 12:13:36	Ashley	Campbell		Salina	Let us go back to school! Not harmful to be out of school than in school for multiple reasons, COVID ASIDE!
7/21/2020 12:13:45	Joel	Wagoner	Teacher	Roeland Park, KS	I feel that the board should support the governor's executive order. We are currently in a place, especially in the KC metro, where cases are still rising every day. We are kidding ourselves if we think that it won't get worse if schools open right now. We need to also think about the teachers, and adults who kids go home to, that might be in a high risk category for COVID-19. I believe that we should support the doctors and leaders in our state who are working to keep people safe, and wait until new case rates begin to drop before opening in person.
7/21/2020 12:13:46	Janet	Stewart	My family	OLATHE	This delay is necessary. The virus is at an uptick and the schools are not prepared to handle a mass of children. Think about the children. Think about the staff. Putting their lives and the lives of all of the families they go home to IS NOT WORTH it. You must do what is right.
7/21/2020 12:13:54	Angie	Clifton	Blue Valley	Overland Park	Please OPEN our schools to in person!
7/21/2020 12:13:55	Erica	Ganz	Prairie Elementary	Prairie Village	I think we should follow the Governors plan to open schools AFTER Labor Day.
7/21/2020 12:14:04	Jesse	Borden	Kansas Resident	Olathe	The safety of children, teachers and staff and funding for implementation any plans. So far have not heard of any plans Until these issues are addressed I feel like it is foolish to go forward with opening schools.
7/21/2020 12:14:19	Suzanne	Long		Clearwater	Please consider that there is no "one size fits all" solution to this situation. What works for the large districts in the state won't necessarily work for the small districts. I'm not sure that delaying by three weeks will make much difference, I'm more concerned about all the other guidelines that don't make sense for ALL districts statewide.
7/21/2020 12:14:38	Joel	Colletti	Mill Valley high school	Shawnee	Start school and sports as normal
7/21/2020 12:14:38	JoAnn	Hermann		Wichita	Schools should remain closed until Sept. 9th! If public activity is again being slowed (bars and nightclubs closed, public gatherings to 15 or less etc.) it is not safe for school to be open. I believe that reopening schools too early will result in negative consequences.
7/21/2020 12:14:39	Bea	Mejia		Emporia	I support the Governor's mandate and believe that she is basing her decision on the data and safety of students. As a parent and school staff member, I want my child to go back in person and I want to see the students I work with more than anything. However, the safety of all involved is critical and I believe that being cautious in how we move forward will save lives. I believe working with our Governor and supporting her leadership is the best path in getting back to school!
7/21/2020 12:14:39	Lindy	Kralicek	Teacher	Goddard/Wichita	Please give us time as teachers to prepare our classrooms for an unprecedented time in returning this delay is needed if we go back at all since we are in Sedgwick county and cases are on the rise this might not be the case for the rest of the Kansas but all teachers in Kansas need this time to prepare in case it impacts their own county
7/21/2020 12:14:39	Monica	Gawith		Salina	Please keep the Governor's delayed start order in place. Our districts need time to put safety measures in place for the large groups of students we face. Three weeks in the scheme of student and teacher health is not unreasonable. It is better to error on the side of caution than look back regretting not keeping health as the priority. Please leave the delayed start order in place.
7/21/2020 12:14:49	Dominic	Sparks		Leavenworth	I think going back to school with full attendance would be dangerous not just to the health of the students, but to the families those students go home to.
7/21/2020 12:15:00	Caleb	Seimears	Seimears household	LENEXA KS	We will be forced to pull out of public schooling if my kids will be forced to wear a mask. If delaying makes this go away then that's what we need. I think this all seems unconstitutional and at the moment my only way to fight is to withdrawl until elecion time.
7/21/2020 12:15:00	Ashlee	Edwards	JEfferson County North	Nortonville	I think we should wait the extra couple weeks to give staff more time to get everything ready.
7/21/2020 12:15:02	Josh	Van Zandt	Cure of Ars	Overland Park	School should not be delayed
7/21/2020 12:15:11	Maria	johnson		salina	my sons just really want to know if there will be fall sports. They are really up in the air about having school in school and or having Fall sports. Please tell us if there will be fall sports.

7/21/2020 12:15:20	Derek	Walden		Wichita	What is the reason for delaying and prohibiting instruction of any kind, including private education? What role do parents have in determining health-conscious decisions for their family? Allow parents/families to choose what's best for their family in regards to risk and exposure. Many children can barely pay attention in class already. Any expectation of a mask worn all day by a child is simply unrealistic. Please listen to the public and allow parents the very American ideal and tradition of choosing what's best for their family. Thanks for your efforts and wish you all the best.
7/21/2020 12:15:37	Susan	Sunderman	I'm a parent	Atchison	I think kids need to have some kind of social interaction. The lack of socializing can/will lead to more kids depressed, sad, and stressed. In the face of this virus, we need a good viable plan for kids to be in school. I've read a plan from one state where they plan to have half the kids go Monday & Wednesday, the other half goes Tuesday & Thursday and leaving Friday for individual time with a teacher if needed and deep cleaning the buildings and buses.
7/21/2020 12:15:46	Kelsey	Allen		Wichita	Open schools now and no mask for kids. You know how many kids are at home alone right now cause parents have to work. This virus isn't as bad for kids and not as bad as the flu for adults lets get kids back to school please.
7/21/2020 12:15:51	Jennifer	McKinsey		Wichita	As a teacher and a mom, I fear both going back to in person classes and sending my children. Too many people are not taking this disease seriously, and our lives are not up for debate. We can provide online instruction until the numbers subside and a vaccine is found. Please focus on the science and not party opinion.
7/21/2020 12:15:54	Mary Alice	Kelly	Shawnee Mission Schoo	Shawnee	I think it's a good idea to delay the start of school until after Labor Day holiday.
7/21/2020 12:16:01	Lori	Wallis	Private	Altamont	After Labor Day is when schools used to start, & I don't think there's anything wrong with that. I do think after that, they need to fully open up schools, activities, sports, etc as normal. We will ALL eventually be exposed to COVID-19. As with any virus, it cannot be avoided, & we can't continue living in a bubble! We either have a strong enough immune system to survive, or we don't. There's no cure for the flu, & it just has to run it's course. Same with this virus
7/21/2020 12:16:03	Stephanie	Pessin		Overland Park	Please allow Governor Kelly's Executive Order stand. She is using science to base her decisions on and cares about Kansans across the board!
7/21/2020 12:16:08	Jarrold	Kieffer		Bel Aire	<p>Parents are best equipped to determine which schooling options are most appropriate for their children (online, in-person, or hybrid). Options for various learning environments are already being provided. Parents of each child should determine which format is most appropriate for them, considering the risks and benefits. These are not decisions that should be made centrally by bureaucrats or politicians.</p> <p>That being said, even if this decision were most appropriately made centrally by politicians, the experts have already weighed in. The American Academy of Pediatrics has determined that the (low) risks posed to children are outweighed by the benefits of in-person learning. The AAP has reviewed the evidence and rightly determined that children are at very low risk for contracting COVID-19, almost immeasurably small risk of dying from COVID-19, and they are very poor spreaders of the virus. The irrational fear that schools will cause great outbreak or infect teachers and staff is not supported by any evidence. And, if in-person school were delayed or canceled, many of those children would continue to socialize and/or attend daycares anyway, negating any perceived benefit.</p> <p>The bottom line is that Kansas children should not be forced to fall behind in their education in order to prevent the spread of a virus that they are at low risk of contracting and even lower risk of spreading. Governor Kelly is ignoring the evidence in this regard, and her proposed order should be rejected in favor of furthering our children's educational interests. Ironically, this decision still allows parents who are not comfortable (contrary to all evidence) sending their kids to school to home school or e-school their children. To the contrary, a decision to enforce the governor's order denies all parents the right to choose in-person schooling. There is only one correct choice here -- reject Governor Kelly's proposed order delaying the start of in-person schooling.</p>

7/21/2020 12:16:13	Candice	Garcia		Junction City	I believe that school restart should be left up to each county depending on their own active cases. Currently in our County there is only 15 active cases. It does not make sense to stop school entirely for huge increases when those increases are not happening everywhere. The long term education well being of our children needs to be taken into consideration. School is sometimes children's only place to escape. With guidance each county should open with necessary precautions when the active Covid numbers are not increases. There should not be a blanket timeline for everyone. Rural KS schools and metro Kansas schools will each have their oan struggles that should be accounted for.
7/21/2020 12:16:13	Brooke	Sorenson		Derby	As a teacher, I an my colleagues have tirelessly put students above ourselves and our families time after time again. We practice active shooter drills and know in a moment's notice that we would do whatever needed in order to protect our students. This is the ONLY time we have ever asked that our needs and lives be considered as well. We arent asking school to be cancelled or online the whole year, just a THREE week postponement. I don't feel like that is asking much. I know that many of you want to leave it up to the local school board but they are the ones receiving immense pressure from parents who need child care (which is NOT our job) or conspiracy theorists who believe it is not real. Ideally, I could trust my district to make the right decisions and care about my healthy over a couple loud parents and keyboard warriors. But I don't and neither do ANY of my colleagues I have spoken to Is the system broken? Yes. And let's use this as an opportunity to show current and future teachers that they are valued. I have a three year old son and would never forgive myself if I got him sick. I know online isn't ideal but neither is constantly living in fear surrounded by 30 students in a room with poor ventilation fighting them to wear masks. Worrying about my colleagues getting sick and dying isn't ideal. You want people to continue entering this profession? Show them that they matter.
7/21/2020 12:16:18	Ryan	Hizey	Cherryvale USD 447	Cherryvale	I believe that we should postpone the opening of schools in hot spot or high rising areas until a fully safe plan to open them has presented itself. There are still a lot of risks and unknowns to starting in person instruction in schools. At the moment, online instruction is the safest option to keep everyone safe and to help get the rise of covid cases down. I believe our governor has our best interest in mind and wants to keep everyone safe, from the administrators and staff, to our students and community members. Please, I beg you to consider what is best for our staff and students in schools and our communities in Kansas. Support this postponement of schools and the safest plans possible to help open our schools safely and keep Kansas going in a safe manner.
7/21/2020 12:16:18	Elizabeth	Inguanza		Scott County	No. Don't delay school. The damage to these kids from the spring shut down is apparent. How much damage are you willing to do to the children? I know people that are already looking into virtual schools and home schooling. Public schools won't really be needed if too many people become educationally independent. I believe public education is so much more than curriculum and I hate for that to happen. Covid 19 is now being handled very well by our medical professionals. Let's move forward for all of us.
7/21/2020 12:16:21	Katherine	Leatherman		Spring Hill	Please delay opening public schools or help teachers/families figure out a way to make all schooling homeschooling for a year.
7/21/2020 12:16:21	Nancy	White		Wichita	I have 2 great granddaughters who are school age. I agree we should delay school until September. Things were not near this bad when we cancelled school back in March. Now our state is one of the hot spots so why would we want to send out kids now. Please wait till it is more safe for all concerned. I know kids need to be in school but it is not worth risking their health and all the teachers and workers.
7/21/2020 12:16:26	Tina	Schrag		Goessel	I support the efforts of Gov. Kelly to delay the start of the school year until Sept. 9. Local school officials and teachers need that time to properly prepare in this time of pandemic.
7/21/2020 12:16:27	Michelle	Fender		Lawrence	I work for USD 497, and I think we should follow Governor Kelly's Executive Order to delay the start of school. Maybe COVID-19 cases will decrease in the next few weeks, or maybe the delay will just give districts more time to plan for effective on-line classes, but I know it is not safe to send staff and students into the school buildings in August.
7/21/2020 12:16:27	Flo	Harvey	parent	1730 W. University Wic	I think it would be wise to hold off the school start to after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 12:16:35	Deborah	Boatright		Lawrence KS	I support the Governor's order. School delay will help ensure the health of our citizens during this pandemic.

7/21/2020 12:16:42	Leslie	Weishaar	Shawnee Heights High S	Topeka	I support Governor Kelly's mandate to start schools after Labor Day. As a teacher I am concerned about returning to school while the number of cases of Covid-19 continue to rise. The safety of students and staff should be the number one priority of our leaders.
7/21/2020 12:16:44	Erin	Pelz		Wichita	I support Governor Laura Kelly's judgement In regard to keeping our schools safe. This is about safety of human lives. It is not political.
7/21/2020 12:16:44	Kristin	Ragsdale		Lenexa	<p>Across the state it is important that a singular decision on the procedures schools follow cannot be achieved. A 1A school with a class of six in a county with three cases does not need the level of restrictions necessary in a country with hundreds of cases and schools bursting at the seams. Therefore, the method on which each school district chooses to run for the semester and year may differ depending on circumstances, and this is reasonable</p> <p>However, that being said, the delaying of the start of schools across the state is not only understandable, it is the most common sense option that works for all districts. This delay gives districts more time to look over the guidelines for a safe reopen and to implement protocols, it provides teachers an opportunity to pursue continuing education on how to better implement virtual learning and hybrid models, it provides the science community more time to research the transmission within the pediatric community and how best to keep students, parents, and our teaching staff safe, and most importantly, a delay allows more time for families to read through the protocols and become as informed as possible and prepared with masks and supplies before their children either return to the school buildings or begin on a journey of education from the safety of their homes.</p> <p>The delay in the start of the school year seems not only necessary but as a wonderful option that is beneficial to the entire school community for all sizes of schools from the K-12 1A buildings to the bustling 6A schools in the higher populated metropolis regions of the state. As an aside, for years many parents and communities have pushed back against the ever creeping earlier start of school as it has leaked from post Labor Day to early August. While this push back is for the health of the state and our residents, it is important to note that starting in September is not an alien concept, and was the protocol for decades.</p> <p>In conclusion, as a state, let us be less concerned about the contact hours and more concerned about the health and welfare of the education population.</p>
7/21/2020 12:16:46	Jane	Juelsgaard	LHS	Lawrence	OUR CHILDREN NEEDS SOME NORMALCY PLEASE CONSIDER THEIR MENTAL STATE AND CONTINUE SPORTS FOR THEIR WELL BEING.

					<p>In opposition of the executive order — first, pertaining specifically to activities, sports, and extracurricular activities. There is no EO pertaining to club-sanctioned activities outside of the school districts (i.e. traveling baseball, softball, soccer, etc) which generate a higher level of risk for spreading the virus as families and players are traveling among states, not just within their own city, to play against other teams. While those activities generate revenue for their respective cities and private clubs, and school activities aren't seen as a source of revenue for the schools, it seems like a double standard that schools aren't able to participate while the privately sanctioned groups are able to continue practice and competitions.</p> <p>Second, the loss of the roughly 17 days out of the classroom puts additional strain on the number of hours required by KS Leg to properly complete an academic year. Knowing no waivers are allowed, suggest to begin as scheduled in mid-August and mandate an online-only curriculum through October 15 for specific areas. A sweeping blanket order doesn't fit the smaller districts who have the ability to commence in-person learning where infection rates are below a minimum. Larger districts have the opposite problem, where community spread poses an outrageous risk to educators and staff. While students are eager to return to learning, in-person instruction should be heralded with caution for specific audiences and needs who cannot have similar services at home (i.e. special needs/therapies).</p> <p>Compromise needs to be reasonable and consider all parties. Please consider the health and safety of your educators and support staff, above your partisan motivations. Please also consider, what is appropriate for a 1A district looks vastly different than a 5A school. Separate recommendations may be appropriate for one compared to another.</p>
7/21/2020 12:16:54	Catherine	Mores		Overland Park (Olathe S	Thanks in advance for your time.
7/21/2020 12:16:57	Lainee	Graham	Family/educator	Shawnee	Please allow districts to make local decisions.
7/21/2020 12:16:58	ricky	bulman		Enterprise	delay the school year
7/21/2020 12:16:58	Megan	Schoff	Heritage Christian Acad	Olathe	I believe school should start on time. The school is prepared, a delay won't make a difference. Masking, distancing and good hand hygiene will help!
7/21/2020 12:17:01	Sherry	Whitmore		Wichita	Take the advice of public health experts. Wait until the cases go down and stay down before attempting to increase contact. Education is vital, we must keep everyone alive to reap the benefits.
7/21/2020 12:17:03	Kristin	Dunn		Kansas City	Delay for the safety of children and staff.
7/21/2020 12:17:05	Sabrina	Watkins		Wichita	School should absolutely be delayed. It is not the schools job or teachers jobs to babysit so parents can return to work.
7/21/2020 12:17:07	Ian	Arnold		Leawood	I support the Governor Kelly's order to start school after Labor day.
7/21/2020 12:17:10	Alberta	Cook		Lawrence	Myself and so many others are VERY concerned on our children even returning this yr. I have daycare at my home, everytime my son gets exposed he will be sent home 2 wks, thats tough for all my families that depend on me! I could loose my job! How many times could this happen? A LOT!!!! Not happy! Feel you are putting our kids in danger so you don't loose funding! Don't care about our children! 1,800 kids in his school....the virus will spread no matter how careful you are! Please think about it! PLEASE!
7/21/2020 12:17:14	Danea	Cramer	Parent and employee of	Wichita	I am 100% on board with delaying the start of school. It is too risky and as an employee I don't feel like I should have to risk my life. I also believe that in a months time we will be able to see if wearing masks is truly effective. At that time I would still like to see a gradual re-entry and if it proves to not be safe move to an on-line format. That's not ideal but it's not forever.
7/21/2020 12:17:34	Cynthia	Giesen	Spring Hill School Distr	Spring Hill	I do not think the Kansas schools should open until after Labor Day at the earliest. I think unless there is clear plan for how exposures and positive COVID cases are going to be handled in each district, school should start as virtual and be reassessed at each quarter.
7/21/2020 12:17:35	Christy	Hancock		Wichita	Please vote for schools and sports to resume! No delay. My high schooler has been conditioning for football for 2 months with his teammates. It is our choice
7/21/2020 12:17:41	Tammy	Kniffin	USD 259	Wichita	In the Wichita area, we either need to go all virtual or delay the start until we can safely return to school. I am not sure about rural counties, but I know many recently held county fairs so their numbers may go up considerably.

7/21/2020 12:17:42	Kylie	Seymour	USD 475	Manhattan	I support the delay of school starting after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 12:17:50	Heather	Hanson	Blue Valley and Desoto	Shawnee	I am a mother of 4 and a teacher. Forcing students, educators, support staff and other school personnel to go back to school in person during a pandemic is reckless and irresponsible. Virtual learning from home should be the only choice.
7/21/2020 12:17:50	Megan	Pfannenstiel		Hays	Concerned more about the isolation that children have been living in since March. Concerned about child care costs and lack of childcare for working parents. My child misses his school, friends, and learning environment. We need to weigh what is worse, illnesses or the mental toll this is taking on children, parents, school employees, and our community.
7/21/2020 12:17:51	Christy	Bogart		Abilene	I, as a parent, appreciate Governor Kelly thinking of the safety of our kids. Numbers in Kansas are rising and many are not taking this pandemic seriously. While it may not be convenient to postpone the opening of schools, think of our children, our teachers, and all staff members, their health and lives are worth a little inconvenience. Please postpone the start of school, let us get our numbers down and our schools ready so that we can open schools as safely as possible!
7/21/2020 12:17:58	Christy	Reed		Olathe	As a parent with a student with an IEP I feel it is very important for schools to start on time. She's falling more and more behind the longer school is not in session. I've hired a tutor, but it's not the same as having resource everyday.
7/21/2020 12:18:00	Roxanne	Mettenburg	None	Princeton	Listening to KU Health Services panel this morning speaking to the safety of opening schools "safely". A couple of simple take-away points: 1. Is the community "safe" (as regards COVID)? If cases are going up and the rate of positive tests is going up and wearing a mask, social distancing are not being observed widely, the school will also not be "safe", as it will reflect the community "standard" and if resumed will be essentially the same risk as a bar. 2. Can the school follow infection control protocol? Masks, face shields, social distancing and frequent hand sanitization? That is what will be required for schools not to become sources of clusters. As I observe my local rural community, the answer to the first question is "no, the majority of people are not practicing proven precautions. Rate of positive test results in Kansas has shot up in the last month to double digits. Kansas is ranked by an insurance industry report as the 2nd worst state in observing precautions - in the low 30% range. On the second question, the answer is I don't know if the school can do those things. Are they going to get increased funding to make the necessary accommodations? Money for PPE? I have never seen a classroom large enough to accommodate the same number of kids at 6 ft distances. Finally I would suggest that you have healthy skepticism for the notion that this virus is benign in children. Evidence to the contrary emerges daily. My wish is that you let the data guide you. The data does not support resuming schools at the traditional August time. I hope it does by the week after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 12:18:03	Julie	Brunner		Manhattan	I think a delay may be necessary but after Labor Day seems excessive. 1. Cases will probably only increase in winter (with everyone inside) and schools will most certainly be closed for at least sometime this winter. 2. Many kids are failing to thrive without school right now for various reasons (mostly social, but emotional, academic, etc.). I think if a number of people are planning to homeschool, then delaying seems even less important as there will be fewer students.
7/21/2020 12:18:04	Amanda	O'Shaughnessy	Blue Valley School Dist	Prairie Village	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's motion to delay the start of school until at least Labor Day. I also whole-heartedly support virtual learning until COVID numbers decline. I am an elementary teacher who sees 450 students a week. I miss my students and teaching in person----that said, I do not want to feel like I am risking my life (stress/worry will also take a physical and mental toll on teachers and students), my family's lives and contributing to a safety hazard by teaching in person. I want to go back when it is actually safe, not just when someone in authority says to go back despite the elevated risks. Thanks for your consideration and care in this decision!
7/21/2020 12:18:21	Sheila	Lunsford		Pratt	One size does not fit all and it doesn't when mandating an entire state to all delay schools. A city with 7,000 people shouldn't be treated the same as a city as big as 390,000! Each county should be able to make plans according to how things are going in their area. Our kids need some normalcy and need in person classrooms!

7/21/2020 12:18:23	Jean	Willich		Horton	I don't see anything wrong with waiting until after Labor Day; don't see anything wrong with starting before either. Anyone who has kids or grandkids in northeast Kansas who play sports know 7th graders up have been together all summer practicing anyway using names like "conditioning, open gym," etc etc. plus a great number of travel leagues have played all summer, not to mention swimmers. If they can do that, they can sit in a classroom. Give parents choices. To play sports meet in classrooms and wear a mask, sanitize, and take precautions or go virtual and not do sports. Either way they must be accountable for academics. You will never make everyone happy. I wish you 🙏 and know this retired teacher thinks teachers must be accountable just like other essential workers.
7/21/2020 12:18:33	Samantha	Lackey	USD 327	Lindsborg	I believe that delaying school to September is smart. With the new guidelines for music teachers, the extra time allows us to get all the extra materials that we are going to need. It also allows us to keep ourselves and students safe. Not to mention my unborn child. I want to do everything to keep my baby safe, as well as my students. Going back to school without the proper materials that were just recommended in the aerosol study, would not be safe for any involved.
7/21/2020 12:18:40	Renae	Willey		Abilene	I am a Kindergarten teacher, please give us the time we need to do everything we can to be ready to keep students and staff safe. Our district leadership team met yesterday, and my head is swimming processing all the logistical changes, let alone the academics.
7/21/2020 12:18:41	Katie	Mathews	Parent, Realtor, Emporia	Emporia	I have taught in K-12 public schools and now am an instructor at ESU. My husband is a principal at our high school. More planning time is needed. I believe all schools where numbers are rising should be starting virtually and working towards safe integration for all and best educational practice.
7/21/2020 12:18:41	David Day	Day	Usd 453	Leavenworth	Students need to return to school sooner rather than later. Online learning does not work for all of Kansas kids. Many low income students don't have access to internet or parent to help them. It's not because parents can't but because they don't have the time with returning to work.
7/21/2020 12:18:43	JR	Hall	Parent of Kansas student	Wichita	<p>THE CAT IS OUT OF THE BAG... THE CDC, THE WHO, AND ALL THE SO-CALLED EXPERTS LIED TO YOU!!! HERE'S THE LIST:</p> <p>⚠️ EVERYONE IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY NEEDS TO READ THIS AND ABSORB IT... THOSE STILL ASLEEP, YOU BETTER WAKE UP BECAUSE THIS SHAM/DRESS REHEARSAL WILL CERTAINLY BE THE LAST CHANCE; THOSE CHOOSING TO REMAIN IN DENIAL, GIVING THE FINGER TO REALITY, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN ...</p> <p>▲ "CDC admitted they screwed up COVID19 infection counts and intentionally misled the public and have apologized, clarifying that the amount of people truly infected is much lower than what was originally reported -- an error so egregious it made the director of the Harvard Global Health Institute say "how could the CDC make this mistake? This is a mess."</p> <p>▲ The American Coronavirus Task Force also admitted to fudging the National COVID19 death count when Dr. Birx said the deaths are people who died "with" COVID19 not "from" COVID19, thus making the real death count much lower than what is currently being reported.</p> <p>▲ Dr. Anthony Fauci admitted masks won't help against the virus and mask manufacturers are now including warnings that their products do not deter COVID19.</p> <p>▲ Fauci also said that continuing to close the country could cause irreparable damage.</p> <p>▲ CDC backtracked their initial claim that led governors to shutdown their states &amp; clarified that COVID19 does not spread easily on surfaces.</p> <p>▲ Governor of New York Andrew Cuomo confirmed a recent health study showing that 70% of new infections actually originate at home, thus making stay at home orders one of the most dangerous mandates currently in place.</p>
7/21/2020 12:18:43	Donna	Loewen		Ulysses	School remain close until after Labor day!



7/21/2020 12:18:46	Darci	Kaser	Usd 392 osborne county	Osborne	I am a teacher in Osborne and I am hoping we are able to start our year in August as planned. I feel one size should not fit all in this situation. We are a rural community with few cases. (Only 3.) Our kids need some stability, and regularity during this time. We need to begin getting back to normal. Please consider this as you make your decision. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:18:47	Marshall	Minnich	my family	Lenexa	Please open the schools. The kids need to go back. The data shows that kids are at virtually zero risk to themselves and to others. The teachers can be protected via masks and social distancing if they desire. There is no substitute for in-person learning, and the economic hardship on parents trying to earn a living with kids forced to stay home is huge.
7/21/2020 12:18:52	Dayla	Jensen	Wichita Heights HS	Wichita	Please don't delay school until after Labor Day!!!! My sister and brother in law are administrators for usd 259 and they have been working so hard to come up with a plan to open on time and safely. I trust that these administrators have the best interest of students and faculty in mind. Waiting until Labor Day for school to begin means postponing sports too. This is not a good thing for my boys. They have to play soccer or they will find other things to do that will involve being around more people and a variety of people other than their soccer team. This will increase their likelihood of being exposed.  If we delay school 3 weeks, does this mean that we will be going to school until after Memorial Day? Then this means that teachers will need paid an extra 3 weeks! Will we shorten the number of days that our students need to be in school?
7/21/2020 12:18:53	Erica	Hohl	Usd 259	Wichita	I say trust our local school districts to make the best decisions for their students and staff! No Executive Order! No safe islands
7/21/2020 12:18:57	Erin	Hodgson	Common Sense	South Hutchinson	Schools HAVE to reopen. The data for how this minimally effects children is clear. What DOES effect are the long term consequences of stunting their education and overall development. These kids have to go SOMEWHERE while their parents work. It can be unregulated daycare situations or it can be a proper education in a classroom with a teacher. The teachers unions are jumping on this train wreck and using it as yet another way to make entirely unrelated demands. They're claiming to be martyrs and saying they're being put in danger. Please, go look a nurse in the eye and tell them that. Go look a nursing home Director in the eye and say it. Go tell the 17 year old grocery store clerk that. It's a job. You either do it, or you don't. But don't expect a paycheck if you choose not to do it. Also, children have a right to a free and adequate public education. There's not a child in America that is receiving that right now (aside from legitimate homeschoolers). Our country is failing these kids. 6 hours a day on a computer doesn't come anywhere close to a quality education. Open the schools. We owe it to our children. Anything less than full, in person school (without MASKS!!!!) is an insult to them. And masks are a joke. Go spend 12 seconds with a 2nd grader and tell me a) it fits them properly b) they're not touching it and c) they're paying attention to you and not their mask. I walked through a parking lot last week and saw 5 masks laying on the ground, presumably from adults. Now imagine a school with 200 kids putting them on and off all day for drinks, lunch, etc. PLEASE, I urge you to do the right thing for our children. Don't make them suffer because of a bunch of oversized babies who can't quit playing a game of politics with our children. Either use my tax dollars for giving these kids a proper education, or give them back.
7/21/2020 12:19:01	Megan	Shuman	Haysville public schools	Wichita	Delay start of school until we are comfortable with our safety measures keeping our teachers, students, and families safe
7/21/2020 12:19:07	David	Schepp	Schepp Family	Topeka	There is no need to rush back to open up schools. Err on the side of caution and think of the second and third order effects that sending children back to enclosed educational settings will have.
7/21/2020 12:19:08	Amber	Jackson	Parent	Silver Lake	I support the delay of opening schools. Please give our schools time to make sure everyone is safe.
7/21/2020 12:19:14	Amanda	Whearty	Kindergarten Teacher	WICHITA	I feel that it is important to delay the start of school to allow teachers the opportunity to reconfigure classrooms and curriculum to work for our students and their families. With the numbers still climbing this is the time to be smart about how the school year will look. We don't want to get two weeks into school only to have it cancelled/shifted online without any prep time. Starting the year is nothing like finishing out the year. We need to have this time to make sure our students and staff can be successful!
7/21/2020 12:19:16	Ted	Hanman	Faculty member Benedic	Platte City	Please delay opening until the numbers of infections are at the correct CDC amount.

7/21/2020 12:19:26	Donelle	Sage	I represent myself as the	Meriden	<p>I am writing you to encourage you to follow and support the recommendation of Governor Kelly in her executive order to delay the start of our school year. For the last 15 years, I have dedicated my life to the students of this great state and will continue to do so. I am also a product of the fabulous public school systems in which you so proudly represent.</p> <p>With that being said, I also want my family and myself to be able to live safely. I am high risk but my family and I also live with my aging and elderly father whom is extremely high risk. I know that the children must learn and I have done and will continue to do what is best for the children of this wonderful community. I just hope you can let us all learn together safely. I am part of the specials rotation and this would expose me to almost 1000 elementary students and staff a week if not almost daily.</p> <p>Thank you for your time, dedication, hard work and effort in this unprecedented time.</p> <p>Donelle Sage School Counselor in Shawnee County</p>
7/21/2020 12:19:34	Dehonna	Stone	Family	Louisburg	Return to school asap. Students will adapt to the changes. Understandably larger cities will have extra hurdles but many rural areas are not seeing the # of cases as larger cities.
7/21/2020 12:19:43	Kristy	Scheffelman		Olathe	Delay the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 12:19:50	Zebulon	Tiedeman	Kansas Teachers	Belton, MO	I have spent all 11 years of my band directing career in Kansas schools. Recently, I have confronted the fear of possibly losing a colleague to COVID-19. This person is a well-respected and loved teacher. She is a veteran teacher who has made an impact on hundreds of students. I fear that we will lose truly inspiring figures in our profession because of COVID-19. I do not believe we are ready for full in-person instruction just yet. Districts need more time to gather resources and make the safest plan possible for their district. Delaying the school year will help ensure we are thinking about the safest way possible to return to the in-person instruction we all miss.
7/21/2020 12:19:55	Peggy	Nikkel		Hutchinson	This is ridiculous!!!! It is supposed to be left up to the local authorities. As many have said, one size does not fit all. The BOE and KSHSAA has a great plan for starting school in August and districts should be left to determine what is best for them, not some remote politician. Way overstepping her bounds!!! Quit quarantining healthy people!! Never have healthy folks been quarantined. If folks are afraid, they can take the necessary precautions (masks, distancing, and STAY AT HOME). Perhaps if we hadn't been quarantined for 3 months, we would be way past this.
7/21/2020 12:19:56	Scott	Sackrider	Parents	Lawrence	Keep closed until a plan is devised AND implemented to keep all safe. To include PPE, distancing, etc.. Suggest plan for this to be the case for years. The paradigm of inserting information into brains, as well as turning that information into knowledge and wisdom needs to greatly improve. Create an "a la carte" list of classes or assignments that can be completed self-study for credit. And create classes in how to increase self-reliance itself. (Teach classes on how to learn)
7/21/2020 12:20:04	Ilex	Gelpi	Parent	Wichita	I vote no, do not delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 12:20:06	Patty	Robb	na	Olathe	I think schools should be online only for the first semester, there is no safe way to reopen while COVID is unchecked in our community.
7/21/2020 12:20:12	Marylavonne	Roseberry	USD 439	Sedgwick	Please give staff and administrators the time to go through and implement plans from the document that you passed down. Our re-opening committee is doing everything we can, but if we start school at the regular time we will NOT be ready. If you do not agree with the Governor's mandate, that's fine. Do what is best for our students and staff by giving us three extra weeks to safely open. We need that time to put procedures in place.
7/21/2020 12:20:16	Brooke	Heiter		Goodland	I believe it would be smart to delay school. The amount of cases that are popping up is concerning. I myself am a teacher and I hear all the time that teachers just want an extended break. Let me be clear how WRONG those people are. I need time to figure out how I can be the most effective teacher right now. It is mind boggling on all the extra things I will need to do in my class to make sure all my kids and myself are safe. It's overwhelming. If I have three more weeks to prepare then just maybe I can shake this feeling of anxiety and fear.

7/21/2020 12:20:18	David	Korte	Seneca	<p>Please let individual school districts decide their fall schedule.</p> <p>I appreciate our governors concern about the spread of coronavirus. There is enough demographic difference from district to district that we need to evaluate the situation individually. Our county currently has an active (diagnosed) infection rate of 0.04% (4 in 10K). We may suppress a pandemic, but the virus is not going away any time soon. Evaluate the benefits of education (curriculum, psychological, and sociological)vs. the cost of "hiding under a rock". We are rather blessed in our "sparse population". Allow us to use that to our advantage.</p> <p>Also, death rates(in KS) have not followed the recent "surge in diagnosed cases" suggesting that something has changed in either our data collection practice, or in coronavirus mortality. I suggest that you do your own research to either confirm or refute our governors beliefs/recommendations.</p>
7/21/2020 12:20:19	Logan	Coffman	De Soto	<p>Any additional closure of schools past Labor Day Weekend puts the children of essential workers at great risk due to lack of supervision. Furthermore, this causes an unfair conflict for parents between their responsibilities as both a parent and healthcare worker.</p> <p>Additionally, if schools remain closed, some in person activities need to be offered by the school district in order to maintain the social and emotional health of adolescents, many of whom are struggling significantly due to isolation.</p>
7/21/2020 12:20:25	Elizabeth	Vulgamore	Scott City	<p>We live in a community where school is a safe haven for numerous children. They rely on the meals served and the stability the schedule brings. The delay in starting will likely be ended with yet another delay which in turn will bleed into the first semester. This virus is not going away. We must carry on for the sake of our children's mental health, the economic impact as well as the long term effect on education.</p> <p>we cannot in good conscience reopen schools until we have adequate resources to make every school safe for teachers and students. It is still too dangerous, and we do not yet have the resources or space to make it safe. Reopening schools would put students and teachers in danger, as well as their families, the community, and our state.</p> <p>Pediatricians advise that children should only be allowed to return to school if measures to keep students safe have been put in place. With recent news of several cases of healthy children with no preexisting conditions becoming very ill from COVID 19, some with possible long term heart and lung and other conditions, it is clear that children are vulnerable to COVID 19.</p> <p>Many recent outbreaks in our community have involved teenagers, that then led to others in the community becoming ill.</p> <p>At a Montessori daycare/school where my nephew attends, 3 teachers who had been practicing social distancing became ill with COVID 19, which led to the school closing for two weeks while others were tested. Imagine that occurring times every school in the school district and state.</p> <p>Many local school districts don't have the necessary resources or capacity for even very basic preventive measures of physical distancing and limiting contact between students.</p> <p>Other countries have been able to reopen schools because their governments invested in personal protective equipment, health and safety measures for schools, as well as adequate nationwide testing for COVID 19. Our country has yet to expend the resources to do that to the degree necessary to reopen.</p> <p>With regard to remote learning, it has to be done in a way that is equitable to all students. Again, financial resources have to be made available in order to achieve it, but that seems more feasible at this time than reopening underprepared schools.</p>
7/21/2020 12:20:26	Susan	Woodbury	Prairie Village	

7/21/2020 12:20:26	Jenn	Marasco	Jennmarasco Wellness	Overland Park	We have to fight for the kids who don't have a voice!! There are so many Kansas Kids need schools for safety, structure, and food!!! Please vote against Governor Kelly!
7/21/2020 12:20:34	Cynthia	Duncan	Self	Shawnee	We need for kids to go to school in person!
7/21/2020 12:20:45	Darrah	Buren		Lawrence	Please support Gov. Kelly's EO to delay reopening schools until after Labor Day! It is the smart, SAFE thing to do. Our teachers and students are relying on you to do the right thing!
7/21/2020 12:20:45	Andrea	Wollenberg	teacher in USD383 Sch	Manhattan	LOVE the idea of delaying the start of the school year.
7/21/2020 12:20:46	Joey	Wood	Free State Football	Lawrence	As a high school student, and part of the football team, leaving us to do nothing for 2 months is bad on our mental and physical health. If you truly believe is making every kid better and mentally stable in Kansas Education, then this is not a step in the right direction. Without school or sports for 2 months, kids will be left to make bad decisions and lead them in the wrong path.
7/21/2020 12:20:47	Hope	Smith	USD 503	Parsons	Please uphold the Governor's order to delay the start of school. One child getting seriously ill is too many. The life altering effects from this disease aren't known as of yet. Please keep our kids and adults safe!
7/21/2020 12:20:47	April	Jason	Usd 232	Shawnee	I have two students enrolled in Kansas public schools, one in Kindergarten and one in 7th. Prior to Gov. Kelly's press conference, I had decided to pull them out of public school. With COVID-19 cases continuing to rise, putting hundreds of students together in buildings that can't accommodate them safely is hopelessly irresponsible. I've taught in Kansas, and I can't in good conscience add my children to the overcrowded situations, putting staff and student lives at risk.  I fully support Gov. Kelly's plan to delay opening until new COVID-19 cases begin declining in our region. I also fully support a hybrid approach, allowing students who absolutely need face to face contact to make gains in academics, and allowing school personnel to continue to support children whose lives depend on school for food and safety. I do NOT support opening the doors for the full student population all at once.
7/21/2020 12:20:52	Joanna	Farmer	USD 259	Bel Aire	Let local school boards decide. I'm ready to get back to work but I feel that waiting until 9/7 makes sense. Sedgwick County's cases are growing rapidly. I realize that's not true for all counties. The decision can be made locally.
7/21/2020 12:20:53	Mindy	Shannon		Carbondale	I have a sophomore in Santa Fe school district and a sophomore attending Topeka High. If we can't have groups larger than 15 to 25 then how can we expect to send our children to schools. It puts our children, teachers, staff, and families at risk. If one of them gets Covid they take it home to a sibling or parent or grandparent who can't fight it! I know my sons dad has lung issues and would not be able to fight it! School needs to be online! We can't hold graduations (my daughter didn't get hers) but let's send our kids to school! No!! Think about the safety of everyone!
7/21/2020 12:20:54	Jane	Gilman		Hays,KS	I believe the delay is wise , so schools can get a solid plan that works for each school but still with healthy guidelines.
7/21/2020 12:20:58	Barbars	Bond		Plains, KS	My husband and I fully support Governor Kelly. We feel she has the children, teachers and families in the best interest in her Executive Order concerning the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year. I have daughters and granddaughters working in three different school systems in Kansas plus schoolage grandchildren attending school in Kansas. They, as well as us, are concerned for their safety. Thank you Govenor Kelly for your concern.
7/21/2020 12:21:10	Amanda	Pfeifer	USD 102 Cimarron	Cimarron	I support delaying school to see if we could possibly start without the mask mandate.

					<p>I am asking that, for the health and safety of students, staff and families, that you support Governor Kelly's Executive order for a delayed start of school. Beginning the school year a few weeks later allows us to come together as a community to get our numbers down. Even the White House has listed Kansas as a "red zone," (Specifically targeting Sedgwick, Wyandotte and Johnson counties) urging counties to limit meetings to no more than 10 people. Just today, The top Sedgwick county Health official has moved to close bars and limit gatherings to no more than 15 people (in addition to social distancing and various other measures). This is yet another sign that schools should not begin until Wichitans begin to take this pandemic seriously, ultimately getting our numbers down.</p> <p>Sources: <a href="https://www.kwch.com/2020/07/17/white-house-report-kansas-among-18-states-declared-red-zones-for-covid-19/">https://www.kwch.com/2020/07/17/white-house-report-kansas-among-18-states-declared-red-zones-for-covid-19/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.kwch.com/2020/07/21/sedgwick-countys-top-health-official-recommends-more-restrictions-as-covid-19-cases-rise/">https://www.kwch.com/2020/07/21/sedgwick-countys-top-health-official-recommends-more-restrictions-as-covid-19-cases-rise/</a></p>
7/21/2020 12:21:15	Christy	Goentzel	Educators	Sedgwick	Thank you again for supporting our community and for continuing to keep the education of Kansas kids a top priority.
7/21/2020 12:21:24	Abbi	Kretzschmar	USD 259	Wichita	Please delay the start of school so we have more time to prepare. As a high school science teacher, I would appreciate it greatly.
7/21/2020 12:21:30	Monte	Couchman		Lindsborg	I support Gov. Kelly's order to delay the start of the 2020-21 school year.
7/21/2020 12:21:36	Julie	Pauly	Cheney USD #268	Cheney	Please delay school opening until after Labor Day so everyone can finish planning and be ready to hit the ground running!
7/21/2020 12:21:45	Lindsay	Flint	Clear Creek Elementary	Shawnee	<p>These kids NEED to be back in school!!! Read the facts about kids and the virus (not stuff from the media!). Look at the one country in Germany who has had school from since May <a href="https://news.yahoo.com/german-study-finds-no-evidence-164704005.html">https://news.yahoo.com/german-study-finds-no-evidence-164704005.html</a></p> <p>We cannot just let life and living be ruined by this virus. We must live with this virus or else our kids, our state, our nation will fall!</p>
7/21/2020 12:21:50	Helen	Ramsey	USD 501 Topeka Public	Lyndon, KS	I believe in person school is not appropriate at this time. If we must go face to face, delaying the start of school would be appropriate. My school has not done any preparation for social distancing, keeping staff and students safe, etc. I am being denied access to my classroom. How can I prepare for teaching? Also, my district is doing everything virtual for their safety, but they want to put staff and students in harms way. That doesn't make sense to me.
7/21/2020 12:21:50	Crystal	Oster	None, just a concerned c	Newton, KS	I am in favor of delaying the start of the 20-21 school year or using partial online/in person schedules, until the number of COVID19 cases go down. Do not put our teachers, school staff, students and all their families at a higher risk.
7/21/2020 12:21:51	Rebekah	Urena		Hillsboro	This is absolutely needed in order to further stop the spread of COVID-19. Being that the most accurate research states that children are mostly asymptomatic carries, they may bring home the virus to parents, grandparents, children with special needs and immune compromised family members.
7/21/2020 12:21:54	Jennifer	Cauley	Parent	Great Bend, KS	I have 2 kids in public school and I think school should be delayed until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 12:21:54	Anna	Lenhart murray	Teacher	Wichita	Please delay the opening of school to allow school district adequate time to implement safety measures for students, teachers and staff. Sedgwick county is currently a hot spot for the growth of this virus. Please do not ask me to choose between my job and my health.
7/21/2020 12:21:57	sarah	naff	top flight kids learning c	Olathe	If preschools and daycares are open it is very unfair that it "is not safe" to open public schools when its safe enough for us to be open. Do we not matter?
7/21/2020 12:21:58	David	Miller	Basehor-Linwood Paren	Basehor	District school board should be making these decisions on a case by case basis since they have to address collectively all the issues that arise from a start date decision.

7/21/2020 12:22:00	Ashley	Jacobson		Waterville	I really think you need to let each district make this decision. What is right for Kansas City, Lawrence, Topeka and other larger cities is not always what is right for us smaller communities. Our county has had 6 total cases and currently only 1 active case. Let us open school in August but cut out all activities that would make the children travel. This needs to be about education and not sports. If you let the kids travel then the virus is just going to spike again. Also please do not make them wear masks. Like I said before we live in a small community and my kids have been around the kids they will go to school. They have ran and wrestled each other and I let that happen because I trust the parents and I know that they have not left the county like us since this whole thing has started. Thank you for taking the time to read this. I hope you have a wonderful day.
7/21/2020 12:22:04	Stacy	Malicoat	USD 259 Wichita Public	Wichita	Please support the Governor Kelly's order to delay school until after Labor Day. This will give districts time to prepare and train teachers in safety procedures.
7/21/2020 12:22:16	Rosette	Randel		Seneca	I feel you should get school started as soon as possible and earlier if any change. Get going before the real flu season hits. The world has changed. You can't put off the start forever so get it going. Masks should not be required as other health issues will become an issue.
7/21/2020 12:22:19	Jeff	Bartlett		Rural	I would like to see students return to school as regularly scheduled.
7/21/2020 12:22:34	Emily	Brueseke	N/A - parent	Manhattan	I am in support of the Governor's Executive Order to delay the start of the K-12 school year until after Labor Day. I believe that it is in the best interest of students, families, teachers, and our communities to allow for more preparation time and also for COVID infections to decrease before schools reopen.
7/21/2020 12:22:40	Amy	Woodbury	Parent	Lawrence	Do not agree with order. School needs to start, kids need to play sports. Your plan will not prevent the spread of Covid. Let people get back to business and school.
7/21/2020 12:22:48	Brian	Griffin	Myself	Wamego	Leave it up to local jurisdiction on requirements and start kids on the normal start date of August 20th! The requirement for athletics to follow suit is asinine and a complete overreach of government! If you care about kids, stop and think what this is going to do to the mental health of ALL athletes. Being someone that coaches the younger kiddos, all they are worry about is playing sports this fall. Just the thought of postponing or canceling sports already has probably half of the kids I interact with weekly showing signs of depression at just the thought!
7/21/2020 12:22:55	Eric	Starnes	Band Programs in USD	Overland Park	I support the executive order. Delaying the start improves the likelihood of lower infection rates. This increases chances students can participate in activities outside of core, which a large group of students depends on to stay engaged. Thanks.

					<p>Please hear me out!! we need you now!!</p> <p>Local Control is not the way to go! Don't let local BOE's make this foolish decision to open or not open schools.</p> <p>We've seen what happens when you give local control during this pandemic! People choose to "cautiously reopen", and the cases and deaths spike as citizens don't follow guidelines.</p> <p>All of the deaths and permanent health issues of the compromised and unlucky in Kansas will be on your head. There is only one wise decision until we have some semblance of control over this virus... avoid being in large groups until we have a medicinal way to fight it, or watch it kill or permanently injure people's health.</p> <p>Taking temps, wearing masks and hourly hand washing will help until SUPRISE - it doesn't. It won't stop the statistically guaranteed super spreader events that will happen time and time again all over our great state. In the last 2 days they have released findings that older children (6-12 grades) spread the virus just as easily as adults. They've also got so much more info on how the super spreaders do so before they have a temp and are asymptomatic.</p> <p>I am a 46-year-old high school band director. I had major lung surgery 3 years ago to save me from a life threatening issue. I am healthy, but get out of breath easily now with my impaired lung function. I LOVE to teach band and kids, it is my purpose. When I die this fall, and could've made a difference for several more decades of teaching... it's terrifying and sickening.</p> <p>Governor Kelly made a heroic choice, and now I call upon you to do the same, as one of the few heroes that can stop this horrific mistake before it leads to the biggest spread of death to every urban metropolis and tiny farm town in the country all due to schools being the perfect 2-tiered virus catalyst they are (infecting their families and their families infecting places they go, making more students into spreaders, and the cycle repeats again and again).</p>
7/21/2020 12:22:56	Aaron	Tompkins	Abilene High School	Abilene	
7/21/2020 12:23:01	Karl	Spear		Baldwin City	please follow Gov Kelly's order for delaying school.
7/21/2020 12:23:07	Kali	De Paul		Overland Park	Keep up the good work protecting our students, teachers, families and community as a whole!
7/21/2020 12:23:07	Ann	Bowman		Emporia	I totally agree with Governor Kelly's decision as always better to be safe than sorry.
7/21/2020 12:23:12	Heike	Klein	KCKPS USD 500	414 N Evergreen St., Ga	I am 57 years old, and my husband is a Type 1 diabetic of 50 years who is also on disability because of diabetes complications. I am definitely concerned about possibly becoming exposed to COVID-19 and infecting my husband.
7/21/2020 12:23:17	Curtis	Long		Clifton	Please open the schools on time and have the students return to normal life. A 3 week delay to opening schools is not going to change anything for the good. The delay will cause another group of Seniors see their school year crashed by this. It will also cause a long-term problem of our younger kids falling behind on education and I would guess it will increase the drop out rate of those kids. We have had the flu around for many years and have not stopped the world from normal everyday life and we should not for this virus. I went to the dentist yesterday and the one of the questions I had to answer was "do I have any FLU like symptoms". Open up the schools and activities today. Thanks

7/21/2020 12:23:21	Benjamin	Cigich	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	I am a parent of a Blue Valley school district student and the husband of a BV school district elementary principal. I have watched my wife work through hours of details to plan for a safe return of our students and seen the stress she has as she is trying to make it work for all alongside BV leadership. She realizes any decision never makes everyone happy but I saw her smile for the first time last week after Gov Kelly's announcement. She cried a bit and said "wow, the gift of time." She was so thankful for the extra three weeks that would allow for teachers to be prepared, buildings to be updated and guidelines put in place to allow for a safe return. I am certain she thought when they returned in August that Kansas' numbers would be down. We are a great state. We follow rules and care for our neighbors. While local control is important, it is vital we unite as one to make a decision for the health and safety of all involved in the day to day workings of school. I have heard many parents and community members say "its time for the kids to go back." They are right. It is time for them to go back when it is SAFE for them to go back and not just them but safe for all involved in the school day. Please do not let those who do not understand the details of school buildings influence your vote. Please do not make this about politics. Please support Gov Kelly's order to show you support our students, our teachers, our medical professionals and our communities. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:23:22	Marlene	Whitney	Board clerk-Interlocal #6	Plainville, KS	As much as I want my kids to be in school, I want it to be safe. Safe for them, safe for the staff and teachers. My husband is an educator and he is fearful of potential risk. So if a few more weeks will allow all districts to be better prepared all the way around, I'm in favor of the state board approving the executive order for the delay of school.
7/21/2020 12:23:25	Thomas	McDow	Self	Wichita	I believe schools should be opened. The science shows children do not spread the virus. Also in opening the school it should return to normal conditions, no masks which is hard on children's health, and no social distancing, . Playground and gym should be open. All these things are traumatizeing our children. Please stop this tyranny and harm!
7/21/2020 12:23:29	Tawny	Jacobs	Plains Elementary School	Plains	Please allow our schools to open. In our rural area our students suffer when not in school. They don't have other opportunities for learning. Distance learning is difficult with internet being substandard. Students do not have access to food, and many are left alone while their parents work at packing plants. I am very willing to go back to school and work.
7/21/2020 12:23:31	Jay	Atkin		Burlington	No delay in school should be done. The evidence of this virus being dangerous to kids is MINIMAL!!! The world is not a safe place and you will not be able to make it so. With a fatality rate of .00028% it is ludicrous for these measures to be put in place. There is some other reason the "panic" was pushed by the media. NO DELAY, NO ABNORMAL MEASURES. NO MASKS!! We are the rulers, and we are Sovereign. These are our children, not the States. You have minimal authority to advise parents and your over reach is hereby revoked.
7/21/2020 12:23:37	Roylene	Klein	self	Derby	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order. The fact that local school boards are meeting virtually because they are unwilling to meet in a group seems to say they consider meeting in a group unsafe. If that is the case, why would they consider a larger group of people such as in a school to be safe? I think the school board should be willing to actually put themselves physically in any classroom situation that they are recommending students and teachers to do.
7/21/2020 12:23:42	Cindy	Alexander	Shawnee Mission School	Lenexa	Please stand by the delay. Or continue the delay for a longer time. It's ludicrous to put people INTO danger. Please continue to listen to the health pros and the science. Thank you for all that you are doing to protect Kansas (whether we all comply or not!)
7/21/2020 12:23:49	Maggie	Onstott		Wichita	Please vote FOR opening schools AFTER Labor Day. As a parent and educator, it is not feasible to open schools completely unprepared to meet safety guidelines, protecting our children and educators. Statistically, for USD 259, we will lose 300+ lives if we aren't able to meet these safety guidelines. As a USD 259 employee, I know we are not ready. We don't have the equipment, and we don't have the time needed to prepare. 3 weeks could make all of the difference necessary to save lives. The lives of are citizens are worth protecting, aren't they?



7/21/2020 12:23:49	Lisa	Smith		Lawrence	No they should open. They should be making choices based on facts not fear. <a href="https://mobile.twitter.com/NahasNewman/status/1282048669374701573">https://mobile.twitter.com/NahasNewman/status/1282048669374701573</a>
7/21/2020 12:23:49	John	Anderson	Parent of Olathe South s	Olathe	You must listen to our public health officials. I have another son who is immunocompromised. His health is in jeopardy if schools open sooner rather than later. In the words of Dr. Lee Norman: “ Time for some plain talk. Schools can’t be “safe islands” in an unsafe community. Counties and cities who don’t use the proven measures to reduce spread of Covid-19 ask schools and hospitals to fix their sloppiness and mistakes, which is wrong to do. The virus will find a way in.”
7/21/2020 12:23:51	Casse	Drummond		Shawnee	Please vote to allow schools to open on time. Many parents and students need this option. Parents who don’t want or need their kids in school have many options to do so. Please give all parents a choice. I have confidence this can be done and be done safely.
7/21/2020 12:23:56	David	Pitts	Citizen	Pittsburg, Ks	Opening at all is absolutely dangerous to the students, staff, and general public. This should be a virtual year or the state will be in great danger
7/21/2020 12:23:56	Holly	Barth		De Soto	Please do not do in-person classes. It's not safe.
7/21/2020 12:24:07	Dennis	Boyer	Me	Olathe	I fully support Governor Kelly's order to delay the school year until after labor day and am asking that the State Board of Education do so as well. It is the correct thing to do in order to keep the people of Kansas safe and help reverse the spread of COVID-19.
7/21/2020 12:24:10	Jennifer	Bartlett		Rural	I am ready to return to school as an educator and ready for my children to return.
7/21/2020 12:24:10	Trina	Lutters	Teacher	Osborne	We need to start schools and sports. It is healthier if students get back to school.
7/21/2020 12:24:11	Shawna	Wright		Roeland Park	Please let the schools start in person. Anyone with a high school age student knows it is safer to have them in schools & sports with protocols being followed then tons of free time, where they will figure out ways to hang out closer together & do other high school kid stuff. Please don’t let the squeaky wheel get the oil. Our high school only has 6 families opting for online learning (I am sure for good reason), everyone else is comfortable with in school...because the risks of isolation, mental health struggles, or unstructured socialization is higher then the health risks in school. Thank you. I know this is not easy.
7/21/2020 12:24:16	Amy	Gallagher		Leawood	As a pediatric Physical Therapist with a minor in special education, and a sibling of an adult with special needs who attended Blue Valley schools I want to encourage you to consider all children and their varying needs when deciding on school reopening. By using a blanket statement and stating that all schools are mandated to be in person/be virtual it can limit the availability of services to individuals that may need. Please consider giving many options with plenty of flexibility to allow educators to best serve the varying levels of needs that exist in our community! There is no one size fits all in this situation, therefore I feel there is no one size fits all answer that should be mandated by the government. Thank you for your consideration
7/21/2020 12:24:16	Jana	Cox		Salina	keep the schools closed until after labor day!!!! It may save lives and it will sure as heck save on utility bills - I have always thought it silly to start in the heat of the summer and run up utility bills and then let out so early in the spring when it is still cool. Massive amounts o money could be saved if the schools started later i.e. after Labor Day and let out later such as the last week of May. Climate wise makes so much more sense -- whoever thought it was smart to make those poor kids walk home in extreme heat, have recess in extreme heat, and try to learn while hot from recesses.
7/21/2020 12:24:24	Jon	Woods	Parent	Manhattan	I feel it is very important for our youth to have interaction while learning. The schools need to open and run as they have in the past! This includes activities etc. For those not willing they have the option to do homeschooling.
7/21/2020 12:24:27	Desirae	Blythe		Uniontown	Reopen the 9th is fine but there better be sports or schools will lose a lot of students. Sports are motivators for students. I have already heard from several parents and students who will go elsewhere for education if there is no sports. Most parents send their children to public schools simple for the sports but are willing to send them to private schools or even homeschool. Also, there isn't anything positive about wearing masks. Why should we be breathing our own toxic waste? Plus it hinders learn of reading and language. Media and certain government politicians have used fear with not a whole lot of facts. We can't do that to our students. They need an environment that they feel safe. Masks don't promote safety but fear. What about the students with health issues or anxiety issues? The mask only makes those issues more noticeable. I don't fear Covid but I do take other precautions to keep my self healthy. Lot has to do with using some common sense.

7/21/2020 12:24:27	Raina	Lupton	Gardner Edgerton High	Gardner	Please open schools! My son is special needs and needs the structured environment. He will flunk school in an online atmosphere.
7/21/2020 12:24:44	Leslie	Nekola		Shawnee	Keep school decisions with the district! Kids need to be in school!
7/21/2020 12:24:45	Naomi	Earl	Stockton kansas element	Stockton	I understand the need for safety, but please consider the students - younger and older - that are unable to handle wearing a mask for a length of time. Either due to conditions like autism or anxiety. The feeling of having a mask confine your face is highly personal and to some unpleasant. I understand the deadly consequences but I also ask to not completely disrupt the children's lives. Sports, club activities and school functions are so important for their 0personal development and growth - please dont takerthat away.
7/21/2020 12:24:51	Carolyn	Kintzel		Topeka	As a teacher over 55 years old, as a parent of a high school aged student, as the custodian of a very vulnerable 75 year old aunt who lives with me and requires 24 hour a day care, and as a republican I agree with the executive order and would like to see it upheld. We do not know all that we need to know to put students and staff/teachers at risk by rushing into the school year unprepared. I would also like to see some options for teachers in a vulnerable state of health or who are caring for vulnerable family members. Please know that I take into consideration the economic impact keeping students home has on Kansas. I am also aware of the problems some children face from hunger and abuse, which weighs heavily on me, but at this time I am confident that this postponement of school will be overall beneficial to districts trying to keep their community safe for the people of Kansas by slowing the spread and allowing districts to have the best safety precautions they can have when school starts on September 10, 2020.
7/21/2020 12:24:53	Loretta c	Johnson	Myself, profession biolo	Manhattan	Please support Kelly's mandate to open schools after Labor Day. This action is in the interest of public health and safety of students, teachers and the community.
7/21/2020 12:24:59	Sandy	Theilen	USD497	Lawrence	Please hold off on any in person learning!! We should not be expected to sacrifice ourselves and thrown into a dangerous situation which could risk the health of ourselves and our family. Don't ask that Of educators! Simply put, going back to school during a time where COVID-19 runs rampant in this nation is beyond ignorant, its flat out stupid. With proper time, online learning can be proven sufficient for student learning. Also, when all of corporate America is allowed to work from home, expecting teachers to return to school clearly states how their own education system values them, and how education in this nation is run like a business, and not a means of expanding cognitive learning.
7/21/2020 12:25:01	Angela	Bertocchini	Blue Valley	Leawood	Please create a plan to have our children return to school, on time! Our children need to be in school, learning from a classroom. They need the in person support, guidance and love from their teachers. They need social interactions with their peers. There are ways to open our schools AND keep our children and staff safe. I am the owner of a local preschool and we have been open the entire time, never closing. To close would have left many families without child care and left our children at a loss of early learning. Our staff are wearing masks all day and teaching. We are doing our part in providing care and education for our families, while sanitizing surfaces, wearing masks, taking temperatures, asking health questions when entering the classroom etc.. It can be done! Please create a plan for our children to return to the classroom for in person learning!
7/21/2020 12:25:07	Lisa	Harris		Clay Center	3 weeks of starting late should be nothing to debate about. In the last couple of weeks out town had children down with the virus. They recovered fine but why would anyone force parents to put their children in harms way. 3 weeks would allow schools to further their safety protocols with mask, social distancing, what doors for which child to enter for temp checks, etc. This should be a no brainer.
7/21/2020 12:25:15	Amanda	Smith		Hutchinson, KS	I ultimately want my children back in the classroom. However, as COVID-19 cases are rising in our state and county, I support the late start to the school year. It is my impression that our district could use some extra time to adequately prepare for the students' safety, as well as for that of the instructors. The instructors also need time to prepare their lesson plans for the variety of instruction methods they may have to accommodate. It is a lot of work. It takes time to prepare for all of the possibilities we may have to face; it is unfair to ask the teachers of our children to ramp up in such a short amount of time. They need adequate support and resources, and I think the delay could help. My husband and I work full-time out of the home. We need to coordinate childcare sources that we trust (and can minimize exposure to our family), so I would ask that a decision is made quickly in order for us to plan ahead.

7/21/2020 12:25:24	Tiffany	Cogdell	Teachers	El Dorado	I would like the decision to start school be left up to the districts/counties. We have few cases and our school is ready to begin.
7/21/2020 12:25:24	Jason	Enneking	sabetha public schools	sabetha	Please delay until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 12:25:28	Julie	Burk	Teacher	Lawrence	<p>I am a teacher and parent in Kansas. I am asking you to uphold Governor Kelly's Executive Order. I desperately want to return to my classroom and my students. I miss it every day, and it is immeasurably easier to teach in person than online. But I do not want to risk my health or the health of my students and their families. Please do not return us to these environments until it is safe. If you cannot hold these meetings IN PERSON then you should not be asking us to return to crowded classrooms and hallways. It is hypocritical in the extreme. I teach early childhood. Please explain how I can keep 3 and 4 year old children sitting in seats and away from each other for the length of a school day. Please explain how I can keep a mask on a 3 year old with special needs. And then please explain to me how I console a 3 year old who has lost a family member from a virus that could be prevented with strong leadership.</p> <p>Please consult the experts in the field of education. Those experts would be teachers. I, a teacher, will not be sending my own children back to school under any circumstance until cases drop precipitously and/or there is a vaccine. I, a teacher, understand that absolutely none of the guidelines from the CDC are possible to enforce. I, a teacher, understand that there are no funds available for the guidelines. I, a teacher, spend thousands of dollars a year on my classroom and know the money is not there and I am tapped out. I AM TAPPED OUT. Please do not ask me to give up my life or my health. Please do not ask me to endanger my family. I teach because I love it. But I love my family more.</p>
7/21/2020 12:25:31	Lynn	Jordan		Overland Park	Please vote to delay the start of the school year per the Governor's order. With the continued increase in cases it doesn't make sense to send our children to school without truly understanding how the virus will impact them.
7/21/2020 12:26:00	Laurie	Greenfield	Blue Valley High	Leawood	Please open schools and allow the kids to do their sports
7/21/2020 12:26:01	Kathy	Johnston		Concordia	<p>Governor Kelly has a degree in Public Health- by ignoring her and the Medical community you are ignoring education as a whole! The rate of Covid cases in Kansas is tremendous! The hospitals only have so much they can do- sending students back early can will jeopardize lives! I will be tremendously upset if my grandchildren who attend school in Manhattan get this- or their teachers- and they dobt have a ventilator available. Politics need to be put aside! Do the right thing! If you are questioning what the right thing to do is??? Talk to Dr Steve Short a Pulmonologist in Manhattan- he can tell you first hand how devastating this virus is! Or his son Dr Hazen Short ER Dr in the Kansas City area! This is not about Governor Kelly or your stupid insinuation that she is overreaching! This is about our children their teachers and the staff in our schools! Have lots of family employed with the school districts and their liv4s depend on your common sense! Your party affiliation needs to take a back seat!</p> <p>Thank you Kathy Johnston</p> <p>For the record I am registered Independent!</p>
7/21/2020 12:26:05	Kimberly	Fulkerson	None	Salina	I am in favor of schools starting on time In person in August. The AAP recommends it.
7/21/2020 12:26:08	Bill	Cinelli	grandparent	Emporia	Please don't open schools before Labor Day. And then, with strict measures in place.
7/21/2020 12:26:22	Andrea	Curtis		Manhattan	<p>As a parent of children in the Kansas public school system and a Kansas educator I am asking that you please uphold Governor Kelly's Executive Order #20-58 to delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Delaying the start of the school year allows for school districts to process the information provided in the 1000+ pages of guidelines from KSDE, to develop a thorough reopening plan, and to prepare students, staff, and guardians.</p> <p>Positive cases of COVID-19 are increasing in Kansas and allowing students to return to school buildings in a few weeks will be dangerous to the health of all Kansans.</p> <p>Kansas teachers will be able to recover the lost instructional time with our students, but we can't recover the lives of loved ones potentially lost due to COVID-19 cases associated with an early return to school.</p>

7/21/2020 12:26:23	Melissa	Zieammermann	Usd 259	Wichita	School should be delayed until numbers are going down.
7/21/2020 12:26:25	Martha	Slack		Peck	As a registered nurse and mother I highly recommend following population health expert guidance. This virus is novel and we are still learning. We need to set politics aside and protect our communities, neighbors, friends, and families. The healthcare experts and frontline workers are telling us the right things, it is our responsibility to heed their suggestions. There are no "do overs" so please proceed with caution.
7/21/2020 12:26:30	January	Batcheler	Parent	Olathe, KS	Please honor the governor's executive order to have schools start after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 12:26:43	Megan	Olsen-Scogins	Parent of 3	Wichita	With 2 children in public middle and high schools, and 1 child in private elementary school, there is much concern that schools are not ready to provide the necessary resources and support to keep our children and teachers safe in the face of a global pandemic. As cases increase due to adults not following health guidelines, children are even less likely to understand or follow those same guidelines that adults refuse to follow. As a parent, we know how easily disease spreads in our schools, whether that be from child to child or adult to child. Parents constantly send ill children to school, despite being asked by schools to keep them home. This is a recipe for disaster with a virus that can often be asymptomatic. If schools cannot absolutely ensure safety measures will be followed for every teacher and student in a mere matter of weeks, postponing until that can be ensured and resources are accessible for teachers, students and parents is essential. I am not ready for my children and family members who are teachers to be guinea pigs in this return to school experiment.
7/21/2020 12:26:45	Megan	Bricks	Olathe Public Schools	De Soto	As a elementary music teacher for Olathe Public Schools, my hope is that you will uphold Governor Kelly's mandate to push back the opening of schools. I teach 520 students in my school and see them twice a week for 30 minutes each time throughout a school week. At this point, we don't have the resources or means to provide staff and students the safety precautions they need in school buildings. Please give our districts the gift of time to figure out what will work best for our community, students, parents, families, and staff. I want to teach music again to my students, but I won't be able to do my job effectively without time!
7/21/2020 12:26:48	D	Jam	usd230	Spring Hill	DO NOT open schools until Covid 19 has went down and stays down. Do not make the kids go to school with mask on
7/21/2020 12:27:06	Courtney	Wicks		Olathe	<p>It is not reasonable to begin in person classes at this time or in the near future. Virtual learning should be the plan to begin the school year. As cases continue to climb, it would be irresponsible to put more people at risk. Please continue to keep the health and safety of our children and educational professionals as the priority.</p> <p>The Governor has done a wonderful job approaching things with caution. We can see how the opposite approach has not worked with Missouri. Defer to the medical experts, use a single source of truth, and take a conservative and forward thinking approach to the education of our children.</p> <p>Taking a play from the private schools, they have had virtual learning in place for some time now. COVID-19 caught us off guard and has forced us to be reactionary. I realize there are many differences between public and private schools, we can still learn from each other and review and put into place best practices. Please follow the science and the experts. Johns Hopkins University has been an excellent resource for our family and decisions we are making. Keeping in mind that medicine is not an exact science and subject to change and evolve as more information and understanding comes to light.</p> <p>Please do not start in person classes while the cases continue to rise.</p> <p>Thank you for your time. Courtney Wicks, Mother of a middle and high schooler</p>
7/21/2020 12:27:19	Carrie	Cronan	Olathe School District	Olathe	I believe the board should follow the governors mandate and wait to resume in person school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 12:27:26	Joshua	Warner	Lawrence Public School	Lawrence Ks	Keep schools open. If schools aren't allowed to open at least allow sports to continue. The young adults have been working hard for years to get a scholarship and this could derail the entire work put into getting here.

7/21/2020 12:27:26	Tirra	Carter		Scott City	Masks for children are unconstitutional and a violation of our civil rights. It should be up to parents whether or not our children wear masks. Healthy people do not wear masks. Sick people do. Quit traumatizing our children for the sake of politics. Individual counties should be in charge of when we start school. This is not one size fits all.
7/21/2020 12:27:28	Staci	McCaig	USD490	El Dorado	I feel the year needs delayed to give teachers adequate time to prepare for the students.
7/21/2020 12:27:31	Jackie	Worley	My children and self	Emporia	I believe delaying school is the best interest of the district and state. This would allow teachers and staff to prepare our schools for the safety of the students. I myself do not feel safe sending my children to school even after September 9.
7/21/2020 12:27:44	Brent	Kaiser		Hays	Please do whatever possible to allow kids back to school in the classroom as soon as possible. My kids are itching to be able to get back to school in the classroom.
7/21/2020 12:27:52	Jennifer	Duggan	Blue Valley school distr	Merriam	Please pass the governors order to delay start of school. As a teacher we need time to plan for the upcoming year based on newly released plan. Is also love to give us a chance to lower the numbers for a chance to be in person! And please delay start of fall sports. We need to keep athletes, coaches and sponsors safe!
7/21/2020 12:27:52	Emily	Nethercott	KCKPS (as an educator)	Kansas City	Please rely on available scientific data to make decisions keeping the health of all Kansans in priority.
					<p>I am greatly concerned for the future education of my children as many parents are. I would like to present the following information for you to consider, borrowed from another with permission.</p> <p>To provide some contrast to the governor's executive orders, I will present the following information:</p> <p>Kansas today: 7-20-20</p> <p>Covid-19-23,334 positive and probable cases total</p> <p>Deaths-307 or 0.0131567669 of cases or 1/100th of cases 61.4 deaths per month in 5mon. 2.04 deaths per day</p> <p>2,913,000 population 0.0001053896 deaths per capita or 1/1000th</p> <p>Of 307 deaths - 0 in ages 0-24yrs</p> <p>So no deaths, not one under 24yrs No male deaths under 44 No female deaths under 54 1/3 of all deaths in Kansas are from 1 county (Johnson)</p>
7/21/2020 12:27:59	Sabrina	Cruz	St Marys Jr. Sr. high pa	St. Marys	83% of the deaths in Johnson County took place in long term care facilities.
7/21/2020 12:28:01	Tracy	Schoenhofer	USD 385	Andover, KS	Start school and the ones who are health compromised students or teachers can do online. Our kids social emotional and educational needs out weighs the risks. Kids are starting to feel discouraged and we as a society are not helping with our indecisiveness. If we can do the Shrine Bowl, we can get back to school and school activities with precautions in place.

					<p>Good Afternoon,</p> <p>I would like to express my concern with the governor's decision on schools. I do not feel like her decision is justified. This is a new virus and while everyone needs to be careful and practice safety, eliminating school is not going to prevent people from getting the virus. There should be measures in place just as there are when kids get the flu. In person learning is huge for children emotionally and physically. Our children are suffering. My child is emailed his teacher asking for new and harder work each week and was never provided anything but review items. As his parent i had to buy tons of extra learning materials as the schools were not providing them. I don't feel like the schools are even remotely prepared to handle online learning.</p> <p>Please fight to get our children back in school!</p> <p>I understand our teachers are concerned about getting the virus but almost all of them are getting out and about with or without masks on, so i don't see the justified reasoning unless they are truly staying inside their house 100% of the time.</p> <p>They are deemed essential workers just like healthcare, grocery store, etc and we cannot treat them any different.</p> <p>If school is delayed i asked that we fight to make sure it extends into the summer to ensure these children are getting a full year.</p> <p>We can offer virtual learning for those who want it and if we have immunocompromised teachers they could teach those children at home virtual.</p>
7/21/2020 12:28:07	Ashley	Smith	USD437	Topeka	Again, please please please fight to get our kids back into the classrooms!
7/21/2020 12:28:08	Sheila	Howard	Myself	Protection/Teach in Dod	I do not think schools should open with in person instruction, but if it does it should not happen until September 9th. There are too many unknowns: lack of substitutes, who pays medical bills because of an exposure, what about sick time. I live in a county with very few cases of COVID but I teach in Dodge City, which has a lot of cases. My family will not be able to work at our assisted care facility if I am in Dodge all of the time. We are living in a situation of when not what if. I pray politics are put aside and common sense prevails.
7/21/2020 12:28:18	Stacie	Jordan	Wichita Public Schools	Goddard, but teach in W	I understand that our local boards should be handling such matters; however, some of our leadership such as in Wichita just cannot handle making the difficult decisions themselves. They do not even call off school for snow/ice days when they clearly should. I guarantee you they never would have closed schools last March had it not been for the governor. We need your approval of Governor Kelly's executive orders so we can be assured of safety guidelines when we return to school. At the last board meeting it was discussed that a person is only considered to be exposed if they come into contact for more than 10 minutes less than six feet. Now we all know that it does not take 10 minutes to contract a virus, but this is the guideline they are going by to determine contract tracing and quarantine protocols. We will have a serious outbreak in Wichita Public Schools if we do not have help from the Kansas State Board of Education and our Governor.
7/21/2020 12:28:23	Cole	Ivey	None	Shawnee	Please vote no against Governor Kelly's executive order.
7/21/2020 12:28:31	Meghan	Hummer	USD 261	Garden Plain	Virtual to begin.
7/21/2020 12:28:39	Eloy	Perez	My family	Ulysses Kansas	If you guys are saying that mask work why the delay in starting school
7/21/2020 12:28:42	Paige	Unruh		Wichita	I would like school to remain virtual until Covid cases decline.
7/21/2020 12:28:56	LESLIE	LAND		Topeka	I fully support the delay of starting in person instruction for the 20-20 school year. My daughter will be starting 6th grade, and I fully intend on not sending her for in person schooling in August.

7/21/2020 12:28:58	Sylvia	Villa	USD 480	Liberal	Why wait until after Labor Day to start? Will that make a difference in whether or not one will get Covid? We need to go back, now! Students are needing some kind of normalcy in their lives and are getting further behind academically. Yes, I am scared of getting Covid and dying from it as I am an educator, who teaches first grade. However, I am also a parent to a sophomore in high school and online learning is not conducive to effective learning for my son and other students that need the one-to-one interaction. So yes, let's get the show on the road and start getting these kiddos back to what they know!
7/21/2020 12:29:04	Phillip	Gwost	Parent of students in US	Wichita	Please do not open schools until Wichita has seen a steady decline and several weeks of low COVID numbers . I'm a nurse in the Wichita community and my wife is a substitute teacher for Wichita and we want everyone to stay healthy!
7/21/2020 12:29:09	Sarah	Balzer	USD 260	ROSE HILL	I do not support opening schools while covid cases are rising.
7/21/2020 12:29:10	Hudson	Ivey	None	Shawnee	Please vote no against Governor Kelly's executive order.
7/21/2020 12:29:14	Kendra	Lister		Manhattan	I feel that the decision should be left up to each school district, not the state as a whole. Most districts seem to have options available for parents not comfortable sending their children. Each district has many different factors to take into account and it is not the same statewide.
7/21/2020 12:29:15	Kathryn	Taylor		Chanute	I fully agree with the Governor's order. Her leadership is appreciated.
7/21/2020 12:29:16	Susan	Carter	A grandparent	Scott City	Kids need to get back to school and normalcy! I do not believe in masks and elementary children do not need them. Gov Kelly is following the democratic ways and trying to ruin our state and education of our children. She needs to be gone!! Please vote to not follow her ways of delaying school. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:29:17	Shelby	Leiker	Middle school teacher	Olathe Ks	As a middle school teacher and parent, I am deeply concerned that opening back up schools will be tragic. Unfortunately Johnson county schools are already busting at the seams with students and there is no way that with the rise of covid that schools will be able to realistically keep students 2ft apart let alone 6ft. I urge you to keep schools closed until after Labor Day and possibly longer until a vaccine is available. I understand that smaller districts and smaller communities may be able to accommodate the reopening requirements but in Johnson county that is not possible.
7/21/2020 12:29:18	Allison	Brown	Parent	Derby	If we are to teach children that they should listen to those who set the rules- then we should lead by example. We tell them not just to listen blindly, but to find good sources (the governor has spent more hours learning about this and being briefed than any of us), question the sources' motivation (I can't think of a reason she would WANT to be overly restrictive if she didn't have reason- there is no plus side to her having to enforce strong protocols for no apparent reason: it is a hardship for her people and she has recognized that) I ask that the state BOE would model what it asks of our students, and follow the directions of the Governor.  It is my belief that we can beat this hard and fast, or continue to fight every restriction and prolong it indefinitely. I am sure that the state BOE, and its members, have been in the position of having the most information possible about a topic, making a choice based on that knowledge, and then still had entities below them question or dismiss their findings using logic that (had they been a part of the strenuous decision making process)- they might actually agree with you on. I believe that Gov. Kelly has the safety of ALL Kansans in mind, and that we should respect the decision making process and focus on what we can do to help move students forward within the confines laid out.
7/21/2020 12:29:22	Bob	Pomeroy		Newton	I support the Governor's prder to de ok ay schools until after Labor Day. Ooening schools while cases are rising would put our students and teachers at risk.
7/21/2020 12:29:31	Maribel	Gallegos		Olathe	If children come first, then schools need to be virtual. Children have the right to remain healthy and not spread Covid-19 to their family and community. Please follow the science and not politics.
7/21/2020 12:29:37	Jennifer	Klein	Andover Central High S	Wichita	Keep schools closed!! It is not fair to expect me to stay away from my parents and newborn granddaughter to go to work. It is not safe!!
7/21/2020 12:29:37	Jane	Sommers	usd415	Robinson	We need to be open before Labor Day!!

					We should not delay opening Kansas schools due to COVID-19.  The best available Contact Tracing data out of Iceland, Ireland, and The Netherlands shows that the likelihood of youth transmitting COVID-19 is infinitesimal. Sweden never closed its lower schools, and many EU countries have reopened their schools without increasing infection rates.  Kansas kids are being deprived of an education by school closures. Distance learning is ineffective, particularly in lower grades. Please reopen schools so that our children can get a decent education.
7/21/2020 12:29:48	David	Morgan	Self	Leawood	
7/21/2020 12:29:50	Thatcher	Ivey	None	Shawnee	Please vote no against Governor Kelly's executive order.
7/21/2020 12:29:54	Julie	Wagenblast	Parents of students	Kensington	Please vote against the executive order to delay school opening. All schools should open on time whether it is in person, or for those in high risk areas, online. Our children's future education and well-being depends on it. This is an overstepping of power that should remain with the district's as set out in our constitution. One size doesn't fit all Kansans. I also feel the guidelines you set out, should be kept as such. Specifically, face masks should be discretionary based on individual circumstances.
7/21/2020 12:29:55	Lori	Rice	Self as educator	Wamego	Please support the delay in school start date to allow educators to plan and possibly the case numbers to decrease to safe numbers.
7/21/2020 12:29:55	Justin	Kurtz		Olathe	Please support the govener's decision to delay the start of school and postpone in person classes as needed. It is senseless to put faculty, teachers, students, and parents/caregivers in peril due to the grumblings of the few. It is not just that this virus can kill, but that there is the potential for very long lasting effects well after this pandemic is over.
7/21/2020 12:30:01	Kristine	Walker	Self	Olathe	With infection rates at almost 11% in JOCO, I respectfully ask you to support the Governor and vote to start schools in September.
7/21/2020 12:30:03	Jessica	Janzen		Olathe	I support the delayed opening of the 20-21 K-12 school year until teachers, students, and families of both can safely resume school with the needed precautions and equipment in place as well as COVID 19 cases on the decline.
7/21/2020 12:30:04	Liz	Craig	Johnson County Democ	Overland Park	Setting an arbitrary date for reopening is a mistake. Reopening should not happen until virus infections are down greatly, or gone entirely. We can't risk the health and lives of students and teachers before then.
7/21/2020 12:30:10	Timothy	Sprigg	Kansas Farmers	Norton	As a parent of multiple children who will be riding a bus, the Child mask order and proposed delayed start are both deeply problematic. We are not a State governed by fear. Why the pretense? Who is handing out awards for the most convincing Panic? The safest thing for our children is to congregate and build immunity as soon as possible. If these orders go through, we will be homeschooling our children. Please act in the best interest of our children and not your political affiliations.
7/21/2020 12:30:11	David	Klahr	Holton USD 336	Holton	I request you follow Resolution 20-58 and delay the start of schools until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 12:30:14	Christy	Steinfort		Hanover	Please open schools!!! Education is too important not to open. The virus isn't going anywhere anytime soon. Kids are hanging out with each other all summer at each other's houses and pools. Might as well have school if they are not keeping space anyway!



					<p>First, I want to thank you for your service during this impossible time. I recognize that the work set before you is daunting. You are making difficult decisions for the children of our state, and I am grateful for your service.</p> <p>I want to ask that you put our children first. As a parent and a social worker who works with children who are at risk, I believe that the health and safety of our children is paramount. After listening to our governor yesterday, I do not believe that she is putting our children first. She went from discussing a long term care facility to discussing why she is closing our schools. There is not a connection. COVID-19 is a public safety risk, but our children are not at a significant risk. I have studied the numbers at length. We live in a world full of risks. I believe that our children are more at risk if we keep them home than if we send them to school. I understand that teachers are nervous, just as every other professional has been, but we can not let their concerns come before the health and well-being of our children.</p> <p>Our youth must be allowed to participate in sports and activities. The middle schoolers and high schoolers are together every day, at the pool and hanging out in each other's basements. They have been participating in morning workouts all summer. They have been playing baseball. They are traveling together and spending the night at each other's homes. The fact that we aren't allowing them to play sports is absurd. We are putting their mental health at risk. They need to be active or we will have a drug and alcohol epidemic on our hands. Please do not allow there to be a delay on sports and activities. For the health and well-being of our children, please allow them to get back to life. We can do it safely.</p> <p>Our governor is allowing politics to come before the well-being of children. Kansas is better than that. Please allow the local school districts to know what is best for their kids.</p> <p>Thank you for your time, Sarah Rothwell</p>
7/21/2020 12:30:16	Sarah	Rothwell	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	
7/21/2020 12:30:21	Beth	Harman	Teacher	Topeka	Districts should be able to decide based on population they support.
7/21/2020 12:30:33	Dina	Ross	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita	I am a substitute teacher and am very nervous about the entire situation. It makes not even want to start the year but I know our district needs them more now than ever. We used to start after Labor Day when I was a kid. I would rather delay the beginning than end the year like we had to if we were to shut down again.
7/21/2020 12:30:39	Jamie	Fowles	Heritage Christian Scho	Topeka	Please vote against the two orders the Governor Kelly is trying to mandate on our schools. Kansas children deserve better. Please vote against these orders, please allow Kansas public and private schools make the decisions individually for what is best for their students and families. They know their students best and all schools are different and can manage their students and families differently
7/21/2020 12:30:41	Angie	Radke		Scott City	Start now! Don't delay. It will probably get worse when flu season hits and we will have to distance learn then. So start now so we can get as much in person as we can! It's needed for the kids mental health
7/21/2020 12:30:46	Carolyn	Long	Usd 265	Wichita	We are in a much worse place now than we were back in March when we closed down. I feel we should delay the start of school as Governor Kelly proposes. I just do not see how we're going to be able to keep all staff and students safe at this time

7/21/2020 12:30:51	Cassandra	Conley		Rose Hill	<p>Please support the governor in her mandates. You just passed an 1100 document this past week that schools need to have time to process and implement. Remember most admin and teachers are technically not back at school (despite the fact I know they are all putting in many many hours). Teachers return just a few days prior to the start of school, but this mandate allows them to return earlier than the students and implement safety precautions. I would rather start school later than get in school and immediately have to explain to my kindergarten child why we are back home again. If schools bring their teachers in earlier than September- the school year for students will still end at almost the exact same time because teachers will have the required professional days at the start. Please after 4 months of trying to tell kids to stay safe and home, don't send them back before they have a chance to make schools safe.</p> <p>Teachers and students deserve a safe space and school can not currently be that place. Numbers are rising. Please be a leader and make a smart decision.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 12:30:52	Katie	Schmitz	Circle Towanda Elemen	Towanda, KS	I do not wish to have the school year postponed any further, nor do I believe that young people will wear a mask all day long even if required. Our children need to be back in school!
7/21/2020 12:30:55	Jessie	Pullins	Blue valley	Leawood	Delay til 2021
7/21/2020 12:30:57	Brandi	Carrion	Parent	Fort riley	Please delay start
7/21/2020 12:30:59	Mary	Barnett	grandparent	Wichita	Countries that have successfully re-opened schools have done so when the rate of transmission is below 1.0. Right now, Kansas has the 14th highest transmission rate in the U.S. Recent research shows that although young children do not become as ill as older adults, they transmit the virus to their parents and other adults in their households. We do not yet know the long-term effects of this virus on children. There is growing data to suggest that it may cause infertility in males and life-long vascular and cardiac problems. I urge you to err on the side of caution and delay the opening of both private and public schools until Kansas is able to bring the COVID transmission rate below 1.0 in accordance with CDC recommendations. We cannot afford to make our children and teachers sacrificial offerings to the economy. They ARE the economy! Our children and grandchildren are our best hope for the future. Please do not put them in an experiment to see how many get sick and/or die.
7/21/2020 12:31:00	Kebra	Poe		Junction city	For the safety of our teachers and students school should be delayed.
7/21/2020 12:31:09	Denise	Bamberger	Alternative Education..	Dodge city	Please, hold off on starting school until after Labor Day. When I was in school we didn't start until after Labor Day and we learned all we needed to learn. We will still be held accountable for the mandated hours. Better to delay a few weeks and give students and faculty the best possible odds to stay safe. It will be a risk at any time, but please, don't rush this start. There are so many folks who aren't wearing masks out in Dodge... As a teacher, I know we can bring students back up to speed even with a three week delay. Please!
7/21/2020 12:31:11	Jill	Rosebrook		Salina	<p>I urge you to take the health and wellness of our students and faculty into consideration as you make this decision. This is most definitely NOT the time to bring political lines into the mix, but a time to think of what is the safest way for our children to get the education they deserve.</p> <p>I have a granddaughter in the school system in Salina, and I absolutely hope that you uphold Governor Kelly's Executive Order and delay the start of the 2020 school year. Our children most definitely deserve to have their health put before ANYthing and EVERYthing else.</p> <p>As you make your decisions, please try to think how you would feel if your child were to become infected with COVID-19 due to adult political foolishness. The school system should ALWAYS be a safe haven for our children and their teachers. They should never have to be put at risk for a haphazard decision made by people who only see red vs. blue.</p> <p>Once again, I urge you to take not only my granddaughter, but your own children and families as well, into consideration. Please do what is right for THEM - not for a circle filled in on a ballot. Uphold Governor Kelly's order and delay the start of school.</p>

7/21/2020 12:31:19	Jessica	Bowman		Hillsboro	Please do support the governor's order to delay the start of school until after labor day. It will give school districts a chance to digest the recommendations from KSDE and make sufficient local plans for the best learning and safety of our children.
7/21/2020 12:31:21	Liz	Pomeroy	Self	Newton	I support tge governors order to deokay school start until after labor day. Cases are rising. We must not put students, teachers and all the other workers at risk.
7/21/2020 12:31:28	Heather	Rasmussen		Lawrence	Please support Governor Kelly's order. We care about the health of our children, teachers, administrators, and other school staff. It is too risky to open schools now. The most recent data supports that children (particularly those over 10) DO spread the virus similar to adults. This is not a chance I'm willing to take for my family, friends, and fellow Kansans.
7/21/2020 12:31:51	Linda	Hopkins	Usd 243	Coffey	We were to start August 13th. If in school.classes are to start Sept 9th, is like an option for visual learni g from Aug 13 to Sept 9. So as not to.lose days
7/21/2020 12:31:52	Christine	Leyva	USD232	Shawnee	No
7/21/2020 12:31:52	Troy	Anderson	Parent	Lawrence KS	Let the kids play sports and go to school. It is possible with appropriate risk management, masks, sanitation, hand washing, etc. I am considered an "essential" worker and have been managing the risk for 5 MONTHS!
7/21/2020 12:31:54	Jackie	Batson		Prairie Village	I support Gov. Kelly's order to delay reopening so that schools can be better prepared and able to extend virtual learning further if needed. This affects all of us. However, I hope a safe space can be provided at the schools for those who need it. I also support the mask in schools mandate and hope the schools will be supplying them for those attending in person.
7/21/2020 12:31:55	Monica	Fouquet-Tyler	Lutheran schools BOE a	Cheney	School should start on time with no masks!
7/21/2020 12:32:00	Katelynn	Johnson	Teacher	Ulysses	As a teacher we need that delay!! There is so much to cover and to adapt to. There will need to be time to get supplies and be trained on it so everyone can be on the same page. I am very good with technology but we will need to train those who are not. Technology is going to be a BIG deal during this year. It will become essential to those who stay home or when we have to switch at a drop of a hat to use that technology. Those 3 weeks will make or break the year!! We need to make sure that we are covering the new standards that have put into groupings. Also not to add all the health standards that the schools are still making and adapting to. WE NEED THE 3 MORE WEEKS!!
7/21/2020 12:32:00	Brooklyn	Klahr	Holton USD 336	Holton	I support Gov. Kelly's decision to postpone school. For the safety and health of our students.
7/21/2020 12:32:02	Steve	Ormord	personal	Dodge City	School should not be delayed, but open on the scheduled date. There is far too much science that shows that children need not fear this virus and that the risk of them spreading it is minimal. Politicians are over-reacting to this virus on every level.
7/21/2020 12:32:07	Deana	Gard	Citizen	Wichita	I am writing in support of Governor Kelly's plan to delay the start of school. It is critical that plans to protect the health and safety of students and educators are solid and in place before their return. My aunt is an educator in South Haven. She has cancer that impairs her immune function and I worry for her safety. I'm sure there's many other students and teachers who are immunocompromised that have the same fears. Please protect the health and safety of Kansans by supporting the governor's plan to delay the start of school; lives are hanging in the balance.
7/21/2020 12:32:07	Erin	Ponce	6 th grade and senior 20	Mulvane kansas	Go online until spring get through flu season and let things settle down so our seniors of 2021 can walk
7/21/2020 12:32:08	George	Elmer		Shawnee	I feel it is valuable for our children to be in school. I have two children, one is eager to be back at school while the other wants online school. I feel that if my city isn't having a large number of outbreaks then we should not punish our kids and keep them at home. They should be able to go to school.
7/21/2020 12:32:08	Heidi	Stigers	My family	Shawnee	Please don't allow schools to reopen for in person classes until COVID-19 is controlled. We don't know the long term effects of this disease. Asking children to wear a mask 8 hours a day will be ineffective and put everyone at risk for exposure to the disease. The number of outbreaks that will happen in schools will bring the education system to a halt

7/21/2020 12:32:08	Kelli	Pennington	Public SchoolTeachers	Mulvane	I agree with Governor Kelly that schools should delay opening until after Labor Day. The data on Covid diagnoses and deaths continue to rise. Just today, new measures for Sedgwick County are being put in place. The new Sedgwick County order would: <input type="checkbox"/> Close all bars and nightclubs <input type="checkbox"/> Close all eating and drinking establishments at 10 p.m. <input type="checkbox"/> Limit gatherings to 15 people or less Read about the other restrictions: <a href="https://bit.ly/2OHw8bl">https://bit.ly/2OHw8bl</a> #kwch12w Kansans refuse to take measures of safety for themselves and others. Schools need the additional 3 weeks to prepare the safety measures, provide training, and acquire proper supplies for reopening. Educators want to be back in the buildings and we want to be with our students. Please support US by allowing this to happen not because a Democratic Governor wants to mandate a delay but because it is the BEST for education in KANSAS. Show that our Board of Education cares about supporting its educators. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:32:10	Michael	Watson	Blue Valley Schools	Kansas City	Please vote to delay schools until after Labor Daym Please consider the lives of your teachers.
7/21/2020 12:32:14	Sarah	Moser	none	Lenexa	I support waiting until after Labor day to start classes; however, please let the sports conditioning continue! The kids need this physical outlet; they aren't in close contact while running or out on a field; they wear masks and wash up upon entry and exit; and it is good for the body and soul. PLEASE let the kids play!
7/21/2020 12:32:15	Holly	Carchesio		Shawnee	these kids need to be in school and masks should be an individual/family choice. don't let the media influence your decision. look at the date specifically for kids.
7/21/2020 12:32:16	Rachael	Wyeth	Self & children	Wichita	I understand the governors position to delay school, but as a parent I am concerned that the governor will continue to delay school or implement rules for the school districts to follow that are cannot be enforced. Sanitation and hand washing have always been important in the prevention of disease. This is not new. It seems like the schools have had all summer to prepare for safety and sanitation processes to be ready for school to start on time. For the families who are uncomfortable sending their children to school they should have the option to do school online, with the ability to change curriculums at quarter or semester end.
7/21/2020 12:32:19	Cara	Dietz	Parent	Hays	I appreciate the delay of schools in order to give the teachers, staff, custodiansAdministrators time to prepare for this school year.
7/21/2020 12:32:20	Erin	Atteberry	USD 495	Larned	Please consider starting school on time. Our kids have been out of school for over 4 months and the emotional impact as well as educational impact is obvious. The reality is that the virus will still be here in 3 weeks and no longer now long we wait, there will be a spike for those who choose to go to school. With Districts offering options for those not comfortable sending their students to traditional school, those who have evaluated the risks and feel the benefits outweigh them, should be able to send their students to in person school with appropriate precautions in place.
7/21/2020 12:32:24	Shantel	Corpening	Larned middle school	Larned	I am all for holding off on starting school the number of covid cases are higher then ever and my son has health conditions it is not safe. I prefer online classes until this is under control.
7/21/2020 12:32:25	Crystal	Holzer		Junction City	PLEASE delay the start of school until after Labor Day. It will allow parents to make more informed decisions and allow schools to adequately prepare for all of the logistics involved.
7/21/2020 12:32:26	Shayla	Tucker		Scott City	I feel we need to do whatever we can to start school in August. We are going to have another spike in COVID cases because kids are gross so let's cross that bridge when we come to it and get these kids in school in August.
7/21/2020 12:32:32	Julie	Geiger	Teacher	Everest	The highest number of new cases to date in Kansas was recorded yesterday: 973. It is ludicrous to even consider in-person classes until we reverse this spiraling upward trend. This is not about politics. It's about public health and safety. How many teachers, students and family members have to die before we take this seriously?
7/21/2020 12:32:36	Shawna	Wright		Roeland Park	In school, after Labor Day, and leave it up to each district/institution regarding before. Private schools can make parents provide PPE & have smaller school/class sizes. Thank you!
7/21/2020 12:32:45	Deeann	Schamberger	Children of Hoxie	Hoxie	No delayed start time
7/21/2020 12:32:45	Stephanie	Katzer	USD497	Lawrence	I have submitted my thoughts regarding the opening date of school. We were asked to share our thoughts about summer sports conditioning. If they continue to practice as they are now, with safety procedures in place and social distancing during conditioning-no contact, I support this as there is a balance with mental health as well.
7/21/2020 12:32:55	Therese	Cooper	Myself	Wichita	Open up school regular time. And governor needs to stop and be realistic in makes for kids.

7/21/2020 12:32:59	Michelle	Schrock	Students of USD 307	Brookville	While I would love to see my students back in school and participating in extra-curricular activities, at this time I do not feel it is safe. With the increase our state is currently experiencing in positive COVID cases, it's in our children's best interest to delay the start of school. It is our social responsibility to limit close contact until our positive cases see a drastic decline. While my family has continued to take the necessary precautions, my daughter has been quarantined for possible exposure from close contact. These possible exposures came from classroom like settings such as helping teach Vacation Bible School just as it will if our children go back to school before we have this pandemic under better control. I am a Republican in rural Kansas, but I fully support Governor Kelly's recommendations and commend her for stepping up as a true leader and making tough decisions in the best interest of our students and communities! Please do not let politics guide your decision! You are an elected official trusted to make reasonable decisions in the best interest of our students, not to play political games with our children's health and well-being.
7/21/2020 12:33:03	Anonymous	Anonymous	USD 489	Hays	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Teachers made online "work" in less than one week. They have had all summer to prepare. There is no need to further prep.</li> <li>2. Temperature checks at the door are a HIPAA violation for my child. If my child has 6 year molars coming in and has a low grade fever due to teeth, it is not the school's responsibility to determine my child's health.</li> <li>3. Opening MULTIPLE entrances for public access has been deemed UNSAFE. This can cause a loop hole for leaving our children vulnerable to attacks. <a href="https://www.cisa.gov/school-safety-and-security">https://www.cisa.gov/school-safety-and-security</a></li> <li>4. If schools are not opened, we will see a drastic increase in home schooling, thus losing teaching jobs</li> <li>5. Our children that need school the most have been without it. Think of the less fortunate students who are suffering at home and missing their school.</li> </ol>
7/21/2020 12:33:10	Kathleen	Billings		Topeka	Thank you for giving the districts additional time to create plans. As a working mother of 4 elementary aged children, it is not at all convenient. But, it is right. I support the Governors EO to delay school opening until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 12:33:12	Lois	Domek	none	Mayetta	I support the postponement of school opening. Please support Governor Kelly in her efforts to protect the people of Kansas. Listen to the medical experts. We could get ahead of this crisis people stopped playing politics and worked together.
7/21/2020 12:33:17	Patti	Silver	self	Overland Park	I am a medical professional. Since numbers are surging in Kansas and now it has been noted that children can get this virus and the children over 10 can spread the virus just like adults it seems like common sense to keep the children out of school until after Labor Day to see if numbers go down. I believe this a day to day situation. Please keep schools closed for the time being. Thank you
7/21/2020 12:33:20	Taylor	Stivers		Hays	I hope that you use science to make your decision. I think the governor's decision to delay the start of school is in our best interest as educators, parents, and citizens. We need to have less community spread in order to safely open school.
7/21/2020 12:33:22	Sharon	Towery	US Citizen	Larned	Lots of kids have medical reasons like asthma that cant wear masks. I have worn masks to doctors appointments and my asthma that I had outgrown was triggered with the masks for an hour apt. I cant imagine all day for all ages. Please reconsider this. The washing of hands so much during the day will cause infections as their skin will crack and bleed. You say its for the safety of the children but the consequences are adding to a horrible time where death rates are lower and recoveries are on the rise without vaccines. Masks are for hospitals where the environment is supposed to be kept sterile. No matter what you do an environment outside of a sterile unit will always be contaminated. This is why surgeons and medical fields wear PPE, they have to keep a sterile environment sterile. Please consider. Thank you!
7/21/2020 12:33:27	Emily	Dykes	My own daughter who is	Bonner Springs, KS 660	Confirm the governor's orders, please. I want to send my daughter back to the classroom. I don't want her to get COVID or bring it back to us or to her elderly grandparents - one who has cancer. Do this right. Delaying 3 weeks isn't that big of a deal to most of us, and it will give the schools more time to prepare for making sure the kids have adequate distancing and help them figure out how they are going to handle mask mandates (which I am STRONGLY in support of). Don't take stupid chances on our kids. We don't know how this is going to affect them, and we shouldn't experiment on their lives. I won't allow my daughter to be part of it if you don't take the governor's common sense orders seriously.
7/21/2020 12:33:28	Cathy	Johnson		Cherryvale	No delay. And no mandatory face coverings.

7/21/2020 12:33:37	Jo	Emig	St Andrews's	Abilene	Please allow kids to go back to school. Some kids, elementary kids especially need to be in school. Not all kids can do the virtual learning.
7/21/2020 12:33:38	Tom	Brungardt	Parent of school child	Shawnee	Please do not delay the beginning of school. Vote down Gov. Kelly's delay.
7/21/2020 12:33:43	Stephany	Koci		Atchison	I am a nurse. And if your going to do online meetings than why are you going to send my child to be around 100s of other children. Who do not know how to wash their hands like they should. Our teachers can't keep up with reminding everyone to keep the precautions.
7/21/2020 12:33:48	Norman	Johnson		Cherryvale	No delay is necessary if masks work. If my kids get sick, we will keep them from school. Masks either work or they don't. You cannot play both sides of the argument.
7/21/2020 12:33:48	Shannan	Grilliot		Wichita	Delay the start of school. Covid cases are rampant in our state, and Sedgwick County. Opening now is unacceptable. We need to get cases under control first.
7/21/2020 12:33:53	Dakota	Smith	As an educator in a large	Kansas City	Delay the school year
7/21/2020 12:33:54	Jena	Oldham		Lakin	I believe the delay is in the best interest of the schools. It is a good thing.
7/21/2020 12:33:56	Gary	Stevanus		Baldwin City	<p>I support the executive order proposed by Governor Kelly. The number of COVID-19 cases in the state of Kansas are increasing, and we need to do what we can to keep our students and school district staff safe.</p> <p>In addition, following this order will allow school districts time to better plan for in person learning. While the districts have been planning all summer, they recently received a 1100+ page document produced by the Kansas Department of Education. I'm not sure how KSDE or the State School Board can expect schools to read, interpret, and effectively implement the guidelines set forth by this document.</p> <p>Delaying the start of school will allow for schools to better "Navigate the Change" that was outlined in the KSDE document. In addition, one would hope that the COVID cases in Kansas drop between now and the Labor Day holiday.</p> <p>If I were to make one change to toe Governor's order, I would support allowing online only education to take place prior to the Labor Day holiday if the local school district decides to do so.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration into this matter. You are making a difficult decision, to say the least. Please take politics out of your decision making process and vote for the option that you truly feel will keep or students and school district staff members as safe as possible.</p>
7/21/2020 12:33:59	Chris	Eddy	My family	14903 w lynddale Wich	School should open with full participation and full time attendance for those that want that option. Parent who want online classes should have that option as well. We want our kids in school full time with in class instruction.
7/21/2020 12:34:08	Lisa	Brittain		Emporia	I think we SHOULD delay and then do virtual learning
7/21/2020 12:34:09	Stephanie	Marshall		Linwood, KS	<p>Good afternoon - I am writing in *opposition* of Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of the school year until after Labor Day.</p> <p>While I understand the need to protect our children, when you take the time to actually analyze the reports being provided regarding new cases, testing, etc, the need for a delay is just not realized. There are also reports daily now of inaccurate testing counts, of people receiving positive test results but have not had a test administered, and suspect diagnoses of COVID where patients had no symptoms, but were being presumed positive after death. Health departments are not reporting unduplicated counts, so it is possible for a single person to be counted multiple times.</p> <p>Daycare centers have continued to operate during the entire pandemic. If they can function while continuing to not only provide care for our children, but also provide pre-school classes, then there is no reason why our primary and secondary schools cannot also provide onsite learning.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>

7/21/2020 12:34:11	Amber	Krier	USD 273	Beloit	Please allow for local school boards under the direction of local health dept and officials make decisions for each county including when to start school.
7/21/2020 12:34:12	Mark	York, PhD	Individual with a PhD in	Raytown	The central questions in curriculum and instruction are "What knowledge is of most worth?" (Herbert Spencer) and "Whose knowledge is of most worth?" (Michael Apple). The novel COVID-19, and its uncontrolled community spread in the most populous areas of Kansas adds a new calculation in determining worth. The data show that children (especially those 10 and over) are efficient asymptomatic transmitters of this disease that has no cure, no vaccine, and potentially life-long effects on survivors. Areas with no cases of the virus may be safer to open, but there are clearly communities in which schools would place students, teachers, and families at tremendous risk. Vulnerable populations are at greatest risk. The wrong decisions will result in transmission to teachers, parents, grandparents, and students. Some school personnel and school families will face bankruptcy from medical bills. Others will become disabled and die. Schools will become the reactors that gather the critical mass that will cause a chain reaction rapidly multiplying the asymptomatic carriers of COVID-19. Dead teachers cannot teach. Dead students cannot learn. Dead parents and grandparents cannot support schools or their surviving children. Science and experience both provide valuable knowledge that is of most worth as you make this decision. Would the benefits of in-person schooling started prematurely outweigh the cost in illness and death to those who trust you to provide a safe environment? We are all in this together. If community spread of COVID-19 would claim one or more of your family members, would you regret the decision you are about to make?
7/21/2020 12:34:14	J	A		Johnson County area	School districts that are prepared to start learning online should do so without a delay. Online learning occurred from March-May and can start again in August. Many school districts are prepared for online learning with improvements from the spring, so there is no reason to delay education while students sit at home playing video games instead of engaging in meaningful learning. Staff members can report on time to their school buildings with plenty of space and resources to stay safe while students work from home online. School districts can decide what flexibility they provide staff to also work from home, but online learning should proceed on time and continue until it is safe to return to the building with students. It is not currently safe to return to school buildings with any more than about 25% of the student population even with appropriate use of masks and hand washing. 25% of the student population at my school would mean about 10 people per classroom (8 students; 1 teacher; 1 paraprofessional). The government should partner with schools at this time to improve HVAC systems that are clearly in need of being replaced, as they are one component to why schools are not currently safe for full capacity.
7/21/2020 12:34:16	Dana	Paxton	My children	Norton	By holding off on starting school and then forcing students to wear masks is asking our children to sacrifice their childhood. Children aren't getting or spreading Covid! Covid kills much less than H1N1, the flu etc., etc! There was no shutdown then! Stupid to destroy our economy and our children's childhood for this! Look at the real numbers and STOP taking our Constitutional rights from us! Masks DON'T work! Your Democratic agenda to destroy our county is evil and wrong!
7/21/2020 12:34:27	Nick	Becker		Wichita	Open up our schools. Our kids need and must have classroom time with teachers. Death rates continue to drop, the virus is proven not to spread through young children. Most districts are giving parents the choice of in person or at home schooling. We pay taxes, it's our money, we should be able to make a choice for OUR children!!
7/21/2020 12:34:27	Sara	Morris	Myself	Linwood	Delay school
7/21/2020 12:34:28	Joleen	Schoenthaler	USD 208	WaKeeney	Please approve Gov. Kelly's mandate delaying the start of the school year until after Labor Day. I want kids in school just as much as the next person but we need to make sure we have everything in place to protect EVERYONE. In addition, this will give officials time to see where our numbers are at throughout the state. I am concerned about the number of available ICU beds.
7/21/2020 12:34:29	Julie	Wilson	Myself	Meriden	I am scared to death to send my husband of over 30 years back to school. We are in process of updating our wills and our POAs. If he gets it, and he is a prime candidate with all the underlying conditions, I will get it. I just sent a very long email to my sisters outling what needed to be done to help our son if we are both lost to COVID. Give the district's the time they need to get their safety plan in place and their PPE lined up.

7/21/2020 12:34:36	Darby	Cochran Wilson		Emporia	I support the Governor's mask mandate and school delay for the purpose of providing the healthiest and safest environments for our students, school staff, and community as a whole. As a Registered Nurse, and a Social Worker, there are no easy answers here. Our children need to engage with their peers socially for their mental health, and their teachers for their learning. That being said-it is my belief, that putting all of our students back in their school buildings will perhaps fulfill that social need for a short time, we will very shortly see an immediate spike in COVID Cases that may cause significant health concerns for our teachers, family members, or other staff and perhaps lead to another full lock down--which would be so defeating. I believe that by choosing to offer instruction by remote methods, maybe even send paras into the homes of those with high needs (keeping them safer too), we can preserve more freedom, reduce loss of life, and allow our children to be together safely in small groups. COVID is more than a nuisance. It's changed lives and ways of life. We are so far from out of the woods. Please encourage USD 253 to choose the safety of its staff, students, and community and focus on remote alternatives and problem solving in this area for 2020-2021. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:34:39	Annmarie	Langley		Wakefield	I support the order to postpone the starting of school until September.
7/21/2020 12:34:43	Jill	Butcger	Family	Valley Center	No delay of school please! Kids need to get in class for a multitude of reasons
7/21/2020 12:34:50	Megan	Garrett		Colby	I don't feel as though it is fair for our children to have to wear masks to school as well as keep them separated at all times. It needs to be one or another. If masks work then why social distance. If social distancing works then why the masks. Why treat our small classes the same as the large. If we can gather outside of school in groups of 15, why can't the children gather in classrooms of 15. We have that ability in the small school districts! Our children need that social interaction and team building activities as part of their everyday schooling. We are shaping these children for the future. We need to think of the impact this is playing on them. Yes I want my child safe as she goes to school everyday but there's a line that is being crossed with all the inconsistency in rules about prevention. It's okay to gather on the practice field but not in the classroom? Wear masks in the classroom but not during sports. Will they take away P.E? These are all things the children need. They simply need to be children and interact as though children do. Covering them and keeping them apart is going to ruin their immune systems and ruin their education experiences. Please consider the children's feelings and mental stability when it comes to deciding how our school systems will operate.
7/21/2020 12:34:55	Ray	Lofland	USD105	Atwood	start mid August
7/21/2020 12:34:58	Emily	Freeman	Teacher	Kansas City	My largest concern with schools remaining closed is not with education, it is with the parents who have to go back to work and need to use school as a place for childcare. While I know this has an impact on many, I still support schools remaining closed until Sept. 9th. We are in the midst of a pandemic. While we cannot stop the spread of the virus, we can certainly delay the spread by delaying the start of school as we move towards finding a vaccine. I also think schools need time to come up with plans to meet the needs of the executive order for schools to operate safely. In addition, I think teachers, such as myself, could use this time to prepare their classroom, get training on best practices during this time, and receive more training on what to do when schools possibly shut down again due to positive cases. This time could be very valuable if districts use it wisely. Even if they do not due to a disagreement with this plan, I think it will at least delay the spread through lessening contact. I want to return to school and interact with students, but above all, I want to be conscious in the decisions I am making to try and slow the spread and keep those around me healthy. If schools do not reopen until Sept. 9th- I propose an outline for what districts should address prior to the opening.
7/21/2020 12:34:58	Kasey	Hostetler		Overland Park	Blue Valley families want IN SCHOOL SCHOOLING at the START OF THE YEAR. As long as it is IN SCHOOL by August/early September, that is what matters. IN SCHOOL SCHOOLING WITH OPTIONS FOR THOSE WHO DONT WANT TO GO. PERIOD. Thank you for hearing the voices of the families!!
7/21/2020 12:34:59	Rikeisha	Turner		Ft Riley	School should definitely be delay to ensure the safety of the children as well as the staff.
7/21/2020 12:34:59	Michaela	Anderson	Lincoln Central Element	Edna	Don't take away flexible seating & require kids to sit still for 8 hours straight. LET KIDS BE CREATIVE KIDS and ENJOY their learning! I can spread kids out way more than in a desk. I can sanitize, clean and keep a COVID classroom ! Going tradition will not stop the spread a violence. It will take the kid out of school! Kids are more willing to learn and enjoy learning when given a choice. Kids will grow emotionally, they will BLOOM. Sticking them in a desk will kill the kid inside.
7/21/2020 12:35:02	Sam	Wright	Scotr city usd 466	Scott city kansas	NO masks required and no school delay.



7/21/2020 12:35:02	Kristen	Reynolds		McPherson	I support the governor's order to delay school opening until after Labor Day to give KS school districts more time to set up the logistics of implementing safety measures in our schools. This time would also provide a timeframe for COVID cases to start trending downward, or at least plateau. If this delay would save even one student, teacher, parent, or staff life (and it most certainly would), this is what must be done. To decide otherwise would be to dismiss the health and life of Kansans.
7/21/2020 12:35:08	Josh	Gering		Manhattan	UKHC doctors reported that Kansas has the second highest rate of new COVID-19 cases per capita in the country. Schools should only open when able but not hastily, not without demonstrating competence in the necessary systems/process required to safeguard our families, and not while we continue to politicize the precautions taken by the governor in the face of a severely worsening statewide outbreak. The only progress or success this state has had since the onset of this virus can be attributed to Governor Kelly and her leadership, please stop handicapping her efforts and find something better to do with your time. Especially Dr. Horst, please resign, your lack of compassion and comprehension is appalling. No one, on either side of the conversation, benefits from your presence in this discussion.
7/21/2020 12:35:12	Mary	Perez	USD 500 school district	Wyandotte	Our district needs to develop a plan that follows executive order to keep students safe in schools. At this time we are not ready to send students back. We are over crowded in our schools. It would be impossible to keep desk 6 feet apart with 30 students in a classroom that is too small. Putting students back in schools should not be experimental. We are up against a virus that we do not fully understand and sending students back is too risky at the moment.
7/21/2020 12:35:16	Jean	Kasselman	My grandchildren	Overland Park	Do not open in-person schooling until Covid deaths and incidence decline and there is no community spread.
7/21/2020 12:35:18	Josh	Gering		Manhattan	UKHC doctors reported that Kansas has the second highest rate of new COVID-19 cases per capita in the country. Schools should only open when able but not hastily, not without demonstrating competence in the necessary systems/process required to safeguard our families, and not while we continue to politicize the precautions taken by the governor in the face of a severely worsening statewide outbreak. The only progress or success this state has had since the onset of this virus can be attributed to Governor Kelly and her leadership, please stop handicapping her efforts and find something better to do with your time. Especially Dr. Horst, please resign, your lack of compassion and comprehension is appalling. No one, on either side of the conversation, benefits from your presence in this discussion.
7/21/2020 12:35:19	Julie	Libel		Wichita	I am strongly in favor of complete reopening in person for all Kansas schools. I believe the teachers are so very unlikely to contract Covid from children. Child to adult transmission is almost nonexistent. Death rate is between 1-2% ! The risk of closing FAR outweighs the tiny risk of reopening. Personally know a number of students who received no instruction once the schools closed. This is unacceptable. The teachers trying to take the risk down to 0 and that is not possible. If schools do not reopen the teacher salaries must be cut.
7/21/2020 12:35:22	Shane	DeBoer		Prairie View	School should open normally with county officials deciding any mandates necessary. Local representatives have a much better grasp on the needs of the local districts.
7/21/2020 12:35:33	Lucian	Sours	Student at phs usd250	Frontenac ks	The opening of school should be delayed purely for the safety of the students and staff
7/21/2020 12:35:35	Sara	Michaels	Parent	Shawnee	I agree with the delay until Labor Day. Until our children can return to school without wearing masks, I think we need to postpone in building education. I can't imagine wearing a mask all day myself, let alone enforce my 9 year old to do so.
7/21/2020 12:35:38	Daniel	Tidwell	My family	Wamego Kansas	I agree that we should follow CDC guidelines in order to safely open schools. If we have the resources to do this, then I see no problem with opening schools. However, if our federal government doesn't act and help fund the necessary safety protocols, and our schools opening pose a risk to our children's, teachers, and families lives, then no, we absolutely should not open schools until it is safe to do so.

7/21/2020 12:35:40	Diana	Vega	Free State High School	Lawrence	The children should be going back to school during the normal time. Mortality rate among students is nil. Daycares and camps, including boys and girls club have remained open, virtually the entire time with no fatalities!!! First, school closures are creating “virtual dropouts.” Even those with access to computers who do check in are not learning in the same way. This will increase our country’s education gap and exacerbate racial and social inequalities — with impacts that will persist for years. Second, school closures impact kids’ health both with sedentary behavior and psychological repercussions. Third, a disproportionate burden of working from home is falling on women. I am a single mother for all intents and purpose, as my husband works/lives in another state. Kids are at lower risk from complications of covid-19, and basic risk-reduction control measures are working. We need to create a culture of health and safety, including wearing masks, hand washing, social distancing, staying home when sick, and clean indoor air environment. OUR SCHOOLS SHOULD REMAIN OPEN!!!!
7/21/2020 12:35:47	Amy	Blakemore	SMSD	Overland Park	I would like to thank all the board members for their service to Kansas. I have been a Kansas teacher for 13 years. I do not believe it is safe to return to school in person yet, and I think the wise decision is to delay the start of school right now, so schools can prepare for either an online option or, later, a safe hybrid option. A safe hybrid option will be very expensive and also difficult to implement. My district is working on extensive plans, but they are not yet complete. I don’t want the lives of Kansans to be an experiment. If we take more time to watch the numbers and make effective plans, then we have a better chance of staying safe. In the meantime, school districts can also work on plans to meet the needs of students who require social services during remote learning. With this delay, staff will also have a chance to see their district’s plans and make an informed decision about whether it is safe for them to return to the classroom, take a leave, or resign if necessary to stay safe.  I am also very concerned that some board members may not be listening to their constituents and instead allowing political bias or Covid conspiracy theories to get in the way of making an informed decision. Please, use new scientific data to inform your votes, listen to teachers, and consider the individual lives of Kansans — your own mother, father, siblings, children, and friends — as you consider percentages and risk levels. Consider the potential long-term lung or neurological damage that Covid could cause, not just death rates. We have a chance right now to be a state leader in care and safety. Thank you for reading.
7/21/2020 12:35:50	Kacey	Killen		El Dorado	Our kids need to be in school. With out masks. The data shows that kids aren’t even getting this virus. They don’t wear masks in flu season.
7/21/2020 12:35:51	Rita	Tinkler		Assaria	Due to the fact that children are very UNlikely to acquire or pass on this virus, I recommend NO masks for elementary age kids. And let’s START school! We’re losing a generation! Or is it your goal to dumb down America? Not to mention the social & emotional health issues you’re causing for our kids!
7/21/2020 12:35:54	Scott	Belcher	Self/Parent/Spouse of Te	Andale/Wichita	I think that the delay could only help reduce cases/spread. I have students that i want to go back to school, my wife a teacher of 26 plus years had cancer last year so has a weaker immune system so I worry about her health. 2 Week delay would give a better chance to be ready or to change plans, I don"t want to start and stop over and over.
7/21/2020 12:35:57	Lisa	Harder	self	Newton	I don't usually support much of what the Governor does but I do support delaying the start of school. I think it will allow a little more time to plan. I would actually like to see this be a permanent change.
7/21/2020 12:35:58	Jenny	Brazil		Shawnee	Children need to be in school as soon as possible. We can not continue to delay the start. This needs be a local decision based on current trends in the area.

					<p>to whom it may concern.</p> <p>I appreciate the executive orders put in place to protect students, teachers, parents and communities. While I agree with the delay in school start times, I can't understand why, in these unprecedented times, our school activities and athletics are being limited by school start dates. These activities are an essential part of education and provide growth opportunities that are just as necessary as content centered instruction.</p> <p>A team or group of 50 controlled and homogenous student athletes working outdoors does not equate to the same risk as having 1800 students indoors moving freely throughout the school building. The risk is simply not the same. If we can limit team sizes the risk will be reduced greatly.</p> <p>Furthermore, many of our students have already been participating in outdoor athletics and activities throughout the summer. Is postponing the start of these activities going to curb the current spread of the disease? Unfortunately, I don't believe delaying activities will have any net effect on slowing the virus in our current climate of public dissent. Canceling or postponing activities will have a large effect on the psychological component of many of our students. I cannot imagine having my senior year of football canceled, that would have changed the trajectory of my life and career completely.</p> <p>As Governor Kelly has done it is important to provide leadership and make decisions during this time period. No decision will be perfect but if we work together we can do our best. I suggest activities limit roster size, cancel unnecessary events that underclassmen will have opportunities to participate in future seasons, but most importantly protect the full season for our senior classes. It is my hope that the State Board of Education will allow activities and athletics to begin practicing outdoors and in limited capacity two weeks prior to the start of the school year. This would allow activities to begin competition on the Friday after Labor Day and would only result in a net loss of one week of competition.</p>
7/21/2020 12:36:07	Kevin	Stewart	Free State Football	Lawrence	Thank you for your time, and I appreciate the forum to express my thoughts.
7/21/2020 12:36:09	Scott	Kaul	Veritas Christian School	Lawrence	I think it is wrong and ill-advised to delay school openings. That said, until something is done about this governor's poor leadership and unconstitutional decisions in these areas it is our family's input that sports practices and activities should not be affected by this school opening delay order. thank you
7/21/2020 12:36:11	Tina	Clark	parent	shawnee	please align with Governor Kelly to delay the start of school until September 9th.
7/21/2020 12:36:12	Chad	Van Slyke	Father	Pratt KS USD 382	Keep open the schools and let practice resume. It's detrimental to health and mental wellness
7/21/2020 12:36:15	Kevin	Honas	Lawrence High School	Lawrence	PLEASE KEEP ATHLETICS OPEN. I am a junior at LHS. We need this so badly. It's healthy for us. Kids are very unlikely to get seriously sick. Please. We are begging you for at least this much.

					<p>My name is Alexander Meek, and I will be entering my second year of teaching this coming semester. I am currently the Director of Bands at Republic County Jr/Sr HS, where I teach 5-12 band and 7-8 choir, as well as oversee the logistics of my 200+ member program. Last year was my first year teaching, and despite going through the many trials and tribulations you are all-too familiar with, I discovered that my commitment to teaching was only strengthened. Despite finishing out the year online, I found myself able to connect with students in a different, yet meaningful way, which was inarguably why I became a teacher in the first place.</p> <p>I am filling this out in regards to the State Board of Education's upcoming response to Governor Kelly's executive order. As you know, the Board's approval would push back the start of school until after Labor Day. As our elected officials (and educators at that), I have no doubt you are staying true to the most recent science and recommendations in regards to COVID-19. I feel that these things, in conjunction with the voices of your constituents (not the beliefs and opinions of politicians), are the most vital things in determining a voting stance.</p> <p>While I'm thrilled to begin another year of teaching, I can't help but feel overwhelmed by the various possibilities this year could bring. I am thankful for the guidelines the KSDE has published, as well as the latest findings on music education and its correlation to COVID-19, because I now have a few more tools necessary to plan for the year going forward. I want to get back into the classroom more than anything so that I may make music with my students again, but given the current rise in cases, I strongly believe that a three-week late start can only be beneficial for us in the long run.</p> <p>With that, I urge you to accept Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. This will give educators like me the time to adequately prepare themselves and their classrooms for the return of students. I was just writing out all the modifications I plan on making to my band room this upcoming year to account for the return of students, and so far the list has exceeded three pages. And I'm certain that my colleagues teaching art, physical education, or really any content area are being just as thorough.</p>
7/21/2020 12:36:15	Alexander	Meek	USD 109	Belleville	Thank you for taking the time to read my response. I know you must be undergoing a lot of pressure right now, but I
7/21/2020 12:36:17	Ty	Wilder	School parent	Hutchinson	<p>The following is from and study they did in New South Wales where they did not shut down school in the heart of the so called pandemic. They found that this virus less contagious than influenza in children. Here is a full link to the study, <a href="http://ncirs.org.au/sites/default/files/2020-04/NCIRS%20NSW%20Schools%20COVID_Summary_FINAL%20public_26%20April%202020.pdf">http://ncirs.org.au/sites/default/files/2020-04/NCIRS%20NSW%20Schools%20COVID_Summary_FINAL%20public_26%20April%202020.pdf</a>. Our detailed investigation of COVID-19 cases in 15 NSW primary and high schools found only two secondary cases, both in students. This was despite initial cases occurring in 9 students (including two students in two schools) and 9 teachers. Very detailed follow-up, including additional testing for the presence of the virus and for antibodies to the virus, occurred in a proportion of the total 863 close contacts identified from the school setting.</p> <p>Our investigation found no evidence of children infecting teachers. One secondary case (in the child in a high school) was presumed to have been infected following close contact with two student cases. The other secondary case was presumed to have been infected by a staff member (teacher) who was a case.</p>
7/21/2020 12:36:19	Bethany	Boutte		Ogden	I don't have a problem with starting school/sports games in September. I do think the conditioning/voluntary practices that are already going on should be allowed to continue. Otherwise, the athletes will be more susceptible to injury when they start real practice and games suddenly. I believe that was the point in letting conditioning etc start in the first place.
7/21/2020 12:36:23	Alisa	Muir		Buhler	School should not start until September and we have a steady decline in covid cases.
7/21/2020 12:36:43	Anne	Chandler	My family	Wichita	Please delay the start of school to allow our schools to have a chance to open school following your 1088 page plan. Your plan is detailed and deserves a chance to succeed.

7/21/2020 12:36:46	Kelli	Vanderbeck	Columbus public schoo	Columbus, ks	I am not in favor of mandatory face coverings and in classroom lunch for the elementary grades. The children will be more concerned about their masks than what the teachers are TRYING to teach. Children's attention spans are short as is. Adding another distraction on their face will make the teachers jobs that much harder and the child's job that much harder as well. Also an important part of school is the socialization they learn when with the teacher and other children. They see facial expressions. They learn to identify and imprint facial features as friendly, sad, dangerous, you get the point. To completely separate them concerns me a lot for it will have negative effects for many of these children later in life.
7/21/2020 12:36:46	Marlo	Jones	Parent	Lawrence	I think that is a great idea and I just want to ensure the students will make the time up on the back end.
7/21/2020 12:36:49	Seth	Oakley		Hays	It is far past time that we start returning to normalcy. This virus isn't going away, and the vaccine will not make it go away. Our kids desperately need to be in school, and the damage done to these kids by not returning, is far worse than what Covid 19 would be to them. Everything has become so political, and our children's future shouldn't suffer.
7/21/2020 12:36:54	Brad	Just		Hillsboro, KS	I support the order to delay the school start until after labor day.
7/21/2020 12:37:03	Luanne	Fox	SMSD	Overland Park	Please do not open schools until at least after Labor Day. Thank you!
7/21/2020 12:37:17	Kristin	Scarborough		Lenexa	Please vote with the governor
7/21/2020 12:37:22	Penny	Nielsen	Parent	El Dorado Ks	I'm fine with delaying
7/21/2020 12:37:28	Peggy	Drew		Wichita	For the safety of students, teachers, and all staff I strongly believe that school should be delayed until Sept or Even later. I don't believe there should be in person school until the numbers begin to decline dramatically. What will happen when a student or teacher gets sick? Even multiple teachers? If a student dies? Are the school districts prepared for law suits? Even with all the safety measures it will happen. What are the regulations if a student tests positive and exposed the entire class? Doesn't that mean the entire class should be sent home to quarantine? This situation is too dangerous for our students and teachers.
7/21/2020 12:37:31	Katy	Struble		Derby	Please open schools in August. There is no reason for this to be a state mandate. Districts should decide for themselves. Kids will have already been out of school for 5 months and are already behind in learning. Additional time off will only worsen academic outcomes. There is no strong evidence to show that kids are at risk of getting the virus and have anything more than mild symptoms. I prefer kids to go back to in-person instruction, but at the very least they should be starting online learning in August. Schools have had months to prepare for reopening and still have 4 more weeks. Another month to prepare is not a good excuse to delay education.
7/21/2020 12:37:39	Deanne	Megrew		Wichita	Please allow online and virtual schools to continue
7/21/2020 12:37:43	Jesica	Fitzwilliams		Andover	Please vote against delaying schools. My husband and I are both essential workers and our 2 children have been going to summer camp all summer. There is no reason that they should not be allowed back into school in August. I am okay with sending them in masks and taking precautions.
7/21/2020 12:37:52	Steven	Thomas	self	Kansas City	It is imperative that the Governor's order to delay post Labor Day be ratified. Failure to do so puts students and teachers at unnecessary risk. Get politics out of this and vote to protect citizens both young and old.
7/21/2020 12:38:00	Maeghan	Yount	Parent	Overland Park	Money, politics, etc have no business in this PUBLIC HEALTH matter. The health of our children and families should always come first; starting in-person classes during a rise in pandemic numbers is asinine and dangerous.
7/21/2020 12:38:05	Jeffrey	Bender		Concordia	Please do not delay the opening of schools. The enormous document on safely opening schools is excellent and sufficient. Our local school board has put a lot of effort into a plan for safely opening
7/21/2020 12:38:08	Alexis	Kater		Andover	Wouldn't it be better to go ahead and start in August remotely? Seems like we are just delaying the inevitable. There is no way we'll be better off Sept 9 if other changes aren't made. We could at least get devices and some beginning or review work to many students to get a jump start. The 3 weeks could be very beneficial this way, vs just waiting . Please consider a remote start in August!!
7/21/2020 12:38:10	Julie	Bauer		Shawnee	please vote no against Governor Kelly's executive order
7/21/2020 12:38:10	Larry	Carter	Retired from USD 497,	Lawrence	Delay as long as possible. This is WAY too dangerous for teachers, kids and the vulnerable ones the kids will interact with outside of school. Support Gov Kelly!
7/21/2020 12:38:16	Brittney	Vogel		Topeka	Schools should open on time and should not have mandatory masks in elementary schools. I think the Governor is doing a horrible job of leading our state, and completely disregarded all the hard work the schools have done to be able to open on time.

7/21/2020 12:38:22	Janel	Koonce	USD259 as a teacher/ U	Wichita	Please support the order to delay the start of school. As a teacher, I fear for myself and my 150+ students and their families. As a mother, I worry about my children. I have never felt such anxiety over anything in my life. It is more important to get Kansas safe and healthy again. More important than anything else. This is not a political issue, this is a health crisis that needs to be dealt with swiftly and aggressively. If that means keeping schools closed (and online) then so be it. At least a delayed start will hopefully give our schools enough time to prepare for a year like we've never experienced before, and hopefully, our state can get these Covid-19 numbers down. Please pass EO 20-58.
7/21/2020 12:38:24	Lindsay	Billinger		De Soto	All of these decisions need to be made county by county. The state shouldn't mandate what our kids need. Please take control for our kids
7/21/2020 12:38:26	Amy	Dunklee		Johnson County	I believe the delay for opening schools is in the best interest of our schools and students. It would give teachers and administrators time to be fully prepared to welcome students with all the new guidelines. It doesn't seem fair to expect schools to be ready without giving them the proper time to be trained. If schools open up as currently scheduled, teachers will only have a few days to learn the new protocols as well as set up their classrooms to welcome students. If school personnel is not properly trained, it would put students at risk. I also believe with our numbers in Johnson County skyrocketing right now, the extra time allows our population to help flatten the curve. Our numbers are just too high for it to be safe to gather in large numbers. Most meetings are still being held virtually. Also many companies are choosing to have employees continue to work from home. They do these things because it is what they believe is safest for everyone. Shouldn't we do what is safest for the children in our schools also?
7/21/2020 12:38:29	Yomayra	Hernandez		Fort Riley	I feel like starting school after Labor Day is a good idea but also worries me with the whole new restriction for kids going back to school. I have a 5 yr old who I know Won't keep on a mask for most of the day during school hours & staying home to do it through a computer isn't a option. He will not be able to sit in front of a computer for 6 hours & also both parents work. Is there a different way to go about wearing masks at school? Will kids get in trouble & parents get phone calls every time because they aren't being cooperative with these new rules? Just doesn't seem like it's going to go too well.
7/21/2020 12:38:32	Angie	Hobbs	None	Wamego	I believe we should delay the start of the school year.
7/21/2020 12:38:42	Sarah	Reznikoff		Manhattan	Please do not reopen schools in a haste. I understand that working parents are eager to have their kids return in-person but a careless reopen will lead to a spike in the number of COVID cases and deaths and ultimately will force the schools to close again for longer than would have been necessary. Instead, please explore possibilities such as limited in-person meetings in small groups -- say six kids meet a single teacher twice per week for one hour -- and unstructured supervised outdoor play and outdoor "study halls" for kids whose parents must work.
7/21/2020 12:38:46	Ashley	Mowder		Rose Hill	Please consider the safety of school staff, as well as students. While schools are an integral part of our society, it is NOT worth risking the lives of thousands of people, for the sake of a few weeks.
7/21/2020 12:38:50	Bre	Brewton		Wichita	Please delay the start of schools until September.
7/21/2020 12:38:52	Mandi	Osborn		Scott City	I think extending the date to start school is a very responsible, well thought out measure. We all agree children need to get back to school but I think allowing the school officials and staff this extra time will help them have a better plan and system to help keep all students safe and healthy. These three extra weeks are crucial for the health and safety of students and staff and very necessary.
7/21/2020 12:38:53	Mark	Bauer		Shawnee	please vote no against Governor Kelly's executive order
7/21/2020 12:38:54	Makaela	Stevens		Scott City	I strongly disagree with delaying the 20-21 K-12 school year in the state of Kansas. The result would be counterintuitive, as these students have been together throughout this past summer for various activities, including sports practices and summer camps. Students have been consistently participating in these sports practices and weights classes since June, and placing a ban on practices and delaying school for a month would do nothing to prevent the virus, as the students have been in close contact for over a month already. Delaying the school year would only give families incentive to go on vacations and leave their residences for a week, causing potential exposure to the virus. Then, by bringing the students back together in a month, they would all be far more susceptible to COVID. By keeping with consistent sports practices and beginning school at the originally scheduled time, students would remain in safe contact with one another for the next month, allowing them to safely begin school, especially in smaller communities like my own, where COVID is not yet a threat in any way.

7/21/2020 12:38:54	Xavier	Rodriguez	KNEA	Ulysses	Delay
7/21/2020 12:38:57	Dena	Russell Marino		Emporia	I am all for delayed opening and remote options. I want my kids to be safe and healthy!
7/21/2020 12:38:59	Lisa	Ide		Shawnee	I think that it is imperative to hold off on in person school until September 8th if not longer. Schools need time to get supplies and figure out a game plan on how the day will look for the students. The rise in cases should be a clear indication that going back to school at this point in time is not appropriate. I work on the frontlines as a Respiratory Therapist and I currently have a 14 year old patient that is not expected to live through the week. That is the exact age of my son so it's extremely personal for me! Please, please help our schools get prepared and think about online classes for at least the first 9 weeks. Thank you
7/21/2020 12:39:01	Melissa	Valenciano	Parent of a 3rd grader at	Overland Park	Please keep our schools closed until after Labor Day. This will give experts a few more weeks to experience the impact of the mask mandates and hopefully see the Covid case numbers trend downward. Right now the cases are increasing too rapidly to experiment with kids going back to school. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:39:13	William	Holland		Fort Scott, KS	Please approve and follow the governor's executive order to delay the opening of schools and open schools safely.
7/21/2020 12:39:21	Benjamin	Brown	Shawnee Mission School	Overland Park	It is unsafe and irresponsible to open schools currently. Teenagers and staff are able to spread the virus, and opening schools would only exasperate the problem.
7/21/2020 12:39:23	Michellr	Foster		Independence	I can see delaying schools but how do you expect elementary kids to wear masks all day at school?
7/21/2020 12:39:24	Adam	Lundine	Resident, teacher in KS	Overland Park	Thank you for serving on the Board of Education. It is my understanding that the board will vote to approve Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school opening.  As a teacher, I urge you to approve this plan. We need more time for our state to recover. Teachers and administrators need more time to plan for the months ahead. It is not yet safe for students to be entering their schools.  As a band director, I need more research-based information before I feel comfortable teaching my student-musicians. A joint study is currently in progress that will allow us to make safe decisions for our students in the music classroom. We need more time to receive, analyze, and apply this information. The extra three weeks will allow us to make those safe and informed decisions.  Thank you for thinking of the health and well-being of our students, their families, and our school staff as you vote next week.
7/21/2020 12:39:31	Jan	Crawford		Cottonwood Falls	Post Labor Day to Pre Memorial Day has worked in the past & it can again. Parents should have the say on their child's masking/face shielding or not.
7/21/2020 12:39:31	Jolaine	Palmer	Blue Valley Schools	Overland Park	Please accept executive order
7/21/2020 12:39:37	Michelle	Farha	Self	Concordia, Kansas	Children need to be back in school as scheduled, practicing safe guidelines which are best determined by LOCAL districts. I am a grandmother of 20 young children who deserve to have the best possible learning environment. Choices, decisions need to be made at the local level.... one size does not fit all!
7/21/2020 12:39:40	Christian	Bauer		Shawnee	please vote no against Governor Kelly's executive order
7/21/2020 12:39:44	Kellie	Sibley	I'm a teacher	Kansas City, Kansas	Please delay school openings until after labor day. It's only about 3 weeks and will hopefully give our community numbers time to come down.
7/21/2020 12:39:46	Jennifer	Kilgore		Overland Park	I am responding in concern and petition for the underserved and at risk children in Kansas. Understanding AND emphasizing with the health risk involved for all, it is still of my opinion that we need to come up with an in-person school option for these children who find school to be a safe haven for their physical (food and safety) and emotional/mental needs. Thanks for your consideration.
7/21/2020 12:39:53	Alisha	Janousek		Colby	Open schools up. Kids need as much normi as they can get right now. Think of the children.
7/21/2020 12:40:11	Jack	Bauer		Shawnee	please vote no against Governor Kelly's executive order
7/21/2020 12:40:11	Tiffany	Slade	Myself. District employe	Augusta	Being a high risk individual and having a son who falls in the high risk category concerns me deeply. There is no way for either of us to return to work/school safely with the numbers the way they are in our area.

7/21/2020 12:40:19	Amanda	Fox	Manhattan-Ogden USD	Manhattan, KS	COVID cases in Manhattan have been on the rise and will only continue to do so as students return to KState this fall. The school district needs time to develop plans and procedures and train teachers on new technologies that will be used this school year. Please follow the governor's orders and push the start date back until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 12:40:29	Korey	Herl		Hoxie	Please do not delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year - please do not force the children to wear masks either!
7/21/2020 12:40:56	Ryan	Bauer		Shawnee	please vote no against Governor Kelly's executive order
7/21/2020 12:40:58	Cimony	Mahoney	MVHS	Shawnee	I work in the district and have 2 children in the district. I strongly encourage you to start school as scheduled and full time. Every day I see high school students stocking shelves at Walmart, checking out customers at Price Chopper, wiping down carts at Target, serving up drinks at Starbucks, serving and delivering food all around the city, babysitting children, working at JCPRD and working at retail stores. In addition children are playing sports, going to the pool or the lake, gathering at friends houses. All of these kids encounter hundreds of people throughout the day and then return home to parents and grandparents. If they can do all this, then we can certainly get them back in school safely. Offer an alternative for compromised people and get these kids back to school!
7/21/2020 12:40:43	Patricia	Prendes	Olathe Schools	Olathe	Dear Board Members, I am writing to you all for your consideration in having classes and school activities start after Labor Day on September 9,2020 I have some serious and genuine concerns as to my exposure to so much with my position as secretary. My exposure in the front office to all students, staff and all entering the building. Regardless of limited access I'm still front and center to all needs in the front office. I also work lunch duty and I'm also exposed to all students and staff. My concerns for a delay is to see and wait for affected numbers to decrease. I'd like to feel secure and confident all measures are in place for all of our protection and security! A few weeks could make a difference and my hope is that every effort be made before the new school year begins! I appreciate and Thank You for all you all are doing for our safety, well being and peace of mind.  Sincerely, Patricia Prendes Woodland Elementary
7/21/2020 12:41:01	Stephanie	Coble		Marysville	Please let districts decide. I live in a county where we have had 6 active cases with 5 recovered and now only 1 active. We need schools to open with no masks. Let only students and faculty to enter schools. Have no sports to limit crossing towns and counties. What is best for one district is not good for all districts.
7/21/2020 12:41:02	Melissa	Earnest		Leawood	Our children need to go back to school not only for learning but for their mental health. This could be detrimental for children where school may be their only safe place.
7/21/2020 12:41:10	Brian	Moser		Lenexa	Conditioning for athletics should continue as scheduled. Many sports (cross country, track, etc) can continue with practice/conditioning while still abiding by the mandates to keep everyone safe. Athletics and coaches can keep plenty of distance during these sessions and they predominantly take place outdoors, the safest place to be according to experts. Other activities can likely also take place safely and still abiding by mandates. Please do not have a "one size fits all" solution but instead, allow coaches and teachers so formulate an activity-specific plan that allows students to maintain as much normalcy as possible while still keeping them safe. Thank you.



7/21/2020 12:41:10	Erica	Rarden	Fowler USD 225	Fowler	Please allow the individual counties and BOE to decide if each district opens in August. Each county is different, and this decision should not be cookie cutter for all. Small, rural schools may be able to handle things differently than larger cities. As a parent, I would like the schools to open as planned in August with all activities allowed. My children have been isolated for 5 months, and they are now ready for interaction among peers and teachers, structure, routine, and extracurricular activities. We cannot live in a bubble forever. We can teach children proper hygiene (if they haven't been taught already). It is time to move forward for the mental health of our children. They need a proper education that many parents cannot provide their children at home. Some students need school to be their safe place, their place for meals and positive interaction. If some parents within a district are uncomfortable sending their child to a classroom, districts can plan for an alternative (virtual or workbook type option) for those families. I am requesting that schools open in August, with masks being optional (personal decision or district decision). I am also requesting that we allow students to be kids and have the opportunity to create memories through sports and activities; they have already lost one season they will never get back. We might need to figure out a temporary new normal, but it is time to move forward.
7/21/2020 12:41:16	Ali	VanDellen		Gardner	We need to get our kids back in school. Education needs to be considered essential. Schools are an essential service to our children. To keep delaying our children's education and well being is a dire mistake. To continue to say we are "safe at home" is a fallacy as many children receive any and all education, food, support, and love from going to school. Virtual learning does not work for many children and if virtual learning continues, we will see more and more children "left behind" and create even more achievement gaps. Our children have no voice, we are the voice. It is our duty to protect them and give each and every child an opportunity for success and continuing to "stay home" is doing the exact opposite. The corona virus is not going anywhere. We have to go back to basic hygiene principles of good hand washing and staying out of other's personal space. These are not new principles. In fact, through out this pandemic, daycares (which are considered essential) have been open and operating with little to no issues. Please consider to do the right thing for our children. Let's get them back into school where they NEED to be.
7/21/2020 12:41:20	Ashley	Hamilton	John F Kennedy Elemen	Shawnee	I am a 2nd grade teacher with underlying health issues. I have two autoimmune disorders and just started taking disease modifying therapy in the form of self-injections 3 times a week. Returning to school in person with a full student roster of twenty-something students puts me at a significant risk of contracting Covid-19. The additional time granted by Governor Kelly's order 20-58 would provide administrators and educators time to implement safety protocols and prepare for the challenges of this upcoming school year, and give my body more time to adjust to this new medication.
7/21/2020 12:41:24	Cynthia	Mason		Overland Park	Schools and sports need to start in person. Parents can choose virtual classes if they prefer. In person is better for most students to learn and sports are important.
7/21/2020 12:41:26	Elaine	Jardon	None	Overland Park	I support delaying the start of school in areas where COVID cases are increasing or remaining the same.
7/21/2020 12:41:36	Caroline (Laine)	Waldron	USD 232	Shawnee	As a high school senior in the USD 232 district, I ask that you please consider the health of the teachers and students as we jump into such an uncertain time with the beginning of school. The schools need more than the time they have now to gather the supplies needed and nail down a strong plan to move forward with. Delaying the start to after Labor Day would satisfy those needs and would make my peers and I more comfortable going into our last year of high school due to the additional safety measures taken. We want to be protected and thought of as well as the teachers and staff in every level school around the country. Please put health first and realize that delaying the start of school would be the safest option.
7/21/2020 12:41:50	TiAnna	Klein	child advocacy center	El Dorado	Do not start school til sept 9. We're not in a good place with virus at this time
7/21/2020 12:42:04	Brenda	Sherman	Skelly	El Dorado	Wearing a mask 🤒 all day will create more problems for the staff and kiddos. It is going to be hard to keep kids from putting their hands on their faces. I believe it will cause more harm then good
7/21/2020 12:42:08	Heather	Harris	Mill Valley High School	Shawnee	Vote no on delaying the opening of schools. Let schools open on time and allow sports and activities as scheduled. Give people the option for online learning but let those that want in person school have that option.

7/21/2020 12:42:18	Shawna	Sterneker		Cunningham	I strongly urge the state BOE to maintain local control of our schools, including start date and other safety measures. One size does NOT fit all. I elected my local school board officials because I knew they would listen to our community and make decisions in the best interest of OUR school. Gov. Kelley doesn't even know our school exists. Our tiny district can (and no doubt WILL) make things work that aren't possible in bigger districts. Please, please, please vote for local control of our schools!
7/21/2020 12:42:23	Erica	Brown		Fort riley	How are the kids with exemptions going to be treated? The same as kids with masks? Or simply secluded? This is the main factor in my decision due to my child having medical problems.
7/21/2020 12:42:25	Chris	Field	Teacher	Salina	This is absolutely ridiculous. It is absolutely asinine that teachers have become this undervalued and under-appreciated! All for political purposes. Makes me sick! You all know that local BOEs can't do anything to counteract this because of all the requirements already put on them by the STATE! so quit acting like it's about local control and our governor's over-reaching. We are not stupid. Thanks for caring so little about our teachers and families.
7/21/2020 12:42:25	Husy	Hein		Augusta KS	Please vote to reopen schools as planned. DO NOT vote to delay school. These children have already been out of school nearly 6 months. Their education is important. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:42:29	Whitney	Stevens	Kansans	Wichita, KS	Since the CDC is providing data showing it is safe enough to return to school, and is verbally encouraging schools to do so, the postponement until September is not helpful and will not drive significant results. What is the cost/benefit analysis of doing so? If in person guidelines are followed, the CDC determines those are sufficient to minimize spread. Other studies also show there is very little risk to children and most adults, as seen in the updated CDC IFR percentage of 0.05%. The problems of pushing back the school year much outweigh the potential of harm caused by the virus, as deduced by the CDC data. This is not about case count, this is about making a decision based on weighing cost and benefit. The education of children must be held in high regard, and other studies show the lag effect and need for review that more time away from school can cause. Also, what will your decision be if on 9/1/2020 others decide to further postpone? Where does it stop, before we need to address the other issues this causes?
7/21/2020 12:42:31	Jackie	Stancil	Parent and school psych	Lawrence	I support Governor Kelley's order to delay the start of school and hopes the school board does also.
7/21/2020 12:42:31	Niki	Depperschmidt	A Kansas school nurse	Scott City	I agree with delaying opening due to the implementation of measures that need to happen before school related to infection prevention. I am also personally an advocate of masks in schools. More time would allow educational opportunities for families and time for families to obtain masks. I am well aware it will come with challenges, but they are certainly not insurmountable challenges. Unlike the potential permanent damage related to the effects of COVID19.
7/21/2020 12:42:39	Rebecca	Burke		Parsons	I support Laura Kelly's executive order to delay school openings. I encourage you to vote in support to protect our children and our teachers
7/21/2020 12:42:42	Landon	Tucker		Scott City	Our kids need to be in school. Let's make that happen in August and do whatever needs to be done so our kids can get back to normal.
7/21/2020 12:42:42	Brenda	Escalante	My Family	2771 SW Bluestem Dr	I support Governor Kelly's plan of not opening school until after Labor Day. I do not believe we know enough about the long term results of COVID-19. How can we responsibly send children back to school when they will be at risk of getting sick? Can you think of a student who will responsibly social distance for nine hours every day?
7/21/2020 12:42:43	Kim	Blue		Louisburg	Please do not push back the start of school after Labor Day. With all the studies showing children rarely get the virus and even lower statistics on transmitting the virus to adults, I believe the children need to get back to learning. They need the structure school provides and to return to life as normal as possible. Thank you!
7/21/2020 12:42:47	Debra	Whitaker	Parents, Grandparents,	Gardner	Please support Gov. Kelly's mandate!
7/21/2020 12:42:49	Miranda	Schuckman		Wichita	Do not start in person schooling!!!! It's not safe!!!!
7/21/2020 12:42:56	Sally	Elrod	Kckps	Kcks	Have you been in a high school lately. It is so crowded People to People there's no way there's going to be social distancing and the kids in the special needs program are at very high risk and so are the staff members and the teachers.
7/21/2020 12:42:56	Andrea	Fish	USD 411	Lehigh	Hoping for an in person school year!
7/21/2020 12:42:59	Brianna	Schmitz		Kansas City Kansas	I support the delay of schools opening and believe these decisions need to continue to be dictated by the state government (working with school districts, and health departments, of course)

7/21/2020 12:43:00	Mahkayla	Cole	All Geary Schools	Fort Riley	If we're pushing back school and teachers need more time to clean classrooms between periods then how much longer will school days be? Since they will need longer passing periods and at least enough time to teach then will our school days cut into breaks or into next years summer or what? Some people need to pre plan before things happen. But also if we're pushing back school we should at least have stuff to study so we aren't losing that time of learning. I understand you guys need safety but I need my education more then safety no matter where I am.
7/21/2020 12:43:04	Mandy	Price	USD 232	Shawnee	Please start after Labor Day
7/21/2020 12:43:12	Amy	Evans		El Dorado	We need to delay the start of school to give teachers adequate time to prepare!
7/21/2020 12:43:29	Aimee	Landgren	USD #251 Nirth Lyon C	Emporia	As an educator this delay would help us prepare so we can provide the most healthy and safe measure for our students.
7/21/2020 12:43:30	Kayla	Acosta	My family	Hays	Kids needs to be back at school. That being said we cannot expect people and push fear on people with this virus. These kids should not be in masks all day long without a break from it. Sanitizing at least once an hour is crazy! Our bodies were made to work with certain germs. We cant cancel all those out with over sanitization or the moment they are exposed to anything they are going to catch it and struggle to get rid of it. I want my kids back in school and have a sense of normalcy but it is my opinion that the things being implemented will have a bigger negative impact on my kids health than this coronavirus. My family hasnt changed anything (no masks no going out of our way to wash hands or use sanitizer, not avoiding places but also havent gone out of our way to do things out of the norm) since this started and i have no intensions of doing so. We have all remained healthy. This mask facade needs to stop.
7/21/2020 12:43:33	Ryan	Flurry	Parent of elementary stu	Prairie Village	We need to follow the recommendations of KDHE regarding delaying the school start until mitigation measures have had time to demonstrate a drop in case counts. This would provide for the least tumultuous school experience for students.
7/21/2020 12:43:36	Brianna	Foust		Manhattan	Dont delay school
7/21/2020 12:43:41	Kandi	Krebs		Olathe	Remote school til Jan too dangerous
7/21/2020 12:43:42	Ryan	Hoopes	Teacher/coach/parent	Goessel	Please do not allow the governor's order to shut schools down until Sept. 9 pass! She has already made to many demands. It's a slow kill. If we continue to allow her to control our lives it will never stop and only get worse. As a teacher and parent of two, my opinion is these kids NEED to be in school... in person.... as soon as possible! Let the districts decide what is best for their students and community. Thank you for listening and your consideration of our rights as Americans/Kansans.
7/21/2020 12:43:45	Eric	Alquist	USD 379 clay county	Clay center	Please no delay, no masks, let's get back to school , quit fooling around , shut off the TV and let our state get back to work.
7/21/2020 12:43:47	Holly	Manning		Lenexa	Please delay opening and please require make not only for the safety of student but teachers, janitors, administrators, bus drivers, etc. corona isn't a joke and one death as a result of careless administration is too many. Keep our children and our educators safe.
7/21/2020 12:43:56	JESS	NEWTON	USD 368	PAOLA	I PREFER FOR MY CHILDREN TO ATTEND IN-CLASS SCHOOLING WITHOUT DELAY.
7/21/2020 12:43:59	Jane	Culver	USD 443	Dodge City	I feel like a short 2 week delay will give parents, teachers and administration extra time to prepare for the school year. We need to keep in mind the health of our teachers is one of the most important decisions to make. Parents can choose to keep their children home, but teachers will need to show up at work and put their health at risk every day. Please vote to delay school.

					<p>I stated before that I supported EO 20-58, now I'd like to tell you why.</p> <p>I hear the arguments that this decision should be done at a local level, but is each school district self contained. Can you honestly say that 100% of your teachers and staff live and work in the same school district? That 100% of students do not interact with students in another district? If that is the case, then this decision should be left up to the local school boards.</p> <p>However, the truth of the matter is that no school district is self contained. Teachers and staff can live and work in different districts, school boundaries can cross over multiple city boundaries. You can have teachers whose families live in very rural areas and work in urban areas or vice versa. Sports teams from different districts compete against each other. Traditionally schools across multiple rural and urban areas have similar calendars for these reasons, but letting the local board make this decision will result in vastly different opening times. Instead of being a week apart, they could be several weeks apart depending on their individual circumstances. This will create a nightmare scenario for many areas in Kansas.</p> <p>I've also heard arguments that students are needed for planting and harvesting in the Spring and that pushing the opening of schools will somehow push schools into June. Why is that the case? That is where the individual school districts come in. Each district can modify their schools hours or calendars, making small changes to school days to make up time if needed to ensure that their schools get out as planned. Haven't schools been doing that for years when they are hit with massive snow days from a bad winter. My local district has never extended the school year. They adjust. Requiring schools to open a few weeks later does not deprive them of that ability.</p> <p>Kansas schools need the additional time to implement and prepare for the school year. It changes daily. Plans that were in place are having to be modified because of rising cases. Schools are having trouble obtaining the PPE needed to open schools safely. Many teachers and parents do not yet know what their school will look like or what will be required and need time to implement these changes before students return.</p>
7/21/2020 12:44:01	Nikki	Buck-Stewart	Parent	Olathe	
7/21/2020 12:44:02	Jessie	Hoag	I'm a parent.	Yates Center	As a parent, I support this order.
7/21/2020 12:44:02	Mark	T	Usd 475 seitz	Fort riley	No, I don't believe Postponing postponing The school year doesn't lower the risk of Covid. The CDC even states that the risk of children contracting corona virus are the same as adults they aren't a higher risk.
7/21/2020 12:44:03	tracie	miller	kansas youth	lawrence	Youth need sports! allow all kids to get back to youth sports.
7/21/2020 12:44:06	Karen	Lombardi		Shawnee	Please prioritize the lives of children above all else. Please protect our teachers. Please protect all those our children and our teachers come in contact with. Delay school opening! Beyond that, please help schools make the right decision to move fully online this Fall by offering encouragement and material support to do so.
7/21/2020 12:44:08	Samantha	Ross		Lawrence	Please uphold the Governor's executive order. Regardless of whether we go back to school in person or virtually, we NEED this time to prepare. I teach high school and am brand new to this state this year. I'm teaching two classes I've never taught before. We just got new books. With everything up in the air, I haven't been able to adequately prepare for the school year because we have no guidance. Three extra weeks will give the state time to hopefully lower our case numbers and make it safer to return to work. If cases continue to rise, it'll give schools and counties time to figure out how to make virtual learning work and how to help those families that rely on public school to be able to go to work. Please stop making this a partisan issue. If you believe everything should be theft to the districts, then why is there a state level board? This crisis NEEDS centralized leadership—the mess we are in is directly the result of letting each state or locality make their own choices. Please lead, and make a safe, responsible decision for those of us who are the most vulnerable. Listen to the teachers when we ask for what we need.
7/21/2020 12:44:15	Saira	Ugarte		Liberal	As a single mother, I can't afford daycare for my two children. I pick up extra shifts but then that means I have to pay more for daycare. As I know this is for the safety of my children and all other children, but if they have to learn a new lifestyle of wearing a mask and social distancing in school, then what does it matter if it's sooner or later? I am asking to take in consideration to let kids be kids and let them resume school in August.

7/21/2020 12:44:22	Darcy	King	parent in Olathe School	Lenexa	Please uphold the Governor's mandate keeping schools closed until after Labor Day!!!! This is imperative to allow time to get the classrooms and equipment in place to keep our kids AND our staff safe.
7/21/2020 12:44:23	Kimberley	Grell		Ottawa	I am a teacher in an elementary school in Ottawa, Kansas. I was very relieved when Governor Kelly made her order to delay school. I have zero intention of sending my students back for in-person learning right now, but I do not have the option to stay home with them. I am concerned that I will spread the virus to students I work with and their families or it will be spread back to mine. I understand that in-person learning is the best option for the majority of our students and am ready to go back when we have had time to take necessary precautions and put our plan in place for mandatory procedures. At this point our building leadership team meetings have been delayed, due to Governor Kelly's order, and we are further behind in our planning process. We now need those extra weeks to appropriately plan for the mandatory safety requirements in place. I believe it is in our students' and teachers' best interest to wait until after labor day to begin school.
7/21/2020 12:44:24	Virginia	Barnard		Eudora	As a parent and teacher, I 100% agree with delaying the start of school. Thank you for thinking of the safety of our children, teachers and staff. First, Schools and teachers are not ready or prepared to open August; Second, we are still learning about the long-term effects of contracting COVID-19 on all age groups; Third, we need to have a state-wide mask mandate to prevent community spread.
7/21/2020 12:44:27	Laura	Dorsey	Wellsville High School	Wellsville	Allow sports practice even if schools don't open
7/21/2020 12:44:30	Nicole	Reynolds	Olathe public schools	Olathe	The teachers need time to plan and buildings need time to make arrangements for a safe learning environment. Please delay until after Labor Day!
7/21/2020 12:44:32	Steve	Hoeme	Pratt high school parent	Pratt	Let the athletes start their seasons on time!! Youth and high school baseball and basketball leagues have been going on across Kansas all summer with no negative results! You will do much more harm by not allowing fall sports to start on time than this virus ever could! Wake the hell up already and let the school sports go on time!! The voice of all Kansas parents!!
7/21/2020 12:44:33	Shelby	Rebeck	Shawnee Mission School	SHAWNEE	Please adhere to the Governor's order delaying the start of school until no earlier than Sept 9th. It is imperative that schools have time to plan for the necessary changes in order to keep students and staff as safe as possible.
7/21/2020 12:44:36	Timothy	Stout	USD 409	Cummings	I see no benefit of holding off the start of school until after Labor Day. I believe that each day we wait the students fall further behind, especially children in with special needs. No matter what occurs i don't believe it is helping social distancing. I know several high school students who are getting together and not practicing social distancing. They then go home to their family / siblings. I believe at lease if they are in school that they can see their friends and can follow the social distancing guidelines set at school.
7/21/2020 12:44:37	Rachelle	Isley	parents	topeka	please delay the start of the year. Oyr kids deserve tge best preparation for their safety and needs.thank you
7/21/2020 12:44:38	Valerie	McGee		Yates Center	Please do not approve this order as each and every community in Kansas has different needs and desires. I truly believe that people living in the community can make the best decision for their communities.
7/21/2020 12:44:42	April	Hawkins	USD 231	Eudora, KS	As a school librarian in a large middle school in Johnson County, I am very worried about making sure that districts have time to think through all of the safety procedures that will need to be in place to ensure the safety of students, staff and their families. I urge you to support Governor Kelly, Dr. Lee Norman and the other experts that have advised the Governor. It is very important to have a clear, cohesive state-wide plan for Kansas. I have seen the rise in Covid-19 numbers across our state as we reopened too soon and without a cohesive plan for all counties to follow. I am very worried about asymptomatic spread that occurs before a person may even show any symptoms. As this is a new virus, experts are still learning about the long-term health consequences that children and adults who recover from Covid-19 could face for the rest of their life. Experts are still learning more about how the virus is transmitted, possibly through airborne methods. Our building does not have window that open. I think that administrators across the state will need to examine these important issues and put safety measures in now. Please, let us come together as leaders and as Kansans to support Governor Kelly, Dr. Lee Norman, our students, our staff and their families as we create a safe environment for all and fight this virus together.

7/21/2020 12:44:44	Will	Dunn		Lawrence	<p>Support the delay. As a parent of K-12 kids, as a public teacher, and as a resident of the state it is clear that delaying is the prudent, science-based approach. The safety of our young people, their families, and school employees cannot be ignored.</p> <p>We cannot say we need students back in school to get an education and then reject the expertise of the doctors and scientists who represent the fullest extent of what it means to be educated. They warn against reopening in these conditions.</p> <p>This problem only gets defeated as a whole state, not in pieces. This makes it a statewide issue demanding a statewide decision. Pockets of regions doing different things create the gaps by which the virus will maintain its foothold and develop. It is fallacious to assert this EO is an overreach by the governor, whose purview is the safety of every Kansan.</p>
7/21/2020 12:44:48	Troy	Gourley		Lawrence	<p>Kids have been working out together, using safe practices, masks, temperature checks, etc., and school is not in session. No reason to cancel workouts due to postponing school, which shouldn't happen either.</p>
7/21/2020 12:44:50	Kelly	Chapman	Parent of a high school s	Mission	<p>Please support Governor Kelly's Executive Order delaying the reopening of Kansas' schools. COVID cases in our area of the state are increasing. I want my child to be safe at school. I want his teachers and their families to be safe. Thank you for your consideration.</p>
7/21/2020 12:44:51	Jessica	Garriott	Parent	Wichita	<p>Please accept Governor Kelly's EO to delay the start of school. We appreciate her efforts to keep students and staff safe.</p>
7/21/2020 12:44:52	Miranda	Trezise	my family	Medicine Lodge	<p>Our state CANNOT take another slam on education. Mandatory masks for students will greatly decrease enrollment, my children included, which in turn decreases school revenue. Not every county is experiencing a high covid number. Counties should be allowed to choose for their school districts.</p>
7/21/2020 12:44:54	Brooke	Howell		Wichita	<p>I am writing to ask that you vote to allow private schools in Wichita and the State to make their own decisions regarding when to start the school year. Private schools and public schools are not the same and to lump them together in the decision making process is unfair. As a school community, they have been working tirelessly over the summer months to prepare for the August 20th start date. We are prepared with all the necessary precautions, have purchased the necessary supplies and have appropriate plans in place to move forward safely. Our schools have reached out to all staff and families asking for their input and have communicated to the community often to their process along the way. Private schools do not need the extra time to prepare as stated as the reasoning for delaying the start of the school year. WE ARE READY. We ask you to vote accordingly to allow private schools the opportunity to make the best decisions for our school community as they know what is best and the desires of our families.</p> <p>PLEASE VOTE NO, OR AT THE VERY LEAST, ALLOW PRIVATE SCHOOLS TO CHOOSE FOR THEMSELVES.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 12:44:54	Tamalee	Baker	Mill Valley High School	Shawnee	<p>I would like to petition that we bring our kids back to school as usual and on time this August.</p>
7/21/2020 12:45:01	Amy	Truhe		Lindsborg	<p>Please delay the opening of schools! Give USD personnel the ability to do their jobs with great preparation and forethought.</p>
7/21/2020 12:45:06	Juaquina	Bowers		Hutchinson	<p>Yes delay the school year</p>
7/21/2020 12:45:08	Joanie	Sheeley	Parent	Overland Park	<p>You can not ask a child to wear masks. What happens to the child if he/she wears a mask for a long period of time? If the child does not have a temperature or cough or sneeze they should not have to wear a mask. It is slim that a child will get covid-19. The teachers can wear shields if they are worried about infection. Masks are ridiculous. One month masks don't help the next month masks are the only way to stop infection. Do you really know? We just need to open up everything. If we get sick we get sick. If we die it was our time to die. If you are worried about infection stay home. Make online a choice but not a rule. I think we are trying to stop something we really have not control of. Why are we pretending we have control?</p>
7/21/2020 12:45:10	Teresa	Markowitz	Self	Lawrence	<p>Please delay opening</p>

7/21/2020 12:45:11	Tacy	Tauschek		Manhattan	Please vote to delay the start of school
7/21/2020 12:45:12	Ashley	Wolf	U.S.D. 320	Manhattan	I would urge Board members to adopt Governor Kelly's mandate of postponing the start of school until after Labor Day. We have had too great an increase in cases to allow for innocent students to be at risk of contracting covid-19 by starting school in mid-August.
7/21/2020 12:45:18	Dustin	Hearlson		Wellington	Open them on time
7/21/2020 12:45:21	Ashlee	Gann	USD 410 Parent	Hillsboro	Our family prefers a regular start date - no delay.
7/21/2020 12:45:23	Stacey	Frederes	My family	Olathe	Please delay school until we've flattened our current curve. It makes no sense to go back right now when we can work to get COVID spread under control and then start.
7/21/2020 12:45:25	Bill	Flynn		Lawrence	If you have a heart, let these kids go back to school and participate in activities. The kids are going crazy not being a structured environment.
7/21/2020 12:45:29	Katie	Hermreck		Paola	All in favor of the later start date.
7/21/2020 12:45:38	Lisa	Hall	Teacher	Salina	If we delay school please adjust the total number of state hours. The affects of making up 21 days of learning is difficult time.
7/21/2020 12:45:41	Amy	Yi	Hillcrest Parent	Lawrence	Please support the EO delaying return to school. Parents need extra time to decide on virtual vs in person option, and schools need to be prepared for the inevitable COVID exposures and procedures. My kids were exposed this summer at Hilltop and had to quarantine for 2 weeks and Hilltop has very stringent measures in place to protect the kids. The exposures will happen.
7/21/2020 12:45:42	Kylie	Wedel	Mize	Shawnee	Please open schools and let sports be played! These kids need this! My kids felt like they learned nothing with online school.
7/21/2020 12:45:43	Kelli	Oreder	Student	Osage City	Not in favor of delay
					<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am writing you as a mother of an 11 year old daughter who will be starting middle school this coming year and a mother of a 15 month old daughter. My daughters future and the future of so many children will be determined by the decision you are about to make. I can't imagine the weight of that, but I am depending on you.</p> <p>The death rate in Kansas for COVID-19 is 0.011% based off of today's statistics from the kdheks.gov website. Also, by looking at the numbers off of the website NO children have died in Kansas from COVID-19. The youngest age of a death is 29 years old. Why would we not be sending our children to school normally?? More cases does NOT equal more deaths.</p> <p>There is NO scientific evidence that children who may be asymptomatic can spread this disease and there is also NO scientific evidence that the wearing of face masks will prevent the spreading of COVID-19! The scientific data has shown that it is rare for children to get COVID-19 and rare for them to transmit it to anyone. A just-released JAMA Pediatrics study flatly states: "Our data indicate that children are at far greater risk of critical illness from influenza than from COVID-19."</p> <p>I want my daughter to go back to school normally and be able to learn and engage with her fellow peers. Anything less than this is a true crime against our children and their physical and emotional well being. NO masks, NO social distancing, NO temperature checks. Our children would not be able to comply with such restrictions and it will be so damaging to them if you make them try.</p> <p>Please, our children need you to cast aside any societal pressures, look at the facts, and make the logical decision for them and for future generations to come.</p>
7/21/2020 12:45:47	Amanda	Dawson		Valley Center	Please vote against delay!
7/21/2020 12:45:55	Zach	Jackson		Salina	Please vote against delay!
7/21/2020 12:46:01	Jennifer	Primm	JP-Ed Education Consul	Wichita KS	Communities in Kansas are now facing substantial community transmission of Covid 19; therefore, our state should implement the plan to delay the start of school in order to slow transmission rates.

7/21/2020 12:46:08	Shann	Dunn-Vigare	I represent my daughter	Topeka	Please, support in-person school for our children who have severe disabilities. Do not delay the start of school any further. We need our children with Rett syndrome and other brain disorders to have hands on education as well as therapy in order for them to thrive (therapy: occupational, physical, and speech and language). Or, at least let parents/primary caregivers of children with severe disabilities make the choice on how their children will participate in receiving an education. I have seen what missing last nine weeks of school (when the 2019-2020 school year abruptly ended early) has done to my it has done to my daughter with Rett syndrome. Please, allow in-person school to start and continue through the whole school year. My daughter needs it!
7/21/2020 12:46:11	George	Brown		Overland Park	Uphold the governors's decision to delay the start of school until Sept.8. Kids need to be in school, but we need the Coronavirus counts to lower in Kansas. We are above the 10% mark and need that to decrease before we out these kids in classrooms. In the corporate world, I have not heard of one meeting that is being held in a conference room with 25 people in it, the meetings are virtual! Why would we put 25 kids in a classroom together that can not accommodate social distancing? Masks are essential on all school aged children! Let's have parents practice the skill of properly wearing masks with their children. Kansas can get this right, we need to hold off a bit, get the positive cases down, get kids back in classrooms and parents back to work!
7/21/2020 12:46:29	Maggie	Underhill		Hill City	I will be a senior this year at Hill City and I do not want my senior year to be taken away. I along with other classmates really struggled with online school. We need to be in school not just for social purposes but to really learn. Students need those daily assignments not weekly assignments. We as student need to be around others. If we're away from people we will never learn how to speak to others. Please think about us seniors who want a proper senior year and allow us to go to school.
7/21/2020 12:46:48	Suzanne	Schielke	Colby public schools/pa	Colby	Please open the schools ASAP with each district making their own decisions based on their local numbers. Do not make masks mandatory and allow sports to take place. Study the science for children and Covid. Teachers that are Hesitant to return must realize they are essential workers
7/21/2020 12:46:51	Rachael	Hoeme	Usd383	Manhattan	I believe that you should vote to uphold governor Kelly's executive order. I am a Kansas school teacher!
7/21/2020 12:46:56	LeAnn	Ostmeyer		Colby	I support Executive Order 20-58 that would delay the start of school until September 9. As a former teacher, I feel that would give schools More time to plan healthy practice procedures and allows schools time to get the materials they need to start the school year safely.
7/21/2020 12:46:58	Brad	Levy		Lawrence	I support delaying the start of the 2020-2021 K-12 School Year.  The delay will give districts additional time to plan and implement changes for greater student and staff safety and spread reduction, which affects not only the students and staff, but the entire community. It also gives more time to make sure proper personal protective equipment, testing capacity, and spread tracing resources are available - all of which are still experiencing shortages.  I don't want to lose students or teachers to Covid-19. And while death rate from Covid-19 among children is low, most of the statistics we have are from times when children have not been indoors in large groups in close proximity for seven hours per day. And if the teachers catch it from the kids, you will be ending up with difficult staffing shortages, which may be particularly hard to address in more rural counties.
7/21/2020 12:47:01	Kaitlyn	Wolkensdorfer		Scott City	School should resume in August. Pushing school to a later date is the last things these children need. We need structure back in our communities and things to be as normal as they can be.
7/21/2020 12:47:05	Krystal	Fowler	Dental field	Topeka	Nothing else is closed why are we punishing our youth who need guidance and structure to thrive. We allow every other part of our lives to go on and hold our future captive unable to grow educationally. The order makes no sense when every other part of life is still going.
7/21/2020 12:47:06	Jennifer	Arndt	USD 253- school nurse	Emporia	We need time to simply prepare and to know where our county is going to be based off low-high restrictions. Knowing where our county is at on the "restrictions" scale is going determine how we open school— this is crucial. Personally, I want our kids back in school, in-person, but we have to do it safely. It can be done, but we need more time to prepare.
7/21/2020 12:47:06	Marcia	Adversalo	Parent and teacher	Wichita/Goddard	I feel that it is critical to keep students and teachers, as well as the families they go home to, safe from exposure to COVID-19. Delaying the start of school has the potential to help lower the numbers. No one wants to hear of a student or teacher dying because of the exposure as we rushed back to start school.



7/21/2020 12:47:07	Becca	Cass	USD 388	Ellis	Please vote NO to upholding the governors executive order. The decision as to when school should start should be up to each individual district based on their individual circumstances. I have a feeling city schools would not be best served if they were forced to abide by what works best for more rural schools. It certainly goes the other way. Each district should make their own decision as to when they are ready to begin, not the governor. Please vote NO.
7/21/2020 12:47:09	L	N		Wichita	Please delay the opening of schools to allow for proper preparation. As a parent and educator I am very concerned. I know many families also concerned. The consideration of all online would also be appreciated so families and educators do not have to make very difficult decisions regarding personal health and safety. Thank you for your hard work and diligence in these extremely difficult times.
7/21/2020 12:47:28	Makaela	Stevens		Scott City	I strongly disagree with delaying the 20-21 K-12 school year in the state of Kansas. The result would be counterintuitive, as these students have been together throughout this past summer for various activities, including sports practices and summer camps. Students have been consistently participating in these sports practices and weights classes since June, and placing a ban on practices and delaying school for a month would do nothing to prevent the virus, as the students have been in close contact for over a month already. Delaying the school year would only give families incentive to go on vacations and leave their residences for a week, causing potential exposure to the virus. Then, by bringing the students back together in a month, they would all be far more susceptible to COVID. By keeping with consistent sports practices and beginning school at the originally scheduled time, students would remain in safe contact with one another for the next month, allowing them to safely begin school, especially in smaller communities like my own, where COVID is not yet a threat in any way.
7/21/2020 12:47:30	Karen&jim	Versailles	Self	Prairie View Kansas	We support Gov Kelly's Delaying of the start to School. It would be irresponsible to send children, teachers and support staff into the schoolhouse setting. The preparation and supplies needed will take time to prepare safely. We support this delay. Karen&jim Versailles prairie view Kansas 67664
7/21/2020 12:47:16	Katie	Graves		Gardner	The kids need to get back into the classroom! Many parents are back to work so their children have been in daycare and summer camps for months. There has not been a spike in cases for children or providers. The kids going back to school is no different that what many have been doing this summer. In addition they should NOT be forced to wear masks. Masks are uncomfortable for adults to wear for hours at a time, even nurses and doctors who have to wear them. I can't imagine making a small elementary aged child wear a mask for 7 or 8 hours a day. There is not enough scientific research done on the affects the masks will have on children. Many doctors and pediatricians have spoken out on the risks to the children if forced to wear masks for long periods of time. Not to mention the frustration and distractions of them wearing them with little to no breaks. Once the masks are touched and adjusted they are essentially worthless, you cannot expect a small child to go the entire day without touching or adjusting their masks. The kids have already suffered enough these past several months, from school being canceled unexpectedly in the spring, not being able to say good bye to teachers and friends, missed field trips, sporting activities, and music concerts, not being able to go swimming at the public pools or seeing their friends this summer, missed family gatherings and events due to lockdowns, the list goes on and on. The kids need a break. They need some sense of normalcy. They need to go back to school, MASK FREE!! They need the structure of the classroom. They need interaction with their friends. If kids can spend the summer in daycares and camps mask free without a spike in cases then kids can return to school mask free.
7/21/2020 12:47:37	Nancy	Jackson	Community / teachers	Robinson	Please uphold the delay of school per Governor Kelly's mandate. We both need to give the districts time to prepare after receiving a thousand pages of recommendations and we need to have the virus better under control before opening the schools. A local community college just tried to have in-person classes and had to switch to virtual after one week because of identified cases. Please give our schools the chance to do this right and be able to keep our students and their teachers in the classrooms!
7/21/2020 12:47:42	Kela	Ortiz	Usd 450	Topeka	Start school normally! Please these kids need it

7/21/2020 12:47:45	Makaela	Stevens		Scott City	I strongly disagree with delaying the 20-21 K-12 school year in the state of Kansas. The result would be counterintuitive, as these students have been together throughout this past summer for various activities, including sports practices and summer camps. Students have been consistently participating in these sports practices and weights classes since June, and placing a ban on practices and delaying school for a month would do nothing to prevent the virus, as the students have been in close contact for over a month already. Delaying the school year would only give families incentive to go on vacations and leave their residences for a week, causing potential exposure to the virus. Then, by bringing the students back together in a month, they would all be far more susceptible to COVID. By keeping with consistent sports practices and beginning school at the originally scheduled time, students would remain in safe contact with one another for the next month, allowing them to safely begin school, especially in smaller communities like my own, where COVID is not yet a threat in any way.
7/21/2020 12:47:53	Brooke	Weeks		Newton	Please delay the reopening of schools. Our community COVID cases are on the rise. Protect our children, staff and families.
7/21/2020 12:47:54	Kristin	Brumm	Self (kids go to ONW)	Olathe	Please, please, please for the love of god and our kids, DON'T have onsite school this year. Kids and teachers will get sick and bring it home to their families. People will die. Those deaths will be on you if you push kids back into school just to please politicians.
7/21/2020 12:47:56	Rebecca	Tidwell	self	wamego	Schools need to be properly funded to protect the teachers and staff and students. Socialization is important for our children. Keeping everyone safe should be the number one priority to consider before opening.
7/21/2020 12:47:58	Donnie	Bradford	Schools	Scott city ks	This COVID is absurd they need to open schools with NO masks! The governors mandate completely out of line!
7/21/2020 12:48:03	Wendy	Murray		Tecumseh	Please allow sports and practices to continue. Summer sports have been allowed all summer. My kids don't play baseball and have been looking forward to football starting.
7/21/2020 12:48:08	Julie	Spieth	Teachers	Thayer	I feel if school is delayed sports MUST be delayed also, otherwise there is no point in delaying for small schools.
7/21/2020 12:48:20	Courtney	Otter	USD497	Lawrence	Please vote in favor of delaying the start of school. Schools need time to plan for the different learning options as well as student and staff safety.
7/21/2020 12:48:26	Amanda	Laney		Wichita	I support keeping schools closed until after labor day.
7/21/2020 12:48:44	James	Hill		Garden City	We do not need to keep everybody on the same schedule. Let the schools that are ready to start and make their own decisions. Kids need athletics more than ever!
7/21/2020 12:48:50	Ann	Smith	Self	Kinsley	Remember when counties overruled the gov on facecoverings? Cases are triple now. Like 85 kids under 1 tested positive in one TX county. You need to think of the kids, staff and parents and not overrule this we are getting over 3K cases per week. Wait and prepare
7/21/2020 12:48:51	Joan	Cales	None	Winfield	Please support Gov Kelley's decision. We need to slow this spread.
7/21/2020 12:48:54	Brooke	Eskilson-Patterson		Lawrence, KS	I fully support this executive order. School districts need more time to ensure quality COVID-19 safety and education plans are in place, as well as more time for infection rates to get down to a safe level for resuming in person classes.
7/21/2020 12:49:16	Jessica	Walls		Wichita	I have a high school student and strongly AGREE with the delay in starting school/school activities after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 12:49:18	Melissa	Triana	USD383- Anthony Midd	Manhattan, KS	Please uphold the order. The time will give our district and staff the time to get the supplies needed to open safely, as well as give teachers needed time in their classrooms to arrange for setup of the mix of in-person and online teaching.
7/21/2020 12:49:27	Deborah	Green		Gardner	Delaying is absurd. Nothing can be accomplished by September 9th that cannot be accomplished by regular start dates. The appropriate course of action vis a vis Covid 19 is to get the younger kids back in school full time ASAP. Admit you can't do anything to make high school worth attending and spend time and effort on a distance learning model that will work for them.
7/21/2020 12:49:32	Kathie	Kersten	USD 255	Kiowa	I am requesting that each school district determine their open safety procedures and open date regarding the governor's response to the corona virus. We live in a small rural community where only 3 people in the entire county have had Covid 19 - no hospitalization and no deaths. The governor,s plan will do our students and staff more harm than good. Kids need to be in school! The psychological and economic impacts are already damaging...please don't,t make it worse!!

7/21/2020 12:49:50	Vanessa	Grubb		Topeka/ Onaga	I believe the upcoming school year should be delayed! Our children cannot be expected to distance themselves, or wear masks for the entire school day. Let the numbers start declining instead of rising before we start sending our children into what I believe is harms way!
7/21/2020 12:49:59	Andrea	Coon		Norwich	I think kids should go back to school on their normal dates.
7/21/2020 12:50:03	Cathy	Dorcas		Emporia	Please uphold Governor Kelly's decision to delay the opening of schools until it is safe. As a teacher, I don't want to experiment with the health and well being of students, teachers, other school employees and communities.
7/21/2020 12:50:06	Chandra	Spears		El Dorado	I support the delay in opening schools and I wish the social distancing was included with the mask ordinance. I hope that the board of education will support and ratify the Governor's executive order keeping Kansas schools closed until after the Labor Day holiday. Not only does this give our communities time to decide to follow public health advice and hopefully reduce the Covid numbers, but it also gives our schools time to solidify plans, to purchase supplies, and for teachers to prepare for the impossible task being placed in front of them.
					We all want our kids back in school. Our kids want to be back in school. Unfortunately what that really means is we want to send our kids to school last December. Before Covid. School as it must be now, will not resemble school in December.
					We are currently asking teachers to plan to teach online. In person. And then some combination of the two. Splitting their efforts in that manner mean they will have no choice but to do a poor job of all of them. Quality virtual education looks different than quality in person education. We have no idea what quality socially distanced education looks like. But certainly it's nothing like the trained and talented teachers of our state learned about in their teacher training programs.
					We can easily give them more time to plan and organize and understand what is being asked of them before they, literally and figuratively, step into the line of fire. The governors executive order does just that!
					Every body that enters the school building endangers the safety of the kids and professionals in that building. Until our community numbers go down we cannot safely expect schools to protect our kids. Governor Kelly's order ensures that kids from all corners of the state get to go to a safe(r) school, regardless of what their local county government is doing to ensure community safety.
					The state board of education has wisely chosen to follow the advice and guidance of trained teaching and school professionals in adopting the navigating change documents. Now you have the opportunity to see some teeth given to the guidance created.
7/21/2020 12:50:11	Rebecca	Gerhardt		Topeka	
					Want my kids to go to school but not if academic time is shortened. With what I have received from the district, there is so much cleaning and focus on social distancing that it shortens what kids are at school for... Academics. They keep music, art, pe, recess and even add social and emotional learning but shorten actual academic lessons in the classroom in order to fit everything in. I vote to hold off in-person school until they are able to spend the same amount of time to academics. If they can't offer that, I vote to delay or start school virtually or just do small groups.
7/21/2020 12:50:12	Emily	Stevens		Derby	
7/21/2020 12:50:41	Gerardo	Perez		Wichita	I agree for the safety of our students and staff, including teachers, bus drivers, and any other person who contributes to our students education.
7/21/2020 12:50:42	robert	sindorf	Parent	Gardner, ks	School needs to start on time and with minimal provisions. Kids are lowest risk level for severe or mortality. Provisions for remote learning should be offered for educators, students, and students with high risk families .
7/21/2020 12:50:43	Brian	Tucker		Altamont	I don't feel that percentage of kansans that are testing positive is high enough to be concerning enough to delay the start of school. I think each school district should be able to come up with their own protection plan and shouldn't be a state mandated decision. Every school district is different and should be allowed to handle planning and decision making that fits their needs best.

7/21/2020 12:50:45	Jennifer	Louk	USD 256 Marmaton Val	Moran	I have been a teacher at USD 256 for 25 years and these are unprecedented times. I am also a mother of 2 school age kids (one who is a senior this year AND lived through missing his Junior year baseball season...) and a grandmother. I really feel that Governor Kelly is trying to make the BEST decision for students and staff by delaying school. This decision should not be a political soap box, it should be about protecting the health of Kansans. Protecting my students, my own family, and MYSELF!! This extra time would give our teachers and administrators TIME to figure out the competencies and plan. This delay would help us all to be better prepared to help our students and keep everyone safe. In our small district ONE death of a student OR faculty would be devastating. Please vote to support Governor Kelly's executive order on delaying school. Thank you for your service and dedication to education.
7/21/2020 12:51:03	Lindsey	Dowell	USD 437	Auburn	I am hoping that the state school board chooses to uphold the Governor's EO. I understand that circumstances from county to county are vastly different, but one thing that is the same is the need for teachers to be able to plan more extensively than we had the opportunity to in the spring. When schools are once again shut down, because I believe this is highly likely, it would be in student's best interest to allow teachers this time to create a viable plan. Please uphold the Governor's Executive Order.
7/21/2020 12:51:08	Kaki	Patterson	Teacher	Hobbs	I think it would be wise to wait until Labor Day to open. There are still too many issues to iron out before start of school.
7/21/2020 12:51:11	C	Kirk		Augusta	I would like school to start sooner rather than later, but if the schools can't be ready then I understand waiting. honestly, I feel like somethings should have been done by now considering schools have known for 4 months this was coming. Why haven't we already made partitions for classrooms or whatever you see these kids needing to maintain social distancing?  I also DO NOT want my children wearing masks 8 hours a day. Both of my children have anxiety and when they wear masks for extended periods of time their pulses race and they get extremely anxious. If it is mandated I may have to pull them out and home school them for their mental health.
7/21/2020 12:51:13	Janna	McConnaughay		Wichita	Please reject the Governor's propose mandate to delay the start of school. Education is ESSENTIAL to our children. Teachers are ESSENTIAL workers just like nurses/doctors/grocery store workers etc. While I applaud our school districts for making the best out of the end of the last school year, our kids haven't had a meaningful education in 6 months. I guarantee EVERY school district has a plan ready to go for the upcoming school year that is best for their local area. Parents can choose to send their kids to school, homeschool or do an online school (there are plenty that don't have residency requirements). As with any ESSENTIAL job, teachers have the option to work in school or find employment elsewhere. I know for a fact that both teachers and paras in our district were offered the option of transferring to the ecademy program if they weren't comfortable being in-class. Our kids are already behind by nine weeks they can't afford to fall behind another 3 weeks. Our tax dollars fund education and you have a duty to ensure that it happens on time. This is a virus, that is not going away. As with other virus's it doesn't have a cure. The MAJORITY of infected persons have little to no symptoms. The death rate is the lowest it's been since March. We cannot shut down our world to cater to a small group of citizens that have underlying conditions. We DESERVE the CHOICE to get our kids back in school on schedule! Vote to REJECT the school delay mandate!
7/21/2020 12:51:13	Carolyn	Davis	My family	Wichita	I think that starting later makes sense and I think a hybrid model makes sense
7/21/2020 12:51:16	Jaden	Scott		Louisburg	Please uphold Governor Kelly's executive order that delays school opening until after Labor Day. That will allow schools to better prepare and hopefully numbers will go down a little by then if people wear masks between now and then. I am a conservative yet I have supported and appreciated Governor Kelly's leadership during this pandemic. I truly believe she's making decisions based on safety. Please do not overturn her.
7/21/2020 12:51:22	Katie	Winder	259	Wichita	No problems with delay. However, why are teachers going back anyway? They will run out of contract days and don't have a place for their own children.

7/21/2020 12:51:22	Emily	Garvey	USD 500- KCKPS	Overland Park	I would like to see the executive order be passed. The safety of our students and families need to be taken seriously. A good majority of the students I work with live with grandparents or multiple family members. I would hate for anyone of our students to accidentally take something home. By passing the order it will give our district leaders time to make plans for keeping both students and staff safe. Our original timeline for starting school would not provide enough time to really think through plans and decide on something that will work for schools of different sizes and age groups. Last year our district had a terrible time getting subs when teachers were sick for just a shot period of time. With Covid 19, I am very concerned that we will have even fewer number of substitute teachers. By passing the order I hope it will also give time to plan for teacher abscesses as well without putting students at a risk for passing the virus around. Thank you for your time and putting in so much thought to keeping our kids safe.
7/21/2020 12:51:24	Anna	Green		Ulysses	As a teacher, I would much rather complete this year virtually and hopefully by the start of next year we can go back to "normal"
7/21/2020 12:51:33	Ashley	Burdick	Parent	Maize	Please support Governor Kelly in delaying the openings of schools. The US Surgeon General supports this as well, as does all science.
7/21/2020 12:51:42	Shae	Rush	USD 231 Gardner-Edge	Gardner	<p>Thank you for all the work you have put into making urgent decisions during this extremely challenging time. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the kids and parents of Kansas.</p> <p>I am wanting to submit my personal opinions as you prepare for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</li> <li>•No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</li> </ul> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, PLEASE allow the individual districts to make their own decisions as well as encourage each district to begin school as close to normal as possible.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community - but also give your support for the school districts. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense at all - KIDS NEED TO BE IN SCHOOL... so each district can make their own decision on what is best for their community.</p> <p>Based upon the information available and my personal knowledge from being a full-time pediatric RN at Children's Mercy, I firmly believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities NOW, or asap. Delaying school for more weeks is absolutely unnecessary. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time. Kid's need normalcy. Kids need structure. Parents need to work. Parents cannot teach their own children academics unless they voluntarily are able and want to do so. We are providing a dis-service for the future of our community, nation, world if we withhold school from our children. Children need to stay active and involved in activities and athletics... this will keep them out of trouble, teach them responsibilities that I have cherished everyday since my younger school years. I am thankful my daughters are not yet in the thick of their academics, but my youngest NEEDS to go to preschool for structure, discipline etc. My husband is physical education teacher, a middle school basketball coach and a highschool football coach - he NEEDS to go to work to teach those kids at all the different age levels important life skills for them to carry on throughout their lives. WE FIRMLY BELIEVE kids need to go back to normal ASAP. Covid is not affecting children and the general population as the news is portraying. Hospitalizations and deaths are not common, at all. The sooner we get back to school, the sooner parents can get back to work, economy with slowly return to normal. Covid is not the only illness in our community, in fact there are illnesses far more</p>
7/21/2020 12:51:42	Rachel	Elyachar		Lenexa	As a both a teacher and a mother, please delay the start of school until cases are lower and there is less evidence of community spread. I'm nervous for my students as well as my family. We can have a successful start to the school year through virtual learning.
7/21/2020 12:52:01	Tami	Farr Smith		Topeka	I support Governor Kelly's decision to delay the start of school. I am concerned about keeping our children safe, but I'm equally concerned about keeping our teachers safe. No one has talked about keeping teachers safe in the discussion to open schools.
7/21/2020 12:52:02	Cindi	Miller	Parent and grandparent	901 Luther	Waaaay to risky with people NOT wearing masks everywhere
7/21/2020 12:52:03	Anna	Green		Ulysses	As a teacher, I would much rather complete this year virtually and hopefully by the start of next year we can go back to "normal"

7/21/2020 12:52:03	Kendra	Hancock		McPherson	I fully support a delay in the school year. Honestly as long as it takes to get the numbers to a reasonably safe infection rate. This is such a small moment in time for our students that I do not believe it is worth risking the health of students but as well as if not especially our staff engaging with them just to not lose any seat hours in the classroom. I am strongly considering homeschooling which would greatly affect how I am able to work and provide for my family but if it comes down to it and the public school system fails me and my children and our community, I will keep my family safe. I have personally witnessed a situation in an at home daycare where not a single child presented a symptom but what started with the daycare provider having the virus, spread to every single parent (that did not have contact with each other) in the same time period. We do not know enough to make definitive statements about children being safe or not spreading to each other or adults. Please put health first.
7/21/2020 12:52:06	D	Ziegler		Kingman	I have no problem with the delayed start. We started after labor day years ago, just didn't have as many days off during the school year.
7/21/2020 12:52:08	Lori	McMillan	My family	Topeka	<p>If you are making this decision over Zoom, you already question the safety of group gatherings. If your safety matters enough to protect in that way, the safety of our school staff should matter enough too.</p> <p>Kids don't have the attention span to follow the rules to keep each other and the staff safe. The liability issues of sending teachers into close quarters with kids, in buildings with poor ventilation, will surely cost us more (lives and settlements) because you can't create a safe work environment out of thin air, should dictate that caution is warranted. There are workplace health and safety laws for a reason. Otherwise, I hope the teachers sue, like Florida. Legal fees are expensive - shouldn't that money be spent on our kids instead? Just because parents need babysitters doesn't dictate that teachers should be the ones to die. That's not what educators are for. They aren't soldiers, and they didn't sign up to be guinea pigs for the experiment this would be, either.</p> <p>My family has socially distanced the heck out of the last 4 months. We are taking this seriously. My husband is a teacher, and high risk. If he has to choose between his health and his job, he will probably quit. Otherwise, if he goes back and catches COVID, I will happily sue his employer (501) until they wish they'd been smart enough to realize that teachers are not expendable.</p>
7/21/2020 12:52:18	Amanda	Aveyard-Elo		Lawrence, KS	We need to delay the start of school so that plans can be made to start safely. Maybe with the delay and people wearing masks more, our numbers will drop and it will be easier to keep everyone safe.
7/21/2020 12:52:22	Amanda	Weatherford	My family	Gardner	I am fine with schools starting after Labor Day but I would like for children to not be required to wear a mask while at their desks.
7/21/2020 12:52:23	Austin	Acton		Wichita	Do not agree with decision to delay school, especially if it pushes back end of school year. Kids need interaction with other kids soon. Requiring temperature taking upon arrival is fine. But no masks needed if healthy. Masks restrict breathing and harm immune system. Open schools at normal time/date. Working parents may not have option of summer camp or alternative care much longer.
7/21/2020 12:52:25	Jody	Lauer		Marysville	These students need to go back to school. They were already deprived of their education last year. Let's not do it to them again this year. And when they are in school they need to be able to focus and not be playing with a mask and sanitizing their hands all day long. Teachers in elementary ages will not get any school work done if they have all these restrictions. If it is not safe for students then get the online school education started up in August. But do not wait till September to make a decision. This is also something that the counties and school officials should decide and not our Governor. Some small counties are not as bad as the heavy populated cities.
7/21/2020 12:52:32	Nicholas	Yeager		Larned	Please do not close schools and sports! Some counties have numbers in the single digits! Leave this up to each school district please! Our children need normalcy - especially for a virus with such a low rate of a bad outcome. H1N1 had 56 MILLION more cases - nothing was shut down.
7/21/2020 12:52:46	Anita	Unruh	Concerned parent of student	Hillsboro	Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 12:52:46	Jodi	Murphy	Parent	Norwich, Ks	I think the schools should open for in-person schooling in August.
7/21/2020 12:52:49	Catherine	Ireton		Lenexa, KS	The rate at which people are contracting this disease is even higher than before, and people are considering having their children go to school? We don't even have much of a plan. I think it would be irresponsible and dangerous to not wait for a well-thought out plan at the very least.

7/21/2020 12:52:52	Lisa	Maxfield		Emporia	I agree with the delay of school and/or 100% virtual learning until the case numbers drop. Please don't put our children, teachers and staff at risk.
7/21/2020 12:52:56	L	Loewen		Emporia	There will be no significant difference between starting mid-August like always or after Labor Day. This is a disappointing political move at the expense of our children.
7/21/2020 12:53:10	Rebecca	Duncan		Wakarusa	It makes no sense to open schools when numbers are rising. Schools are not ready for this and people will die if more time isn't given. Although it's not what anyone really wants to hear, I suspect online learning, at least in part, will need to be used at least until January of 2021. It makes no sense to me to open and then have to close again because the virus is running rampant through the building. This is not a political issue. This is a health issue. I expect the state board to place a higher value on student and staff lives than opening in August.
7/21/2020 12:53:26	Jill	Giele	Concerned citizen	Lawrence	Please comply with the Governor's recommendation to wait until after Labor Day to open schools, giving all of us more time to get COVID cases under control. This delay of just a few weeks could save many lives, I sincerely hope you will consider that and do the right thing.
7/21/2020 12:53:28	Jeff	Jones	Resident of Lenexa, KS	Lenexa	In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.
7/21/2020 12:53:31	Beverly	Morrison	Myself	Lawrence	It has been proven multiple times that Covid does not affect children. Remaining at home causes long term damage to the child due to lack of education, social skills. The parents inability to work due to their children being home causes long term damage to the family emotionally, mentally and financially.
7/21/2020 12:53:36	Kaitlyn	Schamberger	Hoxie Kansas	Hoxie Kansas	A one size fits all approach does not meet the needs of northwest Kansas. Delaying schools based on fear alone and not the actual numbers in northwest Kansas is going to hinder the children's education more than anything. Their well-being is what we should be worried about. Look at the numbers look at the caseload. What happens in Topeka or Kansas City or Wichita doesn't make sense for rural northwest Kansas.
7/21/2020 12:53:37	Bradley	Rose		Kansas City, KS	<p>As a teacher in Kansas, parent with a student in Kansas schools, and as a resident of Kansas, I have been very disappointed by the inability of fellow Kansans to take personal and local responsibility to stop the spread of COVID-19. I want nothing more than for my daughter to have a "normal" school experience that fulfills her social and intellectual needs. I want nothing more than to see my own students face-to-face and to give them the best and full education they deserve. However, I value their life and health and the lives and health of my fellow educators more than my desire to rush into forcing a "normal" where normal is not currently possible.</p> <p>Some State Board of Education members have suggested in their individual comments thus far that this is a "local decision" to be made by local school boards. This would usually be appropriate when local boards would be addressing strictly local issues. The reality is, though, that we are dealing with a GLOBAL pandemic that does not understand country borders, state borders, let alone individual school districts. In the past several months, it has been this "local" control (or lack thereof) that has led to a significant rise in cases of the virus in our state and has put many lives at risk.</p> <p>The other inevitability if schools were to open at their usual time is spread would occur and districts would then have to shut down after having started. The number of cases is too high to fool ourselves into thinking this would not happen. Look at what happened at multiple camps this past summer. Closing after rushing an opening would put a significantly greater inconvenience onto parents with the unpredictability of the starts and stops of in-person learning due to the virus. If we were to delay the opening of schools and numbers were to lower to a more track-able amount, we would be more likely to keep schools open and lighten the load for parents.</p> <p>For those Board Members who choose to vote against Governor Kelly's reasonable, realistic, and sound Executive Order, I will hold you personally responsible for those whose lives are put in danger (especially any lives lost) and for delaying our state's ability to dampen the spread of this virus. If schools worsen the spread after rushing openings, I will work in whatever part of the state is necessary to ensure you are not re-elected. You have a duty and responsibility to prioritize and make decisions that protect the needs, health, and well-being of Kansas students and educators and use the evidence and expertise of those who understand how viruses actually work ahead of emotional and political pressure from those that are only thinking about themselves and their own situations. I know your decision will not be</p>

7/21/2020 12:53:38	Clelia	McCrary	ESSDACK and also rural	Sterling, Kansas	I personally think school calendars should be left up to the local school district based upon the community needs it sees instead of a one-size-fits-all statewide approach. COVID19 will spike at different times in the 105 different counties of Kansas. Schools and their communities need the continued local flexibility to address what they see needed to be able to still deliver the 1,116 hours of required instruction as they see when and where FOR THEIR INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS. We may need to also consider using some additional community spaces in order to allow school districts to put in place the social distancing spacing recommended by CDC. There are faith-based buildings or community centers in our communities that are idle most of the school week that might provide a solution to some temporary increased space. Again, let's also focus on making sure that communities have the broadband capability to provide virtual learning where needed and supported by sound educational research (virtual learning for below 4th grade does not provide consistently good results if you examine the research findings). We need to use this pandemic to create solutions for more quality learning diversity for students for the future no matter where they live. In 2020, we should not be providing education that some students can access and some can not due to their lack of internet access or access to technology devices and if public education is supposed to be available to all students, it should be accessible to all students instead of some getting media-rich learning while others are handed a stack of paper that was not completed when we had the physical school closure this spring. In addition, since colleges offer summer school for teachers in June and July who are trying to get graduate degrees or further schooling, then learning access for teachers also becomes a problem if schools statewide do not complete their year until sometime in June. We also need to be consistent with our social distancing message: if we need to provide social distancing from 8-3ish, then extracurricular activities should also be limited to ones that can also adhere to the social distancing health standards. I know that postponing contact sports like football until later will not be popular but we need to be consistent with our messages we send students, parents, and the communities. I recommend voting for LOCAL OPTION DECISION MAKING as the state board votes and then use our gap findings (broadband, internet, reduced career and industry hands on learning, etc.) to plan for better solutions for our future as Kansans over time. Thank you for your service with the goal to create a better future for Kansas through a well-developed and educated Kansas citizenry that indeed can also meet the needs of business and industry!
7/21/2020 12:53:44	Leann	Urbanek	Herington USD 487	Herington	My kids need social interaction and thrive in a classroom setting. Although they did well with remote learning it is not the same. They did not get as much out of it. Also they are both extremely active in school activities and the last 6 months had been awful. We are fine with masks and social distancing and all the other recommendations but kids need the social interaction both in the classroom and in a team setting.
7/21/2020 12:53:46	Sarah	Tidwell		Kansas City, KS	Please consider the safety of not only the students and their families but also the safety of my teaching staff and our families. We all want kids to come back to school, we miss seeing them and the relationships we create with them, but given time and a plan we can do this online, in small groups or other forms to accomplish all of these things. We love our kids and will find a way to create relationships and learning opportunities in a safe way for all of our community.
7/21/2020 12:53:46	Jacob	Davis	Andover central high	Wichita	I'm scared to go back to school and catch the rona.
7/21/2020 12:53:50	Ashley	Kirkham	Marshall County School	Marysville	As a parent of a young child all I ask is that this is handled as safely as possible. I know school is critical to these children in so many different ways but all I can ask is that you don't rush either way because of pressure but consider the safety of students, teachers, faculty and the families of all involved.
7/21/2020 12:53:51	Libby	Tison	USD 259 - Caldwell Ele	Wichita	Each morning at Caldwell, we repeat "Safekeeper Statements." One phrase comes from the staff to the students, "I will keep you safe." The students then reply, "I will help you keep me safe." Please support the Governor in the delay of opening schools so we can confidently make those statements when we return. With the virus running rampant in Wichita, I fear for the safety of our students, families, and staff. All of us want to return to normal, but what we are returning to will be far from normal. District staff and families could use the extra time to prepare ourselves for what will need to be new routines and safety measures. Thank you for your consideration.



7/21/2020 12:53:59	Heather	Augustine		Manhattan, KS	Please vote yes to delay school until Labor Day. As a teacher, I am overwhelmed to the point of detriment to my mental health about preparing for school in a different way than any of my 24 previous years of teaching. To effectively provide the best quality education for my students, the extra time to fully learn new systems of instruction is vital. This time would also allow schools to secure even better resources for cleaning and safety. None of us expected the virus to still be this prevalent and getting worse as school approaches. In order to further ensure safety of students and staff, waiting until after Labor Day allows for time to complete research on best practices for spread prevention. The relief I felt when the governor proposed this idea was immense. It was the first sense of peace and confidence that I have had in months. Please consider not only the physical health but the mental toll that fear and unpreparedness takes. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:54:12	Ashleigh	Cornelius	USD 253- Village Elem	Emporia	Please uphold the governor's order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. Our students and staff deserve to be granted the grace to prepare in light of the latest developments. I'm pregnant and do not feel schools are safe for myself, let alone others.
7/21/2020 12:54:14	Pamela	Chamberlain	parent of school child	Salina, KS	I understand the concerns, but I feel school needs to start on time and not be delayed. Our school district had made plans to open when scheduled and had plans already in place to wear masks, social distance and do what they felt best for the students and staff. They have worked hard all summer to come up with plans so that kids could start back to school. It has been way too long and this needs to happen. Corona is not going away and we need to start getting life back to the new normal.
7/21/2020 12:54:21	Peyton	Wheat	Free State High school	Lawrence	Sports should be allowed to practice and play even if schools not in session. We can not lose another season. The seniors need this I know a lot of people who can have a break out year and end up playing college ball. My brother is in the situation and I want the best for him. There are students who only show up and do school because of sports. Please let us play.
7/21/2020 12:54:42	Sue	Dewan	Self	Wichita	Keep all schools closed until after Labor Day AT LEAST! Then open on a county by county or city by city basis. Wichita Schools should not open for actual classes until the city gets the virus back under control. Use virtual school in Wichita until then.
7/21/2020 12:54:51	Angela	Clevenger	Parent/school nurse	Leawood	I want my 2 children back in school on the August start date. As a school nurse I have done endless research and every study says that it is healthier, and safe for children to be back in school. The Governor brought up a study that South Korea did that said children pass Covid. I read the study and it was a poorly designed study, one that people would throw out. Of course, it was the only one she could find that agreed with her. The American Academy of Pediatrics says children are low risk and need to go to school. Two more studies just released from Germany and Ireland on school children says children are low risk and need to be in school. Please vote to override the governor's mandate and let our children return to school on the planned start date.
7/21/2020 12:54:59	merissa	medbury		bel aire	I want my kids back in school. mask me be worn but also s idk sometimes down. sanitize and wash hands. for the mental aspect my kids need in person
7/21/2020 12:55:09	Rachael	Rico	USD466	Scott City	Our schools need to start on time and students and staff should be able to opt out of wearing a mask. It should be a choice and to wear or not to wear a mask should be acceptable. I believe that if it is mandatory many families in the community WILL homeschool their children.
7/21/2020 12:55:12	Cassie	Denning		Wichita	Schools should absolutely remain closed for now. With the way our numbers are riding this shouldn't even be in question. We have no information on how this virus could affect children long term, even if initially they have less risk. Also, why are we willing to sacrifice our teachers and staff for the sake of a "normal" year. There is nothing normal about this school year. Opening schools when are numbers are up and rising is only going to result in trauma for our kids. Watching their beloved teachers get sick and possibly die is going to be much worse than delaying school not just until after labor day, but until our numbers are down. Kids will recover just fine from some time out of school, they .ay not result in the trauma caused from opening when our numbers are going up and out of control.
7/21/2020 12:55:16	Stephanie	Katzer	USD497	Lawrence	I have submitted my thoughts regarding the opening date of school. We were asked to share our thoughts about summer sports conditioning. If they continue to practice as they are now, with safety procedures in place and social distancing during conditioning-no contact, I support this as there is a balance with mental health as well.

7/21/2020 12:55:19	Gail	Kliewer		Hillsboro	I am a mathematics teacher in a rural district. Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school until Sept. 9. We need the additional time to ensure safety for staff and students and to prepare well to teach our content in multiple formats.
7/21/2020 12:55:24	Jonathan	Callison	none	Prairie Village	I absolutely agree with the Governor and thank her for doing the right thing. Hong Kong, Israel, Australia - all experienced the mistake of opening their schools before getting the infection rate under control. I would also argue that this virus is so infectious that all areas will suffer if any relax their masking and social distancing, including opening up their schools. There is simply too much exchange between our various areas to argue that some don't need to follow the same precautions. After all, when, not if, when the virus comes to their local, their serious cases will be sent to our metropolitan health centers - increasing the burden on them when they may already be seriously overtaxed by the present surge in our populous counties. We are all in this together whether we much like it or not and should act accordingly.
7/21/2020 12:55:25	Tracey	Kastens	I'm a parent and a full-ti	Lawrencie	I fully support the governor's order to delay in-person schooling until the COVID curve has consistently trended downward. The amount of illnesses and deaths that we will see among both students and staff as a result of opening too early cannot be overlooked nor justified. Requiring that students, teachers, and other school employees report back when it is unsafe to do so is irresponsible and will do irreparable damage to the health of so many, in both the short term and long term. We must value human life above all else in this situation; academics can be recovered eventually, life cannot.
7/21/2020 12:55:26	Kim	Criswell	I am a parent and a kind	Wilson	I am in agreement with opening schools after Labor Day. Let's let schools use this time to adequately prepare to comply with recommendations, but then let's GET SCHOOLS OPEN. Our students need this. Other businesses have successfully opened, schools can also, especially in counties such as mine that currently have very minimal numbers of active cases. I am in my 50s and have had prior complications (bilateral pulmonary embolisms) after the flu, but I think we can open safely and I think that is what our kids deserve! Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:55:27	Jimmie	Booth	Praire View Elementary	Liberal	School should be opened.
7/21/2020 12:55:34	Nora	Perry		Shawnee	I agree with Governor Kelly and delaying the start of schools
7/21/2020 12:55:35	Donna	Hunt	BVNW	Overland Park	As long as safety measures are taken, these kids need and are ready to get back to school.
7/21/2020 12:55:36	Katie	Burke		Olathe	I think the delay in school starting is the right decision. As a veteran first grade teacher I know we all want kids back in school. However, with the numbers on the rise it makes me nervous to go back in the mass group setting to school. Teachers will have contact with all the kids and everyone that those kids have had contact with as well. Thank you for taking our safety into consideration when making this decision. I also would like for the masks to be required for everyone k-12 with staff as well! Keep Kansas safe.
7/21/2020 12:55:41	Patricia	Forsythe	No organization, just a n	Emporia	I believe students should be allowed to attend school as normal in the normal time frame. Children are at low risk for the disease, and those who may be at higher risk could have the option of staying home. I believe we need to consider the whole child, including social-emotional health as well as food security and safety. The shutdown in the Spring was difficult on parents and children. It will be more so as parents are returning to the workforce and trying to provide for their family's needs. Consider more than the virus, please. It's not impacting children enough to deny all children the right to be in school.

7/21/2020 12:55:44	Shawna	Blanka		St. Francis	<p>This should not be a state wide decision. This is why we have a State Board of Education and local school boards who can make the best decision for their county. These local entities are also collaborating with the County Medical officer, County Commissioners and County Health Nurse. The Covid numbers show no reason to delay school any longer. The kids have been together all summer and having activities and there has been no issue. It is only hurting the kids and their education. It has already been halted this spring and there is no implications that these kids can't get back in school and activities including sports! If people have concerns and don't want to send their kids fine but a majority are ready for school. The numbers of kids having depression, getting into trouble with drugs and alcohol and thinking of suicide are only going to continue to rise, so is that what we want for our KIDS - I don't think so. It shows that kids are not at a high risk for Covid so why keep punishing the kids?</p> <p>They should not be made to wear a mask either, again leave up to local authorities.</p> <p>We need to move on and show the media we are not going to continue to live in 'fear' of a new virus that is showing very low mortality rates now and low hospitalizations as it continues.</p> <p>Our country was founded on ethics, freedom, In God we trust and many people have lost their lives fighting for this and that is not what is being represented right now by our state government!</p>
7/21/2020 12:55:45	Dustin	Dade	Parent of a student	Olathe	<p>Dear State Board of Education,</p> <p>My family is writing to you today to urge you to vote to support the Governor's delay to the school year. We are at a pivotal moment in our state where cases are still climbing at an alarming rate. There is currently not enough time between now and the projected start of many school districts to safely open schools. The Governor's plan is backed by the Secretary of Health and Environment Dr. Lee Norman. He stated last week that a minimum of 28 days is what we need to get through 2 incubation periods of this disease. That is how we can lower the numbers, by working hard for the next 28 days to get the numbers down.</p> <p>A delay is not a closure of schools. It is a chance to save lives and stop this terrible disease. Yes, many people that get the disease recover without serious injury. However, it is transmissible to someone who may get seriously ill or worse, die. No child should be placed in that situation. One, where they may get seriously sick, or two, pass it on to someone they know (a teacher) or love (parent or grandparent) who gets very ill or perhaps dies. All of that is easily preventable by delaying school by a few weeks while the rest of the state works to squelch the disease using proven methods of socially distancing themselves, wearing masks and clean hygiene.</p> <p>We did this in the Spring and we can do this again now. But we need the time to make it work. This is not a political plea, it is a medical and societal plea. Give everyone the chance to do the right thing and get the cases under control. Save lives by giving everyone the easiest solution, time.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Dustin and Tonya Dade</p>
7/21/2020 12:55:48	Michelle	Parkman	Public school children	Emporia	<p>Please keep them closed. We above everything else must keep our children safe. Children can die from this. We have to do everything in our power to keep our babies safe.</p>

					<p>I would prefer the school year start on time for several reasons. My comments are specific to large high schools across the state.</p> <p>1) Students taking courses through partnered community colleges need to get going. The community colleges are starting classes in August.</p> <p>2) Waiting until Sept 8 to start school will result in possibly fewer breaks through out the year to try to finish on time.</p> <p>3) It's pretty much a given that the schools in "red" zones now are not going to significantly improve anytime soon, so online is the only option and let's get going. School building openings should be on a county by county basis with state guidelines/criteria. If there is community transmission in a school district's boundaries, then its courses would be online until transmission is under control. Turn the schools into supervised areas where kids that need free lunch and internet can go, strictly reduce the numbers and provide needed services that some kids have been needing since March 13.</p> <p>4) Temperature readings of 3000+ high school students on the way in each morning, HOW?</p> <p>5) Social distancing everywhere but the classroom, HOW?</p>
7/21/2020 12:55:51	Jenna	Means		Lenexa	Between logistics and reality, opening up large high school buildings in red zone counties is not a good idea.
7/21/2020 12:55:54	Rita	Engle	Grandmothers	Wichita	Postponing in classroom education is wise at this time. Reassessment can then be done and next actions decided. Having plans in place for online school for this semester would be smart. Then possibly a vaccine will be available for next semester.
7/21/2020 12:56:02	Julie	Conard	Usd 467	Leoti	I think delaying the start date fir school is fine, but we must continue to allow athletes to train and hold camps, which is what's they've been doing across the state all summer. To delay any fall sports until sept 9 basically means no sports, and that is a huge fear!!! I would also like to allow local health depts control as my county only has 1 case, just confirmed yesterday. We are no Sedgwick or Wyandotte counties, so a one size fits all policy simply does not work. We are ready to return face to face, with no masks in our county.
7/21/2020 12:56:04	Jessica	Larsen	USD 497, employee and	Lawrence	Please support the Governor's initiative to keep us all safe amidst the COVID pandemic. She has been an amazing leader, serving in the best interest of saving lives. Leaving it to local communities will only exacerbate what we are seeing at the federal level with a lack of coordination, communication, and planning - it continue to spread and we will be unprepared for the consequences.
7/21/2020 12:56:16	Pamela	Garcia		Newton	I am for delaying the upcoming school year.
7/21/2020 12:56:25	Jennifer	Enright	USD 259	Wichita	Please support the delaying of opening schools.
7/21/2020 12:56:43	Nathan	Lawson	dighton elementary	Dighton	I personally do think it would benefit us more to start school after Labor Day. I think there is too much risk at this moment to be able to allow teachers and kids to be in the building together . The costs and preparations would be rushed if we decided to start in August and not everyone and district could be ready by then in my opinion . I'm a special education teacher and know my students need one in one , but the risk is far greater to start too soon
7/21/2020 12:56:48	Bailey	Schmidt	USD 456	Emporia	Please delay the start of school, I have a young daughter and newborn daughter to keep safe at home until we can get proper PPE for teachers. I am a second grade teacher in a small district.
7/21/2020 12:56:51	Ella	Burrows		Satanta, Kansas	My name is Ella Burrows and I am a senior at Satanta High School. (IA) Although this is my last year of high school and would love for it to be as normal as possible, I believe that Governor Kelly's executive order should stay in place. School districts need this extra time to prepare and plan for a safe return to school. Additionally, by overruling the order, you would instead be taking another week of much needed planning time for schools because of all the changes and uncertainty administrators our faces with. Kansans need consistency and they need be informed of exactly what will be happening with schools this year.

7/21/2020 12:56:56	Mary	Reeves		SEDAN	I feel that the decision to open school should be at a local level. We have a small school in SE Kansas that has a small number of students who attend. Chautauqua county has only had 5 cases of covid 19. I feel that we can safely start school and sports without putting our students and staff at risk
7/21/2020 12:56:57	Elisa	Gagnon		Overland Park	Schools should be open when it is safe and when it will not contribute to the rise of this terrible virus. Even if children do not get sick from the virus, it is proven that staff will. In order to open, everyone must commit to doing what we have to do to reverse the curve. Only then can the schools safely open. Look at countries that initially managed things very differently—New Zealand comes to mind but there are others—and learn from what they did. when Kansas lead the way last spring, we were ahead of the curve, controlling the spread, learning as we went, reacting to new information. Then the legislature decided that safety of the many was less important than scoring political points. We as a community, were forced to open back up. Immediately we could see that there is a general lack of empathy or concern for others. How many times do we have to see messages from people who blithely went out in public, mixed and mingled with no regard for spacing or simple precautions, then were laid low by the virus? “Oh, I didn’t realize it could be this bad,” is no longer an acceptable reaction to contributing to the spread of Covid-19.
7/21/2020 12:57:00	Kirsten	Larsen	Schroeder Larsen Law, P	Overland Park	In your post, you ask why not question everything. Questioning is how we will solve this problem, but only if we are logical, careful, and follow the evidence to better understandings every chance we get. Following red herrings simply because they support what we want to be true will only extend this situation. Focusing on questions that serve only to blame rather than solve, should not be the priority. At this point where and how this virus came from is much less important than responding to the situation, healing and protecting our citizens, and preparing ourselves to react more swiftly and effectively the next time. Only then should we be worried about assigning blame to the source of the problem.
7/21/2020 12:57:04	Daniel	Minde	Education	Liberal	Everyone agrees that the restricting the flow of people to work and to school is detrimental to our economy, but the economy, as it looked before, should be a lesser priority, than having safe healthy citizens within it. As has been said before, dead citizens don’t do much for the economy. Expecting schools to accept so much risk without the right expectations, protective gear and training, just so parents can get back to work is irresponsible. We are so interconnected there is no such thing as “back to normal” and confining the outbreaks. One sick child can ravage a school. The traditional school day keeps too many kids confined in rooms without access to fresh air. The infected air is circulated for hours in old HVAC systems. The sick children, may have mild symptoms themselves, but that doesn’t prevent them from spreading it their families and their teachers. Those families take it to their workplaces. The teachers spread it to their families. And now we call in substitutes, if any can be found. On and on, and in a few weeks, the economy that was prioritized is shut down anyway. Who benefits from that approach?
7/21/2020 12:57:07	Lisa	Bass		Hutchinson	Our schools are cornerstones of communities. Delaying the start of school and letting schools customize solutions that
7/21/2020 12:57:14	JoAnna	Rush	Myself—parent of 4 sch	Roeland Park	I think we need to delay the opening of schools.
7/21/2020 12:57:15	Stacy	Campbell	USD232	Shawnee	Please do what Laura Kelly said and delay starting school. No reason it should even be in your hands. #IStandWithLauraKelly
					Let each school board and community decide when to begin the school year. Please let schools begin in August. Smaller schools and areas that have little impact should be able to start in August. They’ve been researching and making plans. For parents and teachers who are worried, they have the freedom to opt in for virtual for the semester (in Johnson county). As is very evident in our great state, one size does not fit all. Please let local communities, school districts and private schools decide on the plans that best fit their community, students and teachers. Children’s Mercy has released information showing that kids are not as likely to get or transmit Covid 19. Those who do get it are often asymptomatic or get a light case. Children’s mercy and many other doctors, including pediatricians, are encouraging the return to school.
					Please keep the decision making to individual school districts.

7/21/2020 12:57:21	Sarah	Rastogi	Leawood	<p>Delaying school till after Labor Day does nothing. Other businesses and the hospitals have been operating for months and figured out things and schools can and will too. All moving the date till Sept does is move us closer to cold and flu season where students will miss more and schools may be required to shut down. Please reconsider the governors request. This is becoming way too political. I feel like the governor is trying to make a political move and not a scientific move. Kids need school!!</p> <p>-concerned parent and pediatrician</p>
7/21/2020 12:57:22	Catherine	Gordon	Horton	<p>Please support the executive order, this will afford the schools valuable time to delve into the navigating change document and plan for student success.</p> <p>I am writing to request the Board support Governor Keny's executive order to delay the opening of K-12 school. I am a mother of two children, ages 10 and 13 who attend Blue Valley public schools as well as a 4 year old who attends private preschool. Our family is comprised of numerous front line physicians in Kansas City who are daily confronting the horrific realities of this virus and following the research as it rapidly unfolds.</p> <p>We all want our children back in school, but we all also agree the safety of our children, parents, staff and the community at large is paramount. The decision to reopen schools should not be influenced by political affiliation. It should be guided by science and research, which continue to rapidly evolve.</p> <p>This virus is too new, and there is much we still do not know. Why do some people get really sick, but others do not? Exactly how transmissible and deadly is the virus? How many people have actually been infected? What treatments are most effective? What are the long-term complications of the virus? How long does immunity last? We need answers to these and so many other fundamental questions before putting the lives of our children, teachers and families at risk.</p> <p>The intensive, international effort being put into studying this disease is unprecedented. Science will get us out of this pandemic, but we need to exercise patience while researchers work with great urgency to find the answers.</p> <p>Based on early research findings, some have argued that children are less likely to spread and fall seriously ill from this disease. Compelling new research from South Korea just this week indicates that while children younger than 10 transmit the virus half as often as adults, those between the ages of 10 and 19 spread it at least as well as adults. In fact, those in middle and high school were even more likely to infect others than adults were. These findings suggest that as schools reopen, communities will see clusters of infection take root that include children of all ages. And, while the incidence of serious illness among younger people may be lower on the whole (though there are numerous reported incidences of death from multi-system inflammatory syndrome in children), they are not a bubbled population and can set off a chain of transmission within their households and communities.</p>
7/21/2020 12:57:29	Angela	Sharma	Overland Park	<p>Moreover, the more widely the virus is circulating in a community, the riskier it is to open schools. Currently, there are</p>
7/21/2020 12:57:31	Suzanne	Bacon	South Haven, KS	<p>Please allow schools to open as scheduled, do NOT wait. Not all schools are the same and local citizens and boards can decide best methods to do so, with KSDE's guidance document. We are approaching doing more harm, emotionally and educationally, to our children. We need to let ourselves and our children get back to living life, and be cautious safe, but not live in fear.</p>
7/21/2020 12:57:32	Maureen	Peterson	Wichita	<p>There is MORE than enough scientific proof that a huge majority of children do not carry the viral load to infect others or get gravely I'll themselves.</p> <p>You don't shut down Or have mandates during the flu season when children DO become gravely ill and DO pass it to adults.</p> <p>Use science not fear.</p> <p>This is ridiculous.</p> <p>100 days into this pandemic and forcing children to wear masks 8 hours a day (wait for those health issues), or anyone else is ridiculous. Research for yourselves instead of appointed health officials no one voted and, quite frankly, has been wrong more often than a meteorologist.</p>

7/21/2020 12:57:40	Ben	Faunce		Olathe	As an educator, I feel opening schools while our state sees a surge in coved cases is irresponsible and will set us on a course for an even longer and more devastating epidemic. Please consider postponing opening for the sake of all Kansans. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:57:41	Holly	Martin	N/A	Basehor	Schools need to have a plan developed to open schools safely (on time), with options for parents who aren't ready to send their kids back to in-person class. We've had since March to plan for this, three additional weeks will make zero difference, other than allowing more time for planning. The planning should already be done. We know cases will continue to increase. Finalize the plans and get them distributed to parents and teachers. While I would prefer in-person class, if the answer is to conduct virtual classes, get the plan finalized AND GET IT COMMUNICATED. I'd rather know we are transitioning to virtual school now and have five weeks to develop a plan for my three kids than continue to "wait and see"...it's clear Covid is here and here to stay for the foreseeable future. SOMEONE MAKE A DECISION. Also, I strongly feel like fall sports should start on time. Even with virtual school sports should be allowed to continue. Let the districts develop plans to hold safe practices and competition. My son has been playing in baseball tournaments every weekend since the first of June. We've traveled all over town and been around large groups of people. We've practiced social distancing and haven't had a single issue. I'm unaware of a single incident of a player or team having to stop playing because of illness or exposure. Has it happened? Probably. However, not to the extent of even hearing about it, let alone stopping everyone from playing. Governor Kelly just announced her intent to delay school and sports, yet my kids will attend football camp, basketball camp, and strength and conditioning this week. It makes ZERO sense. Let's let fact drive decision making, not fear.
7/21/2020 12:57:42	Iva Lee	Colgan		Olathe	<p>I am writing to ask you to support the delay of the start of school for this year to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- give time for more preparation</li> <li>- give time to try to get case numbers to trend downward</li> </ul> <p>I am a retired elementary school principal who still knows and loves many children and teachers. I also am a grandmother with two school-aged children here in Kansas. I cannot help but be worried for all of them.</p> <p>I am also remembering how, last Spring when families had to begin to support their students with learning at home, everyone said:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Teachers are wonderful!</li> <li>- Teachers are my heroes!</li> <li>- We don't pay them enough!</li> <li>- Whatever they put on the school supply list next fall, I'll buy it!!!</li> <li>- How do they even do this day after day?</li> </ul> <p>Now is our chance to show them we meant those things. We must recognize that we are in the middle of a world-wide pandemic. The world, as we knew it, is gone.</p> <p>I know you are hearing a lot of voices on this subject. I admit that I have not paid much attention to the State BOE, but I am paying attention now.</p> <p>Thank you,  Iva Lee Colgan, Ed.D.  13913 W. 150th Terrace  Olathe, KS. 66062</p>

7/21/2020 12:57:49	Maria	Egging	Skyline School USD 438	Pratt	My frustration comes that we are being forced into a one size fits all approach. What the right public policy in Kansas City is not what's right in our smaller communities like Pratt, Greensburg, Cunningham, St. John, Stafford and so many others. What is the right precautions for someone who is 70 is not a feasible precaution for a healthy 7 year old. I'm beyond frustrated that in trying to protect a demographic that can be narrowed down we are sacrificing another vulnerable group among us, many who are hiding in the cracks without anyone able to hear their cry's and plees... OUR CHILDREN. Children whom will recover from this virus in less than a week, if they even feel sick at all. But in our response, thousands of children, if not millions will have implications that last a lifetime. Are there some outliers that don't seem to follow the data of young and healthy cases that still fall hard or have complications? Absolutely, but these same outliers happen with the flu, strep throat and other viruses we have accepted as part of life. Please let our children go BACK TO SCHOOL.
7/21/2020 12:57:50	Paula	McKenna	School re-opening	Selden	I want schools to open but you have to mandate guidelines so that ALL children can return to school. Social distancing, sanitizing, and requirements to wash hands and use hand sanitizer at a minimum, if we don't want business to have to shut down again, are not too much to ask. Also, we have to make theses guidelines mandatory or districts will choose to ignore them. If not, schools will constantly be in quarantine. Make school happen but make it SAFE FOR ALL!!! Don't forget that kids do have family members living at home that might not live if this virus gets brought home from a kid.
7/21/2020 12:57:54	Keri	Brucken	Parents	Circleville	I want to highly encourage the KS state board of education to vote in favor of the work that was already done by the committee to give local districts control. Please do not support these mandatory cookie-cutter mandates in our schools. Every district has their own challenges and they are best to decide, with the help of their county health officer, what will be best for their students. Parents who don't feel safe sending their kids to in person school already have been given the option of virtual or homeschooling options. To take away a parents right to send their child to in person school is not right. We as parents understand the risk of sending our kids to school. We choose to send our kids to school. Also the every hour of hand sanitizer is not healthy. Sand sanitizer disrupts the bodies natural defense. Warm water and soap should be more highly recommended in schools. Please consider the work already accepted 100% by the board to make recommendations not mandates in our schools!
7/21/2020 12:58:08	Anya	Honse		Goddard, KS	Please open schools on time, our kids mental and physical health and well-being depend on it
7/21/2020 12:58:16	Cindy	Connellan	school nurse SMSD	Prairie Village	I support Gov. Kelly. With numbers rising in Kansas - we can't do in person school
7/21/2020 12:58:19	April	Wasleski		Overland Park	Yes, the school year should be delayed until after Labor Day. The cases are increasing and schools and teachers need time to prepare for students to come back to school.
7/21/2020 12:58:20	Tara	Hornback	Parent in Olathe School	Olathe	I'm married to a PhD Microbiologist and we as parents with two children in the Olathe School District agree that school needs to be online until Covid-19 has a vaccine or the numbers are low. We closed to prevent the spread and having in person school will only overwhelm the medical community. Teachers aren't safe and children will spread it to their parents. Who will take care of our children when us parents are on life support in the ICU or hospitalized? What will you do when a cluster of teachers have it and you don't have enough subs? It happened with influenza and it will be worse with COVID-19 and influenza. Please do the right thing and do online for this year. Let's keep all the children, families and educators safe.
7/21/2020 12:58:26	Kristen	Joyal	Usd 262	Wichita	I am a 50 year old math teacher. This will be my 25th year teaching. We need to get schools open and for those that choose the option - in person.
7/21/2020 12:58:35	Kimberly	Gutiérrez	Parent	Liberal	Keep schools online the first Nine weeks. Then require students who refuse to wear masks to continue with online learning.
7/21/2020 12:58:37	Julie	Wheeler		Scott City	I am writing to give you my opinion about the governor's mandates. I implore you to overrule her! Our kids NEED to be in school, WITH their teachers and among their peers! Things need to start getting back to normal. I understand that some measures will need to be taken, but I'm not sure what good waiting until after Labor Day would do. I also don't think it is fair to make this mandate for the entire state. There are many counties that have had very few cases. They should not be treated the same. I believe these decisions should be left up to the local school districts. If the kids don't start until after Labor Day, they will have been out of school for 6 months! They need to get back! Thank you for your time!
7/21/2020 12:58:45	Cassie	Foster		Utica/Ness City	I emailed my comments to link listed above.



7/21/2020 12:58:46	Amanda	Sweet	Educators	Olathe	There are just too many unknowns as of July 21, regarding the method of instruction and the implementation of safety plans to be able to start on time effectively. We need to start this year out very strong and organized to make up for the chaos of last spring. Our students, parents, and teachers need to be fully aware of new protocols (regarding both safety and instruction) and need to be trained on them in order to ensure safety but also to lessen stress and provide confidence in a situation that will be harmful to mental wellbeing no matter what decision is made. Also, and perhaps most importantly, people should not be put at risk in order to meet an arbitrary start date.
7/21/2020 12:58:52	Lacey	Morris		Derby	Schools and universities should absolutely be closed to protect both teachers and students. The cost of opening schools, to be blunt, is the casualties of our community.
7/21/2020 12:58:57	Katie	Barberena	Parent of a Senior at LFS	Lawrence	Please begin online classes in August. September 8 could arrive with an even higher rate of Covid-19 cases. For schools that's classroom size is smaller, give the principal the option to offer online and in school classes. For extracurricular activities, allow our kids to participate with safety in mind. Thank you
7/21/2020 12:59:03	Mindy	LaFontaine		Clyde	Don't delay school opening and do NOT require masks
7/21/2020 12:59:05	Brian	Jackson		Olathe	We don't ask firefighters to run into a burning building without adequate protective gear and neither should we compel (or guilt) students/teachers/custodians/Principals/administrative assistants/etc. to enter a school facility in an unsafe manner. We should postpone (not cancel) in-person learning until these safety measures are met.
7/21/2020 12:59:09	Chris	Stiles	Concordia High School	Concordia	It is prudent to delay the opening of school until September, not only for health reasons, but to allow educators to read their buildings, staff and curriculum the best they can for the health and well being of our students. Speaking as a teacher, neither teachers or administrators are ready to open next month. The best plan would be to delay school but ask educators to report in August as usual, and give us time to create the safest educational experience possible.
7/21/2020 12:59:27	Lloyd	Stuteville	My children	Louisburg	Please use common sense and error on the side of caution with regards to Covid19 and our young children's lives. This virus has many, many unknowns at this time and requires all of us to be cautious until more information is known about the effects and secondary effects of this virus. The very vocal, uneducated few who are trying to force their views on everyone should be taken with caution, as the common sense people in Kansas want safety for our children and educator's.
7/21/2020 12:59:27	Kristen	Jackson	Lawrence school district	Lawrence	We need to decide this based on science and data. Right now the data shows increasing numbers in all the cities with larger populations. Keeping kids and staff safe is number one priority so give schools the time they need to prepare.
7/21/2020 12:59:35	Tara	Glanton	USD 497 parent perspec	Lawrence	In favor of delayed start. In favor of all virtual instruction for 9-12 at minimum first semester with increased home visits by counselors/ school psychologists for those not attending or needing additional support. In favor of in-person instruction for students with instructional/social/emotional learning plans. Thank you.
7/21/2020 12:59:38	Raynee	Beaty	High School , Sports, an	Lawrence ISD. (Usd497	These kids need to be active and be able to continue their learning, sports, and activities they love. They have already had too much time away from their normal lives and being stuck on their phones and not socializing and being active is not good for them mentally or physically. These kids need structure, activity, socialization, strength, and teamwork. We are letting our youth down by not keeping structure and activity in their lives.
7/21/2020 12:59:39	Susan	Wendland	Retired educator	Randolph	I would like to see school delayed. I feel there are many schools ready but many who are not. This would give school districts time to get things done so maybe one would not have to close down the road. Hoping numbers start going down.
7/21/2020 12:59:57	Erika	Loesch	Teachers	Liberal	I have a hearing disorder. So the mandatory masks makes it hard for me to understand. I get that I can be excepted possibly but I teacher kindergarten! It is hard to understand young kids anyways and now it will be even worse. I will not be able to understand them because they will be required to use the mask! I just want to be in school with my students! Many of my kids only speak Spanish or don't have support at home. They need school.

7/21/2020 13:00:00	Nicole	Hartman	Parents	Hays	<p>I do not think delaying the opening of schools is the right plan of action. So many children rely on school for meals and a healthy environment. Delaying schools is only hurting these kids who desperately need a safe place. We all know DCF is useless at keeping children safe.</p> <p>Another reason school should be delayed is because we're making these kids more likely to contract viruses because we've been forced to keep them in bubbles, thus lowering their immune systems. Kids need to be exposed in order to build immunities.</p> <p>Also, as a working mom, I am on the verge of being forced to quit my career to stay home and care for my children. This will not only hurt my family financially, but it will soon be trickling down to our local economies as more families are forced to become one income homes because or governor has taken away education.</p>
7/21/2020 13:00:12	Jackie	Stafford	Parent and Teacher in U	LAWRENCE	I do not feel it is safe to return to in-person schools at this time. Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to postpone the start of school until after Labor Day. Students and staff's lives are on the line. Please give us to time to plan the safest and most effective way to teach in the pandemic.
7/21/2020 13:00:15	Clare	Frantz		Westwood	I appreciate the pushing back of schools opening for safety, but I fear it is just a delay to the inevitable decision that will need to be made which is to go online this semester. If we are hoping that three extra weeks will give us time to make it safe to be in schools again, I think that is an unrealistic expectation given the growth of the virus. We've seen that even if we do flatten the curve a bit, release back to normal or even some version of in-person schooling is bound to make the numbers skyrocket again. I'm not sure why we can't just start online now and if things get better, move to in person. If you're worried about teacher preparation (switching from online to in person and back again), then I understand that. It just seems a bit odd to not start schooling in some capacity at the normal time. I am a teacher in the Shawnee Mission School District, and I think kids need some type of schooling ASAP.
7/21/2020 13:00:23	Michael	Van Walleghem		Lawrence	I'm very glad the governor has acknowledged that opening schools in August is problematic (at best), and dangerously ill-advised (at worst). I hope she will go further to mandate staggered enrollment in all buildings statewide (at least all secondary school buildings).
7/21/2020 13:00:29	Jeff	Renner		Dodge City	I am completely opposed to a one size fits all approach to delaying the start of school and requiring masks for students to attend school. We elect local school board members to set policy at the local level. These elected board members are in the best position to make policy that best fits local conditions. Please vote to oppose the Governor's mandates.
7/21/2020 13:00:38	Erin	Emme	USD 437	Shawnee County	As an elementary teacher and mom of 2 elementary aged students, I'm all for the delayed school year. I fully support this EO.
7/21/2020 13:00:42	Jessica	Johnson		Topeka	Please delay school opening until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 13:00:42	Shanon	Pearson	Student	Wichita	I agree with and support the Governor's order for schools
7/21/2020 13:00:52	Traci	Poore		Concordia	I support the governors order. Our children are not science experiments, or political pawns. Send them back when it's safe. The delay makes sense.
7/21/2020 13:01:05	Rhonda	Stevens		Wichita	Delay school opening in person until spring 2021.
7/21/2020 13:01:05	Chrissy	Hessler	USD 475	Junction City	We need to go back to school in time not in September. Our youth are struggling and need to be in the classroom to learn, they have been out of school for way to long.

7/21/2020 13:01:13	Kate	Barnes	USD 360 Caldwell Scho	Caldwell	I think the Governor's executive order to delay school should be passed. Our school district waited on the KSDE guidelines and are in need of August to plan and collaborate as a staff. More importantly, I think it give us all time to see what the number of cases does. In Sumner County where I live and teach, cases are on the rise and are at the highest levels. I am very nervous for the safety and health of my students and co-workers. I very much want to get back in the school building and working with my students when it is safe to do so and that we should listen to the health experts. I think Governor Laura Kelly has the best interest of our citizens in mind. I know that people are worried about local control and I see that side of it. I just worry that it is not safe right now and that some local school boards may vote along party lines instead of the recommendations of our state and local health experts.
7/21/2020 13:01:15	Christine	Bowen	USD 453	Leavenworth	Please support Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school until September. The safety of my Kindergarten student's and my co workers is very important to me. Germs spread like wildflowers in Kindergarten under normal circumstances. We need to protect our children.
7/21/2020 13:01:21	Chelsey	Chamberlain		fort Riley	Could you please let the parents know the projected number for students that will attend/enroll in traditional school? I would like to be aware of the class size for my child. Also can we do part/half day Monday-thursday and e-learning Friday as an option.
7/21/2020 13:01:22	Ashley	Daher	USD 232	Shawnee	Do not delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 13:01:26	Lindsay	Sheets		Hays	Open after Labor Day only if safe
7/21/2020 13:01:34	Tammt	Miller		Valley Center	I do not think with the rise of covid in our community our schools should open before Sept 8. The safety of students, teachers and other staff must be first.
7/21/2020 13:01:40	Alecia	Frederick	Parent	Auburn	Start school on time.
7/21/2020 13:01:56	Diane	Morgan	Personal	Shawnee County	Please note the most recent medical information that shows transmission among students ages 10+ Extra time to prepare schools to follow the guidelines can only make reopening the best success which is what we all want.
7/21/2020 13:01:58	Amanda	Lakin		Larned, KS	I am not upset about delaying the school start until after Labor Day as I feel that is how it should have been all along. I am however, upset that the governor is allowed to mandate that students wear masks. That should not be the governors decision. That should be the parent's decision. Overturn the governors executive orders!
7/21/2020 13:01:59	April	Morgan	My family	Wichita	Republicans need to wake up and stop being selfish children. Schools need to be closed until students and staff can return SAFELY. There is no way this can happen before Labor Day. At this point, I don't even think it will be safe then. Republicans need to stop politicizing this pandemic and do what is best for the health and safety of the public. It sickens me that Republicans are willing to risk lives to further their agenda.
7/21/2020 13:02:05	Chris and Carrie	Holliday	My family	Soldier	This executive order should not be approved or signed. Control should remain at the local district level. Children should return to school per district recommendations. Kansas kids deserves better and parents deserve choices in these hard times. Pediatricians believe kids can and should return to school safely and I agree.
7/21/2020 13:02:11	Alyn	Thomsen		Lawrence	Please allow sports practice/conditioning to continue. Also allow practice to start as planned.
7/21/2020 13:02:13	Liz	McDonald		Larned	Delaying the start of school for some districts may be wise, however I have concerns about it being required statewide. Districts with few cases currently may be better starting on time with the option to close later in the year if local cases rise. Also, please consider the social emotional impact of having schools closed. There are many children who live in conditions of abuse/neglect who may not be identified during this time, as well as others suffering with social isolation. While school will certainly be different due to COVID-19, please consider allowing local districts to make choices based on their unique and ever-changing demographics. Thank you for your time.

7/21/2020 13:02:26	Pamela	Rotchadl		Wichita	<p>Dear Board Members, Please fully and normally open the schools. The science/data/facts prove that children rarely get or give Covid 19.(CDC &amp; JAMA pediatrics) NO children have died of Covid 19. ZERO!! (Kdheks.gov) Cases have NOT meant more deaths. Go to the website and do the math. KS death rate is .011%. It is unconscionable that schools would not open! Also, masks have NO proven scientific data or facts to show they prevent VIRUS transmission. Absolutely none. The same goes for “social distancing” . Totally arbitrary &amp; not science driven.</p> <p>100% normally open the schools. No temp checks, no social distance, no masks! So terrible for the social, emotional &amp; mental health of our children to be normal. Stop this insanity &amp; do what’s right for KS children.</p> <p>Listen to the proven data/facts/science not the fear &amp; hysteria from the media with inflated statistics. Err on the side of humanity!! Open normally and on time!</p> <p>Thank you</p>
7/21/2020 13:02:27	Caitlin	Goode	Myself	Paola	<p>Good morning. My name is Caitlin Goode and I am from Paola, KS. I am writing in regards to the upcoming Kansas School Board meeting on voting to uphold or overturn Governor Kelly's mandate. Not only do I have 4 children (grades ranging from Kindergarten to 7th grade) who attend Kansas public schools, but both of my sisters and my mother are educators in the state. I am a Surgeon's Assistant and I work within the metro area. I have a unique view by having both a healthcare background and children and family involved in the public schools. With the recent influx in not only cases of Covid 19, but hospital inpatients and deaths, I pray that the Kansas BOE will consider the health of not only students, but educators. While children typically display more mild symptoms of Covid, this is not always the case. I have a daughter with severe asthma, as well as a niece with Type 1 Diabetes- both high risk, both less likely to display mild symptoms. Think of the many children across Kansas who will fall into the high-risk assessment. But, above all, I implore you to cast your vote in favor of the teachers and adult staff who will be risking their lives to teach children and pay their bills. You are their voice and you are their advocate. My 60-year-old mother, for instance, has dedicated 30+ years of her life to educating the youth. Students deserve an experienced and compassionate teacher like her, and she deserves to not have to risk her life to be able to do so. Kansas is currently the #1 State in the US with cases per capita- you can NOT- in good conscience- open schools and choose to harm children and teachers in this manner. The school year will look different no matter what. Please give teachers a chance to plan accordingly with the time between now and September 9th. Allow them to think of plans for their IEP students, students who need more intervention, economic resources, etc. I implore you to think of the fact that if one student or teacher's life is lost- the cost of their loss to their families and communities. Please think of the facts, the advice of local health departments, doctors, ICU nurses- instead of political agendas and the court of public opinion. Please make safety of your citizens the number one and only priority. I believe you hold the power to keep my children, my sisters and my mother safe. Please consider them when making your decision. Thank you very much.</p>
7/21/2020 13:02:38	Melissa	Fagan		Paola	<p>Please keep students and school staff safe by delaying the start of school or by only offering online instruction. Thanks.</p>
7/21/2020 13:02:43	Nicole	Skidmore	USD 305	Salina	<p>I am a teacher and a parent. I have an immune deficiency as I take a biologic. My daughter has only 1 functioning kidney and my husband has asthma that he has been hospitalized for several times. Not only do I think schools need more time, I also think you need to be realistic. Kids especially k-5 cannot be expected to wear a face mask for almost 8 hours a day. I teach kindergarten and I’m telling you. They will NOT leave the mask on. Which will put ME at a huge risk. Schools should start out virtual until it is safe to be in session without mask. I’m asking you to be human and do what is right. Think about when your kids were little, think about your grandkids. Could they do it?</p>

7/21/2020 13:02:53	Christopher	Renner		Manhattan	Please support the Governor's Executive Order postponing the start of school until after Labor Day. The lives of teachers, support staff and students are on the line and voting to override is a death sentence for them. It will force teachers to resign, force parents to homeschool, and force our schools closed in a matter of weeks since COVID-19 will be released like a wild fire. I have been thoroughly disgusted with the lack a protect the common good by members of the "pro-life" Republican Party. Nothing they have done has been pro-life. It has cost thousands of Americans their lives. STOP PLAYING POLITICS and DO WHAT IS RIGHT! Protect our children and give our districts the time they need to prepare. The spike in COVID-19 infections is a clear sign that what has been done to protect the rich is not working. The families I teach struggle to put food on the table, if their children become infect and ill the reproductions will be disastrous.
7/21/2020 13:02:56	Dashiell	Keys	USD 500	Olathe	Please uphold the Governor's order
7/21/2020 13:03:10	Amy	Baarington	I'm a parent.	Wichita	The children should not wear masks in the school. It should be business as normal. Teachers should be allowed to wear face shields. The numbers aren't there to show a high infection rate in children. Please read this article from the NY Times regarding infection rates. If parents are concerned then they can choose to have their children wear masks or alternate schooling. Maybe we should wait until September to open schools to see where we go from here. <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/20/parenting/coronavirus-children-spread-covid-19.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/20/parenting/coronavirus-children-spread-covid-19.html</a>
7/21/2020 13:03:11	Christy	Ramus		Olathe	Please uphold the Governor's Executive Order. Please make online education mandatory until we have calmed the CoVid spread. Please put teacher, student and staff's health before politics.
7/21/2020 13:03:12	Elliot	Olson		Overland Park	I am so glad our governor is taking the virus seriously. It has been upsetting and disgusting watching Republican lawmakers in Kansas giving so little concern to the health and safety of our citizens, especially children. Just because you politically don't want to face the consequences of a pandemic, does not mean it goes away. Governor Kelly has handled this situation with such grace despite the unthinkable bullying and actions from Republican lawmakers in Kansas. I fully support a delayed school start and any other health measures found to be needed.
7/21/2020 13:03:21	Bruce	Hermesch	Bruce Hermesch	Seneca	Everyone, and especially kids, need to get back to a sense of normalcy. At least give the local school boards the opportunity to make this decision. You cannot treat people in Seneca area, rural, (Nemaha Central) the same as people in KC, Wichita, or any urban areas. Thank you for being on the Board of Education, and taking the time to listen
7/21/2020 13:03:22	Dylan	Wolford	Citizen	Parsons	Please do not open up schooling this fall. The disease will only spread further, the second wave of corona can be prevented as long as everyone is in full support and realization to science. Thank you for your time!
7/21/2020 13:03:42	Rebecca	Southern		Newton	I support delaying the start of school. I do think there will be major challenges enforcing masks with young children!
7/21/2020 13:03:50	Laurie	McKinnon	Parent	Wamego	Please delay school until a vaccine is found.
7/21/2020 13:03:51	John	Ellis		Wichita	Why even a vote? Have u seen cases? Not safe!! Wait.... Lives are at stake.
7/21/2020 13:04:02	Kristy	Rupe	Parent of USD 112 Stud	Clafin, KS	I am in favor of delaying the school year until Kansas, and more specifically, the areas and counties nearby USD 112 that are seeing rapid spikes in cases, can get a handle on the outbreak. For our location (like many other rural KS communities), so much more needs to be considered than the defined 'school district' boundaries because many parents travel anywhere from 25-45 miles away to go to work. Our small community of Claflin was the first to report cases of COVID-19 in Barton County and logged the first COVID related death bc of it. Had Gov. Kelly not shut down the schools when she did (during Spring Break), there is a very high chance that our elementary school would have seen an outbreak due a school employee being one of those first few who were confirmed positive in Claflin. That person is my mother-in-law's assistant/aide. That is way too close for comfort when you have 2 high risk family members. I commended Gov. Kelly for her actions then and I commend her for her actions with this current exec. order. Don't get me wrong, I want my children in school just as soon as the next parent does but not at the risk of losing a close family member or child to COVID-19. Our household has 1 high risk child and my father in law is also high risk. 'Nana' and 'Papa' are our only support net and life line that we have out here. Without them and their health, we have no outside resources for child care nor family support in general. Kansas is worse off now than it was in March when Gov. Kelly shut down the schools. It's only logical then that our schools don't open until Kansas is doing BETTER than it was in March when they closed initially.

					Please vote yes to support Governor Kelly's delay of school!
7/21/2020 13:04:04	Mary	Rodriguez	Retired educator; grand	Lawrence	We need to put safety first for students, teachers, staff and community. The surge we are seeing now is too dangerous; the virus is too serious and too contagious! Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:04:05	Shawnda	Werth		Hays	I will not send my kids to school with masks on and the delay is just more scare tactics...
7/21/2020 13:04:11	Amber	Royse	Irwin Army Community	Junction City	NO DELAY, LET THESE KIDS BE KIDS
7/21/2020 13:04:15	Jessica	Huber		Wichita	With the increasing cases I support the delay in starting in school classes. If there are ways to start online prior I would support that. I support this for the safety of students, teachers, other staff, and their families. As businesses have to pivot to service so do schools, several suggestions that I found helpful were found at <a href="https://medium.com/@shaylargriffin/some-students-should-go-to-school-most-should-stay-home-8a57894b8487">https://medium.com/@shaylargriffin/some-students-should-go-to-school-most-should-stay-home-8a57894b8487</a>
7/21/2020 13:04:17	Sukesh	Kamesh		Kingman	Laura Kelly and the other administrative staff of the Kansas government have done a great job. As a high school student, I cannot disagree with Laura Kelly's and the Kansas Government's handling of the pandemic. There are absolutely many critics out there wanting to send their kids back to school. The issue here is not sending students back to in person school, but rather the fact that these people will ABSOLUTELY NOT WEAR A MASK AT ANY COST. Many people still believe that this GLOBAL PANDEMIC is less lethal than driving on the road, and other day to day things that we as Americans and Kansans do. They claim that it is more likely to die from using a lawnmower or car wreck than from this highly infectious raging pandemic. I would feel scared and insecure as a student if we had in person school and did not wear masks. So, my opinion is to have in person school but MANDATE MASKS AND OTHER PROTECTIVE/PREVENTIVE MEASURES. I do not know who is reading this, but once again thank you to Governor Kelly and the Kansas Government for protecting YOUR KANSANS!!!! You guys have done such a great job. THANK YOU!!!!
7/21/2020 13:04:23	Dallas	Hathaway		Topeka	I urge you to support Executive Order 20-58. Although delaying the start of the school year will impact parents, teachers and other faculty members, safety should be the number one priority of the KSDE Board. Educators have not had enough time to prepare for these major changes, considering many of the plans were released in the last week. Opening up schools too soon will only make the transition to online learning tougher, if schools are forced to close because of an outbreak. We need a unified approach as a state to resolve this issue. Unfortunately, not all school districts will proceed in a unified manner. In short, I urge you to support this executive order because teachers and families deserve to know their elected officials understand the importance of their safety and education. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 13:04:33	Susan	Severin	USD253 and parent of 3	Emporia	Please vote yes prioritizing safety and humanity....
7/21/2020 13:04:35	Jill	Norman		Shawnee	Please vote NO to the Governor's orders to allow local districts to control their needs rather than making a statewide decision.
7/21/2020 13:04:38	Barbara	Brown	Olathe USD 233	Olathe	With the upsurge in covid cases please delay school till after Labor Day. I work with special needs and am also in high risk category, but i love my job and my district and do not want anyone put at risk anymore than they have to be. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:04:42	Ralph	Kelley	USD 500 .	Olathe	I ask the Board to approve Governor Kelly's EO to give districts the time and ability to decide with all stakeholders the best way to proceed with the 2020-21 school year. By delaying school, districts will have the ability to put systems and procedures in place and the time to create the learning places and/or programs that serve their individual districts best. Both staff and students will be better protected. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:04:44	Paulette	Lundine	Retired Grandparent	Overland Park	Are school districts prepared to follow your guidelines and enforce them? Allowing more time (and money) makes sense and would show that the board cares about students, staff, and the people they contact. Pushing them to open after only recently receiving your guidelines will only cause shutdowns.
7/21/2020 13:04:45	Mandi	Higgins	Parent	Emporia	I have an elementary school age child and a high school aged children. My fear is the elementary child will not be able to social distance and use a mask. I also want to know a plan for sports so my senior can plan accordingly.
7/21/2020 13:05:08	Justin	Poore		Concordia	This is the right thing to do. We need more time to try and get our case numbers down and allow the schools to figure out how to get students back in the classroom safely.
7/21/2020 13:05:08	Cheryl	Gruhn		Overland Park	Please uphold the Executive Order and give all schools the necessary time needed to focus on reopening SAFELY after Labor Day.

7/21/2020 13:05:22	Linda	Tessar		Harrisonville	As a retired DV shelter director and educator I strongly agree that schools should open in the fall yet also think after Labor Day is appropriate for preparedness and safety across the board. I also hope that doing so would enable the board to provide consistent guidance and policy statewide.
7/21/2020 13:05:25	Hollie	Lind		Wamego	Yes
7/21/2020 13:05:26	Amy	Knapitsch		Lenexa	I sincerely wish that over the summer, schools had obtained masks, thermometers, etc, but if they don't have these supplies in place, they shouldn't open. I think we would benefit from specific guidance such as percent positive amount for when schools can open, be hybrid or need to close
7/21/2020 13:05:30	Rachel	Fath		Wamego	The decision to delay the start of school should be decided at the local and county level. This should not be a one size fits all approach as the Governor is making it out to be. Please let each individual school board make the decision as to what is best for their staff and students. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:05:34	Colleen	Rumbough		Olathe	I strongly support the EO 20-58 delaying the start of the 2020-21 school year. Vote for the passage of this executive order.
7/21/2020 13:05:52	Kris	Shields	Concerned Kansas resid	Lawrence	I support Gov. Kelly, and her decision to delay opening schools until after Labor Day, or even later. Some districts may consider remote learning, or a hybrid of both. Gov. Kelly has made good, solid decisions through out this pandemic time period. She has considered medical advice as well. I don't think much of the party line republican "leaders" in the state house, they're not doing much to protect us, nor are their decisions sound. Wear a mask, and stay separated!!
7/21/2020 13:05:44	Kyle	Broadfoot	USD 259 - East High	Wichita	Please accept the Governor's call to delay schools until September 8. As a new teacher I find it unconscionable to send students into the classroom until it is safe to do so.
7/21/2020 13:05:47	Karissa	Rengstorf		Riley	Please open schools at normal time. Or leave it up to the local districts. It's going to put a huge strain on parents without childcare options if it remains closed. It's not a 1 size fits all matter.
7/21/2020 13:05:51	Carl	Eccher		Louisburg	The damage being done to these kids by not having them in school cannot be measured. Open the schools on time and stop this madness
7/21/2020 13:05:51	Catherine	Bennett	Olathe school district	Overland Park	Please say yes to governor's mandate of giving us until after Labor Day to prep schools due to COVID 19. Thank you
7/21/2020 13:05:53	Ann	Mikkelson	Parent with students in C	Salina KS	I do not have a problem delaying the start of school but the school year needs to be extended in the spring by 3 weeks. While I kids had access to online learning, they definitely did not learn what they should have to complete last year on a good note. In our case, starting school on Sept 9 when they had planned to start Aug 12 takes another 4 weeks off of their learning. I have a daughter that will be a junior this year. How is she going to be college ready with 15 weeks less education between her sophomore and junior years? Again, I don't have a problem with the delay but I do have a problem with shortening the school year again. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 13:05:54	Darren	Erpelding		Eudora	I do not think making a blanket decision for every district in the state is right. I believe it should be a district by district. By pushing the school date back, in my opinion really doesn't do a lot for anybody. Most teachers have been preparing for just about any situation. Also moving the date back could possibly eliminate school sports. This is would absolutely devastating not only to the kids that participate but to the schools. Taking fall sports to the spring is also a bad idea. The kids need something normal for their mental health. As long as we follow the things we are supposed to do, I don't see why we can't go back to school on time or even just a few days later. September 8th is absurd and should be out of the question.
7/21/2020 13:06:12	Anne	Selfridge		otis	As a teacher and a parent, I want school start to be delayed. We haven't heard from our school about what is going on for the school year and what precautions will be taken. Asking the teachers to go into the classrooms and expose themselves puts us and our families at risk, not to mention our students and their families.
7/21/2020 13:06:23	Crystal	Shanline	USD 382	Pratt	Move on! School needs to start on time! Sports need to start!!
7/21/2020 13:06:23	Janneil	Crader	Blue Valley Schools	Overland Park	I prefer the late start to hopefully allow time for the mask mandate to have an impact. I have a senior at BVSU and I teach 3rd grade at Valley Park Elementary.
7/21/2020 13:06:26	Shannon	Mills	Wichita public schools	Wichita	Support the governor's order and delay school reopening
7/21/2020 13:06:30	Jennifer	Engle	My family	Andover	Delay opening until infection rates drop. All online learning is preferred in this situation.

7/21/2020 13:06:35	Lauree	Moore	Mount Hope, Kansas	<p>Any decision of this nature is difficult, but I urge you to delay the start of school until after Labor Day as suggested by Governor Kelly. These are unprecedented times, and we've not had to deal with a health issue of this magnitude in decades. This means life will be altered, which has upset the normal routine we've always enjoyed up to now.</p> <p>If you have been in a school for any length of time, you know the truth of how kids operate. The suggestions given by the CDC for schools, though factual and well intended, create further difficulties in already large classes. Teacher forums, blogs, and social media groups have been discussing nonstop various strategies for how best to implement these suggestions. Elementary teachers are especially concerned with how to help the very young, because normal routines are already complicated enough on good days! As always, teachers will innovate and rise to the occasion, because that's what good educators do. But we shouldn't place them in vulnerable situations without considering the overall repercussions.</p> <p>I wholeheartedly oppose anything that would jeopardize staff and students, and as the positive cases continue to rise in Kansas, a start delay makes more sense. We cannot view this school year as "normal", no matter how much we want it to be. No doubt you've heard a great number of reasons for and against a delay. There are so many ludicrous statements making the rounds, one of them being that kids can't get COVID-19. We know this to be patently untrue, as several cases with children have occurred across the country and will occur in future.</p> <p>Recently, in our very small town, 17 people tested positive for COVID-19 after attending a funeral. This was the result of someone who did not know they had COVID-19 exposing those who attended, who then exposed others as they went about their business. The time frame they spent together was less than three hours. More people who had contact with them afterward are testing positive as well. This isn't the 'flu. It's something worse, and something novel. We can't treat it as a "normal" virus. Situations like this are happening everywhere. We don't have this under control - yet.</p> <p>A delay is certainly better than a shutdown, and the proposed start is not a large delay. This is a decision that has to be for the greater good of all, which, unfortunately, has become a political hot potato. I do hope that this decision can be made without rhetoric or bias, but rather with logic and compassion.</p>	
7/21/2020 13:06:37	Tammy	Allen	Andale	Children need to go to school! Distance learning did NOT work last semester. The kids didn't learn anything. All the studies prove that children are the least likely to catch or transmit the virus. School is the safest place they can be. Get them back to learning!	
7/21/2020 13:06:40	Matt	Flint	Shawnee	Don't delay school	
7/21/2020 13:06:43	chalece	anderson	Shawnee Mission School	Shawnee Mission	wait to start school until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 13:06:45	Crystal	Davis	Andover - USD385	Wichita	As a parent, I am scared to death to send my children back to school, especially while covid numbers continue to climb. I have 5 school-aged children. Two of them are considered "high-risk". My husband (their father) who also resides at our resident is considered extremely high-risk (both heart and lung problems). Not only am I worried that my children will contract covid while at school, I'm worried they will bring it home to my husband. Even if he doesn't die, him becoming ill would be financially draining as my income as a teacher doesn't pay the bills let alone pay for food for 5 children. I highly encourage you to accept Gov. Kelly's order to delay the start of school to ensure our numbers are going down before putting our students, school staff, and community's lives at risk. It's not a matter of if it will spread through schools, it's a matter of when. And when it happens, there will be lives lost. I feel at this point, it would be negligent - both for students and school staff - to send kids back into the classroom. Even one death is too much.
7/21/2020 13:06:52	Ryan	Austin		Andover	The current spike in coronavirus cases is far above the amount of new daily cases that we saw back in March and April when the schools were closed, so it only makes sense to delay the start of school until this surge can die down. Many students and teachers will be uncomfortable if forced to return to classes in August.
7/21/2020 13:07:01	Wendy	Elkins		Olathe	If you decide to hold classes, you are saying you are fine with teachers, students, administration and other school employees getting sick and some dying. This is the choice you are making...This sure sounds like you do not care about children and the people of Kansas. If you decide to hold school I expect to see you in the schools teaching as substitute teachers in every district in Kansas.



					Delay the start of school.  As an educator, I am asking that we consider the safety of both students and staff when deciding whether or not to delay the opening of schools. The number of confirmed cases of Covid-19 is rising in the state of Kansas. Now is not the time to take chances with the health and safety of those who work in and attend our schools. Delaying the start of school will give districts the time they need to prepare for the inevitably hazardous conditions that will be present when schools are opened. Governor Kelly was praised in March for her proactive approach when closing school buildings. Now is the time to lean into her executive decision making.
7/21/2020 13:07:04	Kylie	Huneycutt		Junction City	
7/21/2020 13:07:09	Lori	Hisle	Grandparents	Stilwell	Please support Gov Kelly's exec order to give our state time to get healthier, admin and teachers a little more tim to prep and districts more time to get safety measures in order.
7/21/2020 13:07:11	Amy	McGuire	USD332 Cunningham	Cunningham, KS	I hope I get two comments, because I just ran the most current numbers. Total Kansas Residents 2,774,044 Negative tests 238,197 Positive tests 23,544 (0.8% Less than ONE PERCENT of our state has tested positive for covid. LESS THAN ONE PERCENT. Big towns, small towns, all the towns. LESS THAN ONE PERCENT have tested positive, INCLUDING THOSE who are asymptomatic and have received bogus test results.) Deaths 318 (0.0114% One hundredth of a percent. Yes, I know that EVERY human is important and every death counts. I lost my brother in a car accident at age 22. We are ALL well-acquainted with tragedy. I get it.)  PLEASE don't drastically alter our kids' lives and our community well-being for .8%, for .0114%. It's just not necessary. If nothing else, PLEASE give control to individual districts to do what's best for their people.
7/21/2020 13:07:15	Rebecca	Romine	parent	Lawrence	Please help us protect students, teachers, and school staff, by keeping schools closed until they can be opened safely, and by supporting our Governor in keeping the school buildings closed until after labor day.
7/21/2020 13:07:20	Angela	Logan		Hutchinson, KS	I understand the need for extra time for teachers and other school employees to prepare their buildings and classrooms for the accommodations necessary to keep kids safe at school. The order that will not allow athletic practices or other extra-curricular rehearsals, etc., before the delayed start of school, however, are unnecessarily restrictive and detrimental both to students and to the programs they participate in. Athletes need to continue to train and run drills so that when they ARE finally able to compete they don't suffer injuries from being ill-prepared. Marching bands, musical production, and drama production teams need to rehearse and can do so in conditions that meet the social distancing and masking guidelines. Students need activities to thrive, not just in their physical health but also in their mental and emotional health. These overly restrictive mandates show little care for the students' health holistically, and should not be put into place.
7/21/2020 13:07:20	Lynsie	Wolken	Mother of a studen	Eldorado	I don't mind pushing it back. I. Am not okay with masks
7/21/2020 13:07:20	Shannon	Murphy	Full-time working paren	Olathe	Please open schools. Have parents sign a waiver and let us send our children to school.
7/21/2020 13:07:22	Nicole	Fraise	TPS 501	Topeka	I support the delay of schools until after Labor Day and further delay if necessary due to rise in cases or lack of decline in cases.
7/21/2020 13:07:24	Kelli	Bottorff		Lancaster	I am in favor of beginning school as scheduled. Our school district seems to have a plan in place that will be as safe as can be for teachers, staff and students.
7/21/2020 13:07:38	Patsy	Bastin		Haysville	Delaying schools means there will be less total school time period. Schools will close undoubtedly during flu season and it makes no sense to close in late summer- districts have had 6 months to prepare and 3 additional weeks is ridiculous. Get these kids back in school- you are harming them by not!
7/21/2020 13:07:54	Ellen	Canfield		Overland Park	I agree that school should not start until after Labor Day. At that point I feel school should be held virtually.
7/21/2020 13:07:55	Erin	Redeker	USD 383	Manhattan, KS	Please delay the start of the school year. This will not only allow communities more time to stop the spread of Covid 19 but it will also give teachers more time to plan for the school year. More planning time will only benefit teachers, students, and parents in our communities. Please keep the health and safety of students and teachers in mind when voting. Teachers need more time to prepare and plan so when we do return to school we feel safer and are more prepared to lead and instruct our students. Safety and health should be the top priority when making this decision. Thank you.

7/21/2020 13:07:55	Cynthia	Kroll Hauptli	Parent	Lawrence	Keep schools closed and online, until it is safe. Schools should not open until there is a vaccine, and the infection rates have gone down. We cannot allow teachers and children to die. Schools should most likely stay closed through December. Online and Staying Alive is the way to be, this Fall 2020 semester.
7/21/2020 13:07:56	Angela	Snell		13311 W 138th Terrace,	As a full time working mom of two elementary age kids in the olathe school district, I implore you to uphold Governor Kelly's executive order. I felt a sense of relief when the EO was issued, even though it means keeping my kids here at home and struggling to balance work at the same time. I can't wait for my kids to get back to school in person. But I strongly believe kids should not be sent back to school in person until the cases begin to drop. Why would we go virtual in March, but send them back now with a rising number of cases? Keep them home until the data shows that case counts are dropping. If school starts online, I also think the department of education needs to ensure that it's flexible for all households. I was told the virtual option of school would require parents to sign weekly logs to show that their kids were putting in the state mandated number of hours. How could any household with two full time working parents manage a child's education for 7 hours a day? Please make it feasible for all households if school starts or goes online at any point. Thanks for your time.
7/21/2020 13:08:10	Estelle	King	Self	Lawrence	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day so we can give a chance to the Covid-19 virus to abate in our communities.
7/21/2020 13:08:17	Brenda	Wikoff	None	Brookville	Accept Governor Kelly's September school start date. If the nation had taken Covid-19 seriously in the beginning, we wouldn't be saddled with this issue. It is time to consider the safety of the students and staff and time to put politics aside. Will you be willing to step in and substitute when staff gets sick? How will you fund individual desks for all and other necessities? The death of one individual will be on your shoulders should you open too soon.
7/21/2020 13:08:19	Angela	Christopher	Self - parent in DeSoto S	Lenexa	Do not sign the mandate - allow schools to start as originally designed on the academic calendar.
7/21/2020 13:08:26	Pamela	Rotchadl		Wichita	Dear Board Members, Please fully and normally open the schools. The science/data/facts prove that children rarely get or give Covid 19.(CDC & JAMA pediatrics) NO children have died of Covid 19. ZERO!! (Kdheks.gov) Cases have NOT meant more deaths. Go to the website and do the math. KS death rate is .011%. It is unconscionable that schools would not open! Also, masks have NO proven scientific data or facts to show they prevent VIRUS transmission. Absolutely none. The same goes for "social distancing" . Totally arbitrary & not science driven.  100% normally open the schools. No temp checks, no social distance, no masks! So terrible for the social, emotional & mental health of our children to be normal. Stop this insanity & do what's right for KS children.  Listen to the proven data/facts/science not the fear & hysteria from the media with inflated statistics. Err on the side of humanity!! Open normally and on time!
7/21/2020 13:08:31	Apryl	Partridge		Norwich	Thank you I think delaying schools at the timenos the right thing to do. But not much past labor day. If things aren't improved enough by then, online schooling should be the answer.
7/21/2020 13:08:43	Mayci	Paxton	J.C Harmon High Schoo	Olathe	Please delay the school year or require it to go online. There is no way for us to properly social distance in our classrooms. Kids can be infected/carry and then give to family members who can pass to whoever they come into contact with... It will only spread worse by allowing students to congregate in person. Our lives as teachers, support staff, admin and STUDENTS are worth it.
7/21/2020 13:08:54	Jessi	Clark	Maize USD 266 & ALL	Wichita	Keep schools open all 5 days of the week and don't delay anymore! These kids need to be in school-if nothing else for their mental stability. You are making mandates that fit your political BS agenda and could care less of what you are doing to the mental health of these kids! It's a disgrace that you are sacrificing what's best for these kids because of politics. If you require masks because it stops the spread, then why are you sitting down schools for even 1 day. And, please explain how teachers are not essential? My husband is a 1st responder and has been working since day 1 and will continue. Ntm, to date, there are only 2 police officers who have contracted COVID some the beginning. What does that tell you?? They certainly didn't shut the department down!!! Open your eyes!!!

7/21/2020 13:08:55	Michelle	Regier	USD 373	Newton	<p>Thank you for taking the time to read public comments. I am writing to ask you to please uphold the executive order to delay the 20-21 school year. Typically, I am in favor of and understand upholding local control to make decisions. However, tough decisions need to be made right now, and it is clear that not all community leaders are willing to make those tough decisions that are needed to keep people safe. Unfortunately, many community leaders have fallen into the politics of this pandemic instead of staying focused on health and safety for everyone and following our local health official's advice. Please do not make the same mistake. This executive order not only ensures more time for COVID cases and risk to decrease in all communities, but also gives each community more time to plan for what will be a very different school year no matter where you are located in Kansas. Our schools and staff need this extra time to create effective plans to serve all students. This extra time will also allow for some anxiety to decrease, as having a fully thought out plan is always better than having a rushed plan that may not work.</p> <p>Additionally, this pandemic as a whole is a community and national trauma. As a social worker, mitigating and reducing trauma is essential. In this situation, going back to school too soon, without effective planning or safety precautions, has the potential to increase trauma for students, teachers/staff, and parents. When you experience a trauma, having a clear plan is one important factor for creating safety. We need time. We need to feel safe. This executive order to delay the school year will help with those needs. We all want to get back to school, and know that children need to be in school. Taking some additional weeks to plan for this to happen effectively is essential. In my professional opinion, the benefits of delaying the year strongly outweigh the risks.</p>
7/21/2020 13:09:00	Mindy	Sluss	Skyline	Pratt	<p>Keep our kids &amp; teachers safe!! Don't open schools yet. I had COVID-19 ITS NOT FUN AND COULD WIPE OUT THE EVEN HEALTHY PEOPLE!</p>
7/21/2020 13:09:09	Robert	Sailler	USD 497 Morgan Hunt	Eudora	<p>I support Gov Kelly and Dr. Norman and his health team. I feel that the public will be more motivated to implement Gov Kelly's mandate to wear masks, promote social distancing, and improving hygiene in the hopes of flattening the curve of the virus spread. If not, then schools should open via distance learning. By delaying the start of the school year, we can see if people are following Gov Kelly's solutions. Also, by delaying school openings, districts will be able to prepare for her mandates. Districts will have to have lots of masks on hand for students and school personnel. Governor Kelly has taken the pandemic very seriously and she has proposed solutions to stop the spread of the deadly virus. I support her efforts.</p>
7/21/2020 13:09:11	Becky	Chvatal	USD 105 Parent	Atwood	<p>I feel our kids need to get back to school and activities at the normal time. If this "thing" was killing everyone, I would have a different opinion. The mental state of our kids is being affected. I personally have an 18 year old senior that states if we don't have sports this fall, there is no reason to finish the senior year. I think this needs to be addressed at the local level, maybe not schools treated equal. We live in a small town. Let our kids get back to school and activities.</p>
7/21/2020 13:09:13	Jami	Hubbard		Olathe	<p>Please support Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of the school year and mandating common sense protections for students, teachers and staff during this pandemic. Pediatricians have walked back their support of in-person learning. Earlier thoughts that children weren't as affected by the virus are being proven wrong as summer camps and daycares get shut down. Give the districts more time to plan. Keep our kids and teachers safe. We all want things to be normal again, but unfortunately wishing doesn't make it so. This will not be a normal school year, no matter what we do. Many people talk about the mental health benefits of in person school. And under normal circumstances that would be true. But how will it affect a child's mental health if their teacher dies? If they carry the virus home to a parent who ends up hospitalized or dead? What effect will it have on them to see their friends, but not be able to play with them as they normally would? Or to run to a teacher for comfort and be told to stand back? How will it affect them to be reprimanded all day for touching their mask or being too close to friends? Pretending we can just have a normal school year is going to have deadly consequences.</p>

7/21/2020 13:09:23	Jared	Morris	Junction City High Sch	Manhattan	My name is Jared Morris, and I teach high school musicians at Junction City High School. I respectfully ask that you vote in favor of delaying school to give us more time to prepare, and hopefully more time to see a decrease in COVID-19 cases.  Thank you for your service and consideration.  Jared
7/21/2020 13:09:24	Janet	Barnes		Valley Center	I would be in agreement to delay the opening of school by three weeks to better prepare the buildings and teachers and would be in agreement for my child to wear a mask
7/21/2020 13:09:29	Megan	Marasco	SMSD 259	Overland Park	Hoping to encourage placement of our children back in school asap with precautions taken. Our children need to continue boosting their immune systems around people, places and things. We are not only hindering their academics, but also their physical and mental wellbeing. Please please reconsider continuing to withhold children from schools.
7/21/2020 13:09:38	Catherine	Holthaus		Mayetta	No delay
7/21/2020 13:09:43	Kendra	Tharp		Winfield ks	I am a para. I agree that we should wait to start school after labor day since we have so many new cases. I am scared to get sick or the children.
7/21/2020 13:09:44	Steve	Weatherford	My Family	Gardner, KS	As a father, former educator and tax payer. I want to encourage our education leaders to stop living in fear and start putting the "education" of our state's children as a priority. After the way last school year ended, it is hard to believe that we would postpone the fall semester. You get paid to ensure that our children have a quality education and the education my children are receiving is non-existent. As an essential worker, I have been working through this whole crisis. I would expect the same for our educators and I believe that school is essential. I will continue to educate my children regardless of your decision. However I know many parent will not. Please stop ignoring the risk of our students being out of schools.
7/21/2020 13:10:09	Rachel	Mull		Wichita	Reject both of Gov. Kelly's E.O.-I am asking that you leave the school start dates and how individual school districts implement State BOE COVID guidelines up to the various districts. I have zero fear about sending my daughter to school. In-person school is what is best for our family and many others. However, I will not send my daughter to a school that feels more like a medical facility.
7/21/2020 13:10:09	Keith	Skillman		715 Tennessee St. Lawr	I support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school start.
7/21/2020 13:10:14	Lauren	McNeil		Hays, KS	Please consider allowing the students to attend school this year in person...without a laundry list of unachievable mandates that make their day feel more like a correctional facility than a school building.
7/21/2020 13:10:15	Bethany	Pfannenstiel	Hays Middle School	Hays	My concern for this school year is supplies. It is hard to find hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes.

					<p>I am in favor of delaying the start of the school year, at the very least, and am also in favor of online only. I am married to a 7th grade math teacher and coach. Together we have two girls ages 16 and 10. We are alumni of the district we live in and some of the same teachers that taught us are still teaching. This should not be a question of if we want kids back in schools. Of course we want kids back to school. The question is bigger than that. Can we get EVERYONE back in safely? This is the real question.</p> <p>My entire life will be going into these buildings while in the middle of a pandemic we have yet to gain any control over. There are numerous studies showing this virus is airborne. Sitting in a building for 8 hours with no windows that open and AC units that recirculate the air rather than bring it in from the outside is a recipe for disaster. And worse yet, this won't stop with just the people going into these schools. This will reach the rest of their family's too. We've already started having conversations with our parents that we won't be able to spend time with them if the kids or teachers have to go back into the buildings. The risk is too great for both sets of our parents.</p> <p>And why on Earth did we close down the entire state if we were going to throw everyone back into school while numbers are continuing to climb? The exact thing we were trying to avoid by stopping school and shutting down the state is exactly what we will be creating by putting kids and teachers back into the schools. It doesn't make any sense. I beg of you to think about how you'd feel if you were told you have to send your kids and/or spouse into a situation that isn't completely safe. We aren't talking about nurses, doctors, fire-fighters, policemen, or the military so let's not treat them as such.</p>
7/21/2020 13:10:16	Carrie	Scoby		Baldwin City	
7/21/2020 13:10:19	Tawnya	Herrington		Mission, KS	Schools should remain closed until after Labor Day. Opening the schools is not safe for students or staff.
7/21/2020 13:10:22	Courtney	DeForest	Parent	Topeka	I am in full support of delaying the start of school. Too many what if's right now and I feel it is unsafe to start at this time.
7/21/2020 13:10:23	Helen	King	Parent	Wamego	I support the delay in school because I feel it will give schools and staff more time to get ppe and to implement better plans for in school instruction, hybrid or online learning.
7/21/2020 13:10:24	Corby	Milleson	Parent/Teacher/Coach	Emporis	Don't delay the start. Don't delay/cancel activities
7/21/2020 13:10:50	Steve	Alexander		Overland Park	The school year definitely needs to be delayed. The virus is increasing in 40 states. As a grandfather of 4 Kansas K-12 kids and as a loved one of 3 Kansas teachers, I want their safety be the highest priority. We only get one life.
7/21/2020 13:10:55	Sheree	Molina	USD 259	1909 E. Idlewild, Wichita	It is too early to go back for the students. We will not be able to keep EVERYONE safe even if we try to enforce social distancing rules.
7/21/2020 13:11:03	Cate	Stein	Olathe Public Schools	Overland Park	We all want school to start, but please give us time to get prepared for whatever will come our way.
7/21/2020 13:11:05	Cari	Rohleder	Community member of	Hays	Please start school AFTER labor day. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:11:06	Sean	Ryan	Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools	Shawnee	If you go against the Governor Kelly's wishes you are all more than welcome to come sit in my classroom for a week. If it safe for Kansas teachers and students then it is safe for you. Put up or shut up.
7/21/2020 13:11:25	Valerie	Schniepp	USD 259	Wichita	As of today, the coronavirus infection rate is the highest it has been. Kansans are not following the simplest rules to stop the community spread of this virus. When the medical advice of health experts in the infectious disease and public health safety fields tell us to clamp down and sit tight in an effort to contain the virus and reduce it's spread, our schools should not be the one place that we open. Close them for as long as it takes. If parents want their kids back in school, they need to shape up and take responsibility to do their part to curb the virus to levels that make it reasonably safe to open them. Even if it may be the possibility that school closure would not have been necessary, we do not have a crystal ball and should err on the side of caution that does our utmost best to protect our students, teachers, school staff, and their families! Please do not open our schools until the health experts tell us it is safe to do so.
7/21/2020 13:11:36	Barbara	Frank		Alma, Ks	I support Governor Kelly's recommendations on opening schools.
7/21/2020 13:11:40	Kerry	Kalivoda	Usd333	Concordia	I hope now is not the time for politics. Our governor made the smart decision, don't change it. Give Kansas time to bring. Covid numbers down before we bring kids back to school.

7/21/2020 13:11:53	Mark	Davoren	USD 453	Leavenworth	I think it would be a mistake to start school anywhere that still has people with COVID -19. I don't even think it's a good idea to have school while masks are required. I don't think anyone knows how much of a pain it is going to be to police the mask wearing for kids. We should definitely start remotely AFTER we have had time to sufficiently prepare. The end of last year was okay, but we could do better.
7/21/2020 13:12:07	Andrew	Singleton		Topeka, KS	As a teaching family (my wife and I are both teachers) we completely support the Governor's plan to postpone school. Teacher and student safety should be the priority at this moment. Districts need time to prepare for an effective year of instruction and this order provides some time. I ask that you think about the health and safety of teachers, students, and our state when you vote tomorrow.
7/21/2020 13:12:07	Becki	Libhart		Inman	Please delay school starting
7/21/2020 13:12:12	Katie	Gordon	Baldwin city primary ce	Baldwin city	We need to just do online schooling until we ALL feel better with statistics and ways to keep safe. Kids may not contract yet ... but ALL the adults in the building can. And a lot of us have kids or a spouse (that makes more money than us) that would have to quarantine if we got sick.
7/21/2020 13:12:23	Casey	Lynch		Olathe	Please vote No for Governor Kelly's executive order. Keep the power for the decisions at the local/district level.
7/21/2020 13:12:23	Chelsea	Hearting		Olathe	I would like schools to open in August as previously scheduled. All the health statistics show that COVID very rarely transfers from child to child or from child to adult. Really the kids are more at risk from COVID from their teachers. If the teachers wear a mask, then chances of risk should be extremely low. Kids are falling behind in education as online learning does not work for many. Also there are many children who are suffering with depression, abuse, and lack of food at home. Please keep this in mind when you vote on Governor Kelly's Executive Order.  I understand teachers are stressed about the many unknowns with going back to work and it's understandable. All parents and adults are stressed right now but stores, restaurants, and many businesses are open. The answer is not to shut down schools until a vaccine is available. The answer is to show our children that we are resilient.
7/21/2020 13:12:27	Amber	Gallagher		LINWOOD	I think school should start as scheduled for many reasons. One of which is if other states are starting school then that will put Kansas kids behind the curve. What will that do to their chances of entering college and pursuing scholarships? Kansas schools are ill-prepared for online learning and students again will fall behind. I know this is a difficult decision and I am praying for you all.
7/21/2020 13:12:29	Christine	Preston	USD 232 teacher	Lawrence	I support the executive order that requires school starting after Labor Day. The additional time will allow for teachers and districts to put in place safety measures and precautions to be best prepared for the fall school year.
7/21/2020 13:12:37	Kristina	Collins	Parent of 3rd grader at S	2425 SE Tecumseh Rd	I wholeheartedly and completely support the decision to delay schools. As a healthcare professional, it is not safe for students to return at this point. We must use science to make decisions.
7/21/2020 13:12:46	Challie	Metzger		Scott City	Please do not allow Governor Kelly enforce a blanket order across all schools in Kansas. Leave it up to our local representatives to make the decisions. Every school district is different and capable of deciding what is best for our own kids and situation that we are in.

					<p>I am writing to you to let you know my concerns regarding the delay in opening schools. Not only am I concerned for the many children who need to be in school, for development, both academically and socially, but also because if they aren't, they may be left at home to fend for themselves, abused and potentially starved, etc. We may live in Johnson County but we still have many families who barely get by.</p> <p>I am also writing as a parent who send their child to private school. We don't send our children to private school for the prestige but rather that they learn how to be followers of Christ through academics. Our school could be in serious jeopardy, along with other private schools. We are committed to keeping our children there but as a board member I am concerned that other families will not see the value in online teaching for the cost of tuition. Our school does not receive any state funding so we rely on private contributions. We cannot afford the luxury of supplying every student with an electronic device to use at home. If we cannot provide in school learning, we could be in serious trouble as a school. How can you and your constituents know that a decision like this could ruin many private schools?</p> <p>I understand the school districts could struggle on a larger scale as well. However, schools aren't even getting opportunity to see if they can make it work.</p> <p>I am also concerned for the well being of many students who have working parents that don't have the luxury of working from home. I being one of those. My employer has stated that if we don't come back to work then I am basically resigning. I am fortunate that my son would be fine doing schooling on his own, however, I am sure that I am not the only parent out there that has to be physically at a place of business. Who is going to teach their children while at home? Parents struggle enough when school is out finding someone to watch their kids, or get them to summer camps. We are putting parents in a role that they would not necessarily want, being a homeschool teacher. How will that work when we start to see more abuse because parents are stressed and now on top of it making them teach their children?</p> <p>Please understand that I know this is something to be concerned about but how much more concerned should we be with the ramifications of keeping our kids home?</p>
7/21/2020 13:12:53	Tracie	Burrow	Kansas City Christian S	Overland Park	
7/21/2020 13:12:59	Matthew	Voth	Marion County Fire Dist	Rural Goessel	<p>As the Fire Chief of our local dept I am very much in favor of delaying classes. Covid is very present and growing in our community and I barely have enough PPE for our current pace of dealing with the growth of Covid 19 and I am a Fire Chief. Take politics out and use common sense and science. As a father of two young kids I also am becoming concerned as more day cares shut down due to Covid. More time is needed by everyone to just take a breath, slow down, and find ways to mitigate and prepare for the situation.</p>
7/21/2020 13:13:01	Andrea	Berg	Olathe District Schools	Shawnee	<p>On KU health system's Facebook live, a pediatric infectious disease doctor said that they're finding that child to child and child to adult transmission is really only uncommon through age 10-12. After that, kids are basically acting like adults as far as transmission goes, which is particularly worrisome for middle school and high school students, teachers and staff. I am a 4th grade teacher, and I would like schools to have enough time to get any safety equipment in place that they need and safety procedures in place. I would like the staff to have proper training on what this will look like. I would like to see teachers have PLCs &amp; staff meetings via zoom and no adults other than the classroom teacher should be in the classroom. That also means special teachers should not be coming into the regular classrooms to do art on a cart, etc. On nicer days maybe PE could be done outside to social distance. It would be great to have elementary students wear masks, but I don't know that this is always going to be doable for them. All adults in the building should be wearing masks. For middle and high school I think a mask should be worn by students and adults. I would also hope that as a classroom teacher I would have the ability to scan my students' temperatures as they come into my classroom and after they eat lunch. There should be a policy in place that if a child has a temperature they need to go home immediately. Parents should be reminded to keep allergies under control with proper medications. I would also hope that the school districts have enough cleaning supplies, gloves, hand sanitizer, etc. It might be beneficial for classrooms to also have air purifiers. I do think sports should continue because it's good for our bodies and mind, but precautions should be in place. I do believe it is important for the kids to start school in person.</p>

7/21/2020 13:13:10	Kelli	Worthing	USD 232 De Soto Schod	Shawnee	Please do in person school. My children can not do online learning with parents who work often over 40 hours/week. Let each school board and community decide when to begin the school year. Please let schools begin in August. Smaller schools and areas that have little impact should be able to start in August. They've been researching and making plans. For parents and teachers who are worried, they have the freedom to opt in for virtual for the semester (in Johnson county). As is very evident in our great state, one size does not fit all. Please let local communities, school districts and private schools decide on the plans that best fit their community, students and teachers. Children's mercy and many other doctors, including the American Academy of pediatrics, are encouraging the return to school.
7/21/2020 13:13:11	Elsbeth	Kuhn	Parent	Hesston	I fully support the governor choosing to delay the start of school until after Labor Day and I implore the board to support her as well! As a parent of two young school age children and a person who works part time in a school, I appreciate her looking out for the well being of all of us. Due to the recent spike in cases and many unknowns on how this may impact children long term, I believe she has the best interests of our children at heart. Thank you for choosing to support her and in turn, all staff and students in the state of Kansas!
7/21/2020 13:13:25	Lynda	Denton	USD 375	El Dorado	I feel that with recent mask protocol, social distancing and disinfecting measures, school in Butler county should begin right after Labor Day. As an employee of Circle district, I trust that the precautions and policies in place ensures a safe school environment for children and staff returning to school.
7/21/2020 13:13:29	Mrs	Williams	none	Mulvane	This whole approach has lacked common sense. Make the SICK stay home and those at high risk. Shutting down our world is only going to impoverish people and put our communities at risk in every other conceivable way: education, fiscal, social. This has cause SO MUCH division and fear. It's a virus. Like any other years, sometime viruses are worse than others. What good does it do to save so many lives when nobody has a life to get back to?
7/21/2020 13:13:30	Kirsten	Walden	Blue Valley Northwest p	Overland Park	It's important to me that high school starts in August as planned. I understand K-5th may present different challenges in terms of following distancing guidelines but 9-12 students are certainly old enough to get it so perhaps it's a hybrid approach. I have an incoming senior who needs to be back in a structured classroom preparing for college.
7/21/2020 13:13:31	Makenzi	Johnson	Teacher - Lakin	Garden City	The order not only should stand, but needs to stand. Teachers have not had enough time to plan to teach in a pandemic. I'm a band teacher, and the amount of extra equipment and PPE needed is astounding according to KSHSAA and NFHS and the studies they recently released. We don't have those supplies on hand, and we cannot be expected to buy them on top of what we already purchase for our classrooms. My classroom isn't built to hold rehearsals the way these two organizations are recommending. I have to have time to speak with admin and other teachers to find alternative places to rehearse. I need to know how the air is ventilated in my room. Are there HEPA filters with with UVA to eliminate further contamination in the air? Who's replacing them when needed? Who's sanitizing the chairs and stands after every rehearsal? Am I expected to be a full time custodian on top of being a full time teacher? There are so many questions that are unanswered at this point. We need this time to to discuss them and come to mutual conclusions. This is not a joke. I'm 33 years old and I had to ask my dad if he was ready to put me in a casket. Please make the right choice. This isn't political, this is literal life and death.
7/21/2020 13:13:43	Kristina	Gilchrist	none	wichita	I agree with the executive order delaying the start of the school year.
7/21/2020 13:13:46	Cindy	Unger	Parent	Garden City	No masks - determine by local counties
7/21/2020 13:13:48	Jason	Peters		Hesston	I would support starting pushing the start of school later to help teachers and staff prepare for the incredible amount of change that will be required to provide instruction this school year. Since a number of the concerns from teachers and parents relate to the safety of those involved in onsite instruction, the extra time would give a chance to hopefully help the rate of new cases to decrease as well.
7/21/2020 13:13:48	Chance	Eldridge	Parent	Topeka	I think we need to stand behind the governor and delay the opening of schools. It's not safe to open yet. I personally have been effected by the loss of a friend locally due to covid.



7/21/2020 13:13:49	Gregory	Weis		Shawnee KS	The Governor has over stepped her bounds with this blanket delay in schools starting. Each district should be able to make their own decision on how "safe" it is to start schools in person. A school located in Nickerson KS looks very different than one in Johnson or Wyandotte county. There are several places in KS that have ZERO cases but are being placed under the same blanket as a place with increased numbers. If the districts have a plan in place, than please let them make the decision of how best to move forward and keep the political stuff out of it. If a teacher doesn't want to "work" than let them find another job that allows them to be paid without doing their job. People have been working at "essential" jobs throughout this pandemic so what makes the teachers any less "essential" than them? I've seen several different plans set out to allow a limit of students in classes and an at home option for those who just don't feel safe going to school. As long as options are in place there is ZERO reason for the government to shut down schools again for nothing other than to support some political group such as the teachers union. Please put the power back at the local level and get the politicians out of this decision.
7/21/2020 13:13:57	Jennifer	Macivor	Parents	Leawood	Public schools need a viable test and track system in pace, proper PPE including masks for all prior to in person sessions. There are needs to be transparency in cases of COVID. Finally, transparency in all metrics with clear thresholds for staged in person interaction must be consistently executed and followed.  Finally, educators need additionally funding to ensure credentials teachers are teaching a safe number of students.  For district virtual learning, pool resources across schools and to allow students to choose a deeper number of course options and times.
7/21/2020 13:14:07	Jean	Brintnall		Hiawatha	Support the Governor's order. We will use the days with staff to continue planning and professional development as well as assessing for interventions.
7/21/2020 13:14:11	Nancy	Tompkins	I'm mom of a teacher at	Topeka	NO SCHOOL STATEWIDE FOR SEVERAL MORE MONTHS! This is a dangerous life-and-death matter that you need to decide for all schools in our state and not leave it up to ill-informed local boards who think this is not New York City so a huge hotspot crisis will never happen in my little town. Protect our loved ones' lives and futures! Delay school openings and you'll avoid lawsuits by parents grieving the loss of their children.
7/21/2020 13:14:13	Curtis	Rein	None	Abilene	I am asking all elected Kansas State Board of Education members to vote NO on Governor Kelly's executive order. To me, a one-size-fits-all mandate makes absolutely no sense for the state of Kansas. The COVID-19 situation varies greatly throughout our state, so to me it seems wise that decisions concerning it are made locally.
7/21/2020 13:14:28	Rovonne	Birtell	Parent	Topeka	Open schools on time with online options
7/21/2020 13:14:32	David	Mechem		Lawrence	I strongly support Gov. Kelly's school delay to give the masking time to work (because of the lagged response) and to give faculty and admin the time to develop safely protocols.
7/21/2020 13:14:36	Erica	Smith		Harper	I am for allowing individual districts to decide on when school should start and how they choose go return depending on their Covid presence in their communities.
7/21/2020 13:14:37	Gwendolyn	Clark		Lawrence	I agree with Governor Kelly's recommendation to delay the start of the school year. Our school districts and teachers deserve more time to prepare and get supplies. Plus, with the University of Kansas starting classes in about 4 weeks, we are certain to see a rise in cases in Lawrence and increases community spread.
7/21/2020 13:14:36	Michelle	Lucht	Topeka 501 as an Instru	Topeka	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school. Our Covid numbers are going up and as a parent and a public school instructional coach, I am questioning the safety of being able to send my kids to school and to continue doing my job in building. I have been a teacher or a coach for more than 15 years. It is not an easy decision for staff to continue to teach/serve or to quit if staff are required to be in building out of legitimate safety concern. Give us time to look through the KSDE guidelines, to create/prepare the best standards-bases content we can to support academic and socioemotional needs, and to do so safely. We know remote and virtual learning works considering the millions who have earned degrees. Having one quarter of this experience as a staff member in March, was a start from which we can build upon safely.
7/21/2020 13:14:45	Melissa	Murphy	Private school	Johnson county	Please let these kids go back to school before Labor Day!

7/21/2020 13:14:46	Tiffany	Rose		Overland Park	I feel the kids need to be in school before Labor Day. My kids have been in Ycare for almost 2 months now without any issues. Our children need an education and I feel we are doing a disservice in keeping them out of school. Also you need to remember that majority of households work full time and are unable to stay home with their children.
7/21/2020 13:14:46	Shonda	Serpan	Spring Hill School Distr	Spring Hill	Please let these kids begin school and athletics and not delay it anymore. Transmission child to child and child to adult is extremely low, and the mental health of my child will be challenged if she has to delay school and sports any longer. If some want to do virtual, that is fine, but we should have the option.
7/21/2020 13:14:46	Lynley	Remy	I teach band and choir fo	Burdick	I have always known I would retire in May of 2021 from teaching. This year I am very concerned about returning to work. I am in that demographic of teachers who have concerns regarding my own health and safety. I know children need to be back in school. I also know parents need to get back to work. I have two sons who are also teachers and coaches here in Kansas. They are concerned with their students being vested in school if they are not able to play football (or participate in their other extra-curricular activities). If parents have the choice about whether their kids are going to be home-schooled, return in person or continue on-line, can teachers have that choice as well? Or could teachers in our last year have the option to retire now a year earlier? I believe the executive order to delay school in order for schools to make the required accommodations is important. I believe our Gov. has always acted with out best interest in the forefront of her actions.
7/21/2020 13:14:47	Juan	Ramirez	USD 253	Emporia	I believe we need to delay the beginning of the school year until September 9th.
7/21/2020 13:14:54	Erica	Keller	The Keller family	Lawrence	I am the mom to an incoming kindergartener. I want him to have routine and structure, but most importantly, I want him to be safe as well as his teachers and their families. I think delaying school is smart. Personally, I think we will be going back to online or should since the numbers are rising so quickly and devastatingly. This delay will help teachers get plans in place to do the best for kids. Hopefully, when a vaccine is made available, we will be able to go back to school as normal, but until then, I think we need to wait, regroup, and begin online after Labor Day. I would hate for kids to get sick, but also, if they are carriers, how guilty would these children fee if they caused harm to another, even accidentally.
7/21/2020 13:14:55	Ashley	Cook	District 5	Pratt	Delaying school is not going to lesson chances of Covid-19. Starting school 4 weeks later is not going to hurt our children more. Individuals who choose not to mask are also not going to social distance and the problem will continue. No matter what decision is made it will cause friction. My concern for my children, is the schools being prepared and trained properly. I want my school to have the daily routine down before my children step into utter cautious and my children start having fear and anxiety over this disease. We don't need to have them fear one another and if schools aren't prepared then it's exactly what it will cause.
7/21/2020 13:15:05	Tammy	Poage	Parent	Topeka	Please allow schools to open on time with online options. Local districts need to have control of this, not the governor. Thank you for listening.
7/21/2020 13:15:09	Chelsea	Wecker		Colby	Asking children to wear mask for 7.5 hours a day will only create distractions, And health hazards. To a child seeing the smile on their teachers and classmates faces means so much, I fully believe that our schools can keep a healthy environment with out the mask. What about all the parents Who don't wash the mask every day, that will only create more bacteria and make that child sick faster. Children thrive on positive touch, smiles and positive words. We can't talk this away from them. As for starting after Labor Day , I have no objections. But we do need to keep in mind that they have been out of the school environment almost 6 months already ! Expecting them to remember everything is an unrealistic expectation. Our children need socializing, learning from their peers and teachers that are not their parents. They deserve to have the best education our district can provide, I am by far no teacher , yes I can teach them some but my education is not what their teachers is. I feel my children have already suffered learning what they need in the past 6months. I love my children and want the best for them . For them that is learning from our amazing, patient, kind teachers in our schools. If we prolong this any longer the children will keep regressing .
7/21/2020 13:15:13	Zach	Rohrbough		Scott City	I believe that if the state decides to open schools we will just extend this and have to shut down later on if we just wait and see what happens it'll be easier to figure out what to do I just don't want wrestling to get canceled

7/21/2020 13:15:20	Jessica	Graff	Parent in USD 497	Lawrence, KS	As a parent with 2 children in the public school system, I am concerned that we are jumping to send our children back to school too soon without proper regard for the safety of students, teachers, and the community as a whole. For years Kansas has cut corners in properly funding schools, resulting in over crowded classes, under paid teachers, etc. Now we are faced with a virus that we know little about, that poses an undeniable risk to the health of the most vulnerable in our communities, and unknown risk to those seemingly healthy. Our children and our teachers are not guinea pigs on the alter of party politics. This should not be a partisan issue. Keeping kids and teachers safe means keeping parents safe, it means ensuring that our communities can continue to function, work and remain healthy. This is not a permanent solution, schools will re open, but when its safe to do so. To ensure that it is safe, we need to ensure that at a minimum the CDC guidelines can be implemented, class sizes can be reduced, teachers paid a generous sick leave, students who miss more then 10 days are not declared truant. In short this is a complex issue, without an easy solution. We much be creative, delaying school starting is merely a way to foster creativity and implement appropriate measures so that schools are safe, whether they are conducted in person, online, or a combination of both.
7/21/2020 13:15:22	June	Duehring		Gardner, KS	I would like to request that you overturn the governors mandate to delay schools opening. As a youth pastors wife and mom of 5 teens I have watched and mentored students through this whole covid thing and am very concerned about the mental well-being of the students. I feel like putting this off and including sports with it will be another blow to our youth. I watched them go through so much while losing their proms, graduations, summer jobs, fall plans and I honestly think the dangers of depression and suicidal thoughts are way more dangerous than the virus. I also feel like this will just be put off again in Sept. I don't believe our governor has any plan to let them go back to school this semester. It seems like it's just done in increments to not scare us as much. I have researched this virus constantly and see no reason why schools can't start back up on time in Kansas. Thank you for letting us share our thoughts with you.
7/21/2020 13:15:22	Hollie	Zimmerman		Wichita	Please start school on time.
7/21/2020 13:15:27	Reagan	Wiesner		Olathe	The children need to go back to school. I think we should follow Childrens Mercy advice. There are too many children at risk for abuse at home. They need the security and stability school provides them. My children are not in that situation but they too need school for more than just education. We need to consider mental health within all of this as well. Even if it means they aren't in school full time. I found a great idea of putting clear plastic boards between the students.
7/21/2020 13:15:38	Liz	Krehbiel	Pratt USD 382	Pratt	Please give districts/counties control of school start times. You all (KASB) thought it was worth the time this summer to put together a 1,078 page document detailing how schools should run to be practical and safe during these times. PLEASE let each district use those guidelines to get the students of this state back in school. Our district has a great, no amazing!, plan in place to keep our kids as safe as possible. Their brains and their hearts need to be in school and not further damaged by fear and unknowns. Much of life is unknown, yet we keep on living the best way we know how.
7/21/2020 13:15:43	Shalea	Bose	Scott City KS schools	Scott City	Please allow our schools to keep on the best way they know how. Please delay school so the school has time to open as safely as possible. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:15:44	JAYME	LEWIS	self	EUREKA	No Mask Requirement for students. The governor does not have the constitutional authority to enslave school children!
7/21/2020 13:15:44	Carter	Gooden	Scott Community High	Scott City	I believe that delaying School would be a huge mistake. Scott County has barely been affected by COVID-19 and only has 1 active case. Kids need to have school so that we can learn and so that we can become active members in the work force.
7/21/2020 13:15:51	Tabatha	Morgan	USD 253	Emporia	For the safety of our children during this Covid 19 pandemic school should be started later than normal.
7/21/2020 13:15:53	Sara	Wichert	Parent	Hillsboro	I support school starting AFTER Labor Day. Cases in our area are on the rise and I believe that will give more time for them to dissipate. I also want more time for our teachers and admins to be prepared.
7/21/2020 13:15:57	Crystal	krueger		Olathe, KS	As a school nurse please give us More time to prepare as a staff! We need to get all our teacher back in buildings and have time to figure out what areas we can do is distance. We need time to get thermometers. I want students to go back in buildings after Labor Day! I just feel we need time to get thermometers. I have a kid with dyslexia and i want him in school but I want a clear plan as a building not just a district

7/21/2020 13:16:07	Vergie	Opdycke	retired teacher	De Soto	If the KS State school board is unable to meet in person due to CoVid 19, then why do you think it is safe for staff and students to return to school?
7/21/2020 13:16:11	Tabitha	Mehlhorn		Pratt kansas	Open schools in August. Stop sacrificing our children for political gains.
7/21/2020 13:16:13	Helen	Scott	My children	Olathe	I have three elementary school aged children and reside in the Blue Valley school district. My kids currently go to a small Christian school, Heritage Christian Academy. If I'm understanding the executive order correctly, my children cannot start school in-person or online until after Labor Day, even though my school is fully prepared to start on the start date. That's very concerning to me. I believe each individual school or school district should be making the decision of when they are ready to start, not one person for all. That is in American, and not the way our government is supposed to work. Thank you for your time and service to our community!
7/21/2020 13:16:19	Jenn	Miller	Olathe Public Schools	Leawood	All staff and student safety should be the number one priority in your decision making however, other areas that you need to consider would be student's being left at home on their own to navigate the curriculum while parents go to work. Student's who may find themselves in an abusive situation and have no other outlets but coming to school. Those students who need socialization and how it affects them mentally and emotionally. How much farther behind the students that really struggle will be without that one on one in person experience with their teacher. I feel there really isn't any good solutions at this time, but if I had the opportunity to vote I would send the kiddos back and make it as safe as possible for everyone. The students need structure, stability and predictability and love from their school family. I will be praying for all of you and the tough decisions you will be making on behalf of our school communities. Thank you for all you do!
7/21/2020 13:16:25	Max	Contreras	Scott Community High	Scott City	Please don't delay the school year. Kids are getting into so much trouble now and we're all stressing out just from being home all day. we need to return.
7/21/2020 13:16:29	Karissa	Hammock		Junction City	Please support Governor Kelly. We need all the time we can to make our schools safer for students and teachers. I don't want to plan funerals this year because we didn't wait. It's worse now than when it was in March and we closed the buildings.
7/21/2020 13:16:29	Sharon	Blaes		Cherryvale	I feel our children need to get back to normal (whatever that is now) as soon as possible. I don't feel delaying the opening of school is a good idea. I also don't think all students should be required to wear masks when their parents are against it. I worry school will be shut down later and it is going to be difficult to make all the time up. I know this is a difficult decision for everyone but I feel delaying school starting is going to be a burden on many families. Thank you for listening.
7/21/2020 13:16:39	Angi	Richard	Washington County sch	Washington	All for delaying start of school til after a Labor Day !!! However, feel forgiveness needs to be given on making up those school hours and schools having to revamp calendars
7/21/2020 13:16:45	Isaiah	Tetuan	Topeka 501	Topeka	County by county should make the overall decision on as to when school should start for that particular area. Most cases that I've heard of have been mild to no symptoms at all. The recovery rate far outways the hospitalizations and death rates combined. It's time to get sports and schools goin asap. Its hurting the kids more not having school than having school. Alot of these kids rely on the food and learning. The online schooling was bringing my kids down and they hated it. We have got to get the schools goin in August.
7/21/2020 13:16:46	Kendra	Lind		Topeka	Please don't open until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 13:16:49	Keri	Bye	Teacher	Wichita	Please delay the start of school. This will allow time to again flatten the curve as well as giving districts, administration, teachers and staff time to prepare a SAFE return. When we do return to school, a matrix for in-person, hybrid, and online learning opportunities could provide safe options for all parties (although it would mean more work for teachers). Thank you for your time and consideration!
7/21/2020 13:16:54	Derek	Fowles	Heritage Christian Scho	Topeka	There needs to be much more consideration given to smaller schools when executing an executive order as not all schools function in the same manor.
7/21/2020 13:17:01	Isaac	Tarango	Scott Community Highs	Scott City	Wyandotte County and other largely populated counties do NOT also represent Scott County/other smaller counties. They're rules should not collide with our rules, and I think certain restrictions for differently populated counties should also have different, less restrictive rules.
7/21/2020 13:17:01	Jenna	Parry		Hoyt	I think we need to open School back up on time. These kids have been juggled around enough, they need stability in their learning. They also need to be able to focus on their education instead of playing with masks ect. We need to stop installing fear and anxiety in our kids, which is what will happen with all these recommendation!

7/21/2020 13:17:10	Katie	Osner		Hutchinson	Masks should be optional and opening should be left to the school district and parents working together
7/21/2020 13:17:22	Madison	Thompson	USD 457 Teacher and P	Garden City, Ks	I believe that we should follow the State Order. This will help ensure a safe plan of education. We cannot “jump the gun”. Staring unprepared increases the likelihood that we would have to return to distance learning due to high numbers of Covid-19 cases.
7/21/2020 13:17:25	Kristin	Silvers		Olathe	Schools need to open up for kids!! Kids need normalcy. Kids need meals many don't get without schools. Some kids are abused at home.
7/21/2020 13:17:27	Shana	Lane		Lawrence	Please delay. Better yet, delay until 2021.
7/21/2020 13:17:35	Robert	McCowen	None	Manhattan	I appreciate the fact that the Governor is keeping the best interests of students, faculty, and staff firmly in mind.  In a situation this critical, decisions have to be made based on data and evidence — and it's clear the Governor is doing so.
7/21/2020 13:17:44	Krickit	Ketterl	NKESC	Oberlin	I work for the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center. Please consider those of us who are itinerant when making your decision. I do not know if it is best to start now or to wait but I do not feel that it will be best to leave it up to each individual district because that could make those of us who are itinerant have a nightmare of a calendar. I have been in the classroom for the past two weeks just started week 3 with a small group of preschoolers. I can tell you that it was some much needed teacher therapy to be back with those kiddos again and we do have the majority of our preschoolers leaving a mask on for the 2 1/2 hours that we are in the classroom as well as staff members. We can do it and we can do it safely but please make sure that we all have the same start times. Thank you for everything you do!
7/21/2020 13:17:45	Jessica	Delgado	district 5	Pratt ks	I'm not pleased with school re opening , more cases are coming out everyday , there's no safe way of re opening , I understand kids need school but not by risking them attending thru a pandemic ,absolutely not
7/21/2020 13:17:47	Dianna	Zampieri		Hays	I approve of Gov. Kelly's plans to keep our children, teachers, and families safe.
7/21/2020 13:17:54	Jennifer	Findling	Parent	Wichita	Schools need to invest in modifications to buildings to make them safer in regards to the virus. Improve ventilation and HVAC systems. Possibly install UV sanitation systems in the HVAC system, so that recirculated air is sanitized with ultraviolet light. Air purifiers should be placed in each classroom. Free masks should be distributed to those students who need them. Ensure that windows open in each classroom, so the classrooms can be aired out several times a day. Classes could be held outdoors, if the district invests in shade structures. Plastic partitions that sit on desks can be used to divide students from each other. Social distancing within classrooms needs to happen. Fewer students per classroom. Schools could utilize modified schedules so that there are few were children in the building at a time. Or utilize unused spaces, such as recreation centers. Some churches might be willing to allow students do use their Sunday school classrooms. Teachers need a lot more training in how to use video based learning strategies. Volunteers from the community can help build outdoor classrooms. Money from the state should be made available to make changes to school buildings. Parents in the community would be willing to organize fundraising drives to provide support for safety measures. A lot of families, including mine, intend to keep their children home for several weeks, to see how things go after schools are open. Staffing schools should be flexible, so that teachers can shift to in person instruction, as students return to school at various times.
7/21/2020 13:18:04	Aubrey	Watts		Hutchinson	Please follow Governor Kelly's order to postpone the start of school until September!
7/21/2020 13:18:04	Catherine	Theisen	Myself	Lawrence	I am writing to request that the KSBCE and Governor Kelly exclude outdoor school-sponsored athletic activities from the proposed three-week moratorium on instructional and extracurricular activities. Students have been participating in sports conditioning workouts for most of the summer in preparation for fall sports. These activities occur outdoors, where there is significantly less risk of COVID-19 transmission. Imposing a three-week hiatus would cause the students to lose strength and conditioning gains they have made and increase the risk of injury to the students when they begin competing after the moratorium.
7/21/2020 13:18:11	Jenny	McAtee		Pratt	Kids need to be in school for structure and learning. By September, it will almost 6 months since they have been physically instructed by a teacher. They are losing their education and future. I understand COVID is an issue but it isn't going away. We can't keep denying education and socialization of our youth and future leaders.
7/21/2020 13:18:24	Heather	Birkinsha		Atchison	Please day until after labor day. Faculty needs time to implement whatever measures are deemed necessary (desk spacing, new schedules etc). Our teachers and students deserve a healthy well-planned return to school.

7/21/2020 13:18:42	Tracey	English	Parent	Lawrence	DELAY SCHOOL START!!  When schools are allowed to have in person class, I intend on sending my kids (6th and 9th grader). I understand Governor Kelly's reasonings begins delaying school. I am a nurse at Advent Health Shawnee Mission. We too had to adjust to face masks, temps being taken, etc. I would like to suggest that kids in the BV school district (and everywhere) start school as their school calendar had intended (August 13 for BV) but rather as distant learning (if in person classes are not allowed). Give the kids 3 weeks to just review topics and get back into the swing of things. We desperately need normalcy and a schedule and I think online learning can achieve that. So when schools are allowed to start in person on Sept 8th, kids will have already had review course work and they will be ready to go. Let's face it, it's not the teachers who are ordering masks, thermometers, and hand sanitizer. While secretaries and other people do the ordering, let the teachers start teaching so our kids aren't behind.  And please, I hope you don't cancel sports/activities. My kids are in sports and Marching Band. For so many kids, this is their outlet. They need these sports/activities for their mental and physical health.  Thank you for considering all the above.
7/21/2020 13:18:48	Sara	Kreisel	Parent in Blue Valley Sc	Overland Park	Sara Kreisel
7/21/2020 13:18:49	Elizabeth	Thurston	My children	Manhattan	Please keeps schools closed until after Labor Day. This gives us 3 more weeks to prepare , organize and hopefully see our numbers decline.
7/21/2020 13:19:02	Jason	ROMANISHIN	public schools	overland park	Thank you Governor Kelly for having the courage and resolve to show that you care about Kansans and their children. I support and appreciate the delayed start at the very least. I am a public school teacher who is concerned with what the school year will bring. My household consists of two employees in public education and one child in the school system. We are fearful of contracting the illness and even more that our child might acquire the heart disease moving about the youngest populations. Please continue to keep us in your heart and decision making. We want to be in the classroom, but expecting us to do so at this time is a death sentence for some and, at the very least an impending risk to a greater health crisis. Thank you and please keep fighting.
7/21/2020 13:19:05	Jerilyn	Johnston	N/A	McPherson	Do NOT delay school.
7/21/2020 13:19:07	Brad	Chamberlain	self	Eureka	No masks for kids. Governor Kelly does not have the authority to enslave our kids!
7/21/2020 13:19:08	martha	romero	community member	topeka ks	Please delay 2020 School year K-12 until it is proven a slow down of coronavirus We must make sure that our teachers, students, and all staff are in a safe environment to continue their learning without fear.
7/21/2020 13:19:10	Patricia	Ahern	Wanamaker Elementary	Lawrence	PLEASE uphold the EO and delay the start of school!! Nothing has changed since March except more sickness and death. As a teacher, we are asked to sacrifice many things for children and their families - our lives should NEVER be one of them.
7/21/2020 13:19:15	Ryan	Pfannenstiel	Parent of 3 students in E	Hays	I believe waiting until After Labor Day is the smart choice during this time. Giving our schools and faculty time to prepare for whichever plan they choose to keep our children safe. Please vote to wait until after Labor Day to start school!!
7/21/2020 13:19:20	Susan	Kite		Scott City	Please do not delay the openings of school. And more than that please do not stop activities and athletics. The kids have been in the weight rooms and open gyms all summer with no problems. This is getting out of control.
7/21/2020 13:19:35	Nicoleta	Dimitriu		Topeka	Delay schools and move the learning on line. It's the only safe way!
7/21/2020 13:19:47	Enrique	Mtz	Social	Cd juarez chihuahua	No apertura ,ser maduros,anuncian aumento de c19 en kansas,alumnos no harian caso de usar medidas de control,para que arriesgar,definitivo mi pensar esperar más tiempo,es mejor prevenir que lamentar,saludos
7/21/2020 13:19:51	Catherine	Wright		Wichita Ks	We need to get our children and grandchildren back in the classroom.It's time the teachers union be concerned about the children and about social issues.

7/21/2020 13:19:52	Kathleen	Parkins	Teacher	Shawnee	Delaying the start of school will give us additional time to lay in PPE and sanitizing supplies as well as fine-tuning how we can safely work with our middle school students. Johnson county is not ready to start school based on our current state of virus spread. We have enormous numbers compared to when we closed schools in the first place for the safety of staff and students. Why would we go back if we are in a worse place? And, for purely selfish reasons, since I'm 62 years old, I would like to know who will substitute for me if I get sick? Who will take care of me, as I live alone, if I get sick? Perhaps, until these concerns can be better addressed, we should take a little more time and get a more concrete plan developed.
7/21/2020 13:20:00	Sara	Mcknight	Teacher	Wichita	We should delay the school year for the safety of teachers, admin, students etc.
7/21/2020 13:20:16	Sheri	Bartel		Holton	Please support the Governor and keep Kansas teachers and students safe. Starting as late as possible gives a chance for the numbers to go down and teachers time to prepare.
7/21/2020 13:20:17	Jessica	Pryor	Parent	Lawrence	Delaying start makes sense since numbers are rising. Going back with uncontrolled infection growth makes no sense.
7/21/2020 13:20:17	Vic	Adams	self	Yates Center	Vote NO on mandating masks for school children.
7/21/2020 13:20:18	Haley	Jackson	Self	Russell	Please vote in favor of Governor Kelly's and the Kansas dept of health's executive order 20-58.
7/21/2020 13:20:19	Heather	Woods		Manhattan	I am very much in favor of Governor Kelly's leadership during this time, including her recent executive orders on school delay and sanitizing/masking issues. Kelly is very clearly leading using an evidence-based approach to determine her next steps and frankly, has science on her side. I hope that politics will not stand in the way of caring for our children and our communities, including teachers, staff, administration, janitorial workers, and literally any other community member that comes into contact with them.
7/21/2020 13:20:23	Holly	Stetler	Kansas City christian sc	Kansas city	Please allow districts to make decisions regarding school start dates and not make a blanket policy for the entire state.
7/21/2020 13:20:33	Kenton	Noonan		Topeka	The state schools need more time to develop plans and to communicate these plans to their teachers! Schools are not adequately prepared yet and three more weeks would allow them to make decisions and communicate what they need from teachers, parents, and students.
7/21/2020 13:20:33	Ivy	Tatum	Kansas parents	Winfield	Kansas schools take great care of their students and have the communities in mind when they make decisions. Some communities have been hit harder by COVID than others and I feel that it is unfair to make every district fit in to one mold. Our kids NEED school to open. I'm asking that you to give our schools, who know us, the choice. They've heard us and were prepared to make a decision based on parent feedback as well as your recommendations.
7/21/2020 13:20:39	Jeremiah	Zweifel		Augusta	Start school and activities on time
7/21/2020 13:20:43	Cali	Burke		Kansas City	Please respect the data that has shown rampant infection rates and dramatic increases and postpone the opening of schools, many of which are terribly ill equipped- with 2 bathrooms per floor making even hourly hand washing a complete struggle for all students and too many students to properly distance in rooms. Please keep schools closed until the scientific data can show a decrease in cases.
7/21/2020 13:20:44	Samantha	Zweifel		Augusta	Schools and activities need to start on time.
7/21/2020 13:21:00	Alicia	Boor	Parent	Hoisington	I support Governor Kelly's executive order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 13:21:01	Alison	Woodward		Topeka	I DO NOT think in-person or hybrid schooling is appropriate and/or safe at this time. As a parent and a HS staff member, I think classes should be taught online for the Fall 2020 semester due to the risks associated to COVID-19 exposure.

					<p>I need to know that my child, her classmates and teachers will be safe. Opening schools right away should only happen when all necessary precautions have been thought of and implemented. My faughters emotional state is important. We have taken action with her to ensure we are not overlooking anything.</p> <p>If Bars and nightclubs are closing to help reduce risk of contamination because of the spike of younger people infected. How so you plan to enforce the same guidelines with kids? Will someone be in every bathroom monitoring? Will water bottles be given and sanitized daily by parents or staff? Back packs carry millions of germs, just like the bottom of shoes.</p> <p>What about bussing, how long will it take to bus our kids home, in between sanitizing? You can't expect a child to hop on a bus right after another kid gets off. The vinyl seats carry contaminates very easily.</p> <p>I do not have an answer to everything.</p> <p>I do know, i do not want to have my child, her friends, family, teachers or staff in a hospital. Even worse yet, I do not want to attend any funerals or hear the cry from any school about someone passing from Covid or anyrhung else.</p> <p>Please, protect my child and all our kids.</p> <p>Thank You,</p>
7/21/2020 13:21:17	Kenneth	Houpt	family	Valley Center	Ken Houpt
7/21/2020 13:21:20	Stephanie	Starling	Olathe	Olathe	What happens if 1 teacher or 1 student gets corona. Does all the classes and students all have to quarantine? If so that means the parents also have to quarantine because they have been exposed. There is a domino effect. I would rather keep the schools closed a little bit longer than reopening and exposing a lot of people when it could have been prevented.
7/21/2020 13:21:22	Breanne	Prior	Parent	Marion	Normal start date!
7/21/2020 13:21:23	Michelle	Fellere	My middle school child	Wichita	I definitely support the delay of school at the very least. I would feel so much better if school doors were closed until a vaccine is available or until the spread of covid is significantly less. I am terrified of my children returning to school. I am considering keeping them home. They go to Maize, and distance learning will likely be an option. However, my children learn much better in person. They, their father, and I are all concerned that their educations will suffer if they can't have in person learning. We would all feel better about it if all Kansas students were distance learning, and they were all on a level playing field. If educators were preparing now to make distance learning the best possible option, instead of waiting for a final decision to be made, all of our children would benefit. I would be happy to contribute to any further surveys or questions.
7/21/2020 13:21:27	Alison	Brookins		Andover	I'm just not ready to send my son, who will be a senior, back to school yet. I am high risk so in part it's about me. And while schools can offer cleaning and sanitizing, they can't get everything. Let's delay the start so we can slow down the cases. My son did poorly with online/distance learning, so he needs the structure offered at school. Thanks.
7/21/2020 13:21:30	A	B		Wichita	When TX is not doing in class and we are the highest corona per capita why would you even think about starting on time?
7/21/2020 13:21:38	Michelle	Neufeld		Inman	Yes please delay due to rising covid cases. I'm a nurse and I'd hate for my kids to get sick or their teachers and peer.
7/21/2020 13:21:45	Allison	Southerland	USD231 & also a parent	Gardner	Thank you for taking comments. Please, I implore you to uphold Gov. Kelly's order to delay the start of schools. This time to prepare to make schools safer is imperative! I am classified staff and therefore probably won't even get a paycheck during this time...HOWEVER, my priority is absolutely on the safety of our schools. I would rather be broke than dead! It would be irresponsible and dangerous to open schools prematurely. We CANNOT count on each individual area to do the responsible thing - we tried that with masks and it did not work. This is not an issue of personal freedom when personal choices affect the WHOLE COMMUNITY. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 13:21:46	Amy	Behrens	St. John's Catholic	Hanover	I feel that the school should wait until sept 9th to be safe!
7/21/2020 13:21:49	Victor	Wynn		Bel Aire	Please let the governor's order stand.
7/21/2020 13:21:55	Kristal	Helton	USD 102	Cimarron	I want to see my kids starting school as scheduled in August. I also do not want it mandated that they are required to wear masks. I feel that is a decision left to us as parents.



7/21/2020 13:21:57	JAMES	ALLEN	Self	Hutchinson	<p>Thank you for your decision to delay the school year's start. I know this was a tough decision based on many factors. The fact is that back in March and April, the state laid out its plan to shut down and reopen, with relaxation for restrictions being based (among other things) on a downward trending of cases. We saw a brief drop followed by the last couple of months of consecutive surges. This leads me to believe that the current environment is not conducive to relaxation of preventive measures against the spread of COVID. I would go as far as to say that if the state as a whole does not see a two-week drop by the time the delayed school year is planned to start, the semester itself should be cancelled. It is an unfortunate fact that children spread disease much easier and wider than adults, and I see reopening schools too early as a risk multiple magnitudes greater than what we have seen so far after the initial relaxation of restrictions. I believe the return to school needs to be based on scientific analysis of current trends in Kansas. Furthermore, I believe the school board has already begun making plans for conditions upon reopening--my opinion, based on WHO and CDC recommendations, is for children to be required to wear face masks while indoors at ALL times, wash hands before all meals, and observe social distancing of at least 6 feet while indoors. While outdoors, children should be encouraged to maintain distance from each other and avoid sneezing or touching each other. Teachers should explain the current understandings of how the virus spreads and impress upon the children the severity that the virus poses. Thank you again for your decision to delay re-opening and for reading my comments.</p>
7/21/2020 13:21:58	Dana	Wilson	Children	Great Bend	<p>Education was turned upside down in March and despite the best efforts of local school boards, it essentially ceased to exist for a lot of students who need it the most. Low income, rural, and minority students suffered the most due to lack of internet access, language barriers, and interpersonal dynamics of their households. Special education students have suffered losses that may never be regained!! It is time to get our children's education back on track with appropriate health and safety considerations. Every day is another loss for our students. School districts have been planning their reopening since this began &amp; its time to take care of our children's educational, social, and mental health!! Please don't give a blanket stamp of approval to this executive order. Let each local community decide what is best for them. NOT EVERY COMMUNITY IS IN CRISIS IN KANSAS DUE TO COVID 19!</p>
7/21/2020 13:22:04	Derek	Bristol	Parent	Newton	<p>Waiting until Sept. 8th isn't ideal, but it is necessary in order to provide schools with time to gather resources and make plans to keep personnel and children safe. Please accept the Governors executive order. It is the right thing to do.</p>
7/21/2020 13:22:09	Mira	Coulter	USD 259 - paraeducator	Wichita, KS	<p>Please make the right decision. Please make the safe decision. We must keep our students, teachers, and other school staff safe. Forcing school to open at a time that the data specifically tells us it is not safe, is not responsible, and it puts precious lives in danger for no reason. Delay the start of school, allow schools to prepare for the hybrid environment of learning - because with the uncertainty of long-term effects in regards to Covid-19 - that is the format of learning schools need to start making the new "normal" until further notice. With that being said, organize and create a tiered guidance system for school districts to follow - similar to the national "red, green, yellow" status indicator, in terms of Covid-19 cases - so that districts have guidance for regulations based on current testing data and know how to respond if the situation changes (for better or worse, respectively). Some school districts may not need to have as strict regulations as others based on their current Covid-19 county data. This should all be considered in a comprehensive plan for education during a pandemic. Wichita, in particular, is not one of the counties that can operate in a traditional way - Wichita's case numbers are rising, therefore stricter regulations need to be in place. We must keep our people as safe as possible - we must evolve with the current situation. These are unprecedented times and it calls for non-traditional, "thinking-outside-of-the box" measures. Delay the start of schools so that we can keep everyone as safe as possible. Support (and fund) online and hybrid learning environments until it is absolutely, without question, safe for everyone to return to a more traditional school situation.</p>
7/21/2020 13:22:16	David and Judy	Greenberg	Grandparents	Shawnee County	<p>We are in support of the Governor's executive order because as more data/evidence comes out children get the virus and are major transmitters to other students, school staff and family members.</p>

7/21/2020 13:22:27	Aaron	Dale		Topeka	I urge the Board to uphold the governor's order regarding delaying the start of school. Our schools need additional time to prepare for these unique challenges, especially since the governor is mandating many of the board's recommendations. Schools need to implement a hybrid learning option, which will take significant preparation and coordination. If the start of this school year is rushed I fear it will be extremely chaotic. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:22:28	Bryce	Wichert	parent	Hillsboro	Please delay school until after Labor Day. Thanks.
7/21/2020 13:22:28	Erin	Chamberlain		Topeka	Schools should delay opening
7/21/2020 13:22:40	Emily	Beecham		Lawrence	I have 3 elementary age children an teach high school in a school of 1600 students. When cases started to rise in Douglas County I felt sick and anxious about the return to school. Governor Kelly's announcement of her executive order instantly settled my anxiety. Please listen to what teachers are saying. Please approve Gov. Kelly's order and delay the start of school. Keeping kids and school staff safe should be your number one priority. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:22:45	Erika	Lehman	I'm a parent	Olathe	PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE! DO NOT send kids back to school until the pandemic is under control. Teachers, staff, and students WILL DIE. Kids will bring the virus home and kill loved ones. Any idea what that can do to a child? To be responsible for killing someone they love? Blood will be on your hands. Please make the moral decision.
7/21/2020 13:22:46	Julie	Perkins		Olathe	School should be able to start as soon as possible! I also think it should be up to the school district to decide.
7/21/2020 13:22:47	Whitney	Freerksen	Freerksen family of 5	Lyndon	School should start on time in August. There will no doubt be a need to shut down face to face instruction at some point(s) this year. The teachers were able to finish the last school year with online instruction after only 1 week of preparation. Even if classes begin only online, the kids can't risk spending more time completely disengaged in learning. Students attending online school (ie., K12) will not be falling behind like the public school children. It's a disservice to these children to delay school starting.
7/21/2020 13:22:59	Aaron	Leinmiller		Wichita	A blanket delay incorrectly assumes that no schools are prepared, and is an overreach of government. I'm incredibly thankful to have my daughters attend Classical School of Wichita, where the school leadership has already thoroughly considered what precautions and modified procedures are prudent, published a detailed plan including contingencies, and is ready to welcome kids back on August 20. Many school administrations may just be waiting for direction rather than proactively preparing for the fall, but that's no reason to penalize the schools, students, and families that are on the ball. Furthermore, in my opinion the government should be limited to providing INFORMATION and making RECOMMENDATIONS that schools/families may consider before making choices for themselves for their particular circumstances. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:22:59	Kelsey	Zabel	Parent	Olathe (De Soto SD, 232	Please support the order to delay the start of school. I want nothing more than to send my kids to school this fall, but this extra 3 weeks will allow the leaders and teachers of our district to do it in the best way possible. Thank you for your consideration and your work on this matter!
7/21/2020 13:23:01	Bailey	Betts	USD 253 & Parent	COTTONWOOD FALL	I do not think that we should be going to school before Labor Day. Also, I believe a hybrid or remote learning should be the only option. I don't feel it to be safe for students and staff to be in buildings face to face, even as much as I WANT to be back to school. It will not be quality education for anyone and as much as the students need social interaction, it wont be a healthy social atmosphere as students will not be able to do many things that they normally would be able to do with friends!
7/21/2020 13:23:10	Marla	Wiens		Topeka	Vote YES tomorrow. No schools should open until scientific data proves it is safe to do so.
7/21/2020 13:23:15	Corrie	Kramer	Gardner Edgerton Schoc	Gardner	my children proved they cannot learn virtually. Please open the schools back up. The sooner the better. Kids need the interaction of their peers and teachers. Doing it over a computer is not the same. Bring back in school learning
7/21/2020 13:23:17	Laren	Newboles		Hutchinson	Please open schools on time. Our children need to get back to routine. Let the kids at high risk (and others that are afraid) distance learn until parents feel it is safe for them to cone back. Who is to say the governor won't try to push it back again in a few weeks? Thanks for listening. We are praying for you all and the decision that has been put on your shoulders.

7/21/2020 13:23:18	Hannah	Merle	USD320	Manhattan	As a teacher of 18 years, I am asking you to delay schools for the safety and health of students, teachers, secretaries, paras, bus drivers.....all those who make a school on a normal day flow. This is not normal times, so I think it is crucial to give the schools time to prepare and be ready to work with kids during this COVID time. This is not the moment to wing it, and hope for the best. Teachers love their students and want the time and safety measures to be there for them in the safest and most healthy way possible. Health and safety first...,without that, the rest doesn't matter. Please delay schools.
7/21/2020 13:23:25	Evelyn	Moore	USD259	Wichita	Don't delay school, do a hybrid, wear masks, use precautions...but kids need normalcy and an uninterrupted education.
7/21/2020 13:23:37	Jenn	Ayres	USD 345/ SHS and Top	Topeka	Let the individual school districts make their own choices. Please do not let the governor force us into a one size fits all. Smaller schools like TLS have different capabilities to socially distance. Even larger schools such as SHS with USD 345 have good options for all of us. Please let us decide what is right for our kids working with the educators/administrators in our schools.
7/21/2020 13:23:44	Jeff	Jordan		Hays, KS	Listen to the science. Use common sense. Trust the governor. One life lost is too much.
7/21/2020 13:23:46	Charles	Engle	Me	Wichita	Do not take chances with children or force parents, teachers, or Admin to take on medium to significant risk related to virus. Error on side of caution. This is serious!
7/21/2020 13:23:52	Heather	Whiteside	Parent	Leawood	I value the concerns on children going back to school; however, the statistics from daycares and reopened schools across the globe do not support the governors concerns of spread within schools. Furthermore, if schools are delayed three weeks, there should be an extension of the school year three additional weeks next summer. I am fortunate to have one son in a private high school in Missouri, they have used their time over the summer preparing for the start of school on time. It is a shame that Kansas schools are claiming that they are not ready, and Dare I ask what three additional weeks is going to do?? Please open our schools! For the amount of money our family contributes to taxes, we should be provided this service or refunded!
7/21/2020 13:24:05	Korda	Griffith		Hanover	It is very important to start our school year at its normal time frame with no delay. Many children as is my very detail and time scheduled and it is very important to him to begin as normal ! The transfer of covid from kids to kids has been proven rare if any . This is hurting the families and children who rely on school for their daily routine ! If the parent, student and teachers feel safe to attend then it should be allowed !
7/21/2020 13:24:08	Katherine	Liggett	USD 253	Emporia	I don't see a point in delaying the start of school. You would only be delaying the inevitable.
7/21/2020 13:24:10	Terese	Johnson	Individual and former sc	Wichita	Please approve the after Labor Day opening of schools to allow the professional staff to finalize their plans for keeping students and staff as safe as possible.
7/21/2020 13:24:25	Alesia	Smith	my family	wichita	PLEASE PLEASE do not delay the start of school. Our children need the structure, academics and socialization desperately. It would not be in their best interest to delay the fall start of classes.
7/21/2020 13:24:26	Toni	Wheeler	None.	Lawrence, Ks	I fully support the Governor's recommendations to delay the start of school. If schools are evaluating sports and other extracurricular activities, varsity sports and activities for seniors should be a priority over all others.
7/21/2020 13:24:27	Wendi	Engle	My household	Olathe	Please follow the governor's decision to delay school start up.
7/21/2020 13:24:29	Connie	Ritchie		5853 Park Circle, Shawnee	Do not send our children and teachers to a school building until KS has had 14 days of no new Covid 19 cases.
7/21/2020 13:24:30	Tara	West	USD 288	Lawrence KS	As a parent and teacher, I strongly support Governor Kelly's Delay Order. We have nothing to lose by doing this, and everything to gain. Kansas covid cases are steadily trending up. This is not the time to rush into starting school. Our students and staff will benefit from this approach.
7/21/2020 13:24:33	Natalie	Boone	USD # 386 Madison - V	Toronto, KS	I think this would be a horrible decision for our students education, I myself am a high school teacher and parent, and the consequences for this are far worse than the prevention of covid. Honestly if you think of the amount of kids that are in bad situations right now and let's be honest if you look at the numbers it shows that kids are far less likely to contract and spread this. I think it is also important to not force kids to wear masks. I think that would be a poor decision on the basis that they will not leave them alone and they are going to cause way more problems.

7/21/2020 13:24:35	Laura	Austin	Topeka Public Schools	Topeka	I have taken social distancing, face masks, and hand washing/cleaning pretty serious since March. Thankful my family has stayed healthy. As a teacher I am worried that if schools reopen in August kids and teacher's will get stick. The virus will spread quickly once it is in our schools. I would hate for anyone to die. As a parent of a fourth grader and two kindergarteners I worry about my kids and what they are going to be exposed to. Even taking all the safety measures will not prevent the virus from spreading when our numbers are so high. Please vote to delay the opening of our schools. It needs to be done when our communities are safe so our schools can be safe too.
7/21/2020 13:24:54	Carrie	Baumann	N/a parent	Eudora	I am writing to request that you honor Governor Kelly's delay in starting schools. A few weeks will allow more time for schools to prepare and determine how best to educate our children in this pandemic. Pushing them back to school has no benefits, only risks.  We hope that each school district will provide learning options that fit each family. We would love to be able to send our girls back to school, but we will not do that if we feel the risk is too high. We hope that the school will offer virtual learning options. If they do not, we may decide to homeschool them.  The safety of our children, their teachers, and all school staff is in your hands. I'm not willing to gamble with their health or lives. I trust you aren't either.  Thank you,  Carrie Baumann USD 491
7/21/2020 13:25:00	Pam	Gull	Retired volunteer	Circle District. Reside in	In favor of postponing school until September and reevaluate the situation.
7/21/2020 13:25:00	Wallea	Bergsten	Bergsten Day Care	Clay Center	School should happen in August. Also no masks in the child's classroom. Masks in the hall maybe but not in the classroom
7/21/2020 13:25:03	Claire	Campbell	My 3 Children	Overland Park	Children belong in school. They need to use their beautiful immune systems that God gave them. And I get it, teachers are scared. But with all due respect, we were all scared when we first went back to work. Their education is essential. They've had so much stripped from them already. I am a dental hygienist that sees 9 patients a day. Every child and every parent I have seen wants to be in school. Please do not let the more vocal, minority win. The silent majority wants their children in school. And no we are not selfish. Also, please please please look at the recommendations of the American Academy of pediatrics. They have emphatically stated that children should be in school without any restrictions. Why is no one talking about this recommendation? Why only the governor's?
7/21/2020 13:25:06	Amy	Sand		Lawrence	Please delay the school year for the health and safety of our students and teachers. Better safe than sorry!
7/21/2020 13:25:11	Trisha	Delong	BV high school, BVN h	Overland Park	As a teacher I want to be back in person with my students. Virtual learning isn't working and school is more than an assignment. Middle school and teen students need connections in person with peers and teachers. It is more important at their age to development. Missing activities that give kids sense of self, teamwork and accomplishment and bring part of a team or activity provides valuable life lessons that aren't learned in a screen. Even kids in Johnson county are living in bad situations with school being their only escape. Please get kids back into school...teachers want this so stop letting the union vote for all of us.

7/21/2020 13:25:11	Joe	Husband	One the will soon be for	Kansas City Metro	My spouse is an elementary teacher in Missouri. How DARE the Missouri Governor risk the lives of students, teachers, and families. What an insensitive, ignorant man. He will have blood on his hands, and the people will seek justice. There is nothing that can be done to stop an outbreak from occurring in schools. She has two underlying health conditions. She will catch this and bring it home to me. I also have two underlying health conditions. We are already planning our funerals. Children are going to DIE! Teachers are going to DIE! Family members of both students and teachers are going to DIE! By acknowledging that students will catch COVID-19 directly by going to school- which is now public record - the governor will be held 100 percent responsible for every COVID-19 death caused by the spread of this virus in schools. His remarks were that of an insane man. He should resign. Schools must remain closed. These are children - not guinea pigs. There is a reason - far too advanced for this governor to understand - why young students haven't been suffering in greater numbers - they were taken out of school last spring! How can we, as a society, allow one person the power to murder 100s or 1000s of people? That is what the idiot in office is doing by keeping schools open. I want him on TV today acknowledging he will accept full responsibility and full punishment (death penalty) once the deaths caused by the opening of schools start to occur.
7/21/2020 13:25:12	Kyle	Ruder	BV high school	Stilwell	Open the schools in person with all sports and activities. Enough is enough...this is not any worse than the flu and learning virtually is not teaching. I'm an essential worker and have been working this entire time. Teachers can go teach in person as that is what is best for kids. Mental health is suffering with teens in particular ...open the schools!
7/21/2020 13:25:12	Kelli	Ruder	Blue Valley High School	Stilwell	The infection rate in joco is .4% The mental health of your teen communities is at stake. Kids need to be in person in school and fully participating in all activities...sports, choir , band and clubs.
7/21/2020 13:25:14	Darci	Jones	business manager	pratt	leave opening decision to local school boards
7/21/2020 13:25:14	Ashley	Kleiber		Hillsboro	Aug 20 start date!!
7/21/2020 13:25:30	Susan	Rothschild	Topeka 501 School Dist	Topeka	I am writing to urge you to accept Gov. Laura Kelly's delay of school opening this year. As a paraprofessional in Topeka who works with special education elementary school students, I am well aware of what a delay means to our students and staff. While all of us would prefer to be back in the classroom, I feel it is most important that we do it safely for all of us. I personally have asthma and diabetes and I work with many medically fragile students. I do not want them losing any more educational time than necessary, but I DO NOT think it is safe for any of us to return as our state COVID numbers are as high as they are right now. I participated in online learning with students this spring and I believe our district had some of the best materials available in the state for our students. Like other staff members and parents I am reviewing our district's extensive current plans for re-opening schools. While I still think our district is addressing the needs of our students, we need some more time for our state to bring those numbers down before we all are exposed to one another again. I personally am continuing to shop for groceries online and am social distancing as much as possible and wearing a mask when I have to be in public. I am not convinced enough other people are doing such things to make our schools safe yet. Without her order, I fear that many folks will believe it is fine to resume our previous lives and quit taking precautions and will further endanger our children, other families and staff members. We need to do this together. I understand that some areas may have fewer cases than others, but as we have seen nationally and worldwide, that does not mean any place is immune nor that relaxing our standards prematurely leads to continued caution. Please help us protect our kids. I work with too many children who already are exposed to regular illnesses from thoughtless people. Please don't expose them to a dose of something that has already claimed the lives of more than 140,000 Americans this year. None of us wants to be responsible for killing a child who was simply seeking an education. Please back our governor's leadership. All our children may be falling behind educationally right now, but is it worth risking their lives? Our districts and teachers are doing everything possible to try to make up for lost time and think of creative ways to keep our children learning. I believe we can both help them learn and keep them safe. Give us a chance to prove it with the delayed start.
7/21/2020 13:25:52	Jessica	Duhon		Harper	As long as school opens at some point and the kids get educations they need out in place all the safety guidelines you need!!
7/21/2020 13:25:57	Aaron	Smith	private citizen	wichita	I am not in support of delaying school. As a father of three it is my opinion this would very negatively affect my children's academics and social health.

7/21/2020 13:26:00	Teresita	Bermudez Albert		Shawnee, KS	I agree with the decision to delay school until after Labor day. We need a more detailed plan in place for our teachers and staff! Please give them time to put this plan in place!
7/21/2020 13:26:08	Brad	Guhr		Newton	Please follow Gov. Kelly's EO to delay the start of school to allow administrators and staff and collaborating entities the additional time needed to to roll out the opening of school as smartly and safely as possible. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:26:14	STEPHEN	RAGAN	None	Olathe	Yes, Open schools as regularly scheduled. It is critical for students, and particularly young children, to be allowed to go back to school on time this fall. Normal precautions, such as adults in schools social distancing and wearing masks (perhaps) when working closely with each other as well as cleaning and sanitizing surfaces often should be employed.  But under no circumstances should schools remain closed for the fall. Child abuse, depression and even suicide is highly likely to increase dramatically from extended closure of schools. Children are much less vulnerable to this virus than they are to other dangers in their environment.
7/21/2020 13:26:25	Cintha	Hernandez		Overland Park	I agree with the Governor's decision and please continue to delay school until it is safe. Also as a health care provider I think it would be important to educate some of the families/parents out there that still don't believe this virus is not real. It is disturbing that I continue to see people who are in complete denial about what is going on.
7/21/2020 13:26:26	Jonathan	Elliott		Plains	Please support EO 20-58 to give schools time to prepare, allow schools time to work with parents to identify the best schooling setup for each student, and to give parents time to acquire adequate cloth masks for their students.
7/21/2020 13:26:30	Marcy	Sunderman	Teachers	Go back to school now .	Get back to school while the cases are down . Extend school hours .
7/21/2020 13:26:31	Len	Melvin		Hays	The kids are ready and need to be back in the classroom. The research is strong behind the idea that they need structure, friendships, activities, and opportunities to gather. Many need a good meal a safe place to be. I know this has to be a very difficult decision. Thank you for your diligence in working through this.
7/21/2020 13:26:32	Sara	Esther		Kansas City Kansas	For many students, schools are their safe haven in an unpredictable world. We need to take all steps possible to ensure that schools remain a safe place for students and staff during this pandemic. Right now, that means pushing back the beginning of the school year until Labor Day and investing heavily in technology and training for distance/blended learning. Kansas currently has the highest case rate per capita in the nation and its only getting worse. Now is not the time to sacrifice the psychological and physical health of students and staff in some misguided attempt to re-start the economy.  As a teacher, I want to be back in my classroom. I want to see my kids, I just want to do so in a manner at at a time in which we have some chance of keeping people safe. Right now it's tempting to fall in to the thinking that the harm of students being out of school is worse than the possible harm done my the pandemic, but remember that we will not be sending them back to a familiar and physically social environment. They will not have group projects, no shared supplies, no choir, band, hugs, or physical contact with each other or staff. I wonder if being held to what can only be described as a rather penal standard of behavior would be more damaging than remote learning. Seeing their friends without touching, constant tension and pressure to maintain social distancing, the looming and ever-present threat of rolling quarantine and the chance that they, their friends, teachers, or families could become sick and die at any time would be an enormous strain on kids.  I teach in a district that serves 23,000 students. If we reopen in person, many of them will get sick, and--God forbid--someone very well could die. Some teachers and staff most probably will die. In my mind, the trauma that would cause probably outweighs the benefits of in-person school at this time. We can catch kids up academically, but dead is dead. We should take any opportunity we have as a society to slow the spread of this virus and ease the burden on our medical system. In this case that means delaying--only delaying not canceling--school for a short time to reassess cases and give teachers a chance to plan out an effective model for what will be a challenging year. Let's keep schools safe. Delay re-opening.

7/21/2020 13:26:43	Doesnt	Matter		silverlake	<p>children should not have to wear masks all day at school and until its safe to go without them kids DON'T belong at school.</p> <p>Some kids already have a hard time asking for help with work &amp; having something over their face with make them feel like they're not allowed to talk and ask for help or answer questions.</p> <p>Children in special education definitely need to be considered which has NOT been addressed. Those that have IEPs already struggle as it is putting them through this situation will be terrible.</p> <p>Children need to be able to be able to sse their teachers talking when it comes to spelling, reading, etc... how can they do that if the teacher has a mask cover her face? School needs to start but online until the numbers go down and its safe for them to return. Chilren who need assistance with special education and testing should be allowed that care when needed at school. So that no child is left behind in this mess and can continue to strive in school. Laptops need to be provided for each student that is doing online work. Starting on time is better for these kids than putting it off. Why wait? Get these online classes started while we wait for numbers to go down &amp; then bring the kids back into the classroom &amp; they'll be ready to go!</p> <p>If masks are required for students then mine will NOT be attending. I will NOT put them through that torture for 7+hours.</p>
7/21/2020 13:26:49	Angela	Wolgram	Parent	Madison	<p>I am unclear why our peers in other countries have successfully put kids back in school with data that shows that there was not a spike in cases or increased deaths related to schools opening back up and we don't seem to think we can go back. The science supports that kids don't spread it to adults and they are mostly asymptomatic . What we are doing is setting up our kids up to be so far behind they may never make up for what is missed. Easier tests or fewer lessons is not acceptable. My 20 year old daughter tested positive (required by her work to be tested weekly) and she has except for a sore throat that is most likely related to repeated testing that has caused her a sinus infection, has no other symptoms. It has been 8 days and no one in our household is sick or has any symptoms. I know we have 8 more days to meet the 14 day quarantine. I know that for some this virus can be more severe but the flu is more severe in some than in others. Colds year to year are worse for some than others. Put things back to normal. Academics and extracurricular activities are vitally needed by our kids and it's time. Time to go back to school and time to get back to playing sports and living life. I</p>
7/21/2020 13:27:06	Laura	Squires	Usd 379 is the school di	Clay center	<p>I think delaying the start of school til after Labor Day is the right choice. I DO NOT want it cancelled or delayed further though. Kids need to GO TO an actual classroom to learn and get the most out of school. Online school is not thr same as being in school.</p>
7/21/2020 13:27:09	Martha	Risley	None	Wichita	<p>I definitely do not think Wichita should open until after Labor Day. As a retired USD 259 teacher, I can certainly say that I would want to delay the start.</p> <p>Smaller districts with fewer kinks to work out may feel they are ready earlier. However, I really don't think waiting one more month is going to make that much difference. Having a definite date and plan for their school's opening will make both students and teachers feel more secure.</p>
7/21/2020 13:27:15	Natalie	Battenfield	USD 253	Emporia	<p>Yes school should be delayed.</p>
7/21/2020 13:27:16	Lori	Archuleta	Usd 255	Kiowa, ks	<p>I do not want school to be postponed! I have 2 children I'm elem and one is higher needs</p>
7/21/2020 13:27:17	Lauren	Docman		Kansas City	<p>I think school should be delayed until atleast Sept 8 to allow for schools to prepare for the precautions.</p>
7/21/2020 13:27:21	Zoe	Miller		Shawnee	<p>I support abiding by the Governor's order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. Furthermore, I believe schools should be online only through at least the fall semester. With numbers of COVID-19 cases skyrocketing, sending our children and our teachers back is too risky. I would encourage you to keep their lives at the forefront of your decision. One case is too many cases.</p>
7/21/2020 13:27:54	Alec	Walker		Harper	<p>I agree with delaying school. I think it should be online this year</p>
7/21/2020 13:27:30	Renae	Peters	My family	Hesston	<p>I urge you to please support EO 20-58 in order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. This will allow my husband more time to prepare for delivery of remote instruction of the high school math curriculum. It will allow our daughters' Kindergarten and 4th grade teachers more time to prepare. I hope that it will make the community take the pandemic seriously in order to reduce the spread and make it safer to return to school. I have served as a substitute teacher for the past 7 years. I will be more likely to continue substitute teaching if school is delayed, extra precautions are taken, and the rate of infection declines.</p>

7/21/2020 13:28:31	Dawn	Shoffner	Self	Alta Vista	I agree with Governor Kelly's decision to delay school starting. Our schools have a hard enough time coming up with supplies for our children, let alone PPE and all the precautions that should be taken to protect our children and the staff. They need time to get this in order and also allow for options for parents who don't want their children to attend in-person at this time. I don't think we have enough data to show how/if kids can transmit the virus to adults and we also have many children with underlying health conditions that could be at high risk as well.
7/21/2020 13:28:31	Brandon	Weckbaugh		Lawrence	I support Governor Kelly's executive order. I emailed my representative Mrs. Mah with further explanation and rationale.
7/21/2020 13:28:35	Cassandra	Moore		Olathe, Kansas	I don't believe schools should open until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 13:28:46	Jaimie	Leis	Parent	Mayetta	I think we should keep them closed until labor day or after.
7/21/2020 13:28:52	Cheryl	Burns		Lawrence	<p>Delaying school until Kansas communities have reached little-to-no new cases of COVID-19 is the only rational, responsible, moral thing to do. New research shows that children over 10 transmit the virus as much as adults. And, while children under 10 transmit it at about half the rate of adults, that is a very long way from zero risk for a teacher who must be exposed to many children and ALL their contacts every day for hours a day. And, then, that teacher is at risk for transmitting to their family and everyone they come into contact with. Just 4 days ago, Kansas was leading the nation in new case numbers per capita. A majority of Kansas counties refused to comply with the governor's mask order, which means everyone living in those counties or who has contact with anyone in those counties is at increased risk. This does not bode well for school children being protected by their families before coming into contact with each other, teachers, and school staff.</p> <p>Until new case rates have been dramatically reduced, it would be irresponsible and immoral to subject students, teachers, staff, the families of each of these groups, and everyone in the community to the pandemic breeding ground that schools will inevitably become if we open schools in the midst of a full-blown, active pandemic.</p> <p>Delaying start times until Sept. 9 is an absolutely essential first step. It will allow time to see what is happening with transmission rates. But if we have not reached a safe point by then, it would be unconscionable to force teachers and staff into an unsafe work environment. There is no indication that there will be adequate funding, adequate space, and adequate new teacher/staff hires to allow for anything resembling the necessary levels of distancing to make this safe. And it would be irresponsible to send the message to parents that their children were safe in schools when they are not. Delay school openings until at least Sept. 9th. If community transmission rates are within the safe zone, then and only then would it be responsible to reopen in-person schools.</p>
7/21/2020 13:28:55	Stacie	Dickey	Parent	Rose Hill	I agree with delaying schools opening. Why are we going to put our kids at risk when cases are rising. When schools are offering all or none not a hybrid option. So we either send our kids in crammed classes so they have access to teachers or keep them home and hope they get it. When they could half the student population in school and do 2 days in 3 days out. Same group of kids go Monday and Tuesday the other group go Thursday and Friday and use Wednesday as a deep cleaning day.
7/21/2020 13:29:12	Sheila	Treu	Parent	Emporia	Kids need to be back in school. They need the socializing aspects of it. The learning they have lost will totally affect this generation in the long term of things. Many of the children are feeling hopeless, scared, and lost with all this covid garbage. They don't understand the masks and need to wear them. They are wanting life to go back to somewhat normal again. Many in our area depend on the school setting for more than learning like solid meals for the day or someone to love on them, show them they are special and wanted.
7/21/2020 13:29:17	Kurt	Leader	USD 457	Garden City	Students from K-12 need to start school in August for the following reasons; Children and young adults rarely die from the coronavirus, in fact the flu causes more deaths from ages of 5-30. Parents need to get back to work to support their families. More harm is done mentally, physically, socially, and academically than what the coronavirus will do. Lastly, quit playing politics with my 12 year olds life!
7/21/2020 13:29:17	Nicholas	Engle	Financial Advisor	Derby, KS	Please allow each school district to make their own decisions on how and when to open.
7/21/2020 13:29:21	Lance	Ziegler	USD 208	WaKeeney	I am a junior high English teacher in USD 208 in WaKeeney, and I am absolutely opposed to the governor delaying the start of school until after Labor Day! We need to get our students back in school and the sooner the better. It's what is best for kids!
7/21/2020 13:29:22	Kate	Roades		Olathe	Please have schools open later!!



7/21/2020 13:29:27	Patricia	Francis	None	Salina Kansas	I agree with the Gov about keeping schools closed until after Labor Day or even later this Fall.
7/21/2020 13:29:34	Brooke	Thomsen	Kansas City Kansas Pub	Kansas City	Please do not open schools until after Labor Day. It is not safe for students and staff like myself.
7/21/2020 13:29:39	Jena	Tharman	Teacher	Troy	Please let us start or at least let each county decide. We are a rural district. I, even being pregnant, want to see children in my classroom. Sanitizing and cleaning has been on our minds since March. We don't need extra time. Please. Thank you!
7/21/2020 13:29:40	Sheri	Smith		Troy	Please do not pass children having to wear masks in school!
7/21/2020 13:29:41	Jackie	Hays	South Central Kansas Sp	Wichita	I encourage you to think of the safety and health of Kansas students and staff. This is not and should not be a political issue. With the high COVID numbers in the state, it's confusing to me why we're trying to rush hundreds of people back into buildings for 8 hours per day. However, given these extra few weeks, staff will have more time to review state guidelines and implement a local plan to help ensure the safest possible return. Everyone wants to be back in schools, we just need to be smart about opening back up. Please consider what you are asking staff to do by sending them back to school. At least give us the opportunity and time to prepare. The hours can and will be made up throughout the year, or at the end of the school year if needed. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:29:46	Breana	Wendel		Lansing	Do not mandate masks, hourly handwashing/hand sanitizing, or social distancing in school. Allow parents and school districts to make their own choices. Small counties should not be treated the same as Johnson or Sedgwick. We are going to raise an entire generation of kids who are fearful of others. The mental health of our children is as much at risk as physical health. The youngest death in KS is 29. Allow teachers to choose what's best for their health - classroom teach or virtual teach. allow parents to choose what works for their family. Everyone has a different risk tolerance so allow families to choose.
7/21/2020 13:29:47	Paul	Schapker		Leawood	The delay of opening schools is essential to give schools the time they need to figure out implementing safety precautions. The governor's order allows for local officials to take immediate action (removing all "wait and see"). Please do not overturn the executive order.
7/21/2020 13:29:47	Alyx	Wood	Free state high school st	Lawrence	The governor should not cancel all school activities between now and sept 6- kids need to feel involved - no one is made to go if they are not comfortable - everyone should have the choice - we r wearing masks doing temp Checks and social distancing - do not let this order proceed as written
7/21/2020 13:29:53	Cindy	Wichman	Derby USD 260	Derby	Please sign the Governor's order. Also, please mandate ONLINE only schools!! Numbers are still rising! Why put students and teachers in the "petri dish" during this pandemic. Our numbers are way worse than they were in March!
7/21/2020 13:29:59	Jackie	Hays	South Central Kansas Sp	Wichita	I encourage you to think of the safety and health of Kansas students and staff. This is not and should not be a political issue. With the high COVID numbers in the state, it's confusing to me why we're trying to rush hundreds of people back into buildings for 8 hours per day. However, given these extra few weeks, staff will have more time to review state guidelines and implement a local plan to help ensure the safest possible return. Everyone wants to be back in schools, we just need to be smart about opening back up. Please consider what you are asking staff to do by sending them back to school. At least give us the opportunity and time to prepare. The hours can and will be made up throughout the year, or at the end of the school year if needed. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:30:02	Makaela	Stevens		Scott City	I strongly disagree with delaying the 20-21 K-12 school year in the state of Kansas. The result would be counterintuitive, as these students have been together throughout this past summer for various activities, including sports practices and summer camps. Students have been consistently participating in these sports practices and weights classes since June, and placing a ban on practices and delaying school for a month would do nothing to prevent the virus, as the students have been in close contact for over a month already. Delaying the school year would only give families incentive to go on vacations and leave their residences for a week, causing potential exposure to the virus. Then, by bringing the students back together in a month, they would all be far more susceptible to COVID. By keeping with consistent sports practices and beginning school at the originally scheduled time, students would remain in safe contact with one another for the next month, allowing them to safely begin school, especially in smaller communities like my own, where COVID is not yet a threat in any way.

7/21/2020 13:30:02	Tiffany	Burget		Topeka	I want to share my opinion as an educator. This will be my 9th year as a teacher. I truly believe that the first two weeks of school are the most important. Those are the weeks that trust begins to grow. That students get to know their teachers and teachers get to know their students. It's were the foundation for the whole year is built. Students get to see us as people who care, not just as a provider of information. If we are talking about student social and emotional well being then I think it is best to delay the start of school. Only so much can be done in a zoom conference and quite frankly I teacher junior high students and zoom conferences aren't high on their priority list. Not to mention that some students don't have the means to participate or might be embarrassed about what can be seen. A school setting is the best place to build new relationships, not over a conference call. If delaying school means that I have the opportunity to spend the first two weeks of school with my students in person than to me, it is worth it. I can't fully explain how important those weeks are but ask a kid. First impressions are important. Video conferences cannot do everything that face to face can.
7/21/2020 13:30:11	Melissa	Carnahan	U.S.D. 493	Columbus, Ks	I think each community should decide the school start date and any mask orders. Each community knows their situation better and can adjust if necessary. Please let the communities decide for themselves!!!
7/21/2020 13:30:14	Evan	Durnal	Citizen	Bucyrus	The delay in school start serves two good purposes - allow teachers and schools to plan for the logistics that are required to keep staff and kids safe, and (hopefully) allow time for masks to decrease the current trends in disease prevalence. Please consider approving the delayed start so that we can hopefully maintain continuity once it does start, which is crucial for the kids. The logistics of protecting educators must be finalized prior to school starting, especially as new studies show children 10 and up are just as readily transmitting disease as adults. Educators still don't know what they are even planning for, give them the time to get it right. Thank you for serving our children and our educators.
7/21/2020 13:30:15	Veronica	Hauptman		Hays	I think delaying the start of the school year is a wise decision. It allows districts adequate time to plan for the many changes this school year will bring, while hopefully allowing the number of active cases to go down before our students all come together in school buildings.
7/21/2020 13:30:25	Rebecca	Eck	Unified PreK Teacher	Wichita	Online learning was NOT effective for my unified class of 30 reg Ed students and 10 special ed students. Only 5-8 showed up for online meetings. Contact was difficult. I truly hope we can get back to the classroom. Obviously safety is priority but we NEED the classroom.
7/21/2020 13:30:31	Ashton	Kathrens	Mother of a student	CIRCLEVILLE	I believe the schools school wait until after Labor Day to reopen. I'm nervous enough about sending my children back anyways. This at least allows more time for the school and teachers to have time to get everything ready. It also allows more time to see how the spread in the community is.
7/21/2020 13:30:31	Anne	Cook	USD 431	Hoisington	As a teacher I don't feel like schools are ready to reopen yet. Many small towns like mine are just beginning to see a surge in cases and so residents haven't been fully taking precautions. I think allowing more time will let the community see the need we have for things like masks, social distancing and small gatherings. Just this past weekend someone had a wedding with 600 guests invited and yesterday someone who went to it tested positive for Covid. I really do believe it's about to hit hard and there's no plan in place and schools are not at all prepared to deal with the unknown.

					<p>I wanted to give an update on the research regarding COVID in children.</p> <p>I should back up briefly and state that this is from a physician with a PhD in Epidemiology who became very interested in this topic when a colleague and friend of mine, Jennifer Kasten, MD MSc, wrote a systematic review of COVID epidemiology in children (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/jenniferkastendm/posts/128898328763114">https://www.facebook.com/jenniferkastendm/posts/128898328763114</a>) and found kids 12 and under *might be viral "dead ends", meaning they can get COVID but can't transmit to anyone else. This really captured my interest because this would make COVID very different from most respiratory viruses we know. Then in a physician's group dedicated to school opening, a physician researcher published a document for the group in which said she could identify 0 (zero) cases of certain transmission from children under 12 in the scientific literature and since that time Dr. Rutherford, UCSF Epidemiologist, has also been public about elementary-aged children being a "one way street" for infection - they get it but don't appear to transmit it, much, if at all. (UCSF Grand Rounds lectures are now available on YouTube for those interested in hearing him).</p> <p>Last month, I did my own summary of the data (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/tracy.hoeg/posts/10219217323357158">https://www.facebook.com/tracy.hoeg/posts/10219217323357158</a>) and found evidence of the following:</p> <p>*Very limited transmission if any from children ages 12 and under to either other children or adults</p> <p>*Children appeared to be at least 10 times more likely to die of influenza than Covid and are more likely to be struck by lightning (I rechecked the CDC website today 7/13 and they are still reporting 3 deaths in children under 18 due to confirmed COVID; for comparison, there have been 185 deaths due to influenza in this population in the 2019/2020 season. Edit: see updated mortality data below from the 7/19 addition).</p> <p>*Countries that reopened elementary schools as a first step in their country's reopening did not see an uptick in cases (these include numerous European and Asian countries, some of which are displayed in Figure 4. Reopenings not causing and uptick in cases is consistent with children not being a major vector for the disease. Figure 3 shows age of the source of the cases of COVID in Holland, with none ages 18 and under in their study, as just an example of these</p>
7/21/2020 13:30:43	Brandon	Grosdidier	Eudora High School and	Eudora, KS	
7/21/2020 13:30:49	Krystle	Walker		Goessel	OPEN SCHOOLS!
7/21/2020 13:30:56	Sean	Stewart	N/A	Lenexa	Please follow the Governor's lead on this. We can only meet this challenge if we act in unison. Fractured leadership and mixed messages have led to the mess we currently face. We all want our kids back in school, but we must ensure that it's safe and that we give schools the time and resources to meet this challenge.
7/21/2020 13:30:58	Linda	Vaughn	Colby public school	Colby ks	Please leave the decision on opening schools in kansas with their local school board and local health officials.
7/21/2020 13:31:01	Krissy	Cox	None	Lakin	No need to delay the opening of schools! Let local districts & local health departments determine what changes are needed, if any. One size does not fit all and many small communities have little to no current positive cases. Moving all sports to spring won't work for small towns either. The same kids play all the sports. Again, what is good for one town or region may not be good for another. Let the locals decide!

					<p>As a parent of two young girls, I 100% stand by Governor Keny and the order to postpone the opening of schools for students so that schools have the adequate time to read and figure out how to implement the state's recommendations that have only just been released last week.</p> <p>We aren't even hearing the plan for our daughters school until Friday. We certainly want time to review all the plans and then make an informed decision for our kids.</p> <p>Schools are preparing for all three scenarios (in person, hybrid, and online), and that takes time to figure out how that will work. Even if a school opens in person they may have to transition to a hybrid or an online model depending on outbreaks at the school. Although they did this in the 4th quarter with very little notice, there was not as much student and parent accountability or rigor, and they need time to figure out how they can make that happen, so they are ready for when things need to be pushed online. Schools are having to figure out how they will do the temperature checks, keep social distance (in parking lots, entrances, exits, hallways, classrooms, lunchrooms, etc.), and how they will keep all of these students and the teachers and staff members safe and healthy. It is a huge undertaking that deserves more prep than one week of teacher inservices.</p> <p>Many teachers will have to change curriculums (thinking of music with limited singing, playing, and large ensemble numbers, PE, etc.). Things that are the core of those subjects are now potentially unsafe. Teachers need time to find out what they can safely teach. This might look different than any other year. They also have to figure out how to deliver this brand new curriculum in person (if they get to stay in their classroom), in person on a cart (if they have lost their classroom and now have to travel from room to room to help contain cohort groups of children), in a hybrid model, and online. They have to be ready for all of these scenarios all the time, because at any time, they may need to move to a different scenario with little notice. This will take more than one week of teacher work time.</p> <p>Something that I haven't heard much about is what will happen if a child or staff member at the school tests positive. Will just that class need to quarantine? Will the whole school? Who will sub for these teachers who have to quarantine for 14 days? I imagine since most subs are retired teachers, that the pool of subs from which to pull from will not be as</p>
7/21/2020 13:31:17	Lindsay	Jervis	Parent of a 3rd grader at	Wichita	
7/21/2020 13:31:18	Erin	Hatton		Lawrence	Please uphold the Governors plan for reopening schools. I have two children in high school and I am concerned about kids becoming infected with COVID-19 and bringing it home to their families.
7/21/2020 13:31:20	Jamie	Lingner	Spring Hill Middle scho	Paola	Our kids mental health is far more important that the recent covid numbers. We just keep our heads on straight and get our kids back to school.
7/21/2020 13:31:23	Madellaine	Grifgin		Lawrence,Kansas	I would prefer on-line classes at least for the 1st semester.
7/21/2020 13:31:24	Makele	Goering		Pretty Prairie	Open schools on time. And no mask mandate.
7/21/2020 13:31:28	Karen	Pendlay	None	Emporia	Leave the politics out of this!!!! Do what is best for the health of ALL staff and students who will be returning to our school buildings. I beg you to act like responsible adults, regardless of which political party you are affiliated with. How sad is it that you have to be reminded to act like adults and do the right thing???
7/21/2020 13:31:33	Melissa	White	My home	Wichita	I sincerely hope that our entire KS State BOE takes a long hard look at all the data and rightly decides to allow schools to open in August as planned. I also hope that the BOE sees reason and understands that all day mask wearing and other excessive "precautions" are unnecessary and even detrimental for our children.
7/21/2020 13:31:53	Lauren	Misse		Gardner	I agree with the order.
7/21/2020 13:31:54	Ginny	Kiser		Emporia	Please keep teachers and support staff in mind! School never used to start till after Labor Day so what is the big deal. All safety precautions need to be mandatory!!
7/21/2020 13:32:04	Taryn	Gervais	Blue Valley Schools	Olathe	Please support the executive order to delay the start of schools. As a BOE, I would hope you are making data-driven decisions, just as we do when creating curriculum and learning environments that best support our students. The data is there; it is unsafe to return to school. Please lead our students by example by making an informed data-driven decision. It is the right thing to do. Protect our students, and school staff.
7/21/2020 13:32:04	Susan	Rollins		Jackson county	yes
7/21/2020 13:32:08	Carmen	Trease	None	Derby	Governor should not determine what people are allowed to do with private education.

7/21/2020 13:32:17	Kelli	Netson		Wichita	Please uphold the order and delay the start of schools, especially those in high population, high infection rate locations. Please consult with and heed the advice of medical professionals. Please understand that the economic repercussions will only be prolonged if we don't get this under control. We will be dealing with the cognitive, developmental, and emotional fallout of this pandemic for years to come and schools will be instrumental in mitigating the effects, but only if they can open up and stay open. Opening now at the height of infection rates will not allow that to happen.
7/21/2020 13:32:22	Megan	Whiteley		Lenexa	Please vote to delay school opening until after Labor Day. In hopes COVID cases are going down by then.
7/21/2020 13:32:23	Kaci	Jamison	Concerned Parent	Clay Center	I dont believe the schools should reopen till January 2021. There are more cases now then in March when we were shut down to begin with. To make kids wear masks for 6 to 8 hours a day is ludicrous. The younger kids will never leave them on that long. They will just turn them into toys. Lets not forget about all our teacher's and staff and bus drivers. They are basically signing their death certificate it's not fair to them. And how are you gonna temp check all those kids everyday? I just ask that you really think about these things before deciding on anything.
7/21/2020 13:32:23	Erin	Grinde	Family household with s	Olathe, KS	-OPEN THE SCHOOLS ON SCHEDULE. With full, on-site curriculum, activities, and teaching staff. The knowledge we have now of this virus is that it's manageable, extremely unlikely to infect or be spread by children, and that 99.9% of healthy individuals who have been infected survive. During the course of a standard seasonal flu season, several thousand children become severely ill. Several thousand of those children may die. Yet we've never shut down schools, instituted mask requirements, distancing measures, or abbreviated classes. -With schools being closed since March 13, 2020, the state and the district have had a FULL FIVE MONTHS to come up with a plan for reopening schools in the fall. In fact, that's all parents have heard from the district and the state: "we're working on a re-entry plan for school opening for fall". So far we've seen no progress. Only a collection of so-called "reasons" backed by so-called "science" that no one can definitively say is even remotely true or effective (it isn't. Practice basic hygiene. Do not foster germaphobia). -Are we now going to get a tax rebate on the teacher salaries, meals, art supplies, books, classroom supplies, and other staffing and operational expenses, that are not going to be used this year? Is the district going to provide all of these materials and support to the parents, in order to facilitate education in a "remote" learning scenario? -Requiring masks for children is ludicrous. There is more potential for all types of viruses and illness to spread with a mask on than without. How is a student expected to concentrate on their school work, participate in class activities, play at recess, or feel any sense of confidence with a mask covering half their face? It's degrading. It's sad, and it's not how our children should be treated. Healthy people, in particular, children, SHOULD NOT WEAR A MASK. It restricts vision, it restricts healthy breathing, it's plain restricting. At the very least, it should be VOLUNTARY. Not required. Those parents who may have more vulnerable children, or who are worried about sending their children back to school need to make arrangements with the school and teachers on an individual basis for their students' schooling. The concerns of a few MUST NOT outweigh what's best for the majority.
7/21/2020 13:32:28	William	Moore		15805 South Kenwood S	I am in favor of the delay. If the situation isn't improved by Labor Day it should be delayed further.
7/21/2020 13:32:35	Robin	Buss	USD340	Grantville	I think a compromise like August 31st would be a great solution. Let teachers have more time at the beginning to figure out cleaning procedures, online learning platforms, new outcomes, etc. I do not want my child going to school in June. If you allow Gov Kelly's proposal to stand please reduce the amount of day or hours students are to be in school. This is ridiculous the number of hours students are in school plus the time they are in a mask now.
7/21/2020 13:32:59	Michelle	Cyphers		Wichita	Please vote to accept the Governor's executive order. Please consider virtual learning for the first nine weeks. I am a parent and a teacher.
7/21/2020 13:33:02	Austin	Smith	Senior Class of 2021	Wetmore	I think if you are planning on delaying the 2020-2021 school year, then you should delay/postpone it completely. This would mean canceling the 2020-2021 school year completely and having students return to school normally for the 2021-2022 school year. Doing this instead of just pushing it back a little will make it so that seniors have a (hopefully) regular senior year, all students will get a proper education, and state and local governments have adequate time to get this pandemic under control so that when students and educators return to campus, they will be at lower risk for contracting the virus.
7/21/2020 13:33:05	Brad	Dawson		Hays	Do what Governor Kelly has mandated.

7/21/2020 13:33:14	Martha	Murchison		Salina	The current COVID infection rate in Kansas is far higher than the preferred less than 5% . We need the extra three weeks of mask wearing to allow that rate to go down. Then, coupled with extra protocols, perhaps some schools will be able to reopen safely-- for students and faculty.
7/21/2020 13:33:17	Rhonda	Francis	Private Kansas Citizen	Olathe	I am a public school teacher in the state of Kansas. I believe we should not delay the opening of school. Governor Kelly is using this issue as a political one and it is harmful to our students. Furthermore, the additional mandate she put in effect today was made with the intent of making it prohibitive to start school- requirement of all students to wear masks 5 and older, requirement of washing hands every hour, requirement of checking temperatures before entering the school buildings each day. These mandates do not even follow the guidelines given by the Kansas State Board of Health's Guidelines for reopening schools published a week ago. CDC data: in the last 6 months, deaths caused by Covid 19 in the age group of 5-14 year olds were 14 people. Only 2% of all Covid cases fall into the age range of 5-24 year olds. 95% of Covid transmissions are between adult to adult. Even the American Association of Pediatrics has strongly urged our country to open schools. We are harming our students by not opening up. Please vote to open our schools on time. Let's follow the data/science and not let Governor Kelly play politics.
7/21/2020 13:33:18	Melissa	Venard	USD483	Plains	I teach in a small rural school where many of our students do not have reliable internet. Many of our clientele suffer significant academic regression any time they are away from the school environment. Our distance learning efforts this spring did not result in successful learning for a vast majority of our students due to lack of stable internet connections and the inability of our parents to help, either due to lack of education or time constraints. I believe that the detriment to the learning of our students far outweighs the risks of returning to brick and mortar school.
7/21/2020 13:33:19	Katie	Roberts	School psychologist	Gardner	I believe the delay is warranted.
7/21/2020 13:33:25	Jessica	Hall	Moundridge	Moundridge	School needs to begin as normal
7/21/2020 13:33:34	Rose	B		Topeka	I believe you should delay the start of school until after Labor Day to better prepare schools and parents for the changes coming this year. Parents are not yet equipped with answers to questions regarding how things will be handled. They cannot make informed decisions whether to send their child to in person school or have them online yet without these answers. I however, do not want the school year to end after Memorial Day. Please keep our schools and children safe while you are making these hard decisions.
7/21/2020 13:33:43	Michelle	Tajchman		Olathe	Numbers are trending upwards. Why would we place hundreds of thousands of students/staff back together in close proximity, only to then release them back into the community where some will inevitably spread this further? And before a National Holiday weekend that congregates many! Data is still mixed when it comes to youth spreading this virus. Possibly the younger students are not as likely to spread, but what about those in grades 6-12? That data isn't as reassuring. We also know that the adults present in our schools can spread the virus, and it is likely will. I just do not understand the rationale for taking that risk, and to further devastate our situation until it is better under control. Parents are scared. Staff is scared. Students are scared. The window of time has significantly narrowed as we all wait for answers! The original start date for staff in my community is only 2 weeks away, and for students the return date is 3 weeks away. As a parent, I do not feel prepared to make a decision. As a school nurse, I do not feel prepared for what is to come, despite spending significant personal time preparing and educating myself on this topic. The added time can be used for educating all stakeholders and ensuring the right processes are in place for the necessary safety of all. If you represent a district that is not highly affected by this virus currently, be grateful, stay safe, and please consider your fellow Kansans when casting your vote. Thank you!
7/21/2020 13:33:43	Trace	Woods	USD 457	Garden City	I believe it is in best interest of everyone involved to delay the start of school to after Labor day for the safety if the students, staff, and families of students and staff. Thus delay would give everyone more time to prepare the proper ways to start school and also to plan out exactly how to attack the virus once it inevitably gets in the school system. Delaying the start would also give us a chance to get ahead of the virus as a state as well.

7/21/2020 13:33:43	Alex	Fender		Anthony	<p>Please uphold the governor's executive order to delay the start of school year 2020-2021. Educators need time to put in place the mandatory precautionary and preventative measures, as well as time for staff professional development related to COVID-19 prevention and remote learning. Educators need to address the recommendations put out by KSDE. Itinerant practices and procedures also need considered and addressed.</p> <p>Prevention and early intervention will be key, as they so often are, to our health and well-being.</p> <p>Additionally, this delay allows us time to review data from other states as they resume school to see what works and to what extent.</p>
7/21/2020 13:33:49	Amy	Deters		Goddard	<p>Please start schools on time. Kids are proven not to be affected by covid and many pediatricians recommend having them in school.</p>
7/21/2020 13:34:13	Julie	Klahr	Holton USD 336	Holton	<p>I hope and pray that all of you on the Kansas State Board of Education, will consider postponing school.</p> <p>Please support Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-58.</p>
7/21/2020 13:34:17	Jennifer	Villarreal	Concerned parent	Hutchinson	<p>As a registered and voting Republican, I have to say I fully support Governor Kelly on delaying the start of school and the mask mandate. I consider myself high risk, as I have moderate asthma that is not easy to control. I have been wearing masks to protect my lungs way before COVID-19 was ever a thing. I continue to do so now more than ever. I have a nursing background and choose to believe the science. I do not believe any of this is an effort of the government trying to control us. I do not believe I am losing any freedoms by wearing a mask. I believe we all have a responsibility to each other to do what we can to mitigate this virus. I appreciate your time and consideration in this matter and encourage you to think of the lives that will be spared in delaying school for a few weeks as we continue to learn more about this virus.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Jennifer L Villarreal</p>
7/21/2020 13:34:26	Meredith	Dickinson		Shawnee	<p>My daughter attends St Thomas Aquinas. They are ready to teach. she is ready to learn. Let them! If daycares can open so can schools. At the very least allow virtual classes. Do not hold the entire state back to accommodate the unprepared schools. Let the schools who have a plan in place move forward.</p>
7/21/2020 13:34:31	Yulia	Sharshel	Parent	Topeka	<p>I understand the need for safety, but our children need to return to school ASAP. Nothing will change in the 2 weeks if school is postponed. At least allow virtual instruction during that time, or just have kids go to school for core classes (reading, math, science etc) for those weeks. We all have masks and can wear them. And please, allow kids to at least continue to hold practices like they have been all summer. Overall, I wish kids could start school as planned, since they had no instruction since end of February and are behind already.</p>
7/21/2020 13:34:36	Kaylee	Harris	Myself as an educator w	Dodge City	<p>Please delay the opening of school. We need more time to prepare for the requirements mandated by the governor. Our district has also canceled our summer school and jumpstart opportunities for incoming kindergarteners and middle schoolers; we need time to figure out how to prepare these students for next year.</p>
7/21/2020 13:34:51	Juanita	wolf	personel	scott city	NO MASKS AT SCHOOL
7/21/2020 13:34:54	Katie	Roberts	School psychologist	Gardner	I believe the delay is warranted.
7/21/2020 13:35:03	Cassandra	Dickerson		Shawnee	I am FOR delaying the 20-21 K-12 School Year until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 13:35:04	Skyler	Johnston	Student	Lawrence	Please postpone school AND sports & activities. If we continue to allow students to participate in sports, travel and gather in large numbers, it contradicts postponing school to curve numbers of Covid.
7/21/2020 13:35:09	Sheri	Bell	Teacher	Lakin	Delay start we have a lot of things to figure out before we open school.
7/21/2020 13:35:11	MELISSA	MOBLEY		Wichita	<p>The governors executive order needs to be stopped. This virus is not going anywhere anytime soon and WE CANNOT LIVE LIKE THIS! Our children cannot grow up like this. They are suffering, the parents are suffering, please stop this madness. All for what? A less than 1% chance of death? Seriously? If that's the case then no one should drive, give birth, or have elective surgeries. I hope you can see the rationale for this type of government overreach is just plain insane. Please open back up our schools asap and if need be offer a remote learning option for the teacher and students who don't want in person. As for the rest of the students...they need school!</p>

7/21/2020 13:35:17	Jo Marie	Bolick		Lawrence	Please delay school and begin virtually on August 8th.
7/21/2020 13:35:26	Sarah	Johnson	Teacher	Wichita	I think delaying will be beneficial so we (teachers) can have more time to prepare for this year and have work time in August. I am in favor of returning back to school and look forward to seeing my students. Thank you!
7/21/2020 13:35:28	Kelsi	Birney	Family Heritage	Russell	As a mother of 6, my kids understand the risks as do I of returning! My kids want to come back and should be able to choose a mask or no mask! Return us back to school for a full 8 hours!
7/21/2020 13:35:29	Rebecca	Stewart		Larned	We need to allow the kids to resume "normal" schedules. This seclusion is detrimental to their mental health. There's always going to be a risk of getting sick. Honestly I wish the schools would refrain from using hand sanitizer and go back to making the kids use soap and water.
7/21/2020 13:35:29	Chris	Owen		Wichita	Please don't play politics with our children's lives. No way is school happening this year. Why pretend otherwise?
7/21/2020 13:35:31	Ryan	Weyrauch		andover	Simply put, I absolutely DO NOT support the governor's TOP DOWN approach of governing. I hope the members of the state board of education veto/deny her overreach and allow for EACH school district to make their own decisions as to what's in the best interest of their district. The scientific data overwhelming concludes COVID19 is not a serious risk to HEALTHY individuals, especially children. Please allow individuals to self-assess and self-govern. The continued failure to address the collateral damage/unintended consequences of fear-based decision making is doing more harm than good. It is time to start facing decisions with facts not societal based fear.
7/21/2020 13:35:34	Ashlee	Swearingen	parent of two Olathe stu	Olathe	Please vote to approve Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-58 to delay the start of school. The Governor has been working closely with the state and local health departments to do what is the safest approach to return our children, teachers, administrators, and staff to the classroom. This control should not be relinquished to each local school board and district as when that has happened with the phased reopening and mask mandates, it has been proven in both cases, those politicians are making choices based on politics, not on medical advice. I do not want the same thing to happen with our schools. Approve the EO to protect everyone in our state. While the numbers in some counties are in the thousands, and others are in the double digits, it's important to remember it is all relative to population. The almost 4,000 positives in Johnson County is 0.7% of the population, but the 90 positives in Ellis County is still 0.3% of their population. And there are no barriers to keep people in low rate counties out of high rate counties, actually, I would anticipate some of those to come to the larger counties like Sedgwick, Johnson, Wyandotte, Douglas, etc to do their back to school shopping and then potentially spreading disease back to their communities. This isn't an urban problem. This is a concern for all counties. Our counties need the additional time to secure PPE for all staff, teachers, and students. They need to time to train their teachers on the more robust online learning platforms that will be needed at times during the school year. Delaying the start gives the entire state the ability to potentially start school in person and do so successfully. Please vote for the safety of the children, teachers, administrators, and staff and not your own personal politics. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:35:36	Robyn	Liebelt	USD 361	Anthony	Without any other answers about the implications to the 1116 hour law I have a hard time supporting the delay in school starting. If there is flexibility to this hour requirement then it may not be so bad to have the extra time. We have endured struggles and can persevere. However, if there is no flexibility to the hour law then there are other things to consider including teacher contract time, family struggles etc.
7/21/2020 13:35:42	Julie	Lane	Frankfort Schools	FRANKFORT	I am a teacher that needs more time to digest and plan using the excellent "Navigating Change" document. We all agree that we want to be back in the classroom. However, I am over fifty and immunocompromised. While cases are low in our rural community, it is more a matter of luck than any true effort to socially distance and wear masks. I see little evidence that the majority of people in our communities bother. Because safety guidelines have unfortunately been politicized, and because I am high risk, I feel the additional time and mandates by the governor will help me feel safer as I return to school. My classroom is small and there are very few teachers, so there are tons of challenges. Therefore any chance for our district to learn how to follow evidence-based practices as much as possible helps me stay healthy where i can stay in the classroom and devote my energy to helping kids.
7/21/2020 13:35:48	Adrienne	Folkerts		Olathe	(In Spring Hill School District) Open our schools as planned! Kids are losing precious education time. Let us resume sports and activities. Give the power back to local school boards. They know our communities the best!



7/21/2020 13:35:54	TAMI	NORRIS		LAWRENCE	Please delay schools & look at hybrid options for the year. Our state is seeing an alarming up tick in positive cases. The inability for students to properly social distance & school activities will only increase the spread of the covid virus.
7/21/2020 13:35:55	Janet	Fogh	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	Good afternoon! Please protect the learning in our schools by allowing us to begin school as normal in August. We will use appropriate COVID precautions and definitely want to keep our school community healthy, but it would be devastating to our school and the academics of our students to have a delayed start. We want to go back to school in a responsible fashion in August. Thank you!
7/21/2020 13:35:56	Jill	Doyle	Doyle Family Farms & H	Jackson County, Kansas	Please support and vote with Governor Kelly on her Executive Order to delay the opening of schools. Please do not make this a political issue when it is a health issue. Following what our Drs, Scientists and Health Officials are recommending is the ONLY way to vote when it comes to keeping the citizens (including our children) of Kansas safe. It is IMPERATIVE that we stop acting as though we know better than those that are far more educated when it comes to public health and safety! Please vote with our Governor! Our children, teachers, elderly, front line workers, hospitals and families in Kansas are depending on that! Thank you!
7/21/2020 13:35:58	Jackie	Claassen		Dover, Kansas	I don't think one size fits all. If a district is ready to start school, let them start. If they need more time, they can delay. Should be up to the individual school district or private school if they are included.
7/21/2020 13:36:01	Kathy	Randolph	Self	Atchison	Please ratify Governor Kelly's decision. A delayed start will benefit all stakeholders.
7/21/2020 13:36:06	Rana	Bentley	parent	Olathe	please uphold Governor's EO to delay school start until after 9/9, and only if we have seen a decline in COVID-19 spread in our community. Keep our students, teachers & families safe.
7/21/2020 13:36:11	Alecia	Frederick	Parent	Auburn	Start school on time.
7/21/2020 13:36:12	Chelsea	Johnson Bagwell	USD 232	Lawrence	Please, please vote yes on the executive order to delay school opening. Districts and teachers need this time to prepare how we're going to provide for our students. We dearly miss them, but do not want to make hasty decisions that may cost hundreds of lives.
7/21/2020 13:36:15	Emily	Jackson		Topeka	I am a teacher with a child in first grade. I hope that delaying school until after Labor Day will help get the rise in COVID-19 cases back under control since masks have been mandated in so many places. Please allow us to stay home and make sure that it's safe before we go back to school. The risks of going back to school prematurely outweigh any potential benefits of school resuming. No one's life is worth sacrificing to start school again. We have a serious pandemic that has needlessly killed so many people, so please remember this is a public health issue and not a political one.
7/21/2020 13:36:16	Tom	Brungardt	Parent of school child	Shawnee	Please do not delay the beginning of school. Vote down Gov. Kelly's delay.
7/21/2020 13:36:19	Jamie	Hibbs	My family	Winfield	I ask that the board vote to delay school to give schools more time to have safety precautions and routines decided. This also allows time for the number of cases to hopefully decrease. I think it is important that the delay be consistent for everyone rather than up to individual districts.
7/21/2020 13:36:22	Courtney	Barnett	KDHE	Topeka	I am so incredibly thankful that I didn't have to make the decision of putting my children in a situation that is unknown or keeping them home. I'd rather be safe when it comes to our children
7/21/2020 13:36:27	Dennis	Burns	The Burns Household	Overland Park	It's time for our children to be back in school and continue growth and development. This can be done safely. Additionally, the "one size fits all" for the entire state of Kansas is ridiculous. Work harder to figure this out!
7/21/2020 13:36:31	Krystal	Kern		Wichita	It's a good idea to put the start of school off for the safety of the children and teachers! We have to many grandparents taking care of little ones to spread covid 19 to them!
7/21/2020 13:36:31	Jennifer	Stroup		Olathe	I encourage you to please allow schools to open for in person learning. Our children have been without proper education since March 2020. Our children have a right to a quality education that provides structure and support. If other entities in our state that serve children (ie: daycare's, summer camps, residential facilities) have been able to remain open without large outbreaks then schools can also. With the safety recommendations being required it should be an option to have in person learning. I think many districts have developed a plan to allow parents to elect for in person or virtual learning. Let the parents decide what is best for their families rather than a one size fits all model. Please allow schools to open for in person learning.

7/21/2020 13:36:32	Cathy	Smith		Lawrence Ks	I support governor Kelly's order to delay school. Something I would like you to consider is how important grandparents are to children. Once they go back into the actual school building we will no longer be able to spend time with them. We are just as important to our grandchildren as anything. They need us! The delay would help schools better prepare to make sure the kids are safe. They can always catch up but losing a grandparent or without being able to see grandparents can never be made up. That time is valuable and the greatest gift a child will ever receive! Please allow remote learning once school is in session! Life is so short to rush into things that are unknown. None of us have a clue how it will turn out once kids are back in the actual school building and any life lost is not worth any risk. Think how a child would feel knowing they passed COVID to a parent or grandparent that passed away from it. They would never get over that! There is a great possibility of that happening so...please follow governor Kelly's order to delay school.
7/21/2020 13:36:36	Deb	Johnson		El Dorado	The delayed start hurts the disenfranchised students who come from dysfunctional homes. They have been out of school for a long time. Public schools are supposed to be the great equalizer. Private schools and possibly home schools are also being harmed by this governmental overreach.
7/21/2020 13:36:39	Nancy	Minster		Overland Park	Please do all you can to ensure graduation can occur- spring semester more important than fall
7/21/2020 13:36:40	Courtney	Roberts		Shawnee	No - keep the decision at the district level
7/21/2020 13:36:41	benjamin	miller	youth sports	lawrence	do not take away youth sports. allow kids to get back to practicing and playing sports. mental health is way more valuable than possibly getting a fever and a cough ! please do not take away youth sports open up all gyms and allow people to make their own decisions about what it takes to be healthy
7/21/2020 13:36:46	Krysti	Bergkamp	USD 444	Marquette	Please allow the kids to go back to school with the option for online learning. Please do not mandate kids or teachers to wear masks 8 hours a day. The virus is spreading with masks in place in every country and every county.
7/21/2020 13:37:00	Deborah	Bass		Lenexa	I support Governor Kelly. Teachers and parents have been given no time to prepare and consider what options we have. School districts have not provided any clear guidance as to what opening plans are, only hypothetical scenarios. Three weeks makes a difference for me to best plan for my career and family.
7/21/2020 13:37:01	Michelle	Hooper	Kids in desoto district	MTMS MVHS	Send our kids back to school!!!!
7/21/2020 13:37:01	Hazel	Morlan	USD 480	Liberal	I think that all schools should go exclusively online. My family has been affected by Covid 19. My 11 year old daughter has tested positive as well have other people in my family. I do not want my daughter to attend traditional school in a building for the fear of her getting it again and for the fear of it spreading more. In my opinion if school is going to be delayed until after labor day it should all be online .
7/21/2020 13:37:03	Elizabeth	Mak		Prairie Village	In accordance with the American Academy of Pediatrics, and locally, Children's Mercy Hospital, I agree that kids need to be back in school asap. I find it quite unbelievable that adults have all options open to them, while kids suffer. Adults are eating out, going to get their nails done. Exercising. Kids can't even join a school group sporting team for exercise, but adults are unlimited. School for kids is an essential service. If the government is going to mandate closing, it should be closing nail and hair salons, gyms, restaurants, bars etc so that kids can be in school to learn. So kids can get away from child abuse in the home. Kids can have the school services they need. I think government should step back and listen to the doctors and scientists that are experts on KIDS. I'm tired of hearing politicians presume to know better than doctors what our kids need. It's about time people with more creativity get involved in solving these problems. There are more ways to keep kids safe than shutting down their whole world. Adults speak up loudly when their world shuts down, so now it's reopened. Who's listening to the kids, or speaking up for them. Even the Governor needs to put aside politics and find a better way to problem solve.
7/21/2020 13:37:20	Kevin	Norfleet	Self	Wichita Kansas	I am for the executive order. This will ensure the safety of families throughout the state.
7/21/2020 13:37:26	Patty	Wilson		Salina	Please open schools with no masks required for the sake of the children!
7/21/2020 13:37:27	Cherie	Leader		Holcomb	Students and staff need to get back to school! The children are missing out on very important instruction and we must meet their social emotional needs!!! I want to get back to my students!!!
7/21/2020 13:37:28	Julie	Slaubaugh	Sacred Heart Grade School	Hays	We are a small private school K-6 with the advantage of having small class sizes where social distancing, extra sanitizing, and temperature checks can be done to keep students and staff safe. I feel that because of the low student numbers and spacing in rooms we would be able to implement adequate guidelines to successfully start school August 18th.

7/21/2020 13:37:36	Thomas	Jackson	USD 418	Mcperson	Schools should be open and activities should continue. Some of these kids only chance to leave their homes for better roads is the grades they will get with a teachers help and the coaching they will get that can help them get scholarships. If you close schools and shut down activities you are continuing to hurt our most fragile students, the ones who have less money and less opportunity. Stop being scared of something that is being so overhyped. Give choice or open fully.
7/21/2020 13:37:44	Richard	Plamann		Topeka	I do not believe it wise to open our public schools for in person attendance. Cases of Covid are still increasing. I don't believe it is currently possible to protect the students, staff and teachers from Covid exposure. There is really no way to organize protection within the crowded classrooms and hallways of our schools. I believe that opening schools anytime soon will create super spreader environments within each open school. This will in turn spread Covid outside the schools to families, friends etc. Long story short, opening schools is not safe for the educational community (students, teachers and staff) and it is not safe for the community at large.
7/21/2020 13:37:46	Laurel	Navinsky		Washington, Ks	Thank you Governor for delaying the opening of school. Teachers, Paras, lunch ladies, bus drivers, custodians and secretaries are all at risk.
7/21/2020 13:37:54	Laura	Phillips		Lawrence	I'm writing to urge you to uphold the Governor's request to delay school openings until after Labor Day. I'm very concerned about community spread of Covid 19 when so many students are gathered back in schools. And although the children may not be particularly susceptible to catching the virus, the adults who work in the schools will be at risk for catching and passing on the virus. Giving the school administrators several extra weeks to prepare will greatly mitigate this risk. I've been very pleased to be able to start shopping locally again with the mask mandate in place, but if the schools are allowed to open too early I'll feel compelled to go back to online ordering. This is not good for our many small businesses and restaurants. Please look at the big picture and protect our state. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:38:10	Nicole	Pagoyo	parent of 2 students	Wichita	I support the delay of in-class school. The difficulty of getting a COVID-19 test in the community setting and the long wait for results puts working parents in a situation where they have to take long periods off to stay home with kids whenever they are potentially exposed. Unless the schools will be providing tests on-site and results can be received within a couple of days it makes it incredibly hard for us to manage work schedules and childcare.
7/21/2020 13:38:10	Cara	Cramer	My Children	Healy, KS	Kids need school and activities. Let there be normal start time and activities. No mask or at least leave it up to the school districts. Our rural districts are not metro.
7/21/2020 13:38:11	Micah	Koksal	USD 216	Garden City, KS	Please uphold the Governor's mandate. We must protect our teachers & staff so they can go to work with a shred of confidence. In order to educate our children, we must keep them & their teachers safe. Please do what is best for our health & safety.
7/21/2020 13:38:19	Erich	Singer		Topeka	My wife and I are both teachers. We have 2 children in elementary school. We believe that education is an essential service. We and our children are ready to return to school in person full time. The schools and KSDE have prepared comprehensive safety plans. We feel safe and prepared to return to school with our children in early August. If we must wait until September, we will accept this reality. However, we feel strongly that a commitment must be made to an in person full time option for parents and students. Thank you for all of your work this summer.
7/21/2020 13:38:26	DaNae	Yarnell		Wamego	I agree with the governor's decision to postpone. I think this will allow teachers to prep more thoroughly with whatever decisions are made. I also would like to request that IF a hybrid model is selected that siblings schedules are taken into consideration and are allowed to attend schools on the same days. I have two elementary students one at west and one at central. It would be huge burden to plan and over see their supervision and education and to maintain job responsibilities.
7/21/2020 13:38:27	Patty	Donaldson		El Prado	Starting school in the mist of a pandemic which is spiraling out of control is putting the "cart in front of the horse". First admit America Screwed up, shut down again to get the virus under control via CDC guidelines. Then and only then put a keen focus on reopening schools safely.
7/21/2020 13:38:46	Stacy	Greenwood	USD437	Live in Lawrence; work	I believe the board needs to support the governor's decision to delay schools opening until after Labor Day to keep students and staff as safe as possible during this difficult time. As a school psychologist, I do worry about the effects of being out of school this long. However, even being in the buildings will not be the same due to the virus and will have lasting traumatic effects when someone gets sick and/or dies.

7/21/2020 13:38:55	Kara	Bunce		Buhler	As a parent and a teacher I'm in full support of the delayed opening of schools. I feel like districts need more time to think through all things big and small before we return.
7/21/2020 13:38:58	Dawn	Tomokins	Heritage Christian Scho	Topeka	I feel that school boards should make the decision for their stakeholders. Some districts and private schools can manage this virus different than a large district.
7/21/2020 13:39:03	Janaye	Shaffer	USD232	Shawnee	Let's get kids back to school! Even if it has to be 50% occupancy.
7/21/2020 13:39:04	Carrie	Mullies	Spring Hill parent & Ola	Olathe	Please uphold the Governor's executive order. As a parent, I am very concerned that Spring Hill has very little in place for remote learning (per their recent board meeting) and that they do not have any PD scheduled for teachers to prepare for the Covid adjustments (cleaning, distancing, room prep). This extra time will allow them to prepare their classrooms and figure out how to modify their classroom plans for non-contact. (Because we are used to teaching up close - not 6 feet apart)  As an Olathe employee I am begging you for time to prepare. We have been told that the district does not have enough PPE for all staff. We still have not been provided with a draft opening plan. All we have is how to prepare online lessons. Your teachers are afraid to return but we want to be there with our students. Please give the individual buildings time to prepare. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 13:39:08	Mara	Olson	Schools and kids everyw	Frankfort	It is not good for anyone to wear masks all day. Even nurses and doctors don't do it unless they are doing procedures or have patients. This was like this even before. This governor is out of control and needs to go back to New York. I don't really have an issue with starting after labor day because that's what we did when I was a kid and it would save every district money for their AC bills. We also got out in May, same as now. I'm pretty sure we were smarter because this dumbed down version of school our kids get now is ridiculous. Never in history have we acted the way we are now for a virus that has a lower death rate than influenza, which is proven to affect kids more than this covid 19 virus does. There will be lots of parents that choose to homeschool their kids just for the safety of having to wear a mask all day. And if they can't are they going to be punished or shamed? That alone is worth teaching them yourself. Fear is a funny thing and it takes more courage to speak out against it than to say nothing. I urge you to speak up and do the courageous thing and quit making decisions based on fear. If our country behaved like we are now years ago, we wouldn't even have a country.
7/21/2020 13:39:10	Ellen	Edgar		Kansas City (KS)	I am in full support of delaying the start of the school year as long as possible.
7/21/2020 13:39:24	Laureb	Worley	Olathe school district ce	Olathe	Please follow governor's order to postpone until Labor Day then proceed with protections in place for students and teachers
7/21/2020 13:39:24	Amanda	Davis		Lawrence	Please abide by Governor Kelly's Executive Order and require schools to delay their in-person start until after Labor Day. The right thing to do would be to require that all schools start with a modified virtual learning experience, state-wide, with exceptions for students with IEPs who need in-person, safe, socially distanced, masked, instruction until there is a vaccine or until other steps are taken by our state and federal government to mitigate the havoc that COVID-19 has reaped on our state and this country, as a whole.  Blatantly ignoring health officials' recommendations will only result in the unnecessary deaths of children, their family members, and our cherished educators. Please do the right thing and put the health and safety of our communities first.
7/21/2020 13:39:24	Mel	Perry	parent	Lawrence	Thank you!
7/21/2020 13:39:37	Mel	Perry	parent	Lawrence	Please uphold the governor's order
7/21/2020 13:39:38	Amber	Phillimore	My son goes to Wamego	Wamego	I encourage you to open schools with proper precautions. My son will be a Junior and he needs to be back in school. The online learning last semester was a joke. My sons mental health is suffering. He is not around his friends and he desperately needs some sense of normalcy. He is suffering and not going to school will be detrimental to his health and to his overall education. Please open schools back up!
7/21/2020 13:39:40	Rebecca	Bo kelman		Bucyrus	please approve the executive order delaying school

7/21/2020 13:39:49	Alison	Miller	KCKPS	Platte City, MO	Now is the time to band together. I read two days ago that all but three counties in KS have covid transmission. That figure is bound to rise without statewide mitigation strategies. While we all think about our own communities, Governor Laura Kelly is looking at the entire state as one entity. In this case, I am in agreement. I live in a different community than where I work, as do many people. Many people work in different districts than where their families live and where their children attend schools. What happens in one school district most certainly influences what happens in another district. If the state acts as one and delays the start of school, we will all be in a much better position to move forward into the school year. We will have more time to train for student needs and safety techniques in these times of high covid spread.
7/21/2020 13:39:52	Andrea	Seaton		Cimarron	While I understand the fear and uncertainty of bringing a large group of students together for school everyday during this threat. I have to believe it would be far less damaging to our economy and family lives then if we choose to continue living in fear. My husband and I have had the virus and while it was not a pleasant experience it almost replicated the flu for me and my husband actually only lost his sense of taste and smell. I understand in full capacity that others are not so lucky and it can be deadly; however, so can the flu, but we've never been crippled by fear of the flu and many people I know do not even bother receiving a flu vaccination so we can't use the vaccine as an excuse. Fear can be just as crippling as well. The effects of our decisions today on education will impact us for MANY years down the road. My mother is in education and I've seen first hand the type of emotional impact she has on her students. We often times forget about the child who looks forward to the new school year because it means a hot lunch, listening ears, friendly hugs and smiles, and structure. It's heartbreaking to think how disruptive this virus has been to so many children AND adults emotional well being. At what point is enough, enough? I don't recall the shutdown being implemented for the sake of ridding the virus in its entirety, but instead to slow the spread which I believe we have achieved to the extent necessary to continue our daily lives. We are now more equipped, we've learned more about how to recognize its symptoms and treat patients. We have to move forward as a nation. The longer we wait the harder it will be to ever return to some sense of normal. As a Christian, I know we weren't created to be in control. We don't have the capacity to have all of the answers, we have to trust. We're told that God knows the very number of hairs on our head!!! He's in control, we need not fear! We have the opportunity to demonstrate to others that in God we DO trust. I'm in favor of starting back to school and unfortunately this virus will show its ugly face, but it's going to sooner or later no matter how much we try to hide! Let's not continue going down this slippery slope to a new disaster.
7/21/2020 13:39:54	Theresa	McDowell	Goddard schools	Wichita	Please delay the opening and recommend online school where multiple cases of Covid is present. Support the governors order.
7/21/2020 13:40:04	Amanda	Church	USD 411 - Goessel Sch	1061 30th Ave, Canton,	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's executive order to delay school until after Labor Day. I believe this will allow schools the time needed to adequately prepare for children to return. I'm concerned not only for my children, but for all the teachers, staff, and other students. Both of my children are medically complex. One has a brain tumor & one has severe GI & pulmonary issues requiring a feeding tube & regular visits to Boston Children's Hospital. Should either of my children get CoVid, they will likely die due to their medical issues. Yes, I could homeschool them; however, they need socialization just like you & I. Please consider upholding Gov. Kelly's executive order for the sake of all the children, teachers, & staff that are at risk. Thank you for your kind consideration. Amanda Church
7/21/2020 13:40:04	Adria	Kasel	USD 361 Chaparral Sch	Attica	I am a teacher who has two children under the age of 8, both in school. I for one would like to see a sanitation station as soon as kids walk in and mandatory mask for all students when they are closer than 5 feet apart. I have trained my 3 year old and it is possible for her to wear one for two hours without complaining. I want to keep them safe.

7/21/2020 13:40:06	Brad	Willems	Wallace County HS Foo	Sharon Springs	Going to start real simple, 1 size does not fit all! The kids need to get back to not only school but also sports! We have been averaging close to 60 kids each morning in shifts for weights and our county still has ZERO cases. We take the common sense approach-wash hands, wipe down after yourself, cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough and if you are sick we stay home! We also don't share water bottles. The kids want to be around each other, they need to be around each other, my kids do love to work hard but the biggest reason they are coming in is because they need the social aspect of it! We already have gotten behind in school and stole there spring semester and sports form them, we cannot let them get any farther behind then they already are! I understand that this is a virus that can cause problems and I am no doctor, but there are so many other things that I am more scared of for these kids then this virus. Mental Health, Social Health, Physical Health and are they even getting food every day! School and sports do so much more then teach them to read and write! Life isn't just about reading and writing, yes they are super important. But this is why online classes don't work for K-12, because of the Social interactive they get being around people! I come back to my first statement, 1 size does not fit all! Just like a text message doesn't give off the personality of the person sending it, some thing are better in person, meant to be in person! I have elderly parents who live in a different area then we do and yes I am worried about them, but its not because of them its because of the people around them.(Common Sense has seemed to have left the building) Kids need to be in school and sports to learn those life lessons so they have the ability to battle and compete in this world! Life is not easy, it is our job to prepare them for it! And it is really hard to do that when they are not in the school! Kids want to be held accountable and held to a higher standard, again it is real hard to do that when you are trying to teach them online. It is real hard to do that without school and sports! I truly believe if we don't get them back to school and sports we are failing them! That means we are failing at our jobs and the last time I looked if you fail you shouldn't have a job! Again, 1 size does not fit all! I am only speaking about our situation here. I understand it might be different else where, but I still truly believe the kids need to be in school and sports! When I say sports, I mean all extra curricular activities. Scholars bowl, forensics the play-whatever it may be, these kids got to get back to it, they need to get back to it! We owe it to them! Thanks for listening to me and thank you for all you do! Brad Willems
7/21/2020 13:40:23	Shelly	Maldonado		Wichita	Start school in August. Our kids need the support, consistency and education! Their mental and physical health needs are being ignored and they are suffering greatly! We need school.
7/21/2020 13:40:26	Cheri	Haskett	Skyline	Pratt	If masks are required, delay. If not, then let these kids go to school.
7/21/2020 13:40:39	Christina	Lewis	Teacher	Lenexa	As a teacher I feel that school should open as usual. I value my students and will do everything to keep them safe, but delaying school by 3 weeks is not going to make this virus go away. We stay in school during flu season and I see half my class out a week at a time to recover from the flu. Unfortunately this pandemic has become political and I don't feel that many of our leaders are doing what is best for the people, they have their own political agendas.
7/21/2020 13:40:40	Amanda	Gayton	Mother of children	Derby	I think this is an overreach of power and that fact that you are mandating masks and all these rules, when the truth is coming out about the cdc falsifying hundreds of thousands of positives and deaths, when in actuality we don't even qualify for pandemic status anymore is just mind blowing on how stupid you think the people of this state is. THIS WILL NOT BE THE NEW NORMAL! It's time for things to go back to how they used to be and for Laura Kelley to be thrown out of office! My children will not participate in this stupidity and if I have to I will do everything in my power to make sure things go back to how they were and that these people get relieved of their positions in office. NO MORE SCHOOL RESTRICTIONS! OPEN EVERYTHING BACK UP!
7/21/2020 13:40:54	Ryan	Flurry	Parent of elementary stu	Prairie Village	We need to follow the recommendations of KDHE regarding delaying the school start until mitigation measures have had time to demonstrate a drop in case counts. This would provide for the least tumultuous school experience for students.

7/21/2020 13:40:54	Karen	Hay	Special Education teach	Topeka	I support school being delayed. I am very afraid of the domino effect of anyone to include myself getting or being in contact with someone who has COVI-19. Although I am single and an only child, I am the ONLY person that my parents have for any support or emergency. I am extremely afraid of being in school with 1,800 + students and then coming home to check on my parents or give my mom relief from taking care of my dad who is completely bedridden. I am very concerned that districts as a whole are not going to be able to supply enough sanitizer, soap, masks, shields, and keep up with deep cleaning scheduled. What about subs for teachers? The list is endless of what if's.
7/21/2020 13:40:55	Jamie	Schnee	USD 383 Manhattan Hig	Manhattan	PLEASE push the reopening date back to September. This will give schools and families a few more weeks to prepare, and the bigger schools a few weeks to figure out how we can SAFELY make this work. The numbers in Manhattan keep rising, and I do not feel comfortable as an educator throwing my high-risk special education students in a classroom as it is now. Plus, staff can have the opportunity for more trainings and preparedness for in-person and/or online instruction, along with safety trainings. Please consider the health of the most at-risk population!
7/21/2020 13:40:55	Jessica	Dempewolf		Colby	Please, let our kids get back to school as soon as possible! We need our teachers and staff to help our kids face to face! They have been out of school since March and need to get back to a normal routine and schedule. Thank you! I don't know what can be done about masks but, my daughters are 4 and 6 and really are still learning speech. How to sound out letters. How to read. A mask hinders their learning ability. They need to see their teachers mouths to properly learn these sounds and words. Again, thank you for hearing parents opinions.
7/21/2020 13:40:59	Rebekah	Ohlde	Daycare provider/parent	Salina	As a parent I believe my kids need to be back in the classroom. I believe all the staff, teachers, administrators are doing their best to keep our kids safe. I feel our kids need to be back in school for the academic portion as much as for the social emotional and the well being of their mental health.  As a daycare provider, having the older kids in care during the school year brings a new set of challenges. Trying to help 'school' the school age and take care of the younger children can be quite challenging. On top of doing our best to keep the facility/home clean and sanitized.  I know there are many sides to this decision and many concerns I may not be dealing with personally but I believe going back to school on time is what's best for my kids!
7/21/2020 13:41:08	Michelle	Narayan		Lenexa	Please consider a hybrid option to begin the school year. I am concerned about preparedness to address health of students, teacher and staff. I believe the students need in-person teaching instruction along with virtual learning. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:41:10	Sherris	Bellamy		Overland Park	I support Governor Kelly's order to delay school opening until September 9
7/21/2020 13:41:14	Stacey	Hargrave		Abilene	The kids need to get back some type of normal. Let school start as originally scheduled in August. Starting after Labor Day will not slow COVID down, it just once again keeps the kids from having something to look forward to.
7/21/2020 13:41:28	Kristin	Crowder		Olathe	Please let kids return to school in August giving the option to both families and teachers to opt for virtual learning if they choose not to attend in classrooms. Students need to be back to school and classroom settings for their wellbeing, mental health and to receive services and materials that are just not possible for at home learning. If studies show that transmission from children is low then I feel sending them back would be are best and smartest decision.
7/21/2020 13:41:30	Lisa	Wingfield	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	I work with Early Childhood special education students as a Speech-Language Pathologist. I do not believe that I can safely provide therapy for my students in a face to face setting. I provide all of my therapy in the special education classroom in a group setting. We will not be able to social distance--many times the children need assistance getting in and out of a chair or hand over hand assistance when cutting or drawing. They cannot yet cover a sneeze or cough. I regularly wipe noses, assist with hand washing and potty-training and/or diapering. Although I can wear a mask, the children will not be able to see my mouth/face as I am teaching how to articulate sounds or interpret facial expressions. It is not safe to return to school at this time.

7/21/2020 13:41:39	Tara	Thacker		Topeka	Please vote in support of Laura Kelly's executive order to delay the start of K-12 schools in Kansas. With COVID-19 cases on the rise in Kansas, this is not an appropriate time for students and teachers to return back to schools. As a teacher myself, I fear for my community, my students, my family, and myself if we return to school too soon. One death that results from the reopening of schools is too many. I dread the possibility that this may impact me and my school community. Even with social distancing measures and mask-wearing, the lack of open space and the huge number of students and staff that will occupy the building each day will ensure that schools become hotbeds for the spread of this virus. Please support delaying the start of school!
7/21/2020 13:41:43	Karen	Unruh	USD 411 and USD 418	Rural Goessel in McPhe	I support Governor Kelly's order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. Our area of the state is experiencing a spike in COVID positive cases, and it would be extremely dangerous and irresponsible to send students and teachers back to school. This is not a "normal" time, and we need to heed the scientist's and health professional's advice. The extra weeks will allow schools to adequately prepare for a safer learning environment during the pandemic. PLEASE VOTE IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR KELLY.
7/21/2020 13:41:47	Brad	Burrow	Parent	Overland Park	While we truly appreciate the concern our leadership has for the spread of the Coronavirus, we also understand that there has to be a weighing of the costs associated with keeping our children apart as they attempt to learn. While most teachers did their best to accommodate the distance learning nightmare they were thrust into, most will acknowledge that they were ineffective and mostly irrelevant to the potential grow of their students. When you weigh the potential protections of staying isolated versus the loss of community, learning and growth our students continue to experience it is very clear that we must go back to school on time. When you look at the risk of spreading the virus, it becoming clearer everyday that it continues to decrease as we learn more. This age group is simply not at risk like other age groups. I would advocate that any teachers that don't feel comfortable or are in the higher risk categories should be able to stay at home or have accommodations made for them. Everyone else should be allowed to meet and interact – LEARN! Additionally, the government or Governor really doesn't have the authority to do what they are doing. Save your tax payers some money by keeping us out of frivolous lawsuits that will surely be coming. GO BACK TO SCHOOL!
7/21/2020 13:41:49	Audra	Relph	My family	Bel Aire, ks	Please open schools as scheduled. All the teachers and staff have been preparing all summer, they are ready! We met with our principal last week, and she laid out their plans. Also, masks for kids in the classroom is ridiculous. Pediatricians have said so continually and evidence from Europe proves they aren't needed for the kids. If you are truly concerned, at least allow virtual/online schooling. Delaying the start of the year will online cause more issues and chaos later
7/21/2020 13:41:49	Grace	Tan		Overland park	Would like to start with online schooling on Aug 13, and when it's safe enough to go back to school then will take in person class. But please don't wait after labor day to start school.
7/21/2020 13:41:52	No	Swander	Parent	Hays	No!
7/21/2020 13:42:02	Jackie	Hays	South Central Kansas Sp	Wichita	I encourage you to think of the safety and health of Kansas students and staff. This is not and should not be a political issue. With the high COVID numbers in the state, it's confusing to me why we're trying to rush hundreds of people back into buildings for 8 hours per day. However, given these extra few weeks, staff will have more time to review state guidelines and implement a local plan to help ensure the safest possible return. Everyone wants to be back in schools, we just need to be smart about opening back up. Please consider what you are asking staff to do by sending them back to school. At least give us the opportunity and time to prepare. The hours can and will be made up throughout the year, or at the end of the school year if needed. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:42:03	Suzanne	Wolcott	Self	McPherson	I am in favor of the delay. I hope it gives schools the opportunity to work on a more comprehensive safety plan. These are difficult times and I support Gov. Kelly's ongoing efforts to help our communities and children stay safe.



7/21/2020 13:42:04	Alicia christi	Carter jarrett		Topeka lawrence	I feel like the kids should be in school as soon as possible and as much as possible. I feel like if you give an option of online learning, then those that who prefer that, will do that. I don't think kids should be required to wear a mask all day. Only when in hallways or in tight spaces like in the main office etc.. I feel like the virus isn't as much of a threat as it is to take away their independence, hands-On learning, social learning and interaction and all the other benefits a kid would receive by being in school. Thanks!
7/21/2020 13:42:06	Harold	Brandt III		Lawrence	I support the governor in her decision. I do not believe based on scientific findings from our nation's top health institution as well as local health experts that opening schools at all is wise. People are generous and ingenious, we can find a way to educate our children and maintain livelihood without risk to our children and communities. Educating our children is not worth the risk of injury or death
7/21/2020 13:42:34	Doretta	Braden	Myself	Topeka	Please support Gov Kelly's order to delay the start of school. We must get the covid19 numbers tending down before sending out kids, teachers and staff into the school buildings.
7/21/2020 13:42:34	Kelly	Murray	Kansas City Christian	Overland Park	All schools don't fit the same shoe size and our school is unique in how they manage cleanliness and social distancing. I met with my Primary Care doctor this morning and I don't trust or believe the number of cases or cases of death caused by COVID-19. Facilities are encouraged to be unethical for the sake of money and politics. COVID is real, but the numbers are not accurate and untruthful. Please don't make our children suffer by requiring them to learn On-Line without the guidance of the teachers and much needed socializing with their peers. Depression and isolation among our children is not healthy. Please consider allowing private schools the choice to open with the proper protocol for safety.
7/21/2020 13:42:35	Kristin	Griffith	Usd 497	Lawrence	Allow school athletes to continue practicing prior to sept 8 2020
7/21/2020 13:42:35	Ashley	Hiatt		Overland Park	I agree with delaying school closures until rates of Covid 19 are decreasing, not rising and public health officials deem it safe for schools to open for children and employees.
7/21/2020 13:42:36	Nikki	Schnepf	Parent	Shawnee, KS DeSoto Sc	Do NOT delay the school year! Our kids need to be in school for academic, mental and social reasons. We cannot live in fear of what "might" happen. Please allow our kids to attend school with their teachers and peers!
7/21/2020 13:42:38	Jan	Johnson		Manhattan	Please accept governor Kelly's mandate. We are in a town with 20,000 students returning in august. If we start school at the same time, we'll be shut down within a week Please
7/21/2020 13:42:41	Rosemary	Long		LaCygne	Do not delay the start of schools. Do not cave to a governor who is trying to get back at the legislature for reigning in her power trip. Kids and teachers will be fine. The governor has no basis in science for delaying schools. She talks about positive cases ( some are repeat tests on a single person, and some are simply probable positive), but never mentions the negative tests. She is also tight lipped with the demographics of the deaths. Out of the 318 deaths we do know (by Lee Norman) there have been 117 in the nursing homes. I'm sure this number is higher by now. In all these months the elderly who have been masked and sequestered away have been hit hard. Physically covid has taken some but the emotional side has, I'm sure, taken others through heartbreak. Physically our children have seen minimal problems with covid, but What about going hungry? We have spent so much time putting programs to help children with food; how did this become so unimportant so quickly? Emotionally these children need interaction with their peers so they can become productive members of society; not people who are afraid of their own shadow. So much more is involved with teaching than 2+2=4. I wish I could better convey how important it is to get kids back to school, and not bow to a vindictive governor. Thank you.

					<p>Considering the nature of a pandemic and assuming a desire to mitigate the spread of a virus with no vaccine, it seems prudent to hesitate to fully open schools for traditional learning in August as planned.</p> <p>Alternative options have been suggested: all virtual learning and a hybrid model. These strategies will allow us to hopefully transition to full classroom attendance later this academic year.</p> <p>These alternative methods of delivering education to students are a boon; without current technology, we would be looking at suspending school altogether as the only option to deal with a pandemic. Thankfully, we have options.</p> <p>But these new methods need to be consistent. They need to be rigorous. Teachers provide lessons, lectures, activities, and insight for their students, and teachers also monitor students as they engage that information individually, in groups, and as a class. When students are not physically in a classroom with their teacher, the teacher's ability to monitor their progress day to day, minute by minute, is not only hampered, but entirely removed. Emphasis will have to be on teachers providing quality instruction and resources for their students, while students and their caretakers will be responsible for ensuring appropriate time is dedicated to learning.</p> <p>Everyone needs time to solidify strategies to use during this experience. Teachers have to retool their approach for multiple modes of teaching, and be prepared to alternate between modes as the pandemic proceeds.</p> <p>Delaying the start date for this academic year will give teachers time to develop these strategies and systems for their "classroom." It will give school administrations time to ensure safe procedures when students are in the building and to ensure teachers are consistent in their expectations of student achievement. It will give families time to adjust and prepare for a vastly different role in their own/their children's education.</p> <p>The governor's order is the most reasonable, most compromising measure I have seen from an authority during this debate. If we don't want things to crash and burn during this pandemic, we must be prepared and we must have everyone on the same page. Hopefully that page says something more eloquent, compassionate, and specific than</p>
7/21/2020 13:42:46	James	Henry	USD 501 teacher	Topeka	
7/21/2020 13:42:47	Page	Pound	kindergarten teacher/ m	Towanda, Kansas	I want what is best for my children as well as my students. I feel that if we return to school as scheduled in August we will be sending them to an prison like institution based on the guidelines of the CDC. I want my children and my students to participate in school that resembles that of what school is supposed to be rather than the institution like environment.
7/21/2020 13:42:48	Jody	Mason		Overland Park	As a parent and school librarian I support Governor Kelly's order to delay school's opening until after Labor Day. Please allow time for our district to unpack and implement all measures outlined by the state. Do not gamble with student or staff lives by rushing in prematurely.
7/21/2020 13:43:04	Kristin	Williams		Goddard	Delay school, keep kids and staff safe
7/21/2020 13:43:15	Audra	Stiles	Blue Valley SD	Overland Park	Please focus on distance learning. Do not put parents, teachers and kids even further behind by continuing to delay the start of school. Come up with a plan that can work from home.
7/21/2020 13:43:25	Taylor	Holland	Usd 204	Basehor	Please vote to delay the opening of schools. Teachers and their families deserve to work in a safe environment. As a teacher with underlying health conditions and two children with severe asthma, I fear from my family's safety if schools reopened before it is truly safe to do so.
7/21/2020 13:43:36	Sandy	Ernst	SMSD	Lenexa	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day. This will allow districts and staff ample time to make classroom and school modifications to ensure student and staff health and safety precautions are in place.
7/21/2020 13:43:38	Jody	Leeper	USD 300	Wilmore	Our kids have been out of the school learning environment since March. They are so excited to get back to school. The state of KS has a variety of school sizes & towns. Each school district knows best what is going on in their community & how to be safe. Please do not do a one size fits all approach for our schools. At USD 300 we are ready for the upcoming school year & looking forward to starting on time in August.
7/21/2020 13:43:41	LeAnn	Gregory		Lawrence	I'm requesting that you please allow sports to practice even if school is not in session. Our teenage kids desperately need to continue this as it gives them something to look forward to at such a crucial time in their lives. If there are big outbreaks, you can always cancel at a later time. We have to get back to life especially our kids. Thank you for reading and taking my comments into consideration. It is greatly appreciated!

					<p>I wanted to give an update on the research regarding COVID in children.</p> <p>I should back up briefly and state that this is from a physician with a PhD in Epidemiology who became very interested in this topic when a colleague and friend of mine, Jennifer Kasten, MD MSc, wrote a systematic review of COVID epidemiology in children (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/jenniferkastennmd/posts/128898328763114">https://www.facebook.com/jenniferkastennmd/posts/128898328763114</a>) and found kids 12 and under *might be viral "dead ends", meaning they can get COVID but can't transmit to anyone else. This really captured my interest because this would make COVID very different from most respiratory viruses we know. Then in a physician's group dedicated to school opening, a physician researcher published a document for the group in which said she could identify 0 (zero) cases of certain transmission from children under 12 in the scientific literature and since that time Dr. Rutherford, UCSF Epidemiologist, has also been public about elementary-aged children being a "one way street" for infection - they get it but don't appear to transmit it, much, if at all. (UCSF Grand Rounds lectures are now available on YouTube for those interested in hearing him).</p> <p>Last month, I did my own summary of the data (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/tracy.hoeg/posts/10219217323357158">https://www.facebook.com/tracy.hoeg/posts/10219217323357158</a>) and found evidence of the following:</p> <p>*Very limited transmission if any from children ages 12 and under to either other children or adults</p> <p>*Children appeared to be at least 10 times more likely to die of influenza than Covid and are more likely to be struck by lightning (I rechecked the CDC website today 7/13 and they are still reporting 3 deaths in children under 18 due to confirmed COVID; for comparison, there have been 185 deaths due to influenza in this population in the 2019/2020 season. Edit: see updated mortality data below from the 7/19 addition).</p> <p>*Countries that reopened elementary schools as a first step in their country's reopening did not see an uptick in cases (these include numerous European and Asian countries, some of which are displayed in Figure 4. Reopenings not causing and uptick in cases is consistent with children not being a major vector for the disease. Figure 3 shows age of the source of the cases of COVID in Holland, with none ages 18 and under in their study, as just an example of these</p>
7/21/2020 13:43:43	Brandon	Grosdidier	Eudora High School and	Eudora, KS	
7/21/2020 13:43:44	Kathy	Weatherman	Myself	Sylvan Grove	Starting after Labor Day is the logical thing to do. I have 3 teachers in my family. Please just keep the safety of our children, teachers and all that are employed by the districts as a top priority. And please, please keep politics out of the decisions.
7/21/2020 13:43:55	Andrea	Hoelting	Parent USD 382	Pratt ks	I think you are absolutely doing the right thing delaying schools to keep ALL of Kansas safe. Thank you!
7/21/2020 13:43:56	Brandi	Caldwell	Usd 204	Bonner Springs	I don't feel like it's safe for students and staff to return to school until our districts county has Covid more under control.
7/21/2020 13:44:00	Brooke	Knight	Usd 259	Wichita	<p>I am an Elementary Veteran Teacher of 20 years in USD 259 and a parent of a High School Freshman. I am one of the High Risk teachers due to autoimmune problems. I've spent my career in two of the most impoverished neighborhoods in Wichita. I've loved teaching students of poverty and extreme trauma because I care about them and their families, I feel I make the most difference there. I've devoted myself to my students and my school community and I miss my darling students with all my heart.</p> <p>With all this being said I am so very thankful that Gov. Kelly is giving the school systems more time to prepare for a safe return. As a high risk teacher I am terrified to go back to a full classroom/school. My own health is a real issue and I could easily bring it home to my family members.</p> <p>I fear that even with mandatory masks the young students won't keep them on, social distance, and the schools will not provide the products we need to properly disinfect spaces. It will be very hard to have any real focus on academics while monitoring distances, cleaning, and monitoring masks.</p> <p>The thought of opening schools in Wichita as Covid cases are rising and more shutdowns are happening around us seems insane!!</p> <p>Please protect my students, my own child, myself, and my family. Delay the opening of schools until case numbers decrease and we can safely go back!</p>

7/21/2020 13:44:05	Stefanie	Kelley	School Nurse JOCO	Leawood	PLEASE gather data on transmission rates in Kansas and my county Johnson County before we open. The data from South Korea is so impressive. As a school nurse, I am so concerned about our teachers & staff, students, and families will just result in additional avoidable morbidity and mortality. Our schools ARE NOT READY! We need to know what we are risking. Kansans do NOT need to be experimental subjects for other school districts to determine whether it is safe or not to open. We need data to know WHAT is specifically occurring in our state and counties regarding child to child, child to adult, adult to child, and adult to adult transmission. Furthermore, masks and social distancing are scientifically proven methods to prevent the spread of SARS COV-2/COVID19. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:44:08	Justin	Smith	Parent of 2 students in U	Lawrence	Delaying school is in the best interest of all parties involved. Teachers, all dust it staff, students and families. We need a better plan and we need to be safe. We need this time for districts to create a specific and safe plan for returning in person.
7/21/2020 13:44:13	Noel	Miller	Educators	Overland Park	Please delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year for students. As an educator, I greatly appreciate the strategies and training our staff could work through before kids come to the building. I sincerely believe that this training will be beneficial for the health and safety of all educators and students.  Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:44:13	Jaime	Trent		Paola	I do not think school opening should be delayed.
7/21/2020 13:44:13	Kelley	Ahrens	KS resident	Overland Park	I support Gov. Kelly in waiting to open schools. The numbers are up and students and staff's health should be the priority. The amount of time schools will use sanitizing, washing hands etc will not make for a productive learning environment.
7/21/2020 13:44:23	M	Moore	Self	Wichita	School should be online. The risks are too significant.
7/21/2020 13:44:31	Sharon	Painter	BSKNEA	Basehor	Even in pre-COVID times, at the elementary level, we have classrooms filled with kids who don't know how to blow their noses, and we were already begging parents for tissues, hand sanitizer, and antibacterial wipes. And, after we return to school, with or without the equipment, and ability to stay healthy and safe, if a teacher or student gets symptoms, what then? Often times the kids are asymptomatic, so they will be spreading germs unknowingly. Many kids already come to school sick, sometimes dosed with medicine to mask fevers and symptoms, because parents have to work. How do we monitor this? The symptoms of COVID are very similar to the symptoms that children exhibit throughout the fall, winter, and spring due to the common cold or allergies. And, if teachers and students stayed home every time they had a cough or symptom, they would be absent more than present. So, if we ignore certain symptoms, please clarify which symptoms are ok? Teachers are likely to have increased absences due to self-monitoring. Who is teaching the remote learning if the teacher is unable to work due to having COVID that he/she caught at school because we changed all the health and safety recommendations just to accommodate pushing schools to reopen without the equipment, space, or ability to keep STAFF and STUDENTS safe? Teachers WANT to get back to school-WHEN IT IS SAFE! We WANT to get back to seeing "our kids" in person everyday-WHEN THE CASES STOP RISING! Teaching remotely is not easy or fun, and I get it isn't everyone's first choice. But, our top concern right now is that everyone is healthy and safe. How much learning would be taking place in the classroom anyway, after we wait in our 75 foot long lines to wash our hands for 20 seconds, multiple times a day? School days are already crammed full, and now we will be adding in disinfecting constantly, monitoring for symptoms, sending kids to "quarantine," trying to get ahold of parents, dealing with masks, giving "masks breaks," etc. Yes, kids are usually asymptomatic, but they can still spread the virus to each other. They might not be sick, but they can take those germs home to their families. They can give those germs to their teachers, who can take it home to their families. Yes, we, as teachers, are used to being the sacrificial lambs. Yes, we protect our student, and would take a bullet for them, if necessary. We would give our lives to keep them safe when they are in our care. But, I am not willing to expose myself to COVID and take COVID home to my family for the sake of having school in-person when it is completely preventable. We WANT to get back to our classrooms-WHEN WE NO LONGER HAVE TO FEEL LIKE WE ARE RISKING OUR LIVE AND OUR FAMILIES LIVES TO DO SO!
7/21/2020 13:44:32	Angie	Schwalm	Teacher	Leavenworth	I'm ready to open safely!! Lots of precautions in place! I need it to improve both my mental health as well as kids.

7/21/2020 13:44:38	Benjamin	Romney	republican	Seneca	start school regularly. no masks for grades under 6
7/21/2020 13:44:38	Lindsey	Wilson	USD 506	Altamont	I am in favor of keeping schools across the state closed to allow district administrators and educators a bit more time to plan for a safe reopening of buildings, and also allowing parents the opportunity to see what well-thought-out plans and options each district will have available, so that parents may make the best choice for their child. It's not fair to ask parents to choose without being able to "see" what districts have to offer. Districts haven't had a chance to solidify what they'll be able to offer, given the late release of the reopening guidelines. Keeping the start date as uniform as possible across the state ensures our curriculum will stay more closely aligned from district to district, as well as platform to platform (in-person/remote) by allowing educators more time to create parallel lesson plans for those classroom teachers who will be required to teach both remote and in-person lessons. Postponing school start dates until after Labor Day will not have a drastic impact on a child's learning; however, having an underprepared and overwhelmed teacher certainly will.
7/21/2020 13:44:41	Michelle	Garcia		Olathe	We should be in school
7/21/2020 13:45:12	Toby	Allen	Parent	Olathe	School should start before labor day.
7/21/2020 13:45:15	Deb	Phelps	League of Women Voters	Olathe	I totally support Governor Kelly's delay on opening school.
7/21/2020 13:45:16	Jennifer	Peterson	USD 259	Wichita	Please delay school until after Labor Day to try to flatten the curve so that we can attend school safely.
7/21/2020 13:45:17	Gui	Griffith	Scott City High School	Scott City	With the delay of school some kids might not be able to eat, socialize, or do any number of things that school provides for them, let alone, and most importantly, to learn. If this order goes through kids will have a harder time learning skills that will help them in their career. Some seniors won't be able to play their senior season of fall sports/activities. Kids need to be in school even if they hate it.
7/21/2020 13:45:17	Kami	Miller	Scott community high school	Dighton	Let these kids get back in the classroom and on the field!!
7/21/2020 13:45:18	Betty	Bachman	USD 308	Hutchinson	Delay school
7/21/2020 13:45:42	Christopher	Robles		Prairie Village	I urge you to uphold the governor's order to delay the beginning of the new school year. We are in the midst of rising cases of COVID-19 and I can't even believe that sending students back to in-person learning is being discussed. I am a teacher in an elementary school for the Shawnee Mission School District and keeping students and all school personnel must be a top priority for our state.
7/21/2020 13:45:42	Shelli	James		Scott City	I think school and sports need to get started in Aug. the kids are falling behind and if you don't start sports the kids will find something to do and it won't be good.
7/21/2020 13:45:43	Danielle	Amderson	Wichita USD 259 Pre-K	Wichita	Please delay school until after Labor Day

					<p>I feel for you all its a tuff spot and I am praying for you all. You are darned if you do and darned if you don't. I personally think if you can not avoid having children dealing with uncertainty of the day whether online or in person. Being quarantined for exposure. Consistent behavior is so important. Parents that are willing to put there children at risk for the selfish reasons of not wanting to put in the work to help their children are completely different then children that have terrible home lives and without the education system are going to truly be uneducated.</p> <p>I honestly think perhaps a waiver signed by parents saying they assume all risk with sending there children to public school , that releases all threats from an law suit if their own exposure was public school and something or death Became they could not sue as they truly had other options and knew the risk. Again to protect system from insurance claims to testing expenses to life claims. How to protect the discussions you make.</p> <p>I am a mother business owner and wife. When we had to do online school I reduced our hours for all employees in our office. It was not ideal as we are an accounting office it was tax season. But we owned to our children the time and help to get them through. I think things in this uncertain times call for different reactions. I feel businesses have to respect the additional responsibility being added to parents and find a way to accommodate the best they can. We are working from home or after school hours in our office. People tend to find a way. Change is hard but watching people react to pre action versus reaction is difficult no one wants judge or the what if's but the why didn't can be just as hard.</p> <p>In our small community bus drivers come from other jobs when you have late start or snow delays those bosses allow that delay of arrival for drivers. They also work with parents of children for drop offs and pick ups. Same with educator days or early release. It's just something new and different there for again it's the change people fear.</p> <p>Small communities tend to react harder to change as they just don't have as much.</p> <p>Good luck , God Bless and know some of us aren't mad we respect you we respect your decisions and you are in this spot because we choose you to represent us.</p>
7/21/2020 13:45:58	Monica	Baker Swarts	382	Pratt	
7/21/2020 13:46:28	Stacy	Cordes	USD 226	Meade	Please uphold Gov. Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school. I am on our reopening task force. We NEED time to plan and reorganize. We need time to receive supplies. I appreciate your time and efforts in ensuring Kansas teachers, staff, and students have a safe, effective, and enjoyable year.
7/21/2020 13:46:33	Jennifer	Webster	Usd402	Augusta	I support delaying school after Labor Day or until later when numbers merit returning. In the mean time I support on line education over the socialization of face to face or hybrid classes.
7/21/2020 13:46:39	Judy	Steinbrink	USD216 teacher	GARDEN CITY	I am 64 years old and teach 4 year old preschool. There is nothing more that I would like than to start the year with my little ones in class with me. Please delay school until after Labor Day. This will give us time for hopefully numbers to go down, as well as time to plan for the best way to effectively, but safely, bring our students back when the time is right.
7/21/2020 13:46:50	Marcus	Gutierrez		Wichita	I believe this a very good idea, for teachers, kids and family! Also for the city/state, it is for our protection against this virus and to avoid it from spreading person to person. As a parent I wouldn't want to risk my son not wearing a mask, so I am glad that there is a mask order in the works! Anything to do to keep kids , teachers and family safe!
7/21/2020 13:47:06	Kathryn	Couch		Wilson	I support Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school. Students, teachers, other staff and the general public will be safer by doing so. School should not open for in person classes until Kansas Covid 19 cases are under control. Also schools will need increased funding to implement the necessary safety requirements that will be necessary to open safely for everyone. Let Governor Kelley guide the state in reopening schools.
7/21/2020 13:47:06	Lauren	Manning		Derby	Please vote IN FAVOR of Kelly's Executive Order 20-58
7/21/2020 13:47:07	Lisa	Smith	My Family	Wichita	I think scholl should be delayed until new cases are zero.
7/21/2020 13:47:11	Kendal	Smith	USD 421	Lyndon	I believe a delayed start will give many districts more time to create and implement plans that will better address COVID safety measures and concerns.
7/21/2020 13:47:18	Claudia	Finley	Citizen	Overland Park	We should not send children, teachers and support staff into schools while numbers are cases are rising. Teachers and staff who are exposed should receive workman's comp benefits and hazard pay,

7/21/2020 13:47:19	cynthia	schaker		el dorado	I support Governor Kelly's order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. I would urge the State BOE to support this order and give local school districts more time to prepare for this unprecedented time for us all. Perhaps with a little more time we will see a decline in new cases, but even if we don't it will give everyone more time to prepare how to safely educate our children and protect all school employees.
7/21/2020 13:47:25	Teresa	Simon	TPS	Topeka	Keep them closed until we have PPE and barriers in place!!!! Let us phase them in.
7/21/2020 13:47:28	Laura	Franken	Blue Valley Schools	Overland Park	Wish to begin start of school year via virtual learning
7/21/2020 13:47:28	Jill	Lynch		Emporia	I support the delay to start school after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 13:47:32	Haleigh	Carlson	Teacher in USD 383	Manhattan	A late start in the year gives teachers an adequate amount of time to plan for the year and create a meaningful learning experience that can work ahead of the pandemic. A late start to the year is not canceling school or starting late to give anyone a longer summer. A late start to the year is giving students and their families more time to decide what it best for their families and education. A late start is time for teachers to plan and create safe and meaningful educational experiences for students.
7/21/2020 13:47:42	Queren	King-Orozco		Burlingame	Thanks
7/21/2020 13:47:44	Katie	Hutchison	Parent	Lawrence	As a parent of a 1st grader, preschooler and infant I am extremely concerned about my children contracting COVID19. Schools have always sites of rampant viral spread. Why do we close for a snow day to prevent a single death yet we are willing to risk the lives of our children and their teachers by returning to an unsafe environment on a daily basis. Schools need time to thoroughly prepare for the year ahead. Please approve the governor's executive order. Let's wait, gather information and make data-driven decisions. There is no rush to open.
7/21/2020 13:47:44	Diane	Cochran	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	Please vote against Order 20-58. Lets get our students back to school in August.
7/21/2020 13:47:51	Jamie	Elwood	Teacher	Prairie Village	Please do NOT open schools! I don't want to die or spread this virus to my family and then they die, all because schools needed to ipen.
7/21/2020 13:47:58	Maryann	Coffman		Overland Park	I am in favor in delaying the opening of schools until after Labor Day. Kansas owes it to our students, teachers, staff and administrators to provide them with a safe environment when they return to schools
7/21/2020 13:48:01	Ashley	Baugh		Olathe	I am a parent in the Olathe school district with a 3rd grader and a kindergartener. I think to keep our teachers, staff and students safe waiting and planning is the best thing we can do. Please let me know you hear our concerns and the concerns of our teachers by voting to delay school starting.
7/21/2020 13:48:03	Janelle	Habiger	Shawnee mission school	Overland park	I think this should be done until we are safe and numbers are declining. You are putting lives at risk.
7/21/2020 13:48:14	Tuanua	Swartz	USD 361 Chaparral Sch	Anthony	I believe delaying the start of school would provide more time for schools to prepare for all possibilities of learning. Face masks should be worn when there isn't the opportunity to remain 6ft apart. Once in the classroom, students seated 6 feet apart should be able to remove their face masks. Athletics and extra-curricular activities help keep students focused and engaged. Events should be lived streamed and face-masks should be worn by spectators at all times.
7/21/2020 13:48:21	Lisa	Goering	Concerned community r	Derby	I am against opening schools during the pandemic. Too many people are not taking the precautions necessary to stop community spread. Forcing teachers and staff to risk their lives and the lives of their families and students is cruel. Kansas is currently a hotspot, and until the state forces another shutdown, we will not get the outbreak under control. I am also very concerned about the long-term effects of COVID, especially the recent discovery of the continuing and life-altering issues children are suffering. Opening schools now to avoid inconvenience could lead to a huge number of Kansans with chronic life-long conditions that cause more economic and emotional hardships. Please do NOT open schools!!!
7/21/2020 13:48:35	Deanna	May	USD320	Wamego	Not safe to send kids to school now
7/21/2020 13:48:40	Caitlin	Smith		Overland Park	Please vote to delay reopening of schools until after labor day. Given current local case trends, I don't feel comfortable sending my child back to school and my mother (a teacher) back into the classroom.
7/21/2020 13:48:41	Matthew	Moore	Self	Wichita	I consider in-person schooling a risk and a gathering of potentially many children who could be asymptomatic, further spreading this disease. I feel online schooling should be an option for all public and private KS schools, with a delaying of opening at minimal.
7/21/2020 13:48:45	Stacia	Perez		Fort Riley	I think schools should start one time and not be delayed. Our children need to start getting back into the regular routines.

7/21/2020 13:48:48	Julianna	Garcia	Teacher (employed)	Manhattan	We have decided to not have our children attend school in person this year and I myself have resigned from my position at our local school. I suffer from a compromised immune system due to medications to control and auto-immune disease and our youngest daughter also has a compromised immune system. Please think of our teachers (people like me) and children who may have a compromised immune system but do not have the luxury of staying home. If the state mandates that the school year will start later to ensure the safety of our staff and of our compromised students, I believe our state will be better off for doing so. It is my experience that the uncertainty of safety guidelines, how teachers will be paid or unpaid for having to take sick leave if he/she is in contact with a positive COVID case, or whether or not the entire class will have to quarantine for weeks on end (further disrupting the classroom environment and the psychological welfare of our students), is what is concerning to most educators and parents. We need to have certainty that it is safe for our students and staff to come back to school for the long haul. Thank you for taking the time to understand where our needs are as a community.
7/21/2020 13:48:51	Emily	Stanley		Overland Park	Please vote down the delay of starting school. Kids need to go back to school. They have sacrificed so much and now you are asking them to not go to school again plus get out of school later due to the fact that they are starting later. The research supports kids not being at risk
7/21/2020 13:48:51	Greg	Raney	non	Olathe	Open when the state government determines that it is safe. Please be transparent with the plans.
7/21/2020 13:49:07	Janet	Fogh	Mca	Shawnee	Do not start school till September please
7/21/2020 13:49:13	Zach	Dinges	Public School	Topeka	<p>The KS DOE has long embraced data driven accountability in education. With that in mind, I urge the board to make their decision based on data and not emotion or political calculation.</p> <p>The simple fact is that cases are higher now than they were in the spring. Putting kids back in buildings now is admitting you know there's danger, but you care more about other issues</p> <p>That's not a morally or ethically viable position</p> <p>Even the white house has identified KS as a hot zone and suggested a return to phase one</p> <p>Besides that, a mere couple of months ago, this would all be a moot point as the legitimate authority of the governor would have been enough. The fact that this decision is even in your hands is the result of political machinations. Don't indulge that effort. Support the governor and follow the system that worked for nearly the entirety of Kansas history</p> <p>In addition, look at the polling. Solid majorities support the governor's handling and decision-making with regards to COVID-19</p> <p>As an educator, coach, and parent of school aged children, I guarantee I want to be back in the classroom as much or more than anyone. But it needs to be safe and responsible. That's not where we are currently, and I believe you all realize that</p> <p>Don't toe the line for political havjs and professional rabble-rousers like Susan Eagle. Do the right thing</p> <p>Finally, I leave you with this: if a single child or teacher dies a preventable death due to COVID this fall, the data will show quite clearly who is personally accountable for that. Do you want them on your conscience so you can be in good graces with professional politicians in the Statehouse, and have a better chance at reelection?</p>
7/21/2020 13:49:14	Anna	Phares	Parent	Westwood KS	Please consider delaying the start of school until after Labor Day to give teachers ample and appropriate time to tailor instruction as needed. This extra time also allows the district to gather necessary safety resources and review new procedures with teachers and staff.
7/21/2020 13:49:16	Sara	Shumaker		Wichita	Say NO to this order! I don't have a problem with delaying school or with masks. But mandating these things is not acceptable. Individual communities should vote regarding school decisions. Individual families should be free to choose what's best for their children's unique situations. We have to stop these one-size-fits-all mandates and orders.



7/21/2020 13:49:26	Alan	Ackerman	Self	Colby	As we all know each school district is different, my thought would be to set some guidelines and let each school board work with the county commissioners to adjust their own school procedures
7/21/2020 13:49:28	Chelsea	Gardenhire		Mulvane	Masks don't work. There are lots of studies that confirm this. Making children wear masks is just hurting them, especially children with special needs. I have 2 children that fall under the exemptions. Mandatory mask is not healthy for anyone. The government has overreacted and can not tell us what we have to do for our health. That's my rights their stepping on. They sure as hell can't tell a homeschooling parent that they have to wear masks. That's invasion of privacy. Stop the mandate. Stop the government overreach.
7/21/2020 13:49:29	Mary	Rauter	parent of HS students	Overland Park	Dear Board members Please open schools and allow sports to continue. Enough of Dr Norman and Governor Kelly's skewed views. It is no longer about flattening the curve-they now want total eradication which will not be possible, just like the flu. I follow the numbers and a lot of us aren't quite sure why our elected officials choose to scare people instead of inform them of all of the facts. Anyone can take a graph and make it appear to back up their theory. I can produce graphs to show the death rate is decreasing, hospitalizations are down(why the number of ICU beds we have in Kansas keeps changing is beyond me. One day it shows 1200 beds in Kansas, the next it shows 800). I regress....we have 7% of those beds being used, filled with Covid patients, or any other patient with pneumonia or flu-like symptoms. The curve has indeed FLATTENED. And please don't say our inability to refrain from social distancing has caused the huge "up-tick" in cases. Let's be honest. When you test 20 times the amount you tested the month before, you will see a rise. When you test anyone off the streets, whether they have symptoms or not, you will see a rise. Protesting perhaps??? We can only hope to God this is not setting a precedence for all viruses to come. We will literally be hostages in our own homes. My kids missed numerous, life-long events due to this unprecedented event. We watched and social distanced and followed the rules. My kids missed ACTs, college visits, prom, spring sports, State Cups, dances, recruiting opportunities, time with friends, time with teachers, LIFE. They missed living. Why schools weren't prepared for opening on time this Fall is strange to me. We knew in March we were done for the year. Most districts started working on it immediately and have plans in place. Parents have been buying sanitizers for years. Nothing new there. We can all come up with a plan of how to take the temp of 1400 kids each morning in a matter of hours. Masks? That will be the next great hoarding event. Who is responsible for each child having one? The school or the parent? And for the record, Governor Kelly talks about how great the schools handled the shut down. Can someone show me all the parents that were happy with how the pandemic on-line learning went? I have yet to find one, unless your child attended private school. Again, we played along and didn't criticize or schools or teachers because it was so beyond what we could control. BUT that time has passed. It is time to open the schools and allow the kids to play sports, be in the play and join the club. The numbers clearly show that kids do not have the same level of severity as do MUCH OLDER ADULTS and people with underlying conditions. If people don't feel safe sending
7/21/2020 13:49:31	Lindsey	Thyer	USD383	Manhattan	Please consider Gov. Kelly's executive order to open schools after Labor Day. It gives teachers, students, and parents time to make informed decisions on school opening plans as well as training on virtual learning.
7/21/2020 13:49:45	Natalie	Mickelson	Teacher and Parent at U	Paola	Please approve the delay in reopening of schools. I also strongly suggest going virtual/remote learning for the fall. We have worked very hard at maintaining our health and safety and have made many sacrifices, including cancelling our summer vacation and not enrolling our children in any sports or extracurricular activities. We do not wish for all our efforts to be in vain. I being a specials teacher would be exposed to 320+ students twice a week. That's terrifying in my mind.
7/21/2020 13:49:46	Cristi	Hare	Teachers	Milton, but work in Wic	Give parents choices, everyone has different circumstances. Let parents decide online or in person, let teachers decide if they want to teach online or in person.
7/21/2020 13:49:50	Teresa	Salinas	Parent	Olathe	The Olathe School District has a well thought out plan to bring back our students and staff safely. There is zero reason to delay us at this point. Wear masks, and wash your hands. These kids need to return back to some level of normalcy for the sake of not only their physical and mental well being but for some students school is their safe place or the only place they get fed, and I feel like those students are being tossed aside in this decision. Quite honestly I wish we would start school earlier, and attempt to get the semester done by Thanksgiving, and maybe have a longer break to allow.

7/21/2020 13:49:59	Sarah	Haub	Parents	Shawnee	Start schools on time. Go online until face to face can happen. We don't need to delay student getting back in a routine. Kids NEED SCHOOL AND TO GO TO SCHOOL!
7/21/2020 13:50:06	Rebecca	Cruce	USD 290	Ottawa	As a teacher I am terrified to go back to school. I think that we should get this virus under control and have a vaccine before we subject teachers and families to avoidable risks. Going back now should not be a viable option.
7/21/2020 13:50:07	Graden	Oswald	maranatha christian acad	colathe	as a student, i believe we should start school on time
7/21/2020 13:50:21	Betsy	Lobmeyer		Garden City	Please delay the start of school
7/21/2020 13:50:22	Megan	Minaschek	Self	Overland Park	There is no reason to delay the opening of elementary schools. All of the evidence shows that these children are not efficient spreaders of COVID and are the most impacted in other ways. Please use some common sense and don't make a blanket solution to an age-specific problem.
7/21/2020 13:50:28	Michelle	Wade	Parent	Lawrence	Please approve the delay so that the schools can formulate a solid plan for either bringing students back or providing virtual classrooms.
7/21/2020 13:50:30	Stephanie	Ramirez	USD 253	Emporia	Please support the governor's executive order. I am a teacher and a parent. It is imperative that we give time for the numbers to go down as well as to prepare for a safe return to our school buildings. Please don't let politics get in the way. Put kids, families, and school staff as your priority.
7/21/2020 13:50:31	Heidi	Petree		Overland Park	Delay/Do only distance learning.
7/21/2020 13:50:33	Jessica	Yourdon		Augusta	Please allow local school districts to make their own decisions. There is no need for a blanket delay on school starting and there is definitely no evidence to support mask wearing for children. Stop the madness.
7/21/2020 13:50:34	Sherry	Keller	All schools	Douglass	With the significant increase in cases and many states re- instating restrictions, it is too early to re-open schools! Besides how difficult it will be for teachers to teach effectively with limited classroom resources, it will be extremely difficult and stressful to try to make sure all students are following the safety guidelines as well as learning!  Please support Governor Kelly's Executive Orders! She has always had Kansans' best interests at heart and I trust her decisions.
7/21/2020 13:50:37	Sarah	Speck		Shawnee	Why don't we create 2 choices: 1. Open schools: teachers and students who choose to attend can attend. 2. Online Learning: Teachers and students who choose to stay home will stay at home. Everyone chooses their own path.
7/21/2020 13:50:39	Christopher	Parisho	Self, a parent of school a	Wichita	The KSDE developed a great plan which allowed individual districts many options to accommodate instruction while also maintaining safety fro students and staff. Not all districts have tens of thousand MBD s of children to instruct. Many districts are in counties which have little or no issue with severe or critical cases. The Governor is undermining that plan and treating everyone as if we are in a big city.  Please reject the Order by the Governor and let districts decide what's best for them using the plan you developed.
7/21/2020 13:50:52	Joe	Morales	Maranatha	Shawnee	Absolutely not. We pay for our children to go to a private school and do not rely on public funding. This is outrageous as our children need to be in school and it has been advised by pediaticians there is more risk in not having them in a school setting than keeping them away from corona virus. We are not worried about the virus and our school has indicated they are ready. This is unnecessary.
7/21/2020 13:50:54	Gwynne	West		Salina	I want the children back in school in August
7/21/2020 13:50:55	Kyle	Taylor		Colby	I would like Kansas K-12 to start the school year on the regular date that it should start.

7/21/2020 13:51:02	Ginger	Armbrust	Salina USD305	Salina	I would like to see a delayed start for school for several reasons. I teach middle school, and although research shows that kids are often not getting sick, many of our students test the rules. Maybe we need to mandate that the 2 weeks prior to schools even opening, students and all school personnel need to STAY HOME! No travel, no gatherings, no stores, so that maybe we can all go back covid free. I have been teaching a long time and feel nervous putting that many people together suddenly without people stopping their travel. And as a parent of a kid that had covid this summer, taking the CORRECT precautions at home to keep everyone else healthy was time consuming and exhausting. I also feel like all schools should start and maybe stay hybrid this year. I appreciate the work that was put into the 3 models and I am 100 percent behind kids being in the face to face instruction, BUT if kids get started with hybrid, then transitioning to either of the other models won't be hard for them. And it protects more students and staff at the same time. Delaying start will give teachers TIME to get quality stuff together, get our groups in place in case one of us gets sick, and allow teachers like me , who have been mostly home and in small gatherings, get used to being back in group settings. Please think about all of the people involved here, not the politics involved. Thank you!
7/21/2020 13:51:07	Christy	L'Esperance	School parent and high s	Overland Park	Please approve Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of the school year. Corona virus case numbers should be under control and protective supplies and equipment should be in place before we can feel comfortable returning. I can't think of a single person whose health and life it would willingly sacrifice to hasten the opening of schools.
7/21/2020 13:51:08	Robert	Keys		Topeka	Allow the local counties to make their own decisions regarding the timing and requirements for opening schools
7/21/2020 13:51:11	Carrie	Zuniga	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	Please Please open school on time!! Our children need to get back on schedule for their mental health!!
7/21/2020 13:51:13	Karen	Streit	BSHS 204	Basehor	Start school in the classroom and sports. The kids need this
7/21/2020 13:51:15	Jessica	Tallman		Overland Park	Our children need to be in school. There are a wide variety of reasons, all of which you already know. Daycares and childcare centers have been operating safely since the pandemic began. They implemented safety precautions as advised and children are thriving. We can do this with schools, too - especially in the elementary levels. Studies are showing over and over again that children are less likely to contract and less likely to spread the disease. Currently, studies show a child under the age of 10 is more likely to drown than die of COVID-19. Children can be in school and still have some sense of normalcy if things are done right. If classrooms at the elementary level behave like small families, groups can be isolated and kept in check. Children can still interact with each other, breathe fresh air (if we can reverse the mask mandate), and get the social and educational experience that schools offer. It is also important that children are together for developing their immune systems. They need to interact with a somewhat diverse group to keep their bodies ready to respond appropriately to their environments. Teachers at elementary levels can also minimize their risk of illness by staying mostly in their family groups, social distancing with other teachers, and masking (if they want to). Recess is important for vitamin D, fresh air, and movement. We can open schools safely.
7/21/2020 13:51:15	April	Bruna	St Johns Catholic School	Hanover	Please consider blocking this executive order. I have children entering 2nd and 5th grades and feel it is in their best interest to get them back in the classroom on time to prevent any further gaps in their education. Although we all tried our best to keep the learning going in the spring I know they were not able to get to the same point they would have been at had they been in school. Our teachers need those extra weeks to help get students caught back up where they should be academically. I have spoken with leadership at our school and they are ready to resume classes on time even with the new mask and hygiene mandates. We all knew these were practices likely needed for the school year and had already made plans including them. I feel that reasoning for the governor to delay the start was a poor excuse. These educators and administrators are smart people, they knew to plan ahead. Again I ask that you vote against this executive order. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:51:21	Madison	Kirch	High school	Pittsburg	Please keep schools closed to allow superintendents more time to finalize an inclusive, SAFE plan for return of students and staff. Until there is a plan for what happens when a student or staff member is compromised, what to do when there is a sub shortage, how to get proper PPE for faculty and staff, districts have no business going back to school in two and a half weeks.

7/21/2020 13:51:25	Mary	Stackhouse	Interlocal 605, speaking	Cunningham, KS	Thank you for your serious non-partisan consideration of this matter. I trust you know that Governor Kelly wouldn't have come up with this mandate without careful thought and input from the medical community. I realize it is an impossible choice, but I stand in support of delaying the start of school. This is certainly an unprecedented time and, hopefully, one that we can get past. Starting later will certainly be a challenge for me, as I work in special education and the Sept. 20th count will be coming up soon. However, I think the additional time to figure out how to deliver itinerant services and how to best be prepared to pivot between in-person and online, if necessary, will be beneficial. Hopefully, we can all behave and flatten the curve before then. If not, then I wouldn't suggest delaying again; rather, start online as appropriate for local districts. I would venture to say my opinion is the minority in my area (sports is a big consideration I hear). I trust you to listen to the science and make the hard decision. I will be ready and eager to serve my students either way.
7/21/2020 13:51:27	Marjorie	Lathrop		Topeka	I strongly urge the BOE to approve this executive order for the safety of our children, teachers, and community.
7/21/2020 13:51:46	Lindsey	Radcliff	St. Patrick Catholic Sch	Basehor	I urge you to support Gov. Kelly's order to delay school opening. We need additional time to prepare and implement all of the guidelines for a safe return.
7/21/2020 13:51:47	Yvette	Nickel		Hesston	I support EO 20-58 and the plan to delay the start of the 20-21 school year. This delay will give educators and staff adequate time to prepare for the upcoming school year (with potential online options) and allow cities and communities to bring the number of COVID-19 cases down. Thank you!
7/21/2020 13:51:50	Gary	Bingham		Lawrence	Our children will not attend in person until there is a vaccine or some other protection for teachers and students.
7/21/2020 13:51:50	Aaron	Winkler		Gardner	Thank you for allowing the public to address this situation. I hope you are truly taking this into consideration when looking at what is best for our children. I believe returning to school K-12 with a normal schedule is what is needed. No mask, no social distancing, no restrictions, let school be school. Why, because that is what is best for our children. Returning to school and not allowing them to be kids or put these unrealistic measures on them is not going to be beneficial and will hurt the kids, their academics and their relationships with the teachers. If any of these regulations are imposed, I will not be sending my kids back to school. I would rather home school and get together with the other parents who feel the same way and allow our kids to get together for "school interaction." Nothing that Gov. Kelly has talked about is going to prevent this virus, it will spread, it has been for a while now. What will help, kids washing their hands or using hand sanitizer throughout the day, parents being responsible and keeping their kids home when they are sick and lastly, not letting fear drive our future.
7/21/2020 13:51:51	Richard	Macivor	Blue valley parent	Leawood	If professional sports can conduct quick testing, temp taking, contact tracing, masking, and adopt a standard quarantine procedure, then so can the school districts. Until these systems can be professionally administered, schools should remain 100% virtual. It is reckless and irresponsible to open schools without these systems in place. And have you thought about when a teacher gets sick? There will be a shortage of substitute teachers. Schools are not daycare, they aren't babysitting, they need to be places of learning.
7/21/2020 13:51:56	KATHERINE	WILLIAMS	BALDWIN USD 348	Baldwin City	Do not open schools without proper systems in place for all students. I would like to see the start of school pushed back until after Labor Day. I would also like to see only online classes...no classrooms
7/21/2020 13:52:02	Aaron	Johnson		ROELAND PARK	I am a parent of a 2nd grader. My spouse and I both work full time during the school year. Keeping our child at home for the fall semester will be very disruptive for both of us. However, there are sacrifices that we are willing to make for the health and safety of our family and our community. Please, do not send our children back into the classroom fall semester 2020. The risk is too high. We gladly will accept all the inconveniences of homeschooling, rather than endanger our students, teachers, school staff, and all of their families by "re-opening" before the COVID-19 pandemic is better under control.  Thank you for your time. Best, Aaron Johnson

7/21/2020 13:52:06	Deanna	Carr		Johnson	Please PLEASE open the schools. In my opinion, the numbers simply do not justify these extreme actions. And I have concerns for the teachers who will have to do required quarantines-will they be paid? Will they have to use sick days for it even if it's just an exposure and they are not ill?? I also have concerns for the kids whose only hot meals come from the school district. My church sends backpacks home with kids on Fridays so they can EAT over the weekends. Those are distributed at school. I think parents who are not comfortable sending their kids to the actual school building should explore their online options. And the rest of us should be able to send our kids to the building if we're comfortable doing so. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:52:14	Jennifer	Lynch	Kansas City Christian S	Basehor, KS	Let each school board and community decide when to begin the school year. Please let schools begin in August. Smaller schools have been researching and making plans to keep students and faculty safe. Children's Mercy has completed comprehensive analysis that shows the impact COVID has on children is minimal and the impact of not having a routine is much worse on mental health. They also found that children are less likely to transmit the virus and if they do get it, often have little to no symptoms. For parents and teachers who are concerned, there is an opt in for virtual learning in Johnson County. With the diversity in the state of Kansas, one solution definitely does not fill every scenario.
7/21/2020 13:52:17	Lara	Williams	USD 259	Wichita	I am super uncomfortable teaching in person with all the students present like there is nothing going on. Would anyone on the board like to substitute for me for a week? Can you put yourself in my shoes? I am a specials teacher that meets with 600 students. My classroom is not that big. There will be no 6 feet apart possible. There would be anywhere from 26 to 35 students in my room. This is not unusual for a specials class. So, I will ask again. Would someone like to sub for me? I am certain the answer is no. My 15 year old kid is telling he his friends that his parents might die, you see both his parents are teachers. Bars are closed again everywhere to protect the drinkers, are they more important than our children and educators? No gatherings bigger than 15? Sure, for everyone but our students and teachers. How can this be? So, we are going to all sign living wills? I saw the last board meeting. I was beautiful, there was Plexiglas, masks, and spacing. Are you kidding me? I get none of that. We get to make the kids wash their hands more. This is not okay. One more time....would you like to sub for me?
7/21/2020 13:52:20	Michael	Raehpour	Teacher	Wichita	Please don't politicize re-opening into a "Right vs Left" debate, but instead consider the safety of students, parents, teachers, and all those who live with them who may be high risk of transmitting the illness. I'm a conservative teacher who seemingly is going against the grain of many people who generally think like me, and am wanting you to choose caution. I encourage you to support Governor Kelly's executive order and delay the start of school. I teach over 500 students per day as a band teacher and beginning school as planned frightens me with the possibility of person illness, family illness, student illness, deaths, and liability that falls onto me as a teacher.
7/21/2020 13:52:35	Kerri	Martinez	Parent	Olathe	Open school on time
7/21/2020 13:52:38	Jessica	Heidrick	Newton High School	Wichita	I fully support the governor's EO!
7/21/2020 13:52:40	Andrea	Leiker		Wichita	Kids need to be in school. They need the in person touch and I feel requiring masks is a huge mistake especially for the young ones. You can't expect a young child to keep a mask on all day long.

7/21/2020 13:52:49	Sarah	Grunder		Cassoday	Hello. I am a teacher at USD 492 and a parent of a 2nd and 5th grader. I believe our school district leadership team has the ability to effectively and safely derive and implement decisions based on covid 19 and our local status. I do not believe the Governor is acting in our best interest as she does not know the details that make up our district. Her actions are that of larger cities and districts within KS and therefore do not take our district into consideration, instead she is putting all of KS in one bucket and assuming that a blanket order is protecting us all when in fact it is not. It is hurting our children. If there is not a single case in our district, meaning no one in the school has covid then why are we wearing masks and starting later? In case someone brings it in, I understand that concept, but with making children wear masks and socially distance from one another (mind you a large part have been playing sports together) is a guarantee negative impact on their emotional and mental health. The over precautions and overstep do not match the statistics in our district. In January and February we had roughly 30% of students and staff out sick with influenza along with a virus the doctors weren't sure what it was and we remained open. My child's 4th grade class had 75% of it's students (15 out of 20) sick and they remained in school. And now when we have 0% sick we are going to start later, wear masks, and socially distance children? That does not make sense. I hope that you will consider every district in making your decision and the disruption in life that it will cause by allowing the order to go through. Thank you for your time. God bless!
7/21/2020 13:52:51	DeAnn	weber	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee KS	Please allow Maranatha to open on time. They have everything ready to go to make sure that the kids are safe. My son has gone there to summer camps and they were taking temps before entering and using hand sanitizer constantly.
7/21/2020 13:52:58	Wendy	Dobbs	USD204	Edwardsville	I believe the delay in starting school will allow school staff to have a well established plan on how to keep students safe upon return to schools. It is inevitable that we return, but we need a solid plan beforehand.
7/21/2020 13:53:02	Mike	Johnson		Wichita	Schools should remain closed. We are putting our children at risk. They are the future. We should protect that future.
7/21/2020 13:53:02	Aaron	Cunningham		Wichita	Open the school. Reject Laura Kelly order. For the teachers and the students who are in fear let them stay home. But for everybody else let them sign a waiver saying they're aware of this flu And they will assume responsibility. Laura Kelly and her orders is just the nose of the camel under the tent. she will close school for the first half this year until after the election. this is going to open the door for homeschooling and for private and chartered schools if the public schools do not open
7/21/2020 13:53:04	Megan	Stroup	Usd 362 parent	Parker	Please open the schools the virus is not going away. Kids need school and activities
7/21/2020 13:53:07	Amie	smith	USD 259	Wichita	As a self contained special education teacher we need to really consider kids who can not keep a mask on or who have to be gtube fed. Some of these students spit and bite. They can not maintain social distancing. The staff and other students on rooms like this will not be protected. To short of staff to keep to with the cleaning this would put in place. Let me ask you...would you put your own family at risk? Then why put mine.
7/21/2020 13:53:09	Nicole	Woodson-Parks	USD 204 Parent	Bonner Springs	I think the start date should be pushed back because if you all don't feel comfortable meeting in person why are y'all pushing for our students to go into a building.
7/21/2020 13:53:12	Amanda	Lovell	Parent	Pratt	I would like to see schools moving forward based off the numbers in their community vs a one size fits all approach. Our school presented a tentative plan for returning to school that seemed to adequately address many of the issues with returning. I would also like it to be taken into consideration the low numbers when it comes to cases and transmissions between children. I understood shutting down in the spring with so much unknown but we down way to soon.
7/21/2020 13:53:23	Vlada	Binshtok	parent of a child with sp	Overland Park KS	Please make plans to restore services for special needs children a priority. While you are allocating resources either to safely reopen schools or to prepare for virtual learning for all, this small population of students could be safely served with either option at the scheduled start of school year. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:53:24	Amy	Larson	Brown County Special E	Hiawatha, KS	Please do not start school until Sept 8. This gives all school employees a better chance to be prepared for the students with the pandemic.
7/21/2020 13:53:28	Barb	Goering	USD 411	Goessel	As an educator in the Goessel school system, I would like to see a delay in starting school until after Labor Day, 2020. The numbers of active new cases of Covid 19 in Kansas needs to be stable or decrease prior to opening, in my opinion. Thank you.
7/21/2020 13:53:38	Anne	Jardine	Self—Teacher	Manhattan	For the Love of children, please pass the order. For the love of teachers and other school staff members, please pass this. For the love of common sense, please pass this.

7/21/2020 13:53:44	Kelly	Lagree	Catholic Schools	Hays	<p>Thanks Kelly</p> <p>I urge to please open schools as scheduled and not delay the opening until after labor day. There are too many hours that would be lost and finding ways to make up those hours would be difficult. I understand that the school year can be extended, or the day could be lengthened, but that does not work for all students. It's not a cookie cutter or one fits all students. Many kids struggle with longer days and that brings into consideration the mental health of students. There are a lot of impacts to take into consideration on how students will be effected by changing the starting date. I also urge you not to go to online learning. It will be difficult to get students to sit at home for 7 or 8 hours a day in order to meet the required hours for the year. Plus our taxes or school fees pay for in-person education. Moving to online would require the student to be self taught or rely on a parent/guardian to teach the student. This is not what people are paying for. If I am going to spend a \$1000 to send my child to a private school, then I want that child sitting in a desk at that school. Same goes if I had to pay over \$200 in school fees to send my child to a public school. I'm not paying for that teacher to be sitting at home using Zoom to teach my child how to do math or reading. Kids don't learn that way. My child is going into his senior year, it would be devastating for him to lose this year. This is the most memorial year of a child's 12 years of school. It saddens me to see the class of 2020 lose part of their school year. Also please take into consideration of not postponing sports and other school activities. They need that interaction with other students. Plus sports provide physical activity which is much needed to provide a whole education to a student. You need to be both physically and mentally healthy in order to learn and be successful. Sports help with social skills as well help with leadership in a kids life. I know I'm being selfish by not wanting my son to lose his senior year, but it's not fair to him or to those who lost that year already. Also look at those kids who are just starting kindergarten. They need that interaction with other kids, this is when they start social skills and communication with each other.</p> <p>Please take my thoughts into consideration when voting on when to start school and activities. Let's start school on time. I honestly do not see how waiting until after another major holiday will change anything. Let's get things started!</p>
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7/21/2020 13:53:46	John	Tompkins	Retired engineer/educator	Olathe	<p>Please reference p. 1023 which addresses ventilation ASHRAE (Std. 62.1 for safety and building health) supported both by CDC and EPA for healthy schools (fresh air introduction through windows or HVAC). What we know on transmission: A. Droplets B. Touch C. Aerosols (importance of HVAC system). My concern is that the paragraph suggests some reasons not to address ventilation by HVAC...temp control, energy cost, security, etc. by improving ventilation (cost v health). Safety and health should not be an option in any workplace - particularly when there are standards to follow. I support the delayed reopening which might help to mitigate AC cooling load cost of introducing more outside air once schools starts (when I was in school we didn't have AC). Research* supports ventilation promotes healthy schools both physically (attendance) and cognitive (assessments). The recent GAO report June 2020 lists HVAC systems as greatest need for upgrade for both near and long term value - so my thoughts in these times as they are:</p> <p>A. Would like to see this paragraph strengthened to strongly encourage and/or require facility administrators to evaluate their HVAC system by professional engineer - with suggested follow up by administrator/teacher(s) to measure classroom CO2 with a handheld meter (\$200). Most high school science labs actually have instrumentation or access to instrumentation to measure (Vernier Technology CO2 sensors)</p> <p>B. Schools/districts with updated HVAC systems with forced ventilation (CO2 control) share their experiences with respect to best available technology.</p> <p>C. Schools without updated HVAC systems provide teachers guidance on opening windows....and consider as part of their master plan an audit of the existing HVAC system with respect to current ASHRAE standards for prioritizing in their budget considerations. (When giving a KS state standardized test - I moved to a room with windows and opened them up to give my students a fair advantage - if a state test is standardized; should the room environment not meet a standard ie. ASHRAE Std 62.1).</p> <p>As a former educator in a poorly ventilated science room...I saw the effects when the lab became the "lab of human respiration to exchange O2 for CO2" with high levels of CO2 outside the ASHRAE Std 62.1. I actually collected data to follow the trends based on classroom occupancy/size...not dangerous (at that time) but a "stuffy" room where critical thinking was a challenge for my students....and who knows what the health effects were during flu season? With new research in this area and believe this pandemic might provide an urgency to now look closely at building environments as a priority for investment - as the health of the building will determine the health of the occupants.</p>
7/21/2020 13:53:51	Ashley	Campbell	Parent	Pratt	I support the delaying of starting school. But worry about kids with bad parents and school being their only safe place
7/21/2020 13:53:55	Belinda	Katz		Bucklin	Open school in August. Let our kids get their education.
7/21/2020 13:53:58	Gabriel	Wiley	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	Schools should start on time taking reasonable covid precautions
7/21/2020 13:53:58	Tamara	Dody	USD 112	Clafin	I do not support the delay of school. Our district is small & is ready to start with safety precautions in place. Our children need routine, schedules, & no further delay in their education. My husband & I cannot stay home & cannot provide the assistance to my children to adequately get the benefit of online education.
7/21/2020 13:54:02	Damien	Stephens	Stephens Chiropractic	Abilene	Children need to be in school.
7/21/2020 13:54:02	Christina	Smith		Newton	You should wait to start school. Children and teachers are going to get sick and it will spread so quickly with class sizes. Kids should be kept safe.
7/21/2020 13:54:06	Jennifer	Gessley	Blue Valley 229	Overland Park	I am a reading specialist at the elementary level. Last year, prepandemic, I was often pulled from my job to cover classrooms due to a shortage of substitutes. This will be a significant issue this year. I love my job and love my students and I will find a way to teach them to the best of my ability, but I am not a martyr. I am already uneasy enough about returning without the added concern of having to cover classes anywhere in the building at the drop of a hat. We don't have the level of responsibility or control in our neighborhoods yet to be able to open schools safely.
7/21/2020 13:54:06	Kristi	Nichols		Garden City	Please do not delay the opening of schools. Our children need to be in school. I am a teacher and firmly believe this. The benefits outweigh the risks!



7/21/2020 13:54:12	Lisa	Breshears	USD 335 - Jackson Heights	Holton	I am in favor for delaying the opening of school, if it's to gather sanitizer/other various cleaning supplies and extra time for planning of lesson plans/agendas. We all know there is going to be large gatherings for the Labor Day holiday weekend, so it's a moot point to delay the opening for the number of positive COVID-19 cases. If it's positive cases that the delay is for, it would have to be delayed two weeks AFTER Labor Day weekend. My kids want to be back in school as much as I want them to be back in school, but I want it to be in the safest manner possible, not only for them but their teachers as well. If we delay school because of the number of positive cases, you may as well plan on everyone taking a gap year, because we've all seen how well adults have been listening the the guidelines/mandates/orders. Kids learn by example and so far the example that has been set by the vast majority of adults hasn't been good.
7/21/2020 13:54:17	Lindsey	Hickman		Council Grove	I as many other parents are struggling with what is best during this pandemic, nothing feels right. We live in a rural area and are very lucky our cases numbers have been low. I for one would like to see it stay this way. Following Governor Kelly's order to start after Labor Day just makes sense.  We have a 3rd grader and a freshman this year, what we feel is best for each is different. We realize by letting them go back it means all students, staff and families will be put at risk. The student who lives with their grandparents, a teacher with a small child, a bus driver with elderly parents, a para struggling with health issues...by going back we are putting all of these people at risk. I urge you to look to healthcare professionals and take whatever measures are necessary.
7/21/2020 13:54:22	Emily	Miller	USD 458	Prairie Village	Please vote YES.
7/21/2020 13:54:29	Amy	Entrikin	Hiawatha middle school	Hiawatha	I believe local and school officials should be responsible for when, if and how school starts and looks. Every county is highly different and one may have low numbers now and is able to start school but may need break later while others may have high numbers now and need to delay the start of school and can continue later. It should be up to local officials and not state wide.
7/21/2020 13:54:33	Michael	Zuniga	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	We request school to be open on time for the health and wellness of our children. The science shows they are at virtually no risk of contracting Covid 19. They are our essential future, please let them go back to school on time! Thank you!
7/21/2020 13:54:35	Christi	Reid	teachers and students	Lyons	This is a difficult decision and I do not envy you having the weight of the youth of Kansas on your shoulders. As you make this difficult decision, please make sure you are aware of the surroundings and conditions under which you are making it. Are some attending virtually? Did you have a temperature check before you could attend the meeting in person? Do you all have masks on? Do you have partitions up between those in attendance? Are you able to maintain 6ft distance?  If these conditions are necessary for 10 well-educated and experienced adults to make one impactful decision, then you should make sure these conditions are more than ready to roll out in every school by the date you decide to open those schools. Students and teachers are making numerous impactful decisions all day long, every day in those classrooms. Our students are even more important and less privileged. Please respect the people that you are making this decision for as much as you do your own health.
7/21/2020 13:54:36	Lesa	Frantz		Lawrence	I 100% support Governor Kelly's recommendation to delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Do NOT turn this into a political issue- we have a state leader in Governor Kelly who is making the best possible decision in these uncertain times- for the safety of our children , teachers, and everyone they come into contact with.
7/21/2020 13:54:48	Christina	Sadun		Overland Park	I have 2 sons: 1 in high school and 1 in middle school. I am in full support of Gov. Kelly's order to delay the start of school. Allowing more planning time and time to slow the spread of the virus is the smart path forward for our children, our teachers, and our communities. Patience is difficult but it is a virtue!
7/21/2020 13:54:51	April	McPherson	MCA	Lenexa	Do NOT delay schools

7/21/2020 13:54:56	Gina	Blessing		Olathe	<p>I do not want to see our schools open, fully, at this time. I don't believe our teachers will be provided with enough resources to keep our children, and themselves, safe. I think waiting until after Labor Day is a very good compromise. Buying a little more time to see where our numbers of cases and deaths go, is a better option than rushing back only to be shut down completely again.</p> <p>Isn't it better to go slow, take our time, and make sure we are doing things right before rushing back? There are smaller communities in Kansas have that been very fortunate to not see cases that are now starting to see cases.</p> <p>I believe we all want a sense of "normal" back in our lives. As I mentioned before, my biggest concern is rushing back to in-person school, seeing a larger increase in case numbers, and then shutting schools down completely again.</p> <p>Let's take our time. Please let calm voices and reasoning determine what our schools do and how we service our families and children in Kansas. Passionate screaming and arguing gets us nowhere.</p> <p>Thank you for your time, consideration and serving on the board!</p>
7/21/2020 13:54:59	Ray	Linville	Public school teacher	Bel Aire	<p>I support Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-58. The delay of the start of instruction will allow myself and my colleagues essential time to prepare for new instructional strategies, develop and practice new safety procedures, and for school districts to install needed safety equipment.</p>
7/21/2020 13:55:05	Wendy	Orndorff	Maranatha Christian Ac	Olathe	<p>First of all I would like to thank the Kansas State Board of Education for taking public comments on the proposed Executive Order 20-58. I am the Elementary Principal for Maranatha Christian Academy, a small private school located in Shawnee, Kansas. I strongly feel that the Kansas State Board of Education should vote against Executive Order 20-58. In my opinion, the governor should not be able to take away the rights of the governing bodies of each county, city, and local school board. It does not make any sense to me that we are entrusted daily with the lives of our precious students and that we are tasked with keeping them safe in the event of a school shooting, but that we can not be trusted with the task of keeping our kids safe in the midst of the COVID pandemic. Our school, like many schools, have been working all summer to prepare ourselves for the upcoming school year, and I believe that we deserve the right to make the decision about whether or not we are ready to start school. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.</p>
7/21/2020 13:55:06	Jessica	Orchard	My family of 4 students	fort Riley	<p>please hold off so we can be more informed on what options or opportunities our children will have. In the example of JROTC and e-learning. If we choose e-learning would we be allowed to go to the school for just for that class. Due to not having enough teachers. Also information about IEPs and speech therapy.</p>
7/21/2020 13:55:10	Sarah	Coddington	Olathe East High School	Olathe	<p>I support Governor Kelly's measures to postpone school openings until after Labor Day at the earliest and the public health measures schools need to take when they are in person. I am a parent and a teacher. I am not prepared to teach my students remotely and help my kids learn. I am even less prepared, though, to reenter in person teaching at this point in time. The time is critical for districts and educators to refine their plans.</p> <p>I am considering pulling my kids from in person public school and signing up for virtual school through an established public program. I need the time allotted here to determine if the public schools will be able to pull this off in any type of a coherent and effective fashion. My middle school child will check out of school for the year if the first two weeks aren't well prepared and he needs options for elective classes if he is schooling online. I know virtual schools have already solved those problems.</p> <p>Please act to support Governor Kelly's executive orders.</p> <p>Thank You, Sarah Coddington</p>
7/21/2020 13:55:17	Kelsi	Kernicky	Maranatha Christian Ac	Olathe	<p>I do not think it is reasonable to hold kids back. The teachers union is complaining about their safety all the while myself, a hospital worker and all other essential workers have been reporting to work daily since the start of this pandemic. We need a governor that will stand for herself and not whimp out to her peers on this matter. It is important that kids are in a classroom learning from educators in an appropriate time. What does waiting will Labor Day solve. Does COVID-19 magically disappear then? I don't think so. Kids historically have not been ones getting this virus. This isn't about the kid's here. This is about the worthlessness of the teachers union.</p>

7/21/2020 13:55:27	Mary Beth	Jones		Stilwell	Schools need to remain closed until the risk of contracting Covid 19 for students, teachers, and staff has been significantly reduced and/or eliminated.
7/21/2020 13:55:34	Amy	McKee	Nemaha Central Schools	Seneca, KS	Please vote to allow the individual districts to decide when school will open. These kid's futures depend on it. Our school as taken many safety precautions such as Infra-Red Scanners and UV Lighting for the HVAC systems.
7/21/2020 13:55:40	Lacey	Morgan	parent	McPherson	I do NOT support the delay. Our schools need to open!!
7/21/2020 13:55:49	Shelly	Harris	Educator	Ulysses	I support both of the Governor's orders to delay school and for schools to embrace all safety measures such as wearing masks and practicing social distancing and good hygiene. As an educator I would appreciate more time to fine tune plans for various options of learning that may be necessary due to Covid-19.
7/21/2020 13:56:03	Holly	Adams	Usd 416	Louisburg	I am a high needs, special education teacher and I would like to postpone the school year just in the selfish fact that I would need to come up with a safe game plan for my students, their families and my own, but with the state and district leadership.
7/21/2020 13:56:21	David	Lesperance	not applicable	Overland Park	Please approve Executive Order 20-58. Schools and parents need more time to review the 1,000 page board of education guidance released last week, time to determine whether it's safe to open schools now, as well as obtaining all supplies needed to safely open schools (if possible).
7/21/2020 13:56:30	Sally	Zogry	parent	Lawrence	As the parent of a rising 10th grader and 8th grader (who is immunocompromised) I am in support of the proposed delay of the start to the 2020-2021 school year. Until we have a better plan that takes into account how positive diagnoses of students and teachers will be handled I do not feel there is merit in starting school. I am also uncomfortable with how the students will be interacting inside the buildings and how social distancing and mask wearing will be enforced. There are too many variable at play for me to feel safe in sending my children to in person school.
7/21/2020 13:56:37	Sally	Peterson	self	Wichita, Kansas	I'm in total disagreement with the school delay and mandatory mask order. My child is ADHD should she be required to wear a mask in FIRST GRADE it may make her TOTALLY distracted! So far when asked to wear a mask for an extended amount of time she sucks on it (the paper mask) and wears a hole in it! I'm also very concerned with her breathing her carbon dioxide all day long. How safe is that??
7/21/2020 13:56:48	Becky	Childers	USD 497	Lawrence	I understand the reason for the delay, however, students need to be able to continue to condition and do walk throughs for their respective sport. They have been doing conditioning drills all summer long already, so i fail to see what the harm is on letting them continue. Sports ( while at social distances) is beneficial to the students physical and emotional education. These kids have been out of school for almost 5 months already and my 9th and 6th grade children were very disappointed that school was delay ed. The school district did an abysmal job of diatance learning March-May. Learning was non existant. In fact, my 5th grader had 2, 1 hour Zoom calls a week and the only thing they talked about was what each student was up to the past few days. There was NO teaching going on. I have had to hire a private tutor to recover the learning loss. Please have the students get back to the classroom as soon as possible. If parents do not want to send them to brick and mortar school, there are several online learning options available for them. I also do not think the delayed start is a one decision fits all situation. I feel it needs to be left up to the county to decide. Gov. Kelly put the decision making onto the county for the phased re-opening, why is she making a decision for all of Kansas on this?
7/21/2020 13:56:53	Lindsey	McDonald		Johnson	I would like to see students return to in person learning and activities just as soon as reasonably possible and in a way that supports our teachers. Online learning was extremely challenging for some students including my son and I worry that going into junior year, students potentially will face setbacks if they cannot learn in person. If teachers feel the three additional weeks is needed to prepare for in person learning, parents need to respect that decision but we MUST be committed to starting school learning immediately after Labor Day.  Regarding athletics and activities, we need a consistent policy for return to practice and competition. We cannot have one policy for practice and competition for one sport and not for all.
7/21/2020 13:56:54	Kate	Dibble	Blue Valley schools	Overland Park	I agree with the delay start of schools- why rush the start only to potentially have to shut down again
7/21/2020 13:57:11	Krista	Whitaker	None	LEAWOOD, Kansas	I support delaying of schools

7/21/2020 13:57:20	Kelsey	Schultz		Overland park	PLEASE reopen schools on time. All of my kids have fallen so far behind! If schools aren't open then my kids will have to attend daycare. So either way they will be around others. Please don't mistake daycare for school. My daycare will not teach what they or the manner in which they learn. I beg you to reopen. I'm sure at some point schools will be closed down so we need to get a jump on in school learning while we can and then look at possibly extending the school year if we don't have a lot of in person learning. Virtual learning will never be suitable for elementary aged children so much of that learning is social/emotional.
7/21/2020 13:57:21	Kelly	Henning	Parent	Prairie Village	Please delay start of school until after Labor day 2020.
7/21/2020 13:57:24	Nancy	Westling	Concerned Citizen	Manhattan	Please delay school. I have 2 grandchildren that will attend on site and am worried about their health, their parents health and my own.
7/21/2020 13:57:25	Kim	Osborne	Blue Valley school distr	Overland Park	Please consider voting for Governor Kelly's executive order. It will give districts time to put together a plan for keeping staff and teachers safe. We need to have time to get in person and online activities together.
7/21/2020 13:57:33	Kimber	Kasitz	Kansas School Nurses O	Wichita	The Kansas School Nurses Organization strongly supports Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-58 - Delaying the 2020-2021 K-12 school year. This will enable schools to determine more clearly what decisions must be made, obtain necessary supplies and develop protocols for a healthy and safe return to school for students and staff. Many school districts have been working tirelessly since March to develop plans with an ever-changing landscape and contradictory guidance. Please reference the letter sent to all KS BOE members from the Kansas School Nurses Organization that includes a poll from school nurses attending our virtual school nurse conference today. I have also emailed a copy of the letter to publiccomment@ksde.org. Thank you, Kimber Kasitz, KSNO President
7/21/2020 13:57:35	Laura	Kuplic		Dodge City	I think this delay is EXTREMELY WISE. Educators need this time to successfully plan and collaborate for the safety of our community!
7/21/2020 13:57:37	Angela	Sayers	School Teachers	TOPEKA	I think delaying the start of school year is a good idea. I understand it could cause the school year to be extended into normal summer break or loss of already scheduled off days. I also believe extending the school day could help to make up for the time missed. Teachers are always complaining there is not enough time get things finished.
7/21/2020 13:57:44	Sally	Zogry	parent	Lawrence	As the parent of a rising 10th grader and 8th grader (who is immunocompromised) I am in support of the proposed delay of the start to the 2020-2021 school year. Until we have a better plan that takes into account how positive diagnoses of students and teachers will be handled I do not feel there is merit in starting school. I am also uncomfortable with how the students will be interacting inside the buildings and how social distancing and mask wearing will be enforced. There are too many variable at play for me to feel safe in sending my children to in person school.
7/21/2020 13:57:51	Madison	Stratton	USD361 Anthony Eleme	Anthony	I'm hoping that the executive decision to postpone schooling for all districts is something that is mandated. We need to take into consideration staff, and staff's family members. This is just too great of an unknown for schools to be opening on time.

7/21/2020 13:57:51	Stacy	McGrath		Marysville	<p>I am a mother of 2 little ones in Marysville KS. I have a daughter starting first grade and one starting preschool this year. Our county (Marshall) has only begun to see a few cases of COVID, only 1 active currently. To say I was disappointed with the governor's latest announcement of starting school late is an understatement. My hope is that it is still left up to the local school district to decide what is best for our area. A blanket mandate across the entire state does a great disservice to our young people. Those rural counties across the state with very few, if any, cases should be able to make the decision of what is best for the kids in their area. I see no reason why school can't start on time (here it was set for August 17).</p> <p>My husband and I both work 40+ hours a week jobs and to expect us to try to fit online schoolwork in with a 4 and 7 year old after 5pm just isn't ideal. I realize that things may take a 'turn for the worse' this fall, and we are prepared to tackle that as best we can. However, we are not trained educators and our children's education will suffer, even though that is not our intent. That is not taking into consideration those kids, even in rural communities, who look to school as a safe haven from their home and count on school for a hot meal and much needed break from their home life. To me, the abuse and hunger these kids face is much greater risk than the risk they will be taking going to school with COVID.</p> <p>In conclusion, I'm hoping this message is read and taken into consideration when deciding what to do with the governor's announcement to force the whole state to start school late. We are educated people that have the right and the consideration to do what's best for our kids in our district.</p>
7/21/2020 13:57:54	Jeannette	Simonson	Topeka Public Schools	Topeka	As an educator I believe it is imperative we delay opening schools for children and staff safety. The novel coronavirus has proven to be a formidable enemy, and I do not believe the risk to our children's mental health to be as severe as the risk to the health of Kansas' population in the spreading of further Covid-19 cases. Children are resilient and, with more time, resources can be put in place to aid with mental health needs.
7/21/2020 13:57:55	Samantha	Carson		Topeka	I support school starting at the regular time in August , and do not wish to see a delay in starting the school year.
7/21/2020 13:57:59	Carrie	Weber		Colby	Please allow our kids back into school. The negative psychosocial effects the last 4 months have caused are far scarier than the virus that has such an incredible survival rate. More time out just increases those negative mental effects. I know some bigger schools may not agree but I'm in a small school district. Please let the districts decide! God bless!
7/21/2020 13:58:03	Elizabeth	Gerber	Public school / special e	Scott City	Please consider allowing local control to make educational decisions in our community. Guidance from the State BOE regarding strategies and practices has been helpful. Children need to be in school; parents need their children in school for educational and social-emotional learning. The economy of our state needs kids in school & parents working again!
7/21/2020 13:58:05	Will	Reiter		Gardner	Delaying the start of school will allow the public to bring down COVID numbers before sending children and teachers together that may cause more harm. Masks should be mandatory but sanitizer use every hour would be impractical.
7/21/2020 13:58:16	Stacy	Molton		Lawrence	Please start schools after Labor Day. Please give the schools more time to acquire necessary supplies to help keep our kids and the building staff safe. Schools are already struggling with plans on how to re-open safely and need the extra time to adequately plan and implement policies and practices
7/21/2020 13:58:18	Xuemei	Zhao		Overland park	No delay
7/21/2020 13:58:24	Jaymi	Westrup	USD 300	Protection	Do NOT delay
7/21/2020 13:58:56	Sawyer	Stevens	Scott City Football Team	Scott City	My team has not gotten to play competitively since March. As an athlete this is essential. Some kids are depending on this season to get scholarships to be able to go to college. Since we have already been together practicing since late may, why is it suddenly imperative to not be together practicing? Also, it's a lot different in bigger towns rather than Scott City.
7/21/2020 13:58:57	Barbara	Muse	USD #361	Anthony	I encourage the State Board of Education to carefully consider Gov. Kelly's mandate. Please do not allow party politics to taint the process. This is about keeping our students and their family's, our teachers and all of our support staff safe during a time that is unsure. This too shall pass and when it does, I hope that all concerned can look back and know that what they did was right for all concerned and based on facts.

7/21/2020 13:58:57	Rebecca	McGuire	USD 460 and HCSEC	N/A (live in country)	I believe we should trust the local health departments to tell the schools within their jurisdiction whether or not it is safe to open schools. This should be a LOCAL decision, county by county or even up to each individual district BOE.
7/21/2020 13:59:00	Michelle	Anderson	Teacher and Parent	Overland Park	Accept the governor's mandate and delay schools opening until after Labor Day. The Covid case numbers are continuing to rise and it is unsafe to go back at our normal time. The schools have not explained how they are keeping all people in a school building safe.
7/21/2020 13:59:01	Ashley	McClaskey	Olathe USD #233	Olathe	As a teacher who misses my students and teaching dearly, I ask you to uphold the Governor's executive order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. This will provide us teachers precious time to prepare for the unknown school year ahead. The more prepared teachers are, the better the learning and safety for students!
7/21/2020 13:59:03	Carrie	Smith		GOESSEL	I have four children, and I fully support the Governor's mandate to delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year until after Labor Day. I believe this to be in the best interest of the health of our children and all school staff, as well as their families and the larger communities.
7/21/2020 13:59:05	Karen	Jamison	Lexington Trails Middle	De Soto	Please support Gov. Kelly's decision to delay the 20-21 school year. With so many teachers that don't live in the district that they teach, this could cause other areas to be negatively impacted. When it comes to health and safety, we must proceed with excessive caution.
7/21/2020 13:59:08	Emily	Green		Derby	I support fully the executive order to push the start date of schools back! I am a teacher in Wichita, but live in Derby where my son will start kindergarten in the fall.
7/21/2020 13:59:26	Kevin	Poole	Topeka Public Schools	Topeka	Please allow for this vital extension of the start of the school year. To vote against it would be a disservice to school staff, students, and their families. This additional time is needed for teachers to effectively prepare resources for school safety and remote learning. Thank you!
7/21/2020 13:59:21	Sara	Johnson		Valley Center	Please remember the children of front line workers, police, nurses, grocery etc. when making your decision. We have been working away from home this entire time and our children have been educating themselves. Many hospital employees had to cut back their hours to stay at home in the spring, which leads to less staff to take care of patients. I know more will follow suit if online learning is going to continue indefinitely. Many have discussed removing from public schools if online continues, to either properly homeschool or go to private. The state is forcing us into these hard decisions. Please help our children return to school.
7/21/2020 13:59:31	Denise	Carter	El Dorado USD 490	El Dorado	Please follow the mandate to allow teachers the time to properly prepare to return to class. We miss our kids, but want us to be safe. Thank you!!
7/21/2020 13:59:38	Brittney	Garner	Special education teache	Overland park	Delay school and plan for online learning
7/21/2020 13:59:40	Zach	Bickel	None	Overland Parm	This is a simple choice, if you put politics aside. The science is there, it is real, and it needs to be followed. COVID infects, kills, and spreads easily. Kids get it; kids have died from it; kids have had serious effects after getting it. Kids can spread it to teachers, staff, and their parents and grandparents who have a higher probably of dying from it. It's not safe to open now as KS continues record breaking number of cases. Doctors and health directors have cautioned against opening schools - you should listen. What happens if you open school - against professional medical advice - and a kid or teacher gets ill, hospitalized, or dies? You're exposing yourself to liability. Why do that? Distance learning is there - this won't be forever. Follow the science - delay schools until the spread is not so great, or we have widely available testing, therapeutics, or a vaccine.
7/21/2020 13:59:43	Jay	Middleton		Overland Park	I want Gov. Kelly to be able to continue leading this fight against COVID based on the information she has access to and her sound judgement. Therefore, we do not want our daughter to go back to school full time until Gov. Kelly's team says it is safe. We are also interested in a hybrid option where she attends for essential classroom activities and then comes home like she would in a university setting if that is deemed safe.
7/21/2020 13:59:53	Hilary	Louvar	Small business owner	Wichita	I am overjoyed school is delayed.... and feeling pretty certain we should actually just do online learning this year.
7/21/2020 14:00:00	Natalie	Smith		Olathe	Please delay schools opening until it is safe for our children and teachers to return. The governor's plan is a wonderful start. Rely on testing and science to decide when it's safe to return.

7/21/2020 14:00:03	Lari	Jarrett	Santa Fe Trail USD #43	Overbrook	<p>I am a teacher and a parent. Our county rates are low, but I also recognize that my community is full of commuters.</p> <p>I remember how the swine flu swept through our school--60% absent at times. I am afraid COVID will make it into our schools, and we won't know until it is too late.</p> <p>I believe we can figure out systems to make school safer and allow some in-person instruction. We literally got the state guidelines last week. Please allow us the time to process and prepare.</p> <p>Every teacher in this state has spent their summer trying to be as ready as possible, but we are functioning with very little guidance. Thinking teachers have been "on vacation" for months is insulting.</p> <p>Please support the EO so we can figure things out. Give schools the time to prepare.</p>
7/21/2020 14:00:06	Scott	Sanders		Wichita	<p>Our kids missed so much during distance learning. They need in-person instruction and sports. Let's have our students and teachers wear masks - just like employees in most business environments do. Do not delay the school year.</p>
7/21/2020 14:00:15	Lynn	Auslander	Parent	Overland Park	<p>With 4 kids at home, 1 with a 504 and 1 with an IEP, it is imperative they all get back into the classroom. I have seen adverse affects in all my kids from being kept out of school and one being very dangerous to their well being. We can not continue to let them slide further down in their education or their mental well-being.</p>
7/21/2020 14:00:19	Brianne	Phillips	Parent of student	Lawrence	<p>Our children have essentially been out of school since March. Districts have had all summer to plan for various types of openings in the fall. Though I support keeping brick and mortar schools closed, I urge you to encourage schools to begin virtual/remote instruction at the planned original start date of school.</p>
7/21/2020 14:00:20	Sarah	Benton	USD 204	Kansas City, KS	<p>I know this decision must be weighing heavy on you. I appreciate the updates, willingness to listen as well as seek out advice from health experts, those in the education field, as well as parents and community members. Thank you for asking and listening. I am an educator and resident of Wyandotte County and am imploring your support of Gov. Kelly's delaying of school. What would 3 weeks of delaying school cost us versus the cost of opening school on time? What's the threshold of numbers of cases? Numbers of outbreaks? Numbers of deaths? I know your answer is my answer, that even one is too many. Three weeks buys us a lot more time than those not in education realize. Currently in our back to school schedule we only have 2 days of work time in our classrooms to get everything set up for social distancing and safety as well as only 3 days of professional development to discuss and learn all the new COVID protocols and procedures to keep our students and staff safe (in addition to how and what we're going to teach to still deliver a high quality education that our students deserve). That simply is not enough time to be ready. Gov. Kelly's order buys us an additional 12 school days to make sure we do this right, because as you know we only get one shot at this. One shot. Will you help us make the right shot? Will you help us protect and educate our students safely? Will you help us protect ourselves and our colleagues properly? We need your help so desperately. Thank you for your time, your service, and your help. Prayers for discernment in the decisions and for peace in the waiting. Prayers also for you and your family's safety and protection.</p>
7/21/2020 14:00:22	Jill	Compton	Parent	LENEXA	<p>Our children are not political bargaining chips. Leave schools closed till after Labor Day.</p>
7/21/2020 14:00:24	Melissa	Abernathy	Olathe School District P	Overland Park	<p>Our kids are suffering by not being educated &amp; socialized. We are finding ourselves falling behind compared to top performing nationally and internationally. Our kids need structure, parents are working and we simply can not keep our children entertained and challenged. Their poor minds have not learned or been exercised properly now for nearly 6 months. The continuous learning program put in place did them no justice. This is not intended to be a criticism as I understand you did not have time to properly prepare--but you have had time to properly prepare for school to reopen. I appreciate your thoughtful approach to this matter and know this is not an easy matter to navigate. Please help our kids! We do not want this generation to fall behind as we need them to lift us up for the future.</p>

7/21/2020 14:00:45	Jim	Balding		Emporia	Delaying school is only delaying education. According to the CDC as of July 21, 96.3% of all covid cases RECOVER. Any death is terrible and we should be diligent to protect one another. However, we have to understand that reopening the state we expected a rise in cases. That's how we build herd immunity. Our very own state KDHE today July 21, reports 98.65% recovery rate. Any delays only prolong the recovery of our health, education and economy. Please vote to move our state forward and focus on the positives.
7/21/2020 14:00:49	Shabina	Kavimandan	Kansas State University	Olathe	please allow schools time to adjust their calendars and let the cases subside a bit before we open schools. Our kids have been quarantined all this time and opening schools now when the cases are on the rise will be very bad.
7/21/2020 14:00:51	Chelsea	Albert		Shawnee	It is my recommendation to allow the decisions to be made by the local school board and community. The dynamic is so different from school district to school district.
7/21/2020 14:00:59	Karen	Arbo		Olathe	Education needs to be a priority and schools need to reopen on time. Denying kids an education is not acceptable , our kids are falling behind. There are guidelines for safety for all. Open the schools, teach the kids, do it on time. Kids are falling further and further behind,. Open the schools. Open the schools. If I can go to work all day, they can go to school. Open the schools.
7/21/2020 14:01:05	Joanne	Hughes	na	Stilwell	Our school is ready to open on time. Why punish the schools that have been proactive? This should be a school decision, not a decision made for the whole state. I'm writing this as a high school math teacher.
7/21/2020 14:01:13	Crystal	Davis	Andover - USD385	Wichita	I highly encourage you to accept Gov. Kelly's order to push back the start of Kansas schools due to the rising number of covid cases. Especially considering that numbers now are substantially higher (and are increasing at a more rapid rate) than they were when schools were ordered closed in March. Personally, I am scared to death to return to my classroom seeing 100+ students even if it is on an alternating basis (I would still be exposed to 100+ students). Trust me, nobody wants to see school resume as normal more than us teachers. The vast majority of us sacrifice our lives for 9 months out of the year because we LOVE our students, some almost as our own kids. Often times, we spend our own money feeding, clothing, buying coats, and paying for extracurricular activities for those students who otherwise can't afford it. We. Love. Our. Students. We understand that students need that social/emotional support, hot lunches, safety, education, and love among many other things that may only be provided at school. Nobody understands this more than teachers. However, there is a high risk to sending students back into the classroom with the balloon of positive covid cases in the state right now. That risk is far more than any risk before. That risk is death - to both children and adults. Sending kids back to school too early is simply negligent. It's not only negligent to the students, but it's also negligent to all school employees. It's thought (although highly disputed in some cases) that children are not as likely to get deathly ill, but have we taken into account that children were the first ones we quarantined (back when schools were closed in March), and are the last ones to leave quarantine (when schools open back up). My children (unlike myself) have literally not left the house since schools were ordered closed. Assuming other children are in the same predicament, it would makes sense that the number of children are lower than that of adults in our country. After all, more and more research is showing that kids are getting the virus at a similar rate to those of us adults.  There is always such a fine line when it comes to teachers and burn out. I feel that ordering teachers back too soon (like right now) will cause many teachers to walk away (possibly including myself). For those that don't walk away, the catastrophic loss we will witness (i say will because it's not a matter of "if", it's a matter of "when" covid spreads through schools) throughout the year will be enough to make us walk away next year. Talking about a shortage of qualified teachers - how will that help education in the future? Over the past several weeks, my husband and I have talked about taking out life insurance for our entire family and making a will before the possibility of returning to the
7/21/2020 14:01:20	Amie	Carter	My family; non profit ea	Lawrence	Please vote to delay the 2020-21 school year. It makes sense from the science and numbers and it will give all districts longer to prepare and make appropriate decisions that keep the teachers, staff, and families safety at the forefront. Weeks can be made up, but we can't replace lives. Please look at covkidproject.org Thanks for your time and important vote!
7/21/2020 14:01:24	Cindy	Mccurdy		Williamsburg	Delay school
7/21/2020 14:01:25	Jamie	Swan		Derby	Please follow Governor Kelly's order. I am very concerned for the health of the kids as well as faculty and staff. I know the faculty and staff are likely to be in the high risk categories for Covid.



7/21/2020 14:01:27	Shely	Perez	Usd253	Emporia	Until it is safe for staff and students we should not go back to school. There are too many unknowns and long term effects will still don't know about with this virus.
7/21/2020 14:01:29	Katherine	Sands	none	Overland Park	As a parent of an incoming high school freshman in Shawnee Mission SD, please delay the start of the school year. With covid cases on the rise, this is the only responsible way to proceed. None of the schools are ready or prepared for what happens next and they need more time to plan, parents need more time to plan, and we need to flatten the curve if at all possible to save lives. Please delay the start, please.
7/21/2020 14:01:37	James	Weaver		Olathe	Get the kids back in school. The stats do NOT support Gov. Kelly's position. Period.
7/21/2020 14:01:40	Jennifer	White		Lawrence	I support waiting until after Labor Day to start school for the safety of our teachers and students.
7/21/2020 14:01:41	Jennifer	Lombardo	NPS	Raymore	I live in MO, but I teach in KS. Please stand with Gov. Kelly and delay school start. The extra 3 weeks gives the residents a chance to try tonget our numbers trending back down, but it also gives us, as educators being thrown onto the front lines the opportunity to plan and get safety measures put in place for not only our kiddos (10 and up able to spread the disease like adults), but for our own safety and health. We are the at risk ones....please stand with US as we navigate unknown waters ahead. Things need to be done....we need time to do them.
7/21/2020 14:01:52	Carter	Stolberg	Teacher at Bonner Spring	Mission ks	Good afternoon! As a teacher in Kansas, I believe that it is crucial we allow teachers the three additional weeks to get ready. Though educating the youth of Kansas is essential, along with their mental well being, we must guarantee that schools are safe before re-opening. Having another three weeks will give teachers enough time to make any necessary changes to our lesson plans, and to prepare our classrooms to the unique challenges of this semester. I do hope that you choose to uphold Our Governor's order. I can not stress enough how important this decision is.
7/21/2020 14:01:59	Komoss	Creamer	Hays Public Schools US	In hays Kansas. Ellis c	Comment removed due to profanity
7/21/2020 14:02:03	Andi	Dale	South Central Middle School	Protection	<p>I am currently teaching middle school in a small 1A school. I have been overwhelmed thinking about how we are going to implement the KSDE recommendations in the 3.5 weeks we had before school started. How do administrators, faculty and staff think through all the moving parts to successfully begin school August 13. I know I breathed a huge sigh of relief when the governor made her announcement last week - more time to think through, adjust and prepare to give my students the best education this fall.</p> <p>I am most frustrated though by the politics that seem to keep changing the date. How on earth do we prepare when we're not sure when we're preparing for?</p> <p>I also think that upholding the delayed date takes a great deal of pressure off of small districts' boards of education who are feeling a great deal of pressure to get things going.</p> <p>I support the governor's executive order and hope you will too.</p>
7/21/2020 14:02:03	Jenny	VanEaton	None- Practicing CRNA	Little River	I believe the governor has reached way beyond appropriate boundaries with all of her mandates. There is never a one size fits all. Wanting to require masks for K-12 is not practical. Young children will be far more distracted and playing with their mask/face far more than not wearing one at all. It will impede their ability to pay attention and learn. Your suggestion that children 6th grade and above wear masks was much more appropriate. But how long does this go on, how long do we keep receiving 'orders' we must follow, Covid 19 isn't going anywhere. Do we let the government and media cause us to live forever in fear? The statistics of this virus say we should be doing otherwise. I have three children; 11, 8, and 6. I have seen the ill effects the closing of school in March and no sports/activities has had on them. Our youth are at a much higher risk of irreversible damage if school and sports/activities continue to be limited and shut down. Childhood obesity is at an all time high. Not to mention depression, anxiety, increased child abuse, hunger and a multitude of other negative things that go along with taking school and activities away from our children. We should not be teaching our children to live in fear and that is exactly what we are doing. The AAP believes this and so does my husband who is a practicing physician in McPherson. He has seen the negative effects the quarantine/social isolation has had not only on his pediatric patients but adults as well. Your decisions matter, it's time to stand up for what's right and quit letting the government overreach and take away our ability to think for ourselves and to make decisions for ourselves and for our families. I love my small town community and my state but right now I am not proud to be a Kansan.

7/21/2020 14:02:08	Lotus	Hazlett	Myself, but I am a teach	Manhattan KS	First, thank you for taking the time to read these comments. I am very hesitant to return to in class teaching in the fall. I worry about all the new responsibilities that will be placed upon me on top of providing a quality education. I am worried about kids infecting others (I teach HS and MS). I am worried that I will bring this home to my susceptible child. I am worried that if I don't follow something perfectly that there will be leeway for a parent to sue me for some type of negligence in my classroom teaching/management. I want my students to be successful and i want them to learn my curriculum. I felt fairly successful as I taught online last semester. Please allow us the time to be prepared for whatever type of instruction is best for our students. Delaying the start of the year allows for that proper preparation time. It also allows the country time to see some decreases in cases.
7/21/2020 14:02:09	Damin	Belcher	Maranatha Academy	Shawnee	Open the schools with no delay
7/21/2020 14:02:11	Wes	Fox	Teacher/taxpayer	Liberal	Late start is the dumbest thing ever. So is all the schedule changing schools are doing.
7/21/2020 14:02:13	Suzette	Kollman	Self	Olathe	As a special education teacher, when you discuss opening schools, I am asking you to make the safest decisions for my students, my colleagues, my family and myself. Please rely on the science and the current data for Kansas. Doing what is difficult now, will make the future easier. Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:02:19	Christine	Sturges-Brown		2737 sw burnett rd Tope	I'm asking the KS School Board to support Gov. Kelly's EO. Please allow teachers and administrators the time they need to put their safety protocol in to action. Teachers need time to plan and adjust. Caution is not the same as fear. Please let science, not politics, guide you.
7/21/2020 14:02:22	Jessica	Tholstrup		Clay Center	As a parent and educator I am all for postponing school after Labor Day. Not sure how the virus and statistics will look by then. For the safety and well-being against this horrendous virus. I think it is of utmost importance to postpone. Two of my children along with myself have suppressed immune systems and the outcome would be fatal if we would come down with the virus. I am hoping that the board puts the well being of students, staff,& everyone else involved in Kansas' education and does the right thing not the political thing.  Sincerely, Jessica Tholstrup
7/21/2020 14:02:32	SueAnn	Wanklyn	USD 320 Wamego Scho	Wamego	Special education students got lost in the virtual school environment last spring. Most have a much harder time learning if not hands on. My son being one of those. Am delay until September means SPED students will have been without proper education for six (6) months. Unacceptable! Our children lose retention at a much faster rate than those of their typical peers. Yes, we work with or soon at home, but many parents do not. Please take us back to a "normal" that has been disrupted due to politician's furthering their own agendas. Our kids need to get back to learning not only for their future, but their mental health as well. Thank you! SueAnn Wanklyn
7/21/2020 14:02:36	Cole	Rorick	Freestate high school	Lawrence	I believe school should be pushed back, but that outside sports practices should be allowed to continue.
7/21/2020 14:02:40	Cate	Eighmey	Cate Eighmey Photograp	Olathe	SUPPORT GOVERNOR KELLY'S EO TO DELAY THE START OF SCHOOL UNTIL AFTER LABOR DAY! Keep our staff and students SAFE!!
7/21/2020 14:02:40	Sally	Joseph		Southwest Kansas	Kansas School Board Members: I respectfully ask the board to look at the increased number of cases being reported and allow the school districts to have additional time to get proper safety guidelines in place before children return to school. It is imperative that schools take the necessary safety measures to create a safe and healthy environment for children to have continuous education throughout the 2020-2021 school year. Thank you for your consideration with starting school at a later time.
7/21/2020 14:02:50	Kelly	Brown	Maranatha Christian Ac	Basehor	First risk mitigation comment:We self transport our students to and from school. Second risk mitigation comment: Classroom population size is small enough to provide more than required social distancing imposed space without alternating days. Third risk mitigation comment: Lunch time has staggered times with the majority of students brown bagging their lunch from home.Fourth risk mitigation comment. All students are temperature scanned at entry before the school morning begins.
7/21/2020 14:02:53	David	Comer	Self	Overland Park	Kids need go back to school in August as scheduled.

7/21/2020 14:03:20	Cortney	Schrick		Valley Falls	Schools should be closed until the rest of the general public can operate like normal. My children along with others will not keep masks on or social distance. Let alone the masks will be a distraction for them and they won't be able to learn adequately
7/21/2020 14:03:37	Aunjele	Traylor	Wichita Public School	Wichita	I'm good with starting later
7/21/2020 14:03:42	Sienna	Alexander	Maranatha	Kansas City	August
7/21/2020 14:03:43	Brian	Pringle		Olathe	Open schools on time for those that want to go back to school. I'm in Spring Hill school district and the people that want their kid to do online classes can choose that. The rest want the kids back in the classroom. It should be a choice not a mandate.
7/21/2020 14:03:55	Alice	Blecha	Topeka Public Schools	Topeka	I support Governor Kelly's recommendation to delay the start of school and proceed with caution on having any on-site classes during this pandemic. The virus is surging uncontrollably at this time and likely will continue until an effective vaccine is developed and available for widespread use. This virus not only has killed far more people than the last pandemic flu (Swine flu in 2009), it has caused permanent health problems for many of the survivors. The fact that it is easily spread by asymptomatic carriers makes it impossible to know who has the virus. Public safety outweighs any of the problems and disadvantages that distance learning has. Distance learning isn't ideal, but staying well and alive is more important.
7/21/2020 14:03:56	Courtney	Miles	USD 233	Ottawa	We need more time. No one is adequately prepared and rushing back into buildings will do more harm than good. Delayed start is the best case scenario right now.
7/21/2020 14:03:56	Kelly	Byers		Olathe	I believe for the safety of staff and students we should wait until after Labor Day. Or, remote learning for at least the first month or so
7/21/2020 14:04:00	Richard	Young	LMH Health	Lawrence	I fully support delaying school. Opening school on the regular schedule WILL expose our children which I turn will expose their families. This will ABSOLUTELY increase the spread of COVID, resulting in more illnesses, lost time from work and death.
7/21/2020 14:04:10	Sara	Roepka		Hutchinson	<p>I am a wife or an essential worker that provides work to food plants to keep them functioning. I am a teacher that sees 300 kids daily. I am a mom, a daughter of older parents, a sister, an aunt. I am immune compromised. Please understand, I want to see my students and my colleagues but am SCARED to return to work! I fear being exposed and exposing all those that I love and those that I rely on to help pay the bills. I fear being hospitalized if I contract this virus and my previous condition plays a vital role in how my immune systems tolerates it. I fear I could be hospitalized and never seeing my family again. I fear death and not being able to give my family one last kiss and hug and tell them I love them. I fear a lot!!!</p> <p>At this time there are so many unanswered questions with the virus, the KSDE guidelines and the safety of our teachers and students that we should not be using schools, our teachers health and safety nor our students as a testing lab in order to see what will happen when schools reopen. Why should my well-being, my health and my families well-being be put in harms way so parents can work and the economy can continue to survive? Why are we being considered child-care for those parents? We are educators not child care providers and we should not be treated as such. Why are we considering opening schools now when our numbers are so much worse than when we closed in March and continuing to rise? Kansas numbers are getting worse that we are now considered a hot spot by some organizations and we are asked not to go to certain states due to our numbers. Is this not enough to wake you up and see returning to school is not going to help the situation?</p> <p>Schools are struggling to get proper PPE and cleaning supplies that were ordered months ago. Schools are struggling on how their districts will provide various instruction models and needs more time to figure this out. Local school boards are being rushed into decisions that are not ready to be made yet just to provide information to staff and families.</p> <p>I ask that you vote to delay the start of schools until at least after Labor Day.</p> <p>I also would ask that you consider enforcing remote learning in Kansas through the fall as we won't know how Labor Day will affect numbers for weeks following the holiday weekend. This will give teachers and parents much needed answers now rather than at the last minute. It will give us time to prepare as well as obtain the needed materials to</p>

7/21/2020 14:04:18	Becky	Waltner	Self	Olathe	I am a nurse practitioner. My sons dad is a physician. We don't even know what is best, so I am not envious of your "decision making" position. That being said, I would urge those in position to make choices for many who have no idea what to do, to listen to medical professionals, rather than being persuaded by political/economic forces. I honestly want him to be IN SCHOOL, not doing virtual learning, but I think we need to think outside the box (outdoor classrooms?) and/or continue the delay until we know it's safe to be indoors for 8+ hours/day. I do not feel that virtual is a good option for us, and would honestly rather just delay the year until we have this thing under control than try to manage two medical careers, in two households, while doing virtual learning. Thank you for doing what needs to be done to keep our kiddos safe!
7/21/2020 14:04:26	Mary	Towse	none	Bonner Springs,KS	I am in favor of delaying person to person contact in the schools.
7/21/2020 14:04:27	Kevin	Serrano	Scott Community Highs	Scott City	I think that fall sports shouldn't canceled or pushed back. There are some of us who already got the end of the school year canceled and it was devastating not doing track
7/21/2020 14:04:38	Erin	Weber		Overland Park	I agree that schools should delay opening until after Labor Day (or start online) until Covid numbers are significantly down and it is safe for students AND staff to return. The focus seems to be more on children and I'm glad Governor Kelley is standing up for employees who also work within the schools. This is a pandemic and it needs to be taken seriously.
7/21/2020 14:04:38	Keith	Skillman		715 Tennessee St. Lawrence	I support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school start.
7/21/2020 14:04:39	Tandy	Wolters	Parent of a public school	Lawrence	Kansas is currently a hot spot for increasing rates of Covid-19. Evidence is growing that children ARE spreaders, and many children DO have serious cases - some die. And for anyone who tests positive, we don't know the long term effects of this disease. But certainly, some are already displaying systemic issues well after "recovery". Sending kids to public school will be dangerous - for kids, their families, for teachers and staff, and the larger community. There is simply no way to contain the virus when we put lots of bodies together! And without healthy families, we cannot feed the economy. Each time we do a little more to open before we truly have things under control, we just keep delaying our way out of this thing. Let's do the work and once and for get this thing under control. Online learning for all for the foreseeable future.
7/21/2020 14:04:39	Ellen	Hollister-Breen		Fort Riley	Please delay as much as possible. The health of my children is paramount.
7/21/2020 14:04:40	Tony	Smith		Pratt	As a High School teacher I would hope you support the Governor In her order to postpone the opening of school until after Labor Day. This would allow the situation with the Covid 19 virus to settle down. It will also allow schools more time to develop plans which will protect both the students and staff from being infected. I really would like to avoid getting infected and possibly dying
7/21/2020 14:04:43	Kelsey	Wuthrich	Usd 375	Augusta	I am a teacher and agree with the governors decision to push back the 20-21 school year start date. I feel like my school district needs more time to plan and prepare for the upcoming school year.
7/21/2020 14:04:43	Amanda	Morris	Parent of student	Overland park	Please keep decisions at the district level, not the state, and as a nurse practitioner in pediatrics, I strongly believe we need to get these kids back in campus and in school!
7/21/2020 14:04:44	Kelley	Alexander		Olathe	I think it's best for students and educators if school is virtual for at least this semester. There are so many unknowns about health at the moment and risking the life of health of anyone us unnecessary when virtual options exist.
7/21/2020 14:04:45	Hollie	Tejeda		Wichita	Delay school. Protect students and staff.

7/21/2020 14:04:51	Abby	Hearron		Overland Park	I think we should start school because first of all we need to build up an immunity to COVID-19 just like we have built up an immunity to every other disease that this world holds. Also what is even the point of starting late if we are just going to go back eventually. I am going to be a freshman in high school this year and for me I think I need to make the transition into high school in person. Also not being in school is very bad for some people's mental health because maybe they have something going on at home and school is the only escape for them. Or maybe they need to be in the school environment with a certain teacher or friend because it makes them feel better and we can't do that from home. The amount of cases might be going up but the number of deaths is not because everyone is just not getting tested. If it was already in their system and they just carry the virus then it will show up as positive. All I'm saying is that this thing isn't going anywhere so we can either choose to be scared of it our whole lives or we can choose to go on with our lives like we did before and not let it completely change everything. Being stuck in our homes is not going to do anything but make it worse when we do decide to go out again. School is the most important thing to some people and if you don't let us go back it will be your problem when everyone retaliates. So you can either choose to keep us locked up in fear because of your power or you can let us live our lives and do what humans do best, adapt.
7/21/2020 14:04:51	Memori	Keck		Goddard	Please wait until after Labor Day and let's get things figured out! Give our district leaders time to plan a return for our students. I want nothing more than to be back in my classroom but it's not worth a life to do so!
7/21/2020 14:04:53	Jamie	Arnold	Parent	Kingman	Mandatory masks, social distancing and other interventions creates an environment which goes against human nature and is not conducive to learning especially in children where they have been proven to not be asymptomatic carriers and are more likely to be struck by lightning than get and pass on Covid. Look at the death and recovery numbers compared to the total local population. Let each county have the ability to make decisions for their students.
7/21/2020 14:04:53	Christoher	Wright	Blue Valley 2nd Grade	SOLATHE	Open the Schools!!!!
7/21/2020 14:05:02	Gloria	Hiller		Overland Park	As a health care professional, I would like to stress the importance of protecting our children, their teachers, other workers in the school, and families from the risk of COVID 19 infection. Delay school until after Labor Day. Do the right thing and follow Governor Kelly's executive order.
7/21/2020 14:05:05	Andrea	Rausch	Parents and Teachers	Wichita	KEEP SCHOOLS CLOSED until this is under control. Do the right thing for the kids, teachers, school staff, and community. Opening schools is NOT AN OPTION in a situation like this. I know these times are unprecedented but SAFETY and HEALTH much come before education right now. We have to accept this!

					<p>I wanted to give an update on the research regarding COVID in children.</p> <p>I should back up briefly and state that this is from a physician with a PhD in Epidemiology who became very interested in this topic when a colleague and friend of mine, Jennifer Kasten, MD MSc, wrote a systematic review of COVID epidemiology in children (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/jenniferkastendmd/posts/128898328763114">https://www.facebook.com/jenniferkastendmd/posts/128898328763114</a>) and found kids 12 and under *might be viral "dead ends", meaning they can get COVID but can't transmit to anyone else. This really captured my interest because this would make COVID very different from most respiratory viruses we know. Then in a physician's group dedicated to school opening, a physician researcher published a document for the group in which said she could identify 0 (zero) cases of certain transmission from children under 12 in the scientific literature and since that time Dr. Rutherford, UCSF Epidemiologist, has also been public about elementary-aged children being a "one way street" for infection - they get it but don't appear to transmit it, much, if at all. (UCSF Grand Rounds lectures are now available on YouTube for those interested in hearing him).</p> <p>Last month, I did my own summary of the data (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/tracy.hoeg/posts/10219217323357158">https://www.facebook.com/tracy.hoeg/posts/10219217323357158</a>) and found evidence of the following:</p> <p>*Very limited transmission if any from children ages 12 and under to either other children or adults</p> <p>*Children appeared to be at least 10 times more likely to die of influenza than Covid and are more likely to be struck by lightning (I rechecked the CDC website today 7/13 and they are still reporting 3 deaths in children under 18 due to confirmed COVID; for comparison, there have been 185 deaths due to influenza in this population in the 2019/2020 season. Edit: see updated mortality data below from the 7/19 addition).</p> <p>*Countries that reopened elementary schools as a first step in their country's reopening did not see an uptick in cases (these include numerous European and Asian countries, some of which are displayed in Figure 4. Reopenings not causing and uptick in cases is consistent with children not being a major vector for the disease. Figure 3 shows age of the source of the cases of COVID in Holland, with none ages 18 and under in their study, as just an example of these</p>
7/21/2020 14:05:07	Brandon	Grosdidier	Eudora High School and	Eudora, KS	
7/21/2020 14:05:11	Mark	Hoduski	Maranatha Christian Ac	Bonner Springs	Please open school on time. Online learning is not effective compared to relational-education. Please don't allow this generation to get so far behind academically that they can never make up the time lost. Thank you, Mark
7/21/2020 14:05:16	Cathie	Bennie	Olathe North High Scho	Olathe	Please support Governor Kelly's mandate to delay opening the schools until we can control the community spread.
7/21/2020 14:05:21	Kim	Christopher		Basehor	We think smaller districts should be able to decide for themselves and not be lumped together with larger districts as far as mandates go. Please consider the facts that the media/politicians are not considering--without schools: abuse remains hidden, meals get missed, IEP's are not adequate, learning disabilities are left unrecognized, social skills are delayed, academic success is not promoted, parents are left to decide between work and school, emotional and psychological issues are left unattended, staff is left without work, life long relationships are not formed, kids do not receive physical education or movement, team building skills are lost, social behavioral skills are left unchecked, dogs will miss chasing the school buses ;) and SO MANY MORE! Please prayerfully consider the impacts of children of all ages not being able to learn together!
7/21/2020 14:05:34	Erin	Wohletz	USD444 Teacher & Pare	Little River	Our students & teachers need to return to normalcy...let's start school, in person & on time. Encourage good hygiene (washing hands) and DO NOT REQUIRE MASKS! Covid has been no worse than influenza which hits schools EVERY YEAR!
7/21/2020 14:05:36	Heyda	Linera		Leavenworth, KS	To open August with all students learning remotely from home. Eventually, combination in-School & Remote Learning, would start September, if the COVID-19 infection rate in Leavenworth drops.
7/21/2020 14:05:36	Susan	Kendall	Grandmother	Topeka	Please support Governor Kelly's executive orders regarding the opening of schools in Kansas.
7/21/2020 14:05:41	Renner	Bradley		Merriam	I personally don't understand what waiting a couple extra weeks is going to do. Nothing has improved much over the past few months as far as coronavirus cases go. And we continue to see hundreds of new cases daily.
7/21/2020 14:05:45	Kristin	McMahon	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	Postponing the start of school by 3 weeks is the least you can do. I will be in close contact with over 150 students a day and do not feel it is fair to bring illness home to my family when our positive case numbers are on the rise!!
7/21/2020 14:05:49	Natalie	Clark		Pratt	Do not delay school

7/21/2020 14:05:53	Sarah	Garten	Self/ Parent	Overland Park	I hope that the school board upholds Governor Kelly's executive order to postpone the start of school, and require masks and other protective measures once they re-open. The safety of our kids, teachers, and community is of paramount importance and I don't think any family should have to choose their child's safety over their education. I hope that Kansas takes a stand and is a model for other states that we value the safety of our community and the life of our children more than we value a political agenda. This should not be a political issue. This should be a human life issue. Please keep my family safe and help us find other ways to continue to educate our kids in a remote fashion until a vaccine is found.
7/21/2020 14:06:06	Laura	Good		Olathe	I believe kids should start back to school with in person learning Aug 13.
7/21/2020 14:06:15	Andrea	Sanmiguel	Parent	Lawrence	I support the delay in school opening if this gives time for funding to be put in place to support safer in person school options.
7/21/2020 14:06:17	Jacob	Miller	Citizens climate Lobby	Kansas city	Push opening until after Labor Day. Gov. Kelly has done an excellent job of staying ahead, listening to the advice of medical experts, and being proactive. Continue doing so. It's just too early to reopen and endanger the lives of students and teachers.
7/21/2020 14:06:20	Sarah	Ullmann		Wichita, KS	Please uphold the Governor's Executive orders to allow for a delay in school starting. Many communities have a high positivity rate of testing and community spread. Please protect our children and staff! Thank you for serving all of Kansas' children and schools.
7/21/2020 14:06:33	Shirley	Ulery	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita	Delaying the start of school is the only answer at this point and then it needs to be done virtually until this virus is under control. We are in a way worse situation than in March! Please don't put students, teachers and families at risk.
7/21/2020 14:07:05	Chris	Hartwick	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	Please allow smaller, private schools the flexibility to manage when and how they open. Smaller schools, much like rural schools, are able to safely open on time following CDC recommended guidelines. Please do not group smaller private schools in the same category as larger, public schools that face additional challenges, especially in terms of social distancing.
7/21/2020 14:07:12	Tara	Allen	USD 259	Wichita	Please OPEN schools with safety precautions in place sooner rather than later. Our kids need to be back in school.
7/21/2020 14:07:14	Ben	Gervais		Olathe	I support executive order 20-58, to delay the start of the school year. I would hope that the school board will make a data driven decision that impacts the lives of all students and families. While the decision is difficult to make, these are unprecedented times with unprecedented decisions to make. As a teacher of music (a subject always neglected in big decisions), I realize my job could be in jeopardy in the long term of this decision. However, my job is not as important as the health and well being of students and their families. Please allow the time for schools to effectively prepare for the school year to ensure a safe return for all students.
7/21/2020 14:07:23	Stephanie	Luttrell	Luttrell Family	Olathe	I am extremely worried about reopening schools in light of the increasing numbers of Covid-19 cases. I am worried for our children one of whom has asthma and for the teachers and staff who serve our district. We feel all summer and fall in person activities should be cancelled so that we can really slow the spread of the virus in our community and state! It is unfair to ask our youth to risk their health to participate in activities that might mean scholarships or other accolades while those who stay home would not have the same opportunities as they are not willing to gamble their health. That is a choice no family should have to make. Kansas has an outstanding education system. Slowing/suspending some education/activities will not harm their long term educational goals and might even save their lives. It is also unfair to ask teachers to risk their lives and their family members' or risk losing the jobs they love. They will be not only put in a position of educator, but in public health official by trying to keep order in classrooms with children who may not keep their masks on or outright refuse. Allergies, common colds, flu, and other illnesses can have the same symptoms as Covid-19 and will cause enormous stress to them as they try to get through each day being the caring people they are but trying to maintain safety for themselves and others! We should not require them to do so. I am extremely grateful for each and every staff member who comes into contact with my children each day, from the janitor who smiles and helps them pick up the books they drop in the hallway, while keeping our school running, to the cafeteria workers who make sure they are well fed to the teachers and staff that offer them a safe, loving and rigorous educational experience. I urge you to delay in-person instruction and activities until the virus is decreased and our communities can resume with less risk. Thank you.

7/21/2020 14:07:26	Michelle	Kirk	myself, although I am a	Baldwin City	<p>I thank you for giving the public a chance to send you even more communication. I thank you for your service to Kansas education, students, families, and staff. These are times that call for difficult decisions, not popular choices. Please support Governor Kelly's Executive Order to delay the start of schools, so we may use those few extra weeks for desperately needed time in this unprecedented time.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We need time to lower COVID19 transmission rates in Kansas, instead of the increasing numbers of cases/deaths that are hitting both urban and rural communities.</li> <li>2. We need time for school districts to order necessary protective/cleaning supplies and new technical equipment.</li> <li>3. We need time to prepare and train staff on new protocols and new technology in keeping our learning environment safer for everyone inside our schools.</li> <li>4. We need time to adjust to KSDE's Navigating Change educational plan that was just released last week.</li> <li>5. We need time to make sure our local district plans are in place for the constant shifts that will occur in different areas at different times across the state.</li> </ol> <p>If our own state's medical advisors are not sufficient support for Governor Kelly's decision, please consider our National Surgeon General's words this morning (Tuesday, July 21): "We need to lower transmission rate of coronavirus to reopen schools." <a href="https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/508284-surgeon-general-we-need-to-lower-transmission-rate-of-coronavirus-to">https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/508284-surgeon-general-we-need-to-lower-transmission-rate-of-coronavirus-to</a></p> <p>We know that our children matter. We know that education matters. We know that you are facing many pressures in making your decision. But we also know that starting school at the "normal time" is NOT in our best interest, because this is NOT a normal time. This is not about closing school, this is about giving us precious needed time to prepare for the dangers that lie ahead.</p> <p>We know you want to do what is best for our children and for our staff in this great state. We are counting on you to make the right decision. Ad astra per aspera. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 14:07:28	Tamyra	Heim	Topeka USD 501 public	Lawrence	<p>Regarding Executive Order 20-58: Please uphold Gov. Laura Kelly's proposal to delay the start of school for K-12 students. The continuing pandemic crisis makes public school for our students and staff more difficult than ever. Educators want to be in our schools and teaching our students, but we need to be able to do that in a safe environment. Please put the students and staff of public schools in the best position to succeed and to stay healthy. Thank you, Tamyra Heim</p>
7/21/2020 14:07:29	Erin	Friesen	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee and Lenexa	<p>We need all of our children back in in-person school! This is vital to our children's continuing education. My children will lose what they did know if you don't allow them to attend school. Please do not delay our in-person education!! Children learn best when they are in the environment of learning. On line learning can leave kids distracted and not prepared for the future. I believe children have good immune systems and are not as easily done in by the plandemic. Please, please do not delay our in-person education!!</p>
7/21/2020 14:07:30	Jane	Doe		Phillipsburg	<p>Kids are in far more danger at home and online or even in their parents' car than they are from this virus. Open normally with no crazy mandates, and if parents are not comfortable, they can pair up with teachers who are not comfortable for a small private homeschool coop.</p>
7/21/2020 14:07:31	Brandi	Shoemaker	Mom and Business Own	Overland Park	<p>Both of my children are currently Enrolled at hilltop and they're special education program. As a Mother of a child with special needs we have noticed a huge change with her IEP and program at hilltop. We implore you to please open school back up. The children need their education and early intervention is so key. We've seen the statistics about Covid with young children and I'm baffled that we are even questioning kids not attending in person school. We have seen a huge regression in behavior and social skills since we've been out of school. Drs. And health care Professionals have stated that our kids need to be in school. I am extremely concerned if this continues to progress the way it has.</p>
7/21/2020 14:07:35	Carly	Hoban		Leawood	<p>I think we should go to school. It is very important developmental years before college and kids are more productive during in person schooling. Kids are not high risk and should go back to school.</p>



7/21/2020 14:07:46	Mary	Shepherd		Fort Riley	Please delay the start of school and please encourage schools to offer hybrid learning. We need better options that's all or nothing in school or distant learning.
7/21/2020 14:07:48	Crystal	Koeneke		Manhattan	Schools need to resume as were previously planned in August! There is absolutely no reason to delay for 2 weeks. The kids need to resume as normal of a life as soon as they can. This has caused a ton of mental health issues for our children that have caused way more harm to their lives than the Coronavirus. I am speaking from experience as my child developed an eating disorder during Covid & is currently in an Eating Recovery Center. All of his normal coping mechanisms were taken from him when the governor chose to shut schools. Please, please allow the schools to open as previously planned for August.
7/21/2020 14:07:53	Erica	Catausan	None	Overland Park	It shouldn't take additional three weeks to get supplies that should have been ordered months ago. We knew school was coming and the virus would still be here. Her hold up I believe is to extend the no school order and order every student to stay at home and do distance learning.
7/21/2020 14:07:54	Janel	Durler	Non-metro area commu	Wright	<p>The decision to delay or not to delay the start of school should be a local decision. One made by the elected board members in communities, who know the risk for that particular community, and can consider the needs of it on a more personal level. What is appropriate for metro areas, other bigger cities in Kansas, and rural communities, has never been the same. So, why should there be a blanket solution now. A huge part of Kansas re-design has been personalized learning, and making a decision for the entire state does not follow what we have been working so hard on either.</p> <p>Please let the local boards, with guidance from Dr. Watson and the state school board, decide.</p>
7/21/2020 14:07:57	Michelle	Henley	Shawnee Mission Schoo	Lenexa	I am a teacher and am looking forward to teaching in the school when it is safe for our community to do so. Coronavirus cases are still rising in our area and melding so many different "bubbles" together will have a negative impact on the situation. I don't want businesses to have to close when the schools open and the case rate expands. I do believe kids are at risk of falling behind academically and socially from staying at home, but we can and will catch them up. Illness in themselves or their family members will put them much farther behind than staying at home temporarily. Thank you for asking for our input.
7/21/2020 14:08:02	Jessie	K.		Emporia	I believe delaying school should be a local decision, not the governor's choice. I feel there is no reason to delay school, when in fact I have been teaching in person for the last couple of weeks. Yes, it has been small groups. Yes we are taking precautions. Yes, we are going to have cases, COVID isn't going anywhere, but we need to get our kids in school. If a district feels like they are prepared for school to start and the local school board agrees, let them do so. Please, let this be a LOCAL school board decision. I am comfortable and ready to send my kids back as well as have myself in the classroom.
7/21/2020 14:08:12	Vanessa	Underhill		Hill City	I would love to go back to school on time. Our children have been out of formal school for 6 months. They need to get back into the classroom. Our small county has not had the outbreaks that big communities have faced. Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/21/2020 14:08:16	Tara	Heim	Parent	Larned	I do not think delaying thile 20-21 school year for 2 or 3 weeks will do any good for our students. As a parent of 5 kids who attend the 495 school district and who works for the school district, think delaying their learning and any further would be beneficial eith as far behind as all of the children are currently with missing as much school as they have. I also do not think mandating masks for everyone is right. We as people and parents should have this right to decide to not wear a mask. Pediatricians have even stated they are not beneficial nor is it healthy. I think it should be optional, and if is it not I will be pulling my children and home schooling them
7/21/2020 14:08:18	Lesli	Lundquist	Maranatha Christian Ac	Lenexa	Please let the schools open as regularly scheduled in August and NOT postpone to after Labor Day. Thanks you!
7/21/2020 14:08:19	Elizabeth	Daniel		Roeland Park	Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day. There are so many factors and moving pieces to determining what is best for students, teachers, staff and families. Additional weeks will give communities much needed time to continue to formulate plans to keep kids, teachers, and communities safe. These are unprecedented times. Please DO NOT let partisan politics keep you from doing what is will keep our kids and families as safe as possible.

7/21/2020 14:08:20	Dec	Kellogg	motherhood!	Wamego	I don't think it would hurt to delay school until after Labor day. If they need to make up the hours why not give them a shorter Christmas break and not so many days off.
7/21/2020 14:08:22	Kara	Pinter	Maranatha Christian aca	Lenexa	Please start school on time., or give individual schools the option to make the decision best for them. Thank you!
7/21/2020 14:08:22	Carmen	Raines	TPS 501 teacher	Topeka	As a veteran teacher and parent of an immunocompromised child, I ask that you follow Gov Kelly's order for face masks, distancing between students, and delaying school start date until after Labor Day 2020.
7/21/2020 14:08:24	Lacy	Rogers		Lawrence	Due to COVID kids should not be going back to school yet!
7/21/2020 14:08:27	Eli	Gaeddert	USD411	Goessel	I agree with Governor Kelly's guidance on school opening after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 14:08:35	Darla	Walker	Grandparent	El Dorado	I agree with the Govenor. I think we can do this if done cautiously. I believe kids can be taught to wear a mask and social distance. I think some kids NEED that structure . Thank you Gov for doing your best to do the right thing
7/21/2020 14:08:49	Amber	Brown	Frank Laden Elementary	Fronenac	Please give our teachers and staff time to plan and execute before adding students and parents.
7/21/2020 14:08:53	Kerry	Mueller	parents	Linwood	We need to reimagine the structure of the school day. Kids need to be back in school, especially elementary aged children. If they can complete their subjects online in an hour or two, they don't need to go for 7 hours a day. Split the classes in half, and half goes in the morning and the other half in the afternoon. Schools should open in August to get some instruction time in before the flu season arrives and possibly more COVID cases. Expecting parents or others who are non-teachers to home school/teach kids online is a disservice to the kids.
7/21/2020 14:08:57	Josh	Pavlik	Teacher/Parent of a first	Emporia	I agree with Governor Kelly. School should be postponed until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 14:08:59	Ann	Hiebert	USD 411 teacher	Goessel	It seems extremely important and imparitve that schools and staff have time to make plans for opening schools that are safe and provide the best possible education during a pandemic. The extra time also allows for getting the appropriate supplies and adaptations in place. It also allows time for Kansans to help flatten the curve of the virus.
7/21/2020 14:09:00	Stephen	Shull	Parent	Colby	I think starting school late is a plus but kids wearing masks at school should be optional.
7/21/2020 14:09:02	Kelly	Tun	Parent	Altamont	Please DELAY. There is no benefit to rushing. Teachers want to teach but they want to be safe. Parents need time to adjust. Rushing into it will only cause panic. I do not want to see parents keep their kids home because they're scared. Please delay and give everyone more time to do things right. Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:09:13	Peggy	Whitworth	Myself	Abilene, KS	My opinion is to open up the schools before Sept.9. Will 10-15 days later make a big difference? Those that want to home school can and those who are ready to send their children to school can also. It's a win win for the parents. I'm hearing a lot of parents want to home school, so that should help make for smaller classrooms and easier social distancing for public schools. There are children out there that need to be in school with qualified personnel or they will really fall behind. Home schooling is certainly not for everyone. Give the parents a choice, don't be making it for them. Not one size fits all. Thank you for this chance to voice an opinion.
7/21/2020 14:09:21	Jolynn	Allen	I am a parent	Hutchinson	I feel like the date set is a good starting point, but there needs to be a plan ready to execute delaying even longer if this keeps spreading clearly reopening our businesses and things to do didnt work in june and we need to find a way to safely open everything up my priority is seeing my kids and teachers healthy and not just being a spreader of this horrible covid. We need a plan that will help little children who already have difficulty staying apart and wearing masks to do so and to keep hands clean that is so much to ask. There has to be a better way. This isn't just about school this is about everyone's health. One kid taking this home and spreading it to their mom who works in a nursing home. . You see where I am getting at. It could be devastating. I dont understand why online learning can't be taking place till that is figured out schools had time since March to figure this out . What has been done? I find it really sad that kids can't be normal and be with friends and do everything a kid is supposed to do, but i clearly believe we need to worry about this as a whole and not just look at it selfishly. If delaying the start of school till after the holidays is what needs done i will be sad but someone needs to take the health officials words and figure that out, isn't that why we have leaders and specialists. They all know what's best in their specific expertise.
7/21/2020 14:09:24	Erin	Davis		Olathe	Thank you Gov. Kelly for delaying schools until after Labor Day. Keeping our children safe should be our number one priority.

7/21/2020 14:09:32	Wanda	Lewis		Manhattan ks	The schools need to remain closed. Even one child or teacher lost is too many. We do not know enough about this virus to risk our staff and children's lives when we have the option to go online. When the first kid gets the sniffles it will cause a trickle effect of closings , quarantines and chaos. Give the doctor and scientists time to get ahead of the virus. We need to be proactive. We've had 6 new children's cases over the weekend here in Riley county. As an educator I beg you to keep the children out of those buildings.
7/21/2020 14:09:57	Laura	Scott		Louisburg	I work in the Blue Valley School District and support Governor Kelly's decision to wait to resume school until after Labor Day. Please uphold her executive order. I believe she's doing her best to protect the citizens of KS.
7/21/2020 14:10:03	DAVID	Keener	Maranatha Christian Ac	Kansas City	Students are needing to get back to school. The online learning situation is not ideal for most students and the peer/teacher interaction is more valuable than most understand.
7/21/2020 14:10:03	William	Perkins	my grandkids	LAWRENCE	Delay opening. We didn't start school until after labor day when I went to school and it will not harm my grand kid's education. We need to stop this virus as soon as we can.
7/21/2020 14:10:04	Anne	Lawrence	myself	Oxford	<p>The cancellation of school in the spring and delays this August have caused and will continue to cause many students to fall behind. Some students may do well with 'distance learning' but many do not do as well as in-person learning. This particularly discriminates against special needs children. Forcing any student to spend so much time on electronics is not good either. For special needs children, in particular, this causes sensory overload that is detrimental but it is also a bad influence for any child to spend extensive time looking at a screen. Even in adults, extensive screen time tends to become addictive; how much more is it influencing young, developing minds?</p> <p>Expecting that Kindergarten children and older will do well with wearing masks all day long and focusing on learning is very unrealistic. It is interesting that everyone is considered contagious during class, but magically, they are not contagious during lunch? That makes no sense at all in a logical application but makes all the sense in the world in an emotional sense.</p> <p>Everyone is fearful of the corona virus because the media reports spiking cases. With much more extensive testing and many reports of grossly inflated reporting of positive cases from many testing sites, such as over 300 sites reporting 100% positivity in Florida when real numbers were 7-9%, it should be expected that there will be more cases reported. What they don't tell you is that the vast majority of cases are asymptomatic or have extremely mild symptoms. Yes, elderly and vulnerable people should be taking extra precautions, but the vast majority of the population is just fine and will remain just fine. It is unpopular in this heightened panic to say so, but the flus we experience every year have killed many more people than the corona virus. Are we now going to shut down everything and panic when the traditional flu season starts? That would be the appropriate response considering what we have done and continue to do for the corona virus. It is sad to see so many so fearful of living their lives. Our ancestors who settled this country must be spinning in their graves.</p>
7/21/2020 14:10:08	Amy	Greenwood	Parent and wife of first r	Valley Center	Start school on time. Get the kids back into a routine.
7/21/2020 14:10:11	Timothy	Green	Teacher	Derby	Please pass Governor Kelly's executive order to allow schools enough time to review the document and to have enough time to train and follow appropriate safety protocols
7/21/2020 14:10:21	Marci	Dighton		Shawnee	We would like to see school start after Labor Day as a norm. Covid aside, this is a good move. We have no concerns about starting in August, however. Just prefer later start in general!
7/21/2020 14:10:30	Jason	Slote		Lawrence	Students, staff and faculty should not be present in school buildings until it is PROVEN SAFE. The lives of our children and families are not to be put at risk for political or economic advantage. PERIOD.
7/21/2020 14:10:31	Mark	Evans	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	Please do not delay the opening of school. Reasonable precautions can be taken.
7/21/2020 14:10:38	Scott	Myers	Myself and my family	Cummings, Kansas	I believe if we want our kids to go to school we should have that right. If people want there kids to stay home that's fine too!
7/21/2020 14:10:41	Courtney	Smith		Olathe	Please accept the governors EO. My son is immunocompromised and I'd like the district to delay opening as much as possible or go all online for his safety. I have numerous other reasons as well but this is the most important. Please allow a few weeks to see what case numbers do and to give schools more time to plan for this ever changing situation. Thanks for all you do!

7/21/2020 14:10:44	Heather	Ostrander	Self	El Dorado	Unless the state plans to pay for my family to have internet and pay my wages so I can stay home and school my 5 year old who cant be left to fend for themselves then schools need to open as scheduled!
7/21/2020 14:10:51	Kelsey	Finke	USD 320 Special Servic	Manhattan	Thank you, Governor Kelly, for providing schools & communities time to prepare & plan for the changes necessary to return as safely as possible to school. Pushing back the start date will help immensely in preparing!
7/21/2020 14:10:52	Blake	Braddock	N/a	Manhattan	Schools opening is not a smart idea. Cases are growing quicker than when the schools closed!!!
7/21/2020 14:11:02	Marsha	Ramsey	Grandchildren	Eureka	I see no purpose in delaying the start of the school year. The students have already been out of the classroom for 6 months. I know 2 of my grandsons did not perform well with the twice weekly zoom meetings. Also their parents need to work and not everyone has a grandparent to fall back on and even if they do not all grandparents are computer/Zoom savvy.
7/21/2020 14:11:07	Brenna	Smith		Olathe	Direction for schools to take should also consider the impact on child custody visitations schedules. If the start is delayed, will schools still be required to provide the mandated amount of school days/school hours, and ultimately impact the end date? Will school break times be revisited and reworked? If so, this may require some parents to have to go back to court (Which May be a problem due to limited onsite scheduling) and incur additional expenses to modify visitation plans. Schools should be able to offer the remote learning opportunities to keep aligned with the original school schedule.
7/21/2020 14:11:09	Steve	Clabaugh		Overland Park	I do not believe delaying the school year is necessary. I believe the school year should start in August on time. Private schools should not have to follow the same guidelines as Public schools. I also believe that making the children wear masks is not in the best interests of the children. If appropriate safety measures are implemented then it is not necessary.
7/21/2020 14:11:13	Stacie	McKay		Wichita	I believe delaying until after Labor Day is the correct response for USD 259 and other districts in high case counties. Other districts that are rural may not have the risk as the larger ones, so it may be best on a district by district case. However, if it would be "one size fits all" then we need to wait.
7/21/2020 14:11:15	Josh	Mecom	COFFEYVILLE Student	Coffeyville	Reject the governor's proposal and start school as normal.
7/21/2020 14:11:18	Jennifer	Duryea	Teacher in USD375 and	El Dorado	I think it is crucial to make this decision based on the extreme rise in positive cases of COVID across our state. This delay will allow us to go through 2-3 incubation periods to see if Kansans are serious about controlling this virus and hopefully seeing our numbers go down. As teachers this will give us time to effectively plan for the education of our students and incorporate the recommendations of the State Department of Education. We would all like to be back in school but we have to proceed with the health and safety of all involved at the forefront. Please support Governor Kelly's executive order!!

					<p>Kansas chose to close schools due to the amount of COVID-19 cases we had in April. We did it to prevent the spread of the virus, to protect one another, and to hopefully come out the other side of things better off. It was working, until we opened back up.</p> <p>Then, the number of cases exploded.</p> <p>If the rate of cases in April was alarming, then the rate of cases now should be even more so.</p> <p>Going back to school, physically, puts everyone at risk. Kids, parents, grandparents, teachers, school lunch room workers, janitors...everyone that supports operations at a school, would be at risk. And their families...and anyone else they come in contact with.</p> <p>What are parents supposed to do to protect their kids? If y'all say, yup, school is on, like normal... BUT with these guidelines that young kids could never follow..then, I HAVE to send her, by law, and put myself and everyone in my family at risk. It's not as if you'll create a program that will pay me to teach her at home for the year or until a vaccine is found. I have to work to pay bills.</p> <p>Along the same vein, if you say everyone should stay home and do at-home schooling, who will teach my kiddo while I'm at work? If there isn't a program created to pay me for missed work days, it just won't happen.</p> <p>Don't wait for our federal government to fix this. They won't. I think you should protect the health of your citizens and provide help for families to teach their kids at home until a vaccine is found.</p>
7/21/2020 14:11:20	Meagan	Blanchard		Bonner Springs	Everything else either puts too many at risk or drops the ball in one category or another.
7/21/2020 14:11:28	Haley	Jackson	Self	Dodge City	I vote to delay schools opening
7/21/2020 14:11:38	Nikki	Green	Nikki Green Counseling	Shawnee	<p>We cannot live in fear of a virus that has an incredibly high survival rate. The unintended negative consequences we have experienced far outweigh any risk of reopening schools. The losses associated with the shutdown responses to this virus have greatly impacted mental health. More children are experiencing anxiety, depression &amp; are at risk of suicide. Many children are safer at school even with a potential virus transmission than they are in their own homes. When home stressors increase as they have with this pandemic, children suffer more from child abuse, domestic violence, addiction, etc. We cannot continue to base decisions out of fear &amp; the unknown. We can be wise, use good hygiene, social distance &amp; live our lives. A few weeks isn't going to make a difference because this virus isn't going anywhere. Kids need schools to open on time. We all do. We are made for connection &amp; community.</p>
7/21/2020 14:11:41	Rachel	Willems	Parent of 3 public school	Protection	<p>I believe that the delay adversely affects not only my own children, but most children in Kansas and kindly ask to reconsider this decision. I question what will change with the status of the virus in 3-4 weeks when Gov. Kelly says we can reopen them? Is it going away? No. Therefore, a delay makes no logical sense. I am a small business owner in my community and have had to navigate being both a working Mom, business owner and took on the role as a virtual teacher for my kids' this Spring. It was difficult to say the least (and I have taught in a classroom for 6 years!). Furthermore, sports/extracurricular activities also have a huge impact on students and is a way that so many stay connected in their academics &amp; I believe a delayed reopening will have a negative impact on sports season/extracurriculars, our students. Please reconsider this delay! Our children deserve a proper education in a social setting and back to a more normal routine!</p>

					<p>First, I would like to thank you for your service to our community. Then, by way of brief introduction, I'm a patent attorney at Spencer Fane LLP heading up our Intellectual Property practice group. I graduated from KU with a mechanical engineering degree and law degree, and currently reside in southeastern Shawnee with my wife and three kids (5, 7, &amp; 14).</p> <p>I rarely if ever take an interest in day to day political activities, but the events of late are going to require more of us to begin to speak up as wrongful executive actions are taken to restrict freedoms and cause harm to our society having consequences both immediate and far into the future. With that, I'm sure you will not be surprised that I believe the shuttering of our schools nationwide (not to mention our entire economy) was an extraordinary overreaction and foolish. Thus, further delays (which unless we speak out against them appear likely to be extended) are equally foolish and harmful to the development, overall wellbeing, and futures of our children.</p> <p>The fearmongering press and most unfortunate politicization of the new corona virus cross over strain(s) necessitates that we step up on a local level and defend freedoms and the wellbeing of our children. Thus, I would ask that you use your judgement and authority to get our children back in school and return at least that portion to some normalcy for them.</p> <p>Kindest regards, Kyle</p>
7/21/2020 14:11:41	Kyle	Elliott	Parents	Johnson	
7/21/2020 14:11:43	Toni	Keffer	USD405	Lyons	Delay school start
7/21/2020 14:11:45	Erica	Riley		Olathe	School should remain closed until pandemic is under control and kids are safe to return without the use of PPE.
7/21/2020 14:11:51	Graecinda	Tedder		Olathe	Opening schools on areas not meeting COVID 19 gating criteria is irresponsible public health response. Using the data for CDC gating criteria of each county should determine if schools open or wait until After Labor Day. Those areas with schools that are not at or below 5% should remain closed. This is a simple method. Counties either meet the criteria or they do not. Clearly those areas in KS that do not meet the gating criteria should remain closed until communities are under control and meet a downward trajectory of positive cases for 14 days and continue to meet the criteria set by the CDC to provide an avenue that is clear on when to reopen communities. Communities need to do their part in preventing the spread but with schools opening in areas that do not meet gating criteria that won't be possible. I urge you all to provide no in person instruction until gating criteria is met in community counties per the local health departments reports.
7/21/2020 14:11:54	Roxana	Cardonne		Mcperson county	It should be delay a bit further.
7/21/2020 14:11:58	Leslie	Goodin	Parent	Desoto	Please uphold the Governors decision to postpone the opening of school.
7/21/2020 14:11:59	Jerry	Dowdle		Lawrence ks	Please delay school opening (at least until Labor Day) and longer if needed for safety of all involved.
7/21/2020 14:12:00	Miranda	Hodo		Gardner	Uphold mandate and give school districts the gift of time to properly make plans!
7/21/2020 14:12:03	Kerri	Jones	Topeka public schools	Topeka	Think it's the right choice. School should be virtual until Covid rates decrease significantly
7/21/2020 14:12:22	Joyce	Bertoch	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	I am requesting that the state of Kansas does NOT issue a delayed start to the 2020-2021 school. I don't think it is good for any student. I am especially asking for private schools - if they have demonstrated a reasonable plan for following government recommendations regarding Covid safety, I would hope they would be allowed the freedom to start as they choose to best educate the students who have placed their education in their hands.
7/21/2020 14:12:23	Heather	Reynolds		Topeka	The delay of the start of schools until after Labor Day is essential to ensuring that schools open safely.
7/21/2020 14:12:23	Donna	Ackley	None	Lawrence	I support the proposal to delay the start of schools. I do think that there should be criteria added about the number of cases and the weekly trends for the area to determine when schools can safely be re-opened. Clearly defined criteria and rule can help families plan for this unprecedented situation.
7/21/2020 14:12:28	Leo	L		KCK	Please delay start until cases either flatten or decline.
7/21/2020 14:12:36	Rachel	Haught		Goddard	Please approve the Governor's orders to give schools more time to plan how to keep students and staff safe and allow Kansans time to do their part to start trending down. In Sedgwick county, restrictions are ramping up again because our cases are rapidly increasing.
7/21/2020 14:12:41	Heather	Schmidt		Lenexa	Please vote to delay the start of the school year until after Labor Day. This delay will allow for more time to plan how to safely return our children to the in-school setting. This is particularly important in Johnson County where the cases continue to increase daily.

7/21/2020 14:12:45	Katie	House		Prairie Village	Packing students back into school puts them and faculty at risk of COVID. If board members still feel the need to socially distance/Skype these decisions, then the school year needs to be delayed.
7/21/2020 14:12:55	Lacey	McGuire	Student	Louisburg KS	I am opposed to delaying schools unless our school needs the time. If they are prepared we should be open.
7/21/2020 14:13:02	Troy	Plummer		OAKLEY	Please be the voice of reason & open these schools back up on time & get activities for these kids going. They've already spent the summer swimming & playing baseball, delaying the start of school/sports is an absolute waste of time. It's time we move forward.
7/21/2020 14:13:02	Stephanie	Woolfolk	Usd 220 and my family	Protection	If school IS delayed, we had BETTER start in September! My fear, as a concerned mother and kindergarten teacher, is that there will be another delay once September comes around. We cannot have successful online school if we aren't even allowed the opportunity to establish routines and as much learning as possible in the classroom! The longer we wait to get into school, the closer we get to "flu season". I felt like the sooner we could start, the better! Virtual school was a nightmare and placed too much responsibility on parents. Some had too much on their plates and others just didn't care. I had about 1/3 of my class that probably still "learned" or atleast participated. The social and academic loss is scarier to me than the virus. Kids need school!
7/21/2020 14:13:08	Sean	Dooley	Parent of USD 497 student	Lawrence	I am asking that you don't mandate the postponement of athletics and activities for high school students if you choose to postpone the start of schools until after Labor Day. The schools have been able to monitor workouts throughout the summer in a safe and healthy manner and feel extremely confident they will continue to do so. If we cut off their ability to work with their student-athletes for essentially a month, we will be back to square one from a conditioning standpoint. If we allow them to continue to work together under the coaches and schools supervision we can accomplish several things. 1) it will allow the students to continue to participate in an activity they love to do with their friends and give them hope that they will be able to participate in that activity this fall. 2) it will give schools an opportunity to practice some of the safety procedures and protocols that will be set forth by the state for the upcoming school year. Let these athletes and coaches be the guinea pigs for these new measures. This way schools and their staff members are better prepared come first day off classes. Thank you for your time
7/21/2020 14:13:09	Candace	Landers	USD 260	Wichita	I am a mother of two school aged children and a third grade grade teacher. I vehemently support the delay of school openings and further, believe we should be fully remote until Covid-19 cases have been in decline for at least two weeks, or there is a tested vaccine made available to all students and staff. I would like there to be supports in place for working families, so they do not feel like school is their only option for maintaining their livelihood.
7/21/2020 14:13:11	Valerie	Creswell	Central Infectious Disease	Wichita	We are in a COVID surge- we need to delay school openings until we have a plan to protect not only students, but school workers and family members. This needs to happen in all counties - no reported cases does not mean that there are no infected individuals in that county at this time. Thank you- Val Creswell MD- infectious disease specialist
7/21/2020 14:13:13	Karen	Stainbrook	Chaparral Schools	USD 1 Anthony	Please delay the start of school until after labor day or start school remotely until a vaccine is available. I do not believe it is safe to start school in person yet. One child's death is too many.
7/21/2020 14:13:15	Laura	Hines		1616 Vermont	I support Governor Kelly's order delaying school.
7/21/2020 14:13:22	Tracy	Schinzle		Bonner Springs	I think schools should be delayed till after Labor Day. Staff needs time to properly prepare and adjust regardless of meeting in person and or distance leaning. Our cases are increasing in KS. We need time to prepare and hopefully for the numbers to lower. Give time to prepare so everyone can excel and not fail.
7/21/2020 14:13:23	Kaleena	Viruete	USD 500	Olathe	I work as an educator in USD 500, Wyandotte County and am also a parent of an incoming kindergartner in USD 233. I fully support the Governor's executive order to delay the start of school. It is a very minimal concession at this point to save lives of not only students, but educators, support staff, and multi generational families.
7/21/2020 14:13:26	David	Roberts	Personal	Topeka	Teachers need more time to plan together!! Delay openings until after Labor Day and then let districts decide!
7/21/2020 14:13:30	Margaret	Bono		12815 Sagamore Rd	Please open the schools for the sake of the mental health of all the children!

7/21/2020 14:13:36	Lisa	Bandre	Blue Valley Schools par	Overland Park	I urge you to uphold the governor's order to delay starting school. A few weeks ago, I was ready to go back to school with modifications in place. As the number of cases continues to rise, I no longer feel like that is a wise choice for the safety of students and staff. As a veteran teacher of 27 years, I have spent my time (and my own money) enrolling in conferences & workshops This summer to extend my knowledge on how to adapt my teaching to our circumstances. The problem is that I'm not sure how, or even if, I will be able to apply the things I have learned to my classes. We were waiting on guidance from the KSBOE on what things would look like so that our district could use that to combine with the plan they have been working on since the Spring. We were supposed to find this out last week but now it has been delayed with the order. As teachers, we are still in the dark as to what we will be expected to do, and how we can even do it (right now I don't even have the needed technology to start planning even if I had a clue what I was planning for!) I am hopeful with the delayed start that teachers will be able to get the necessary training and equipment from our districts as well as prepare our buildings in a way that we can welcome students back. As a high school teacher I am very nervous about how we will maintain a safe environment in a school of 1600 students. We need time to learn what is expected of us and how to do it in addition to time to prepare our lessons so that we are doing a good job with whatever form of delivery we need. I want to be back at school and I want my son to be able to start his Freshman year, I hope that this delay will give us at least a chance at that. Please uphold the governor's order. Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:13:46	Denise	Woods	Usd 263	Mulvane	Please delay the opening of school to allow time to get the number of viral cases down. Please!!
7/21/2020 14:13:56	Hannah	Wright	USD 461	Neodesha	I'm an elementary principal in Neodesha. I would like to urge you to vote in favor of the governor's suggested delay of Kansas schools starting until after Labor Day.  The main reason I would like for you to vote in favor is to give the Covid case numbers to hopefully decline and allow districts more time to appropriately plan for the instructional needs of our students.  Thank you for your time and consideration.  Sincerely, Hannah Wright
7/21/2020 14:13:56	Christina	Brandenburg	School nurse	Olathe	School nurses are hair now getting protocols from the JOCO health department and the state on how to safely manage Covid in the school setting. The extra 3 weeks provides us time to prepare for the safe arrival of our students and to meet the mental health needs of both staff and students. Safety first!!
7/21/2020 14:14:02	John	Thurston		Manhattan	Delay opening. Please don't ignore the science.
7/21/2020 14:14:08	Brandy	Estrella		Hutchinson	Please open schools on time without mask mandates. Our children need to be in school around their peers and learning in person. I have a child who struggles, being away from school is not helping him. I know it is taking a toll on our children being away from friends and not socializing.
7/21/2020 14:14:12	Amanda	Bigus	My children	Lawrence	Absolutely delay the start of the school year! Kids deserve to be as safe as possible if they have to go!
7/21/2020 14:14:13	Danielle	Derstein	Horace Mann Dual Lang	WICHITA	I agree with Governor Kelly's order. In fact, I would go farther to suggest schools delay in-person instruction until coronavirus positive tests collected daily are in the single digits within counties. There are so many challenges in getting students (even parents) to comply with normal school rules to expect this opening to work AND be safe for all. Also, if our board members cannot meet to make this decision in-person because your lives matter, why would you expect teachers, staff, and students to meet in-person for school? You are sending educators a clear message depending on whichever way you vote in regards to their worth. I also urge you to apply to be a substitute in your county if you want to keep schools open. I don't care how busy you are, you need to experience this craziness for yourself. Thank you for letting me voice my opinion.
7/21/2020 14:14:30	Lynda	McKee		Colby	As a high school teacher, I am concerned about the health risks. I am okay with starting on time if the active cases number starts decreasing again, but definitely think everyone should be required to wear masks in the schools.



7/21/2020 14:14:38	Jaime	Anderson		Shawnee	I want to see all the evidence on covid. We get mixed information from all government officials (local-federal) why are we not listening to the doctors....the ones who are trained in healthcare? For the mental wellbeing of students and parents it's imperative kids get back in the classroom asap. What do single parents do with their young children if they are an essential worker? What about those who cannot afford childcare? My husband and I own a small business and I work a full time job on top of that. What is your plan to keep families from filing bankruptcy if we can't work because school is not in session? It won't help the economy that is for sure. Many places will not test kids under the age of 12 for covid.....yet they are the most likely carrier of the virus. The state should provide covid testing for ALL students/staff to return back to school. There also needs to be a back up plan for all schools (public and private) to provide online learning. Stop hurting our children's education by putting school off. 3 weeks will not make the virus go away...the virus will not disappear. We still have no scientific proof that people become immune. Your decisions now will impact a generation of young minds.
7/21/2020 14:14:45	Ronald	Morgan	Parent	Topeka	Please support the delayed opening of schools
7/21/2020 14:14:55	Hilary	Murphy	South Central School Sy	Protection, KS	I ask that the delay in KS school start dates be determined county by county. The risk in our small, rural counties is different than the large metro areas of the state. Our children need school to start back up in August for so many reasons! Emotional and Mental health is the top of our concerns with this change in routine.
7/21/2020 14:14:57	Megan	Taggart	N/A	Overland Park	I really appreciate the delayed start in school this year. I'm a recent college graduate whose sister teaches in Wichita. My sister as well as her husband are teachers at different schools and their son is starting kindergarten this year at another school. As a family we do not feel safe doing much outside the house right now and are trying to limit our exposure as much as possible. It scares us a lot to think of all the germs they will be exposed to and that they could spread to one another and the other people at the respective schools. I know my family is hopeful there will be an option for them to be entirely online if possible, however I know that would be very hard on parents who have to go in to work and would need to find childcare. My personal hope is that online school is available and an option for both students and teachers, however having safe in person classes as a second option. Please attempt to give teachers and students the option to choose how they will do school this next year if possible. No one will be learning at optimal levels if they aren't comfortable in their surroundings. Overall, I am extremely pleased with the work Governor Kelly has done. I admire her commitment to the schools and people of Kansas and that she will not bow to political agendas. She is more concerned about the wellbeing of Kansans than her re-election campaign. This speaks volumes to who she is as a person and I'm so proud to have her as our governor. Thank you for putting people first and politics second.
7/21/2020 14:15:00	Ava	Dunekack		Topeka	School should be delayed in order to protect the staff and students.
7/21/2020 14:15:03	Lei	Wu	Parent	Overland Park	As kids has been home for too long without organized learning event and interaction with classmate, delaying school start date will further impact their academic progress negatively. Plea to start online ontime without delay. Later can shift to physical or hybrid if proper.
7/21/2020 14:15:05	Samantha	Hammontree	Blue Valley Parent	Leawood	I think K-12 should follow the university schedule with a break from Thanksgiving to Feb 1st and no spring break! Keep excuses for travel to a minimums. I'm okay with delay of school; however, would like to hear BV's tentative plan so I can plan accordingly. TY.
7/21/2020 14:15:06	Jamie	Froetschner		Larned	Please let the kids return to school on time. & PLEASE let these decisions be a district by district call. Larned has no active cases and less than 10 total. We hear a mask mandate is in order for k-12 as well. This is insane. Please stand for us parents and kids and put an end to this madness.
7/21/2020 14:15:07	Darin	Snyder	Colby school district	Colby	I personally think these kids need to get back to school on time.
7/21/2020 14:15:09	Sam	Huenergardt		Shawnee	We support allowing small schools who have the flexibility to react to the changing conditions the room to do so. Many have spent the summer preparing. We support giving them the latitude necessary.

7/21/2020 14:15:09	Susie	Antosh	Self	Dodge City	<p>Hello! Let me start by saying i do not envy the position you're in and the decisions you must make.</p> <p>I thank you for the important roll you play. I would would like you to know I'm aware that my family is not the majority, but all I can speak to is our situation. I live in fear of this Pandemic and the damage it could do to my family, you see I have a beautiful super intelligent 8 year old who has an autoimmune disease; that sadly she inherited from me. She's on medication that suppresses her immune system these medications are vital as my sweet girl could walk or move her neck without them. I also have a husband at home who has just finished radiation after a year long battle with lymphoma cancer. I understand the importance of getting back to business, my husband who is self employed has worked very little this last year because of Cancer and now because of a pandemic, financially it stinks, but we are alive and surviving.</p> <p>I know we cant be trapped in our homes and shut down forever, but I beg you to create an option where my child can be safe and still receive an education. Online options are something several families would be happy to take part in, leaving room in classes to social distance. Please consider us in your discussions and when you make your decision.</p> <p>Thank you for your time, Susie Antosh</p>
7/21/2020 14:15:10	Dawn	Keil		Hays	<p>I request that you approve the Governor's executive order delaying the start of school. With many public places now requiring masks, this could give communities time to slow the spread and schools time to prepare for the necessary changes. I also request that you approve the mask mandate for BOTH staff and students of all ages. I am a 34 year veteran teacher of elementary students. It is impossible to socially distance when teaching young children, so I ask that the mask mandate be implemented. I take care of my aging parents who have compromised health. ( I see them daily for 1-2 hours.) I feel an obligation to protect myself at school as a way to protect them. This is a common issue for teachers in my age range. (50-65) I have a friend who is a speech language pathologist in my school district. She has severe asthma and is uncomfortable returning without the mandate in place. I have also spoken to two colleagues who plan to take medical leave if they feel unsafe going to work. One already has her paperwork complete. If teachers and staff feel unsafe returning to school, this could create a real problem in staffing all positions. I have considered retirement, and will still consider, if the mandate is not implemented. Please show the educators and school personnel of Kansas that you care about their personal safety, and vote to approve the Governor's executive orders. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 14:15:14	Joelle	Holt	Self	Lawrence	<p>Delay or keep on line options or we will never be able to open up again.</p>
7/21/2020 14:15:18	Sandy	Banman	USD460	Goessel	<p>I am very concerned as a teacher. I don't want exposure and don't want to bring exposure home to my health-compromised husband. There is so much talk about the students, but what about the teachers who are forced to do this? Do we get any voice in this? What about our families? I think it's important to see cases going down before we get out &amp; about in this pandemic. Going through several incubation periods would be important! Politics does not matter in this, ALL LIVES MATTER!!!</p>
7/21/2020 14:15:24	Kim	Edgington Keehn		Wichita	<p>The harm caused to children from not being in school is far greater than anything this virus can do. We have brilliant minds in this state that can surely manage a plan to bring education to our children while protecting teachers. I implore you to put these minds to work for the benefit of students.</p>
7/21/2020 14:15:49	Karen	Kadel		Overland park	<p>Please don't have the students return to school this semester. Their health and that of the staff is more important. I have worked in a local elementary school in the past and parents don't follow the rules and send sick kids to school. Once at school, they sometimes take hours to pick them up and only do so after reminding them that we can call child services if they refuse to pick their child up. Sick kids will be sent to school if schools are open. Please re-evaluate for the second semester and remain closed if the situation has not improved.</p>

7/21/2020 14:15:50	A	D	School	Gardner	As a parent and school employee, I would love children to go back to school but what happens if a child/teacher/parent is infected with covid-19? I work in a high school. How do we contain the spread with students going from room to room? Once one person is infected, logically and quickly the entire school will be infected and therefore spreading the virus back home even with the attempt at social distancing and wearing masks. Online school, although difficult and possibly unpopular seems like the safest choice until we can reassess at the natural holiday break. If we can slow the spread this fall semester, hopefully we can return to full time in person instruction in January!
7/21/2020 14:15:52	Sheila	Brown		Shawnee	I work in a public school where my students had a very hard time getting equitable access to an education during the spring because of concerns with access to technology. Additionally, nearly all of my students are on free or reduced lunch and rely on our schools to have regular meals. If we want our students to continue to learn, they need to be in school.
7/21/2020 14:15:53	Jesua	Moreno		Lawrence	I think this is great leadership on the governors part! Thank you for thinking of our students, staff and families. My only concern is that once you do decide to allow schools to open, we should ensure our cases are down for at least 14 days before opening. Each school district may have to open at different times in order to make a safer return for school staff and students. This won't be a one size fits all. Thank you again for your clarity and leadership!
7/21/2020 14:15:55	Dianne	Conway		Lenexa	I highly support delaying the opening of schools. My daughter is a teacher and I have twin 1st grade children and am highly concerned if we rush into in person classes. My daughter loves teaching in person but doesn't want to at this time. Many teachers are willing to put in the extra time and effort to start later and virtual until things are under control.
7/21/2020 14:15:59	Lisa	Barger		Wichita	I don't feel the evidence supports that children spread Covid-19. I don't feel delaying the start bog school will help flatten the curve. Kids need to be with eachother in school for their social and emotional well being.
7/21/2020 14:16:07	Mistie	Becker		Shawnee	My daughter is entering 4th grade at Maranatha Christian Academy in Shawnee. I am confident that our school can provide a safe atmosphere for all students to be able to start school as planned in August. My daughter attended a camp at the school this summer and we had a great experience! I believe our school is ready to open with safety measures in place to protect my daughter and all students and faculty at Maranatha. I do not support delaying school, especially as a one size fits all approach! Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:16:12	james	doscher	None	De Soto	Please follow the Governor's executive order and delay until after labor day...we all have too much at stake to do otherwise
7/21/2020 14:16:17	Dawn	Daugherty		Lenexa	Our kids need to get back to school in August! Parents need to go back to work, and life needs to get back to normal. This is not normal nor will it be the "new normal". Our kids need routine and socialization. To delay the start of the school year will just cause more stress, comotion, and issues. Lives have already been completely messed up and starting school at a regular time of year will show some normalcy and hope that we are resuuming normal lives again. We should not be fearful of this virus with a 98-99% survival rate and very minor symptoms for a majority of people. Our government should not have this much "control" on the people and the more harmful decisions that are made the worse it gets for Americans. We have already gone through spring and summer with many, many restrictions but now is the time to return to normal.
7/21/2020 14:16:17	Caleb	Austin		Kansas City, KS	Please delay school opening per the Governor's Executive Order. As a teacher, I should not be risking my life when there are safe alternatives.
7/21/2020 14:16:18	Karen	Allen	My family	Lawrence	Please delay the start of school. We owe this to our children, school staff, and families to try and quell the virus before anything in person can happen. I also strongly encourage you to start the school year totally online. We need to protect our kids and their families.
7/21/2020 14:16:22	Rustee	Schmidt		Moundridge	I think it is absolutely ridiculous. And no elementary age child will be able to safely wear a mask. They will constantly be touching them. And they need proper social interaction to help them build and keep up their immune systems.

7/21/2020 14:16:31	Carolyn	York	USD 500	Raytown, Missouri	I wanted to add additional comments. I wanted to add additional information. There is a lot of concern about students getting their social/emotional needs met at school. While this is true for some students it is not true for all. Many students will be traumatized with a return to school too soon. We have many students who have high anxiety and depression. Going back for them will be difficult under these circumstances. If they carry covid 19 home this would be devastating to them and their families. If they lose staff due to the pandemic it will also be difficult. We also have a number of students who did better when they were online.
7/21/2020 14:16:33	Rebecca	Meder	Meder family- Ellis Cou	Hays	Many physicians have penned letters that kids need to be in school for their health, wellbeing, and mental stability. I agree- this has been hard enough on kids- they need to get some normalcy back in their life. Additionally there are no masks FDA approved for young children as masks are not recommended for young children due to health hazards. Laura Kelly needs to be reigned in- she can not dictate things that may affect my, and 100's of other, children's health. Her mandates are getting out of hand. We need kids in school and young kids should not have to wear a mask. We are a family that will pull our children from public school over the mask mandate if not repealed.
7/21/2020 14:16:34	Gayla	Fickel		Chanute, KS	Delay opening of school to allow time for safest possible procedures to be implemented.
7/21/2020 14:16:35	Michelle	Unruh		Newton	I urge you to vote in favor of Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school. As a teacher, I currently do not feel comfortable going into a classroom setting and educating students as our cases continue to rise. Do what's best for all students and for Kansas! Thank you for your work!
7/21/2020 14:16:39	Danielle	LeGrand	Olathe Public Schools	Kansas City, MO but I w	I may live in Kansas City, MO, but I work for Olathe Public Schools. I am a school counselor who has already returned to work. I truly believe the school year should be delayed because my school is no where near ready for students. We are the 6th largest school in the state of Kansas. We have not been given anything to protect ourselves as of yet. COVID 19 has hit Johnson County hard, and I am risking my life and my 7 month old sons life by returning to work. He is currently in care where he is at risk and I am work putting myself at risk. Please consider delaying the year so we can better prepare and keep our students and staff safe.
7/21/2020 14:16:56	Melissa	Bowles		Manhattan	With having a child with health problems and living in Manhattan a college town. I would like to see school pushed back. Social distancing guidelines are already not being followed in the summer conditioning programs. You being educators know that physical health is just as important as mental. What happens when these teachers get sick and there aren't enough subs to go around. Please make the right choice here even though it is the hard one.
7/21/2020 14:16:59	Audrey	Herbst	Principal, USD #444, Li	Little River, Kansas	To the members of the Kansas State Board of Education, please adopt and approve Governor Kelly's order 20-58 and 20-59. With an increase in positive COVID cases identified across the state and in our local county, there is evidence of uncontrollable community spread. In an effort to expedite reopening of schools in a safe manner, I support Governor Kelly's executive order. We are not ready to open school in a manner that would curb the spread of Sars CoV2 in an efficient manner. With a proactive approach we can prevent an outbreak in our rural community, much like what Logan, Kansas is experiencing. Our goal is to get back to school and extracurricular activities quickly and safely. The only way to do that is to be proactive in our approach to ensure the health of Kansans and those in our local community. Thank you for your dedication to our public schools and for your thoughtful consideration.
7/21/2020 14:17:06	Susan	Polhlopek	Northeast USD 246	Franklin	Follow the governor's executive order.
7/21/2020 14:17:07	Melissa	Smith	Usd 336	Onaga	At this point, to allow schools time to prepare it is necessary to delay schools some. Please encourage schools to use the added time for professional development for staff.
7/21/2020 14:17:20	Christopher	Engle	Engle Family	Andover	I want to send my kids back to school, but not until it's safe for everyone. We will be keeping them home until the situation is under control and the Covid numbers are way down. Let's continue remote learning for the first semester and hope for the best for Spring 2021.

7/21/2020 14:17:23	Jennifer	Leiker	My children attend St. T	Wichita, KS	Please leave the decisions of when to start school, safety and health of our children, families, teachers, admins, volunteers, and priests up to the individual schools. They will act in the best interest of all involved and will be more flexible and capable to provide the best learning environment for our children during this pandemic than executive orders from the governor. The delay in school start is an overreach that only hurts our community school by dictating rules that may not be necessary. Virtual learning was horrible and I am concerned catch-up from the spring is necessary and this gap will continue the longer we delay school starting. I am also concerned with the children in our community that are not learning virtually, live in abusive situations or may not have parental oversight or regular meals, not to exclude children that struggle with mental illness or suicidal thoughts. Please consider these children as well. We know children are low risk for this virus and adults are able to take precautions. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 14:17:24	Jon	Garten		Overland Park	They should do school from home this year
7/21/2020 14:17:32	Scott	Erickson		Kingman	I am vehemently against any mask order for students to wear one 8 or more hours per day! My sophomore daughter refuses to wear one and states she would rather drop out and be home schooled than be controlled like a mindless sheep. Even the CDC recommends AGAINST wearing a mask unless sick or having symptoms. Maybe Governor One Term Kelly should gollow the State and Federal Constitutions instead of giving tyrannical orders for wearing a mask which all scientists say will not stop virus spores from penetrating. Masks and vaccines have done nothing to stop ot slow the flu virus so what maker her think that this tyrannical order of masks will help? A mask does nothing to protect my daughter or anyone else. Let the individual school districts and us parents decide what is best for OUR children!
7/21/2020 14:17:38	Sara	Glotzbach	USD 345	Meriden	School needs to be delayed until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 14:17:55	Lindsey	Martin		Protection	No delay. My kids need person to person teaching. A Delay of a few weeks, does not change the virus, only delays my kids' education
7/21/2020 14:17:57	Amy	Wiebe		Wichita	Please uphold the order to delay opening of schools. This volume and growth of COVID 19 cases is high currently. Scientific evidence, and health and safety of students and staff must be placed ahead of our desires to return to "normal." Additionally, schools will need extra time to prepare for all new requirements and train staff. We would all love to be back in school buildings, and it will happen, but we must do the difficult work now so that we may be more successful in our return to school buildings later.
7/21/2020 14:18:05	Michelle	Dinges	Topeka Public Schools;	Topeka	You have the chance to demonstrate responsible leadership and save suffering in our Kansas communities. Please use your position to support a responsible order that will protect us from people who will act irresponsibly unless mandated to do otherwise. I support both of Governor Kelley's executive orders. C-19 WILL spread through schools if classes resume in person. Even the White House has recognized Kansas as one of 18 states that needs more C-19 regulation. Once it spreads amongst students, it moves through families and the community at large. Please show that you care about families and teachers by supporting these orders. Thank you for reading this.
7/21/2020 14:18:06	Jennifer	Tillberg	Educator	Lindsborg	In favor of delaying start of school so teachers have adequate time to plan
7/21/2020 14:18:07	Jeanne	Hoduski	Marathon Academy	Bonner Springs	I am writing to request that the school opening not be delayed but to be allowed to open it's doors on schedule. Thank you so much for your work and consideration in this matter.
7/21/2020 14:18:11	Taylor	Ryan	Licensed Kansas Teache	Overland Park	Please do NOT start schools before Labor Day and please start them online. I hate the thought of not being with my students in person. But I truly believe that extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures. Families are still not taking this seriously. I know of at least 15 out of my 20 kids who have traveled this summer. Including places that were on the restricted list. It is not safe to come back and put everyone at risk. Then, to find subs, lesson plans, use my PTO to quarantine because someone has brought it through the doors is just asking for more trouble. Please think about the life altering events that will take place for teachers, students, and staff. I appreciate everything you all are doing for us. Your decision is tough.

7/21/2020 14:18:19	James	Gwennap		Smith Center	<p>This message in regards to the opening of schools.</p> <p>As a past B.O.E. member at USD 237 for 20 years, I am deeply concerned about our governors latest mandate regarding wearing masks in the school as they open this fall. Our kids are already under a lot of stress. Closing of schools last March was shocking to kids as well as families. I truly believe we will struggle to catch up with students education. Now as we start the new school year, instead of trying to provide a comfortable learning environment once again our governor creates a stressful setting by mandating masks. No data is available to support wearing masks or not wearing masks for preventing Covid 19. Our governor seems to make a lot of spur of moment decisions with no long range plan or thought put into her decisions. As a farmer in agriculture I can assure you masks hinders your breathing, does not stop all particles and is uncomfortable to wear. At some point we need to start using common sense, encourage good learning environments and not stress our kids. We have 2 students here in Smith Center who are autistic and I have a grandson who is beginning kindergarten this year. There is absolutely no way you are going to get him in a mask. I believe we have had other life threatening diseases including the Asian and the swine flu. There was never this fuss about masks. Taking kids temperature when they arrive at school should be sufficient.</p> <p>I encourage you to allow schools to make their own decisions in regard to masks. Lets help our students learn and not frighten them. You can bet the same high school kids who are forced to wear a mask are in cars together etc. after school and evenings. The numbers that we have seen in deaths and who have tested positive are not accurate. Thank you and I hope that you can come to a decision that would be best for students and teachers.</p>
7/21/2020 14:18:23	Emily	Humm	Myself	Pomona, KS	I support Gov. Kelly and think students, teachers and communities are safer if we take the extra time needed to properly prepare for the new way education must look in order to keep people safe.
7/21/2020 14:18:25	Laura	Valerius	USD 300	Comanche County	I wish they would leave it up to local decision. My county has 0 active cases. While we have zero I feel we should be able to start and let teachers get to know students ect.. By Sept. 9 who knows what it will be. I live in a small district. They have been preparing and making preparations for a safe return all summer. We do not need the extra time. If we get cases after Labor Day we might have to go distance. So why not let us start when we can to be able to best serve our students.
7/21/2020 14:18:38	Lynn	Hartter	N/A	Sabetha	After considering the facts of Covid-19 in Nemaha and Brown Counties, and the plans of other states, including Missouri and Nebraska, to open schools in a timely manner, I draw the conclusion that the Executive Order was issued for some intent other than the safety of students. It is perhaps at the request of education staff members. I work in a school building and have no concerns about catching coronavirus from students even if they are unmasked a majority of the day. Students have been left with less structure, parents have been forced to assist, and the local districts have recommendations from the Kansas School Board to put into place. These decisions should be at the district level, in cooperation with local municipalities and counties. It was clear that the intent of the Kansas Legislature was that statewide decisions regarding school and its opening, closure, or in this case, perhaps a play on the scenario of a delay (remaining closed) should rest with the Kansas State Board of Education AND that control of implementing Executive Orders should rest at the county and city level. It may not be appropriate for all districts to start school as planned, in person, or even to attend at all in person at first. That is why the three-plan option was developed for recommendation. I urge you to uphold the intent of your legislators, who responded to their constituents. Allow local districts to decide when to open and what model they will use for opening.
7/21/2020 14:18:40	Keith	Skidmore	None	Newton, KS	Please vote against Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-58. Thank you, Keith Skidmore
7/21/2020 14:18:42	Rachael	Gehringer		Lawrence	Online instruction is fine;however, please make sure all teachers are instructed in teaching online and learning apps that kids are required to use.
7/21/2020 14:18:48	Mary	Maxwell	None	Manhattan	Do not postpone the begin group of school & activities. Reasons too numerous to mention!
7/21/2020 14:18:50	Debbie	Summers		Sharon Springs	Kids need to be in school. They need the socialization. The online learning doesn't work for very many. They have been out too long. Schools need to start at the regular time, not later.

7/21/2020 14:18:59	Heaven	Cain	I'm a para at an element	Augusta, KS	I know our numbers in Butler CO are not as bad as a lot of other counties in KS, but that doesn't matter. Our cases are rising as well.  Although I really want to see my students that I work with on a daily basis, I am worried about going back to school. I am worried about my families safety as well as my students and co-workers. My family has various illnesses that COVID could complicate. Here's a small list of the illnesses the people I am around every week have: Heart disease (this includes myself), asthma, pregnancy, thyroid issues, previous cancer patient, diabetes. The list goes on and on. If we do not close schools, I will not be able to see my parents or siblings for at least 4 months because we will not run the risk of them being infected. I do not feel it is safe for anyone to go back to school. I feel it would be irresponsible to go back because it is putting students and staff in harms way. People without a medical background are going to have to make judgement calls that they should not have to, if the nurse gets sick. It is all around not fair to put the lives of teachers and students at risk because of politics and parents wanting a baby sitter for their child. The number of cases are higher now than they were back in March and when we peaked in April. Why would we go back to school now when the numbers are higher than ever before? A year out of school is better than having students or their care givers die all because we chose to be irresponsible.
7/21/2020 14:19:02	Tom	VanBurkleo		Wichita	With long term effects of Covid-19 unknown, I support the delay of school starting. Kids age 10 and up can carry the virus as well as adults. This will cause deaths.
7/21/2020 14:19:03	Jessica	Copeland		Olathe (Spring Hill USD	I, along with my children (3rd & 7th), believe school should open ASAP! I am very upset that the EO includes absolutely no interaction for the next 3 weeks-a cheer coach can't even zoom with the girls so they can learn cheers! I would not be opposed to a Sept 8 start dates IF we could be guaranteed that would be the date (and she couldn't push it back again) and it wouldn't affect our last day of school (I do not want to go into late June). Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:19:07	Emma	Cerre	Sedgwick County Specia	Wichita	Regardless of how we carry forward with the school year, teachers and staff need the extra time to plan!
7/21/2020 14:19:08	Kerry	Dixon	Myself	Tribune	Give each district local control of their education
7/21/2020 14:19:12	Husy	Hein		Augusta KS	Please vote to reopen schools as planned. DO NOT vote to delay school. These children have already been out of school nearly 6 months. Their education is important. Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:19:16	Benjamin	Wilson	USD 262 Valley Center	Valley Center	I am against the governor's order delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. I am of the opinion that delaying the start of school will have very little impact on the case count and infection rates. Our children need certainty right now for their mental, physical and emotional health and a plan to move forward needs to be put in motion. The fact that we are continually moving the target for a return to routine is a detriment to their well being and the ability for the leadership to develop and communicate a plan. In addition, it seemed that both KSHAA and the KBOE were caught off guard by her sudden announcement last week and should have been consulted prior to making such a proclamation. Yesterday's mask mandate was yet another example of her individualistic decision making. I would prefer a collaborative and open approach with all of the stakeholders involved to provide guidance to those of us who ultimately have to answer to the constituents who we represent.
7/21/2020 14:19:16	Cheryl	Maybrier	USD 409	Atchison	I think you should delay it. Our priority is to keep children safe. If that means schools remained closed then so be it.
7/21/2020 14:19:17	Debbie	Makings		Larned	Please follow the governor and wait to start school until after Labor Day. This will allow districts time to prepare.
7/21/2020 14:19:34	Farrah	Beardslee		Overland Park	I strongly urge the board to vote against Governor Kelly's executive order to push the start of school until after Labor Day. I don't understand what the purpose is of delaying the start of school three extra weeks. Our kids have been out of school for five months and are falling further and further behind. We should have the freedom to keep our kids home and learn virtually and we should have the freedom to send our kids to school. Unfortunately our freedom is being taken away from us lately and now our kids are being affected by it. It's time to move forward and get our kids back to school, please. Thank you
7/21/2020 14:19:35	Jennifer	Hanson	USD 480 Prairie View E	Sublette	Please support Governor Kelly's mandate for a delayed start to school. COVID19 cases are on the rise in Kansas. We need to wait until it is safer to start school.
7/21/2020 14:19:36	Lisa	Bauman	Blue Valley teacher, Sha	Overland Park	Please support Gov. Kelly's order and mandates. Our kids' lives are at stake.

7/21/2020 14:19:46	Ian	Devers		Shawnee Kansas	ZERO deaths in Kansas under 29. ZERO deaths in JoCo under 40. 7 people have died in JoCo under age 70 (five in 60's and 2 in 40's). Average age of death in Kansas from Covid is 78 (same as average life expectancy in US). If you are under 70, you are literally more likely to die of ANYTHING before you would die from Covid. Based on FACTS, there is ZERO justification to shut down school or sports.
7/21/2020 14:19:52	Megan	House		Lenexa, Olathe school d	School needs to start on time, even if it needs to be all online! 6 months is way to long to be out without public formal education available. Would love a transition to in person as the Covid situation allows. Thanks!
7/21/2020 14:19:58	William	Pettijohn	Self	Hutchinson	The continued delay of education for the children in Kansas will set them back for years. On-line education during the end of the 2019-2020 school year was a joke. In talking with Teachers across the State many of the Students did not do the work. If Teachers are scared to go back into the schools have them quit or retire. Those same Teachers expect medical workers to keep working, fire and police to keep working, and even checkers and stockers in the stores they go to but not them.
7/21/2020 14:20:00	Jody	Meyer	My family	Lawrence	For the sake of children's health and welfare, please carve out an exception that allows children to continue to do sport type activities from August 10 through September 8. We have been successfully doing these types of activities since June with no adverse consequences. Studies have shown the importance of physical activity for children both for physical health and mental health. There is no reason not to continue to allow this. Being outside doing activities is not the same thing as sitting in an indoor high school with 1600 students. I beg of you please allow these kids (high school in particular) to do their high school sports.
7/21/2020 14:20:05	Evelyn	Normandin	Self	Lawrence	Ask a parent of a special needs student with lung issues and from a house where parents have health issues as well, I am asking that you delay school openings. My student definitely needs face to face instruction for things like math. However I would rather not jeopardize our families health. Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:20:13	Jennifer	Younger	Parent	Ellis	Essential workers have worked the entire time in healthcare and other industries. I'm guessing that some had preexisting conditions and the world did not come to an end. Teachers are essential. With planning, such as sneeze guards, masks, and reasonable social distancing (3 ft is plenty) teachers and coaches can be safe. We cannot disregard an entire generation of teenagers and kids who obviously are at near zero risk of serious illness from COVID.  Below are facts about teenagers taken from the KDHE website. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- between the ages of 10 - 17, a grand total of 3 have been hospitalized due to COVID, obviously all 3 made a complete recovery</li> <li>- the median age of death in Kansas from the virus is 78</li> <li>- the youngest person in Kansas to die from the virus is age 29</li> <li>- 78% of Kansas deaths from COVID were over the age of 65</li> <li>- age 44 and under account for 2.7% of COVID deaths</li> </ul> <p>Teenagers need to be in school, and participating in sports and activities. The unintended consequences of teenagers not being in school and living life far outweigh the risks of the virus. Every teen I have spoken with HATED online school.</p> <p>Learning is individual, you can learn a definition on your own but education is social. The social aspect of hearing others opinions, stories or situations about how to apply a term, etc is the social part of education. Teens need that face-to-face for education. The three hours per day done last year with online sucked! If families are really worried about, send your kid to an experienced online secondary school. It is not fair to ask face to face teachers, to teach online. Teachers with pre-existing conditions, can learn to teach there. Break the two groups up. Offer one in-person option and one face-to-face option.</p> <p>Sports are also necessary! You must come up with a solution for sports. Kids work too hard in practice and the weight room to not have a voice or contingency plan. Let them sign a waiver and play! THESE YEARS CANNOT BE MADE</p>




7/21/2020 14:20:21	Athena	Sutton	USD 437	Topeka	<p>Dear KSDE Board Members,</p> <p>As a Kansas teacher I would ask that you support Governor Kelly and the executive orders that affect Kansas schools. "The truth is, schooling as we knew it six months ago is over".</p> <p>We need creative solutions to go forward in order to take care of students' social and emotional needs as well as work to keep everyone connected to school buildings healthy. This includes: students, teachers, all school staff, bus drives, janitorial/maintenance, coaches and the families of all those listed.</p> <p>Please vote to support the health and well being of Kansas!</p> <p>Thank you, Athena Schumacher-Sutton</p>
7/21/2020 14:20:24	Amy	Slavik		Kensington	Please veto the governor on the delay of starting school and other extracurricular activities. There does not seem to be any concrete evidence to support the eminent danger of having the kids in school regarding the pandemic and many health officials are actually encouraging kids to go back to school. I feel there will be more serious matters to deal with if we don't get our kids back in school. Knowing our governor, this delay is just a way to put off the next delay, and the one after that. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.
7/21/2020 14:20:29	Amber	Mitchell		Lawrence	Wait to open, not safe for kids to wear masks all day, especially the little kids.
7/21/2020 14:20:30	Zachary	Coffman		KANSAS CITY	The numbers and science show that the data the media portrays is a lie. Why do we continue to buy into this lie. Open back up and stop lying about the facts. How are we supposed to stay home when some have to work in order to maintain a life. There is no solution to keep kids home.
7/21/2020 14:20:35	Jeffrey	Walker	Maranatha Christian Ac	Olathe	Please vote to allow schools in Kansas to begin the 2020-2021 academic year as they have planned. The delayed start has negative outcomes for scheduling and completing our academic year. Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:20:39	Heather	Maze	USD 615/USD 415	Hiawatha	I would like to see school held off until after Labor day to insure that educators and schools have time to get things in place for a more successful school year. However, I would not be in support of it being held back any longer than labor day if this should happen again in the future and the governor wants to push us back again!
7/21/2020 14:21:05	Molly	Dickerson	Blue Valley SchoolDistr	Overland Park	I support Governor Kelly's proposal to delay the start of school. I believe this would provide more opportunity for schools, teachers, and students to better prepare for a safe return to school. I believe that a safe return to school is more important than a quick return to school.
7/21/2020 14:21:06	Anne	Erbert	No organization, represe	Hays	We do not support Governor Kelley's recommendation that children K-12 be required to wear masks in school. Research has shown that wearing a mask all days can be detrimental to your health. If such is required, we are very seriously looking to home school our children. Thank for your time and consideration.
7/21/2020 14:21:07	Jeni	Cerre	USD 261	Wichita	I personally am not comfortable as a homeroom teacher returning to school with confirmed COVID cases as high as they currently are. I do not believe it is in the staff or student's best interest to return to an unsafe environment. Working with younger students, my concern is the capabilities to socially distance with typical large class sizes and lack of cleaning supplies. I worry for my students who live with immunocompromised and/or elderly family members. I worry for the health of my own family as well. I hope we return to school in person with as many safety precautions in place as possible for a conducive learning environment.
7/21/2020 14:21:24	Eric	Strueby		Lenexa	I ask that you please VOTE AGAINST the Governor's executive order DELAYING the opening of schools. It is a broadbrush that affects Kansans all the same when specific areas are more than capable of making decisions based on the needs of each district. I fear for the inclass instruction time my children have missed already. Education is vitally important to my childrens', and all childrens', future.
7/21/2020 14:21:36	Glenna	Kaup		Topeka	They have already missed 13 weeks, 1/4 of a school year. When does this end? What keeps the Governor from continually delaying school when she feels the need? The Olathe school district ran a poll that said 90% of the parents chose in person instruction. One of the largest school districts in the state. Your duty is to the education of Kansas students. It's time to get them back in the classroom with no further delays. Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:21:39	Laura	Treeman	Household	Overland Park	Delay opening schools until AT LEAST Labor Day. Thank you.
					Yes in person school should be delayed for now and when it goes back it should not restart at more than 50% capacity (or part time).

7/21/2020 14:21:42	Michele	Garson	Usd 475	Junction city	Delaying school is stupid, if they are giving an online option then there is no reason to delay the start of school. And this has all become political and its ridiculous to require kids to wear masks.
7/21/2020 14:21:43	Dana	Christie	NA	Lawrence	Teachers did not sign up to be put at risk every day. As a parent of elementary age children, I am asking that schools not resume in class, and focus only on distance learning for this coming school year. It puts everyone at risk, especially employees of schools, but ultimately everyone in the community will be at risk if kids are sent back to school too soon. Just as what happened when states reopened too early.
					<p>As the parent of 4 children who all receive special education services I urge you to vote to reopen schools as originally planned, even if it's virtually.</p> <p>2 of my children haven't received a single minute of special education services since schools closed in March. Our school district only gave some SPED kids services. The total IEP hours lost between my 4 kids was 34 hours a week. As a parent when you add into their normal hours of school, it's impossible to achieve because they're just isn't enough time. I'm being expected to fill the role of an OT, SLP, reading specialist, special education teacher and para without any training or help. The regression my children have experienced will take years to recoup. If you don't plan to reopen schools you need to assign a dollar amount of what the state deems fair (we pay \$160 a session for private OT) for lost IEP hours and compensate SPED students accordingly so parents can afford to pay for services lost thru private means or enroll in a school that is open.</p> <p>Six months is plenty of time to come up with a plan and if those in charge couldn't even come up with a virtual option to start the school year with, then they need to be removed from their duties. Allow someone who WANTS to work to come in a fix this. Not even coming up with a virtual plan and just continuing to close schools is no longer an option. Decisions need to be made regardless one way or the other. Make a plan stick to it, quit moving the finish line. Either children go back in person or virtually in August, you all have had PLENTY of time to make a decision.</p> <p>I also think that the timelines for state complaints and due process should be extended past their 1 year/2 year deadline to account for the time schools were shut down without a plan.</p>
7/21/2020 14:21:53	Kelly	Johnson	Eudora 491	Eudora	I'm asking that you follow the Governor's comments on keeping schools closed until after Labor Day. Please keep the safety of the kids in your vote. I've taught in Kansas for 25 years and I'm worried about COVID in the classrooms. Thanks.
7/21/2020 14:21:58	Rob	Colvin	Teacher at USD434 Sch	Carbondale, Ks	
7/21/2020 14:22:08	Casei	Drewek		Manhattan, KS	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school opening. By delaying school openings we are giving our districts, teachers, staff and students extra time to get comfortable with the new guidelines we must put in place to be safe. Ultimately school should be a place where you feel safe and I just don't believe that opening schools up at the normal start time is a safe and wise choice.
7/21/2020 14:22:09	Kim	Sramek	Maranatha Christian Ac	Lenexa, KS	Please vote to allow KS schools to start on time and in person!

				<p>Regarding the potential schools closure for the upcoming year. I am very disappointed that our Governor has made, what, in my opinion, amounts to a political decision on the health, safety and EDUCATION of our children. We are not California nor are we New York, we don't need Gavin Newsom's or Andrew Cuomo's politics mixed in with Kansas education and values.</p> <p>Every child, from K-12, has lost what will amount to a years, at least, worth of education! LOST! Never to be made up! Every child will literally be one year behind in their education, their life, their everything!</p> <p>People, especially kids, are not dropping like flies. The fatality rate is minimal, very minimal. If this was a pandemic, where 85% of the population was at dire risk, then you have a great idea. But to push the panic button, and cause great harm, is foolish at best. If schools become breeding grounds for the virus, then yeah, close them. But there are NO facts to base such a significantly decision off of.</p> <p>If the schools must close, then the expectation is that in the 21st century, their ought to be some way to make up the lost education. How about the teacher, teaches class from home, open his or her laptop, point the web cam at them self, and when class starts, begin with the lesson. Student can either join the online "meeting" or watch the lecture later off of a You tube channel or some other streaming service.</p> <p>Wow, see how easy that was! So why has this not become a reality? When schools closed in March, classes should have continued just as they had, just like many business did.</p> <p>Even if we traveled back in time 50 years, there would still be ways, to facilitate an education remotely. It may not be great, but even 'really bad' is better than nothing!</p> <p>I am sure that despite not teaching the kids for many months, the teachers have continued to draw their pay checks? If they are not willing to work, why should my tax dollars continue to fund their extended vacation? If the schools are not open and the students are not learning, why are our tax dollars not being refunded to us?</p>
7/21/2020 14:22:10	DOUG	MUIR		Overland Park
7/21/2020 14:22:14	Graden	Oswald	maranatha christian acad	colathe
7/21/2020 14:22:14	Darci	Kauffman		Colby
7/21/2020 14:22:21	Casey	McGraw	Concerned parent/ USD	El Dorado
7/21/2020 14:22:34	Lora	Jost	individual	Lawrence, KS
7/21/2020 14:22:35	Susan	Wallace	Teacher	Marion
7/21/2020 14:22:36	Paul	Schmidt		Overland Park, KS
7/21/2020 14:22:43	Lara	Flug		El Dorado ks
7/21/2020 14:22:51	Brandi	Carrion	Parent	Fort riley
7/21/2020 14:23:03	Amy	Connelly	Kansas City Christian S	Overland park
7/21/2020 14:23:09	Whitney	Thuma	ENEA	Emporia

7/21/2020 14:23:13	Christi	Parker		Louisburg	No deaths which is important. Very few positive cases. Our city council voted to no mask. We are doing really good for our area and continue. Our children need to return school without a mask. Sports and normality need to return for their mental and emotional stability. The children infection rate is slim to none with very little symptoms if any. We don't do this with flu and we have had more illnesses and deaths in our area. Hoping our kids get to go back to the classroom to learn with normalcy.
7/21/2020 14:23:14	Beth	Luhman	Teacher	Riley	I feel it should be left to the individual school districts. Some schools are remote and small that they can do their usually start time. I feel a lot of schools already have things ordered such hand sanitizers, thermometers. We don't need a whole additional month it isn't 3 weeks it is a month. Then to delay athletics leagues will have adjust their schedules to allow practices before playing. I know volleyball has a game schedule September 1 and 8. They are already conditioning and then to stop for a month defeats their conditioning this summer. I think we should allow the districts to put their own team together to decide what is best for their school not a blanket delay. We need flexibility not restrictions.
7/21/2020 14:23:17	Denise	Busenitz		Peabody	Please reopen schools on time, without masks. The data shows kids are not at risk. 0% death rate of ks kids! I would like my kids to have the opportunity to get back in school. I also do not want them being forced to wear a mask. Masks and kids are anything but sanitary. They are much healthier washing their hands and being taught good hygiene. Thank you for hearing my opinion.
7/21/2020 14:23:19	Melissa	Fager	Oatville Elementary	Derby	I'm in favor of delaying school IF we can get back in the classroom. I am asking for PPE specifically faceshields to be provided for K-3 classrooms at no expense to the teacher. I am also asking that you revisit appropriate class sizes. I had 23 kindergarten students last year. That is was too many to effectively teach let alone maintain social distance. Thank you for all your time and the opportunity to speak.
7/21/2020 14:23:22	Christy	Kelly		Lawrence	Please delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year.
7/21/2020 14:23:49	Nicole	Risley		Lawrence	I emphatically support the delay of school so that districts, schools, and teachers can have adequate time to plan for a safe and effective school term.
7/21/2020 14:23:50	Timothy	Morrell		Beloit	School delay is the right choice
7/21/2020 14:23:58	Michelle	Renner	USD #274	Oakley, KS	I believe the school calendar should be a local school board decision. Every district has their own unique situation and local school boards should be trusted to make those decisions.
7/21/2020 14:24:02	Brianna	Armstrong	Catholic Diocese of Wichita	Wichita	I personally am not comfortable as a classroom teacher returning to school with the Covid 19 numbers as high as they are. School needs to be a safe place for students to be. It is unsafe for students, teachers, and staff. Social distancing in a classroom will be hard to maintain with young students and it will not be conducive learning environment. We need to stay home until numbers go down. It is not worth risking the lives or long term health of our teachers, students, and staff.
7/21/2020 14:24:08	Azure	Winter		Maize	Multitudes of medical professionals, physicians, physician groups, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, across the nation and in the state of Kansas, agree that for the greater well being of our children the benefits of being in the classroom far outweigh the risks associated with potential exposure to COVID-19. Especially in this time of great confusion and fear, our children need stability and predictability and the emotional and psychological support of being amongst their peers socially, in athletics (physical and mental well being), and via resources provided at school. Impoverished children at highest rates and risk for abuses and necessity neglect in the home are also most especially at risk by the decision to delay or cancel classroom learning. There simply is no substitute. Please let us as parents CHOOSE wether we would like our children to be taught in the classroom or online, per individual family, so that ALL voices are heard and respected. Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:24:15	Taylor	Ott		Topeka	I don't particularly agree with the delay in school starting, but I do not agree with mandatory mask for our students. There is a very low risk in children getting this virus and spreading it. The mortality rate is below pandemic levels and there have been other states that have been "accidentally" adding false positives to the official numbers. How do we know Kansas isn't either. But it is not healthy for these kids to wear mask for hours a day. If teacher are worried about getting the virus, then THEY can wear mask or face shields but these children should not be forced to wear mask. We should not project others fears on to these innocent kids. It should be up to parents if their child goes to school and wears mask. Mine, particularly will NOT be wearing a mask at school. He is 10 years old with a health condition and I will not subject him to that abuse. Thank you

7/21/2020 14:24:16	Chambre	Breuer		Ford, KS	<p>I have no argument against delaying the start of school until after Labor Day to not only help schools plan and prepare, but also to monitor the current spread. I believe schools need time for a solid plan to prevent the spread of the disease and also shift to remote learning (if, and as needed).</p> <p>While I support this delay, I do fear further delays unless absolutely necessary. I believe there is also a mental health and safety concern with not starting school.</p> <p>I have two children in school (1st and 3rd grade). My preference would be for them not to wear masks, but support other sanitation and screening efforts. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 14:24:39	Linda	Miller	Teacher public school 9	Hiawatha	Please support Governor Kelly's mandate giving educators time to properly prepare in this horrid time of Covid. No other profession except medical has been asked to risk their life to return to a job. I know online education works as this is how all schoolS in Kansas do credit recovery plus if it doesn't then why do you all support full time virtual school in our state that have been in operation for years
7/21/2020 14:24:41	cheryl	kauffman	KCKPS USD 500	Raytown	
7/21/2020 14:24:44	Dec	Siruta	NKESC	Oakley	I think it's ok to wait until after Labor Day but need to think about modifying required hours as kids are so done by middle of May...
7/21/2020 14:25:07	Hallie	Velez	My family	Lawrence	Please push back the start of the school year to allow for community containment of Covid-19 and for school districts to prepare. I support governor Kelly's executive order.
7/21/2020 14:25:21	Timothy	Surface		Hutchinson	please delay the opening 
7/21/2020 14:25:28	Karyn	Hendrix		Scott County	I do not support delayed school openings or masks for school-aged children. This pandemic is not one size fits all and therefore it is my position that county governance should have the final authority to do what is in the best interest of their citizens. I believe, for the most part, county governance, specifically those in western Kansas, will guide their decisions based on the needs of the constituents in their counties and the medical directors, healthcare practitioners, and county health leaders to determine what is best for rural communities.
7/21/2020 14:25:30	Robert	Lundqvist		Lenexa	I respectfully ask that you do not delay the start of school back three weeks. The ruling that our Governor made based on schools needing additional time to get ample Covid-19 supplies is a absurd. While state funded public school may be having an issue, smaller private schools have been able to obtain the necessary equipment as well as produce a back to school plan to minimize infections. Schools have been closed since mid March and if a school or district did nothing during that time to prepare for this then I'm truly sorry. One would ask the question as to what was done since the powers at be knew the start of a new school year was just around the corner. If colleges are allowed to resume with their plan, why are the K-12 schools not allowed to do so? Three weeks is meaningless in the grand scheme of things but the wording /justification used by the governor of Kansas is simply not enough. Please do not cave into the pressure to continue to continue to keep our schools closed and deprive our children of the education they rightfully deserve.
7/21/2020 14:25:36	Lisa	McBride		Baldwin City	
7/21/2020 14:25:39	John	Robison		Lawrence	Virus conditions are not better, and the chances of children catching it are still significant. Please at the very least delay the start of classes, and preferably take a more aggressive tack and either go online only or delay until the spring semester. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 14:25:46	Charles	Bailey	Myself	Newton	The Governor should have asked School Board FIRST. School starts on-time..
7/21/2020 14:25:47	Ashlee	Garcia		Kinsley KS	I believe keeping schools closed until after Labor Day is not in the best interest of our children. They need social interaction back after already 5 months of not being in a school setting. I believe not putting our kids back in school is going to hurt them emotionally, and delay them in learning. Not to mention how hard this will be on teachers and staff members. Please, for the good of our kids, open school back up in August. Think of the children that only have school as their "safe place". Let's get back to a normal school setting and just take the extra hygiene precautions needed! Delaying school is not going to make the virus disappear!!
7/21/2020 14:25:51	Tricia	schuler	parent	olathe	Kids need the choice to be in school at school or teachers need furloughed. Olathe did a horrible job with online in the spring.

7/21/2020 14:25:52	Steve	Noll	USD #339	Nortonville	Please allow local schools to set their own starting dates and vote against Governor Kelly's executive order. There will not be any major changes in those 3 weeks with our current situation. Disinfectant wipes will still be hard to come by just like they have been since March. Districts have had time to prepare and some have done that very well. Other districts that have not prepared could use the 3-4 weeks from now until the start of the school year to prepare. But again some won't and will still want time, if a teacher does not think he/she should be in the classroom now they will not feel any different in 3 weeks. Pushing everything back helps no one. We will still be faced with same issues then so please get the year started off as normal as possible by allowing schools to start on time.
7/21/2020 14:25:58	Mandy	Prather	Physicians	Overland park	Delaying school only makes sense if it will change plans for return. The use of masks will be essential either way. There needs to be a hybrid model to reduce number of students in the buildings at one time. If a hybrid plan can be achieved, there would be no reason to delay school start. The number of cases will continue to rise with or without starting school.
7/21/2020 14:26:01	Jill	Owens	single parent	olathe	I ABSOLUTELY 100% SUPPORT GOVERNOR KELLY'S Extremely Difficult, Brave, researched based, and non-political Decision to delay schools till September
7/21/2020 14:26:01	Alisa	Schwindt		Iola	I believe that the local school boards should be able to decide how and when school starts and who should wear masks. We live in a smaller community and I don't believe a one size fits all approach is appropriate for our state. Our children need to go back to school and I believe safety precautions can be put in place for it to be safe for them and the faculty, but that it should be left up to our local school boards. I believe that is what they are for and can better make decisions for their schools based on what is currently going on in their area in order to make sure the students are getting the best education possible. I don't believe this will happen if the one size fits all approach is taken. Please leave it up to the local school boards, public and private.
7/21/2020 14:26:13	Robin	Brown		Wichita	I am begging the board to rely on your state health experts. State legislators are not health experts. The numbers in Sedgwick county are climbing daily. Three weeks could allow for numbers to get under control. Don't use Kansas children as political pawns.
7/21/2020 14:26:14	Lisa	Wendland		Lawrence	As an essential worker and a parent, I support keeping schools closed until after Labor Day. We can make adjustments to our work schedules for the health of our children.
7/21/2020 14:26:23	Renee	Gregory	Parent	Lawrence	I support the office of being of schools after Labor Day. Keep our kids and teachers safe!
7/21/2020 14:26:26	Sally	Hoeven	Olathe School District	Olathe	Thank you for all the time you have put in to working on this very important situation. Kansas is the highest state in the country per capita for coronavirus cases. The number of cases are on an uphill surge. Children can get it and get very sick. Kids can also be asymptomatic and can spread it for several days without knowing they have it. Staff and teachers are at a huge risk for catching it from the kids. Some teachers and staff will die. Kids can also bring the virus home to family members. Kids and staff will need to quarantine for 14 days if exposed. Who will we get to substitute this fall? The substitutes I have spoken to said they won't risk their life to work for a day. How will contact tracing be carried out in the schools? How does the state plan to handle testing for the kids and staff? How will the state supply the proper N95 masks or higher grade for its teachers? I have taught for 16 years in the state of Kansas and I have heard a message loud and clear throughout my elementary and secondary jobs..... number 1 priority is SAFETY. I hope it still is. We should not be returning in person until we have 14 days straight of declining cases. As Dr. Lee Norman said on the press conference today with doctors from KU Med, "Our schools certainly won't be safe until our communities are and at this point they are not. We have to do more to get communities safe and get the numbers down before we can even think that schools would be safe". Please do what's right. Thanks!
7/21/2020 14:26:30	Lexington	Link		Overland Park	Please do not override the order. We don't know how many teachers and student may be at risk and it is very likely that there will be a massive uptick in cases if students are sent back to school too soon.
7/21/2020 14:26:32	Jeanne	Hoduski	Marathon Academy	Bonner Springs	I am writing to request that the school opening not be delayed but to be allowed to open it's doors on schedule. Thank you so much for your work and consideration in this matter.
7/21/2020 14:26:33	Shelly	Whipple	Ingalls USD 477	Kalvesta Ks	Please let our students go back to school with safety precautions implemented. Our school offers a safe place for our students to attend. Our students need to be educated and their social and emotional health needs to be our top priority.
7/21/2020 14:26:48	Becky	O'Keefe	Parent	Lawrence	Please do not send our kids and staff into the school buildings

7/21/2020 14:26:49	Nancy	Lett	USD497	Lawrence	At this time schools are not safe places. Both my kids (8th & 11th) want to be back in school, but not until it's safe, for students and staff. This seems like we are putting the cart before the horse. Safety is not possible given the current conditions. Where are the subs for the health office or main office going to come from? Everyone is focused on teachers, but schools can't operate without proper support staff. When student safety is being discussed by adults via zoom, clearly the powers that be do not feel safe holding in person meetings, clearly they are not looking at the safety of students AND staff if they decide to put children and adults together in small spaces.
7/21/2020 14:26:59	Stacey	Reasoner	Parent	Lawrence	Please consider allowing sports conditioning and other school activities (I.e. Marching Band) that can take place outside with social distancing to continue.
7/21/2020 14:27:00	Kaila	Musinski		Manhattan	Kids and teachers aren't safe. Care about them.
7/21/2020 14:27:01	Maggie	Booton	Blue valley	Leawood	Thank you for delaying the start of in-person school. Research states COVID numbers should be decreasing significantly before we gather in school. In Kansas, the numbers are still on the rise. And the preparations needed for buildings to comply with social distancing and health recommendations will take awhile to adequately complete. The health and well-being of students and teachers must be provided so that learning can occur. Thank you!
7/21/2020 14:27:06	Megan	Taggart	N/A	Overland Park	I really appreciate the delayed start in school this year. I'm a recent college graduate whose sister teaches in Wichita. My sister as well as her husband are teachers at different schools and their son is starting kindergarten this year at another school. As a family we do not feel safe doing much outside the house right now and are trying to limit our exposure as much as possible. It scares us a lot to think of all the germs they will be exposed to and that they could spread to one another and the other people at the respective schools. I know my family is hopeful there will be an option for them to be entirely online if possible, however I know that would be very hard on parents who have to go in to work and would need to find childcare. My personal hope is that online school is available and an option for both students and teachers, however having safe in person classes as a second option. Please attempt to give teachers and students the option to choose how they will do school this next year if possible. No one will be learning at optimal levels if they aren't comfortable in their surroundings. Overall, I am extremely pleased with the work Governor Kelly has done. I admire her commitment to the schools and people of Kansas and that she will not bow to political agendas. She is more concerned about the wellbeing of Kansans than her re-election campaign. This speaks volumes to who she is as a person and I'm so proud to have her as our governor. Thank you for putting people first and politics second.
7/21/2020 14:27:06	Shayna	McAlexander		TOPEKA	I believe school districts and private schools should choose what is best for their constituents.
7/21/2020 14:27:17	Brandon	Perkins		Lawrence	Schools need to be closed until after Labor Day if not longer to keep our children safe. What will happen if a teacher tests positive? Will every student they had a class with then have to quarantine for 14 days? Will substitute teachers be willing to teach in this health environment?
7/21/2020 14:27:21	Stephanie	Strange		Overland Park	Please honor Gov. Kelly's Executive order to delay the opening of schools to provide a safer environment for students, teachers, and all staff.

7/21/2020 14:27:24	Betsy	Bunker	My family in the Spring	Olathe	<p>Please vote NO on the governor’s mandate. I’m worried about the mental health of our teens. The section that concerns me is NOT the part delaying the start date of school. But I am very concerned by this:  “K-12 public and private schools shall not allow attendance, instruction, athletic practice or competition, rehearsal, performance, or other interaction of an instructional manner—  including virtual, online, and any other direct or indirect means of providing instruction—  between faculty/staff and students of public or private K-12 schools from August 10, 2020, through Sept. 8, 2020...”</p> <p>I have a student athlete in high school. He was very sad to miss his track season last spring due to the school closures. Sad and angry. As the lockdown progressed and continued on and on for months, his attitude became worse. Nothing made him smile. As soon as KSHSAA announced that his HS soccer team could begin conditioning, he was a whole new person. He’s excited about school, life, his team, his friends. He comes home from soccer conditioning just beaming! I asked him what happened that was so good, and he said, “I just get to play soccer with my friends.” PLEASE don’t take this away from our kids. I don’t understand why the governor would want to cut off all activity and communication between children and their coaches, even via zoom or email! This is not about virus safety, this is a direct attack on the mental health of students and their families. It’s an attempt to deny students, parents, and teachers to connect. Please do everything in your power to continue sports and activities when school starts. And even before it starts. That’s the reason some of these kids get out of bed in the morning. I’m fortunate that my son is a great student, but he has classmates who probably would not show up to school if it wasn’t for a certain activity or sport they were passionate about. Please protect the mental health of our teens, not just their physical health. Please vote NO.</p>
7/21/2020 14:27:32	Sarah	R	Concerned Parent	Topeka	<p>I write to express my support for Governor Kelly’s Executive Order delaying the start of school for 3 weeks.</p> <p>I have a 6th grader in Topeka who desperately wants to attend school in person this fall. But I don’t know if I can send him in good conscience while case numbers are on the rise. I see more and more people acting now to decrease cases by wearing masks, etc. My hope is that after Labor Day cases will be declining and I will feel confident sending my son to school.</p> <p>I also am not currently confident that my school district is taking enough safety measures to keep my child safe while he is in school. I think the three additional weeks will give me time to ask more questions of my school district and hopefully for the school district to implement more safety measures.</p> <p>In addition, I fear that if school buildings are opened now while numbers are on the rise, it will backfire and kids will end up with remote learning for the entire semester (along with sick kids, families, and teachers). Whereas waiting a few weeks may mean that the kids can safely attend school in person for the majority of the year.</p> <p>I also worry that the current testing delay (it recently took a friend of mine 6 days to get results on a Covid test) may cause chaos in the schools. What is a school district to do with testing delays? Does it close down the school/class while waiting for test results? Or does it wait until the individual gets the results, meanwhile the virus could be spreading throughout the class and school?</p> <p>In the end, nobody is questioning the importance of education and getting children back into school. But that importance must be balanced with the health and safety of school children, their families, teachers, and administrators. If a three week delay can push us closer toward meeting both of those goals, I can see no reason not to support the Governor’s order. Every day more information is coming out about this virus. Just today the US Surgeon General said that the most important factor in opening schools is lowering transmission rates. I desperately hope that by September Kansas has reached that goal and that schools will be able to safely open. But Kansas is not there now and will not be</p>
7/21/2020 14:27:41	Morgan	Bryan	USD320	Wamego	I do not believe we should delay returning to school.



7/21/2020 14:27:45	Marcy	Schooley		Clay Center	Please give administrators and teachers a 3-week opportunity to return our children to school. At the moment, I don't know that they have had time to implement a safe structure for all students and staff.
7/21/2020 14:27:47	Latisha	Wood		Independence	It would be a great thing to delay the school start until after labor day to help families, Teachers and Schools adjust and prepare for the new normal of school
7/21/2020 14:27:53	Kim	Hollinshed	Parent/educational staff	Kansas City	I support pushing back the start of in person school. Where are the guidelines and true safety plans that can be enacted while numbers continue to surge?
7/21/2020 14:27:53	Shawn	Hughes	Parent	Edgerton	Please do not open schools it is not safe.
7/21/2020 14:28:03	Kevin	Nickel		Hesston	I urge the members of the KDSE to support EO 20-58 in order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. I believe this will give our teachers more time to adequately prepare and the community more time to adapt to the COVID-19 precautions in place (like the mandatory mask mandate). This extra time will hopefully bring cases down and allow for a safer environment for all including teachers, such as the three in my family, and students like my 6th grade daughter and 4th grade son. Thank you!
7/21/2020 14:28:05	Zach	Moser	Olathe Northwest	Lenexa, ks	As a student who goes to ONW, I think it is very necessary that events (like sports) continue to happen. They are very valuable because they contribute to student's mental and physical health. While I think it is a good idea to postpone class for a while longer, sports do not need to be cancelled. We are taking the necessary precautions to keep everyone safe while practicing, and the sports will not affect or further spread coronavirus.
7/21/2020 14:28:21	Jenny	Griffin	Student	Overland Park	As a student, I'm very concerned for myself and other students if we are forced to go back to school so early. I think Laura Kelly's decision to start schools after Labor Day is the right decision as it will ensure more time for preparation for teachers and the staff at schools. Please consider our collective health and well-being over all else. This is the least we can do to make sure more people don't die.
7/21/2020 14:28:22	Cheryl	Welch		Topeka	I watch school aged grandkids and I am more than happy to wait until after Labor Day for them to start school.
7/21/2020 14:28:28	Jessica	Dibble		Lawrence	I think its a great idea to just cancel school and do online. Im not willing to risk my childs life and everyone at school. I don't know why it's even an option to have school.
7/21/2020 14:28:33	Kristel	Stang		Lawrence, KS	Please support delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. Districts need time to review the Navigating Chang document, and time to adjust their plans as cases have risen significantly in our state within the last few weeks. I know some of you view this as a local control issue, but I believe we have a state level school board for situations just like this. You can make a decision that will save districts valuable time that would otherwise be spent on this issue (convening calendar committees, soliciting feedback, going through negotiations, etc.). We need that time to plan how we will deliver effective instruction while keeping our students, staff, and families safe. Thanks for your time and service.
7/21/2020 14:28:36	Nathan	Leseberg	daughter	Olathe	Open the schools in August The isolation is more damaging This has nothing to do with health This a governor wanting power One size does not fit all Small private schools are ready Open the school as originally planned in August If people are afraid, stay home If people are at risk stay home
7/21/2020 14:29:14	Claire	Harding	Eudora Elementary PTO	Eudora	I am 100% in favor of Governor Kelly's Executive Orders issued 7/20. Please vote according to the science of the pandemic. Children, families and our essential school staff will be unnecessarily put at risk if we open too early. The State Board of Education adopted the Navigating Change document because you are aware of the seriousness of getting it right. Reopening schools needs to be done correctly to keep students learning while also keeping our communities safe. The document asks a lot of school districts and they need the extra time Governor Kelly's orders provide. Please, please understand the purpose of the order and set aside petty politics to do right by Kansas families.

7/21/2020 14:29:15	Wendy	Lowmaster	USD 259	Kechi	<p>We are in a new world right now.</p> <p>We all WANT to get physically back to school! There is no way to protect my staff or students if we go back too soon! How many staff and students will have to die before we understand that people's lives are more important than kids being physically in school? Please keep us safe!</p>
7/21/2020 14:29:37	Erin	Atherton		Overland Park	<p>PLEASE follow the governor's executive order and do not reopen schools any earlier than 9/9/20. The districts need more time to make plans as safe as possible and as a state, we need more time to get the number of cases trending down. Especially for the teachers, support staff, and administrators.</p>
7/21/2020 14:29:37	Miriam	Edelman		Manhattan	<p>I strongly recommend following the recommendation of our scientists and public health experts, as Governor Kelly has done, and delaying school openings until it is safer.</p> <p>Children may not get as sick as often with COVID-19, but we are seeing increasing cases of horrible illness in younger and younger people. Children are germ magnets at the best of time, and they do not live in bubbles. Teachers, administrators, staff, bus drivers, everyone working at the school is vulnerable. And children will take those germs home to all their family members.</p> <p>Please stop obsessing only about deaths; we know that recovery from COVID-19 can be devastating as well, sometimes taking weeks and even months, and with possible lifelong consequences. How many children, and adults around them, should have to go through that because we wish everything could magically go back to normal?</p> <p>Schools need time to plan appropriately for this new world. None of us have done this before, and rushing without preparation is a huge mistake—and one that could cost lives. Most schools also need money to buy the necessary PPE, plexiglass barriers, and all the other mechanisms for safety. Schools may need more staff—where a hybrid approach is taken, the same teacher cannot simultaneously teach in person and online, any more than they could be in two different schools at once. Waiting a few weeks to get arrangements in place is critical.</p> <p>I am hearing teachers say they will quit rather than return to a dangerous and poorly planned reopening. I trust scientists, public health experts, and teachers. You should, too.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 14:29:38	David	Sturm	Parent	Lawrence	<p>Please support the Governor's executive order for a delayed school start. Sports just aren't as important as the health and well-being of our children. The states that are taking the COVID-19 situation seriously, and acting cautiously, are seeing their infection and death rates decline. Also, what message does it send when school boards aren't willing to meet in public, but they are considering requiring children to return to school in-person. It's time to put individualism aside and be on the right side of history here. I urge you to vote to support the Governor's efforts to ACTUALLY return to school when it's safe for the students and staff to do so.</p>
7/21/2020 14:29:38	Tracy	Shiner	Maranatha Christian Ac	Basehor, Ks	<p>I feel Kansas schools should open the 2020/21 school year on the normally scheduled start date. Parents can then choose what is best for their families and schools can be ready to receive the children that attend and give them the education they deserve &amp; need.</p>

7/21/2020 14:30:06	Katie	Gehrt		Spring Hill	I am a high school teacher and my mom is an elementary school teacher in a neighboring district. Allowing more time for school districts to make safe plans is imperative to a successful school year. My parents live with my grandparents who are both high risk. We are very concerned about the risks involved with returning in person and the time and money needed for school to resume in person in order to make it safe for all stakeholders. Some classrooms in my building do not have adequate ventilation or space to accommodate the recommendations by doctors and scientists regarding social distancing. I love being at work and being with my students. I know this decision is not an easy one for everyone and there are certainly pros and cons to processing with the school calendar as planned vs. delaying OR using online instruction vs in person for first semester. However, teachers are putting themselves at risk with the possibility of returning to school and questions regarding substitutes, sick days, plans for when students/teachers/family members testing positive, etc. have not been fully addressed. If we are required to work in person, will we be compensated for the risks we are undertaking by exposing ourselves? Will we be compensated for taking temperatures or anything related to extra things we will need to do to create a safe environment? We as teachers are very aware of the crucial need for social interaction for our students. The State has already stated masks may not be necessary for students K-6 which may be okay based on the data we have so far about young people and COVID, but it does not protect their teachers or teachers' families. Governor Kelly's proposal would make many teachers more at ease so that our questions can be answered and we can plan accordingly in our personal lives.
7/21/2020 14:30:07	Ben	Chappell	none	Lawrence	Safety for our kids and community comes first. It is completely clear that delaying large gatherings of people will save lives. Kudos to the governor for her leadership. We need robust remote learning with full per-head funding, access and support for kids in need, and social distance until the virus is beaten.
7/21/2020 14:30:09	Mary	Gojcevic	Teacher, mom	Leawood	I truly appreciate the work you have been doing to help us return to school safely. I think the Labor Day start is wise. We have a high number of faculty with pre-existing conditions that puts us at a higher risk along with many teachers with infants. We're in a high school setting, so transmission of COVID from students to teacher is a real possibility. I don't think we can be too careful with guidelines to reopen schools. Thank you for focusing on the safety and well-being of students, staff, and parents and not the politics of the situation. It makes me proud to be a Kansas educator.
7/21/2020 14:30:30	Ana	Vega		Kansas City KS	I will like school open until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 14:30:36	Teri	Dow		Wamego	Please say yes to delay the start of school! Teachers and staff need more time to prepare and ensure that our students are safe.
7/21/2020 14:30:43	Jessica	Fraley		usd446	Open after Labor day. This will give Teachers and staff more time to prepare for all of the changes.
7/21/2020 14:31:04	Anthony	Carpenter	N/A	Manhattan	Please open schools. Children need school.. do masks work or not? Have the wear masks if that's what it takes.. fact is, thousands of kids have been in daycares this entire "pandemic" and have had zero issues, why can we not have K-12 schools open?.. if a gas station attendant is deemed essential, then a teacher definitely is as well. OPEN SCHOOLS PLEASE.
7/21/2020 14:31:15	Linda	Hoopes		Lawrence	I agree with delaying the start of the school year until after labor day. Anything sooner is a disastrous decision.
7/21/2020 14:31:18	Michael	Ritter	Shawnee Mission School	Leawood	Please delay the start of school until we are actually able to effectively manage testing, contact tracing, and human needs around Coronavirus. We are in no way prepared to deal with this on the level required to effectively manage it. Leadership has and continues to be short-sighted in combating the continued spread. To put our educators and potentially students in harm's way is despicable. I want my kids gone as much as the next person, but not at the sake of my community's well-being.
7/21/2020 14:31:19	Paige	Pate	High school educator in	Joplin	I feel the delayed start is totally acceptable and a great idea to make sure we have a plan in place, based on science, not politics, and have time to create a classroom that is safe and efficient with new policies we are expected to implement. Also to make sure we don't rush into it and have regrets when the cases are still increasing

7/21/2020 14:31:20	Annie	Brock		Holton	There is virtually no way to open schools and keep everyone safe. There is so much contact between students and teachers each day it would be, at minimum, a huge burden to do contact tracing if an infected person comes to school, if not impossible. I know it is difficult for families with young children right now. I myself have a 7 and 9 year old. I want them to get back to school, but not at the cost of their friends' and teachers' health. School isn't like retail work or restaurant service — it is close, prolonged contact day in and day out with children who may or may not be physically and cognitively able to socially distance or wear PPE properly. Let's reevaluate in September, which gives us time to hopefully see COVID numbers in Kansas to go back down and give schools time to make a plan, procure equipment and train staff.
7/21/2020 14:31:21	Kelsea	Cadwell	Olathe School District	Olathe, Kansas	I strongly disagree! The deaths are down. Our kids need to be in school. Make it safe, wear masks, allow those who want to stay home stay home! But let kids who want and need to go back- go to school!!! How can we possibly keep kids from their education. Our schools are essential. It's not from an economy stand point. It's from a mental and social stand point for our kids!!!
7/21/2020 14:31:32	Sara	Pueo	USD 259	Andale	Please DELAY the start of school so we can better prepare and follow the health guidelines to protect our students.
7/21/2020 14:31:37	Laura	Porter		Olathe	I support a post Labor Day start for KS!
7/21/2020 14:31:41	Richie	McDanel	None	Topeka	I support the decision to delay the start of the school year.  I have seen no evidence that school districts currently have the resources needed to keep students safe during in class instruction.
7/21/2020 14:31:42	Wendy	Fisherq	Parent Maranatha Christ	Lenexa	We must get our children back in school. Virtual is not as healthy for our children. I am tired of them being on electronics they need to socialize with property covid restrictions. If people can go to nail salons and travel on airplanes kids can go to school. Please don't make the mistake of keeping kids home.
7/21/2020 14:31:44	Tammy	Johnson		McPherson	Please keep schools closed until at least after Labor Day. Remote learning would be best after that until our numbers stop climbing.
7/21/2020 14:31:46	Erin	Tuttle		Emporia	Governer Kelly is doing her best to keep us safe. You need to do the same. Delay openings and prepare to be able to move online when cases grow
7/21/2020 14:31:46	Ester	Carpenter	USD-384 parent	Manhattan, KS	Please do not delay school opening. Let those who want to have a home school plan choose it. There is no be benefit to the delay. Why would we allow daycare open but not schools? If it was truly a threat we would have closed them as well. Let's make decisions off facts not politics.
7/21/2020 14:31:50	Susan	Liles	Parent of a student	Denison, KS	Please allow the schools to open back up in August at least online. The students need to get back to a routine and have missed out on so much learning. Use these few weeks in August as a time to review where they left off, get them accustomed to their new teachers and students in the class, get them prepared to hit the ground running when they may possibility get back in the buildings. The online teaching definitely needs to be more of a live stream so the student feels more like a part of the class.
7/21/2020 14:31:58	Kari	Neilson	Mother of elementary st	Stockton	I think the kids need to go back to school. They need to be able to be around people again. They need to socialize and get back to a structured aystem.
7/21/2020 14:31:58	Barron	Stringfellow	My Grandchildren	Hiawatha	Keep schools online until we have a vaccine and answers.
7/21/2020 14:32:00	Haley	Wilson		Manhattan, KS	I am 100% opposed to delaying the start of school. Our kids have waited long enough, and delaying is only going to push us closer to winter weather and flu season. Why give up 2+ weeks of good instruction time? The mask mandate for young children (mine will be in 1st and 3rd grades) is ridiculous, counterproductive, delusional (that they'll properly wear the thing)...
7/21/2020 14:32:11	Melinda	Goertz	USD 361	Anthony	I will support the decision of the State BOE
7/21/2020 14:32:12	Paul	Moore		Olathe	I want the state school board to follow the Governor's recommendation on delaying the start of the school year. Districts need more time to prepare with the cases going up. It seems like common sense considering the board won't meet in person due to the risk. If it is not safe for the board of adults to all meet in person then why are we risking our kids and teachers?
7/21/2020 14:32:17	Charlotte	Fathi		Manhattan	The governor had made the right moves regarding reopening schools. It is in the best interest of our children's health and safety to delay the opening of schools.

7/21/2020 14:32:18	Erin	Wohletz	USD444 Teacher & Parent	Little River	Our students & teachers need to return to normalcy...let's start school, in person & on time. Encourage good hygiene (washing hands) and DO NOT REQUIRE MASKS! Covid has been no worse than influenza which hits schools EVERY YEAR!
7/21/2020 14:32:22	Taunya	Schlessiger	Teachers	Ellinwood	Whether we start before or after Labor Day is not important. That effects us minimally here, we start usually a week before Labor Day. What my concerns are with on-line teaching is the amount of kids that fall behind and do not participate, the lack of proper technology and supplies to ALL students, and the struggles parents have at home with it. As well as added and extra pressure put on teachers, principals, and administration. I understand this is new to all of us and adapting is a fundamental practice that teachers have long ago accepted. There will already be a huge "catch up gap" from last year to starting this year. I hope we can be in the classroom and doing what is best for students. I'm for students thriving.
7/21/2020 14:32:30	Susan	Wolfe		Valley Center	I support the Governor's order to delay the start of school until September. As a teacher, I fear going back to the germ factory that is my fourth grade classroom! Going back to school in August will make that germ factory a COVID factory in no time. I encourage you to support Governor Kelly's order.
7/21/2020 14:32:31	Kami	Mcdonald		Garden city	Masks are not the answer. The health repercussions of constantly breathing in your toxins and reducing your immune system scares me far more than the Covid virus.
7/21/2020 14:32:31	Darrell	Lea	self	Lawrence	We need to do what is safest for students, teachers, families and all support staff involved in the operation of the schools. This pandemic and related disease is not under control. Until conditions are safe and the spread of disease is in check, school buildings should not be opened and schooling should happen at a safe distance. We are in the middle of a Public Health Emergency. We need to act and reason accordingly.
7/21/2020 14:32:41	Julie	Vandal		Wichita	I'm comfortable with delaying the start of school. I am not comfortable with the requirement of Elementary school children to wear masks all day. The teacher will spend more time policing the masks than teaching with younger children. I agree with using them in hallways but should not be mandatory in the classroom.
7/21/2020 14:32:43	Lydia	Mendez	Parent of student	Lawrence	Pls support the governors order. I have no confidence in the local admin willingness to make the decision themselves. Our cases are on the rise and we do not know the IMO they of KU starting.
7/21/2020 14:32:44	Sue	Groth	Kansas teachers	Dodge City	I think children need to be educated and being physically in school is the best way to accomplish this. Schools across the state are different and should have some flexibility to how best to keep their clientele safe. Giving each district time to accomplish this seems logical so starting after Labor Day seem logical. However, any further delays down the road doesn't seem to be the best way to go.
7/21/2020 14:32:46	Heather	Murphy	concerned citizen	Sabetha	Please keep the schools closed until after labor day. Give administration and staff the extra time to plan and make things as safe as possible.
7/21/2020 14:32:47	Rebecca	Ivery		Shawnee, KS	Vote no... keep decision with our local BOE
7/21/2020 14:32:48	Angie	DalBello	USD232	Prairie Village	Delaying the start of the school year until after Labor Day is the SMART and SAFE thing to do. The health of students and faculty at schools IS NOT worth the risk of starting schools in Kansas too early. Covid cases are increasing in Kansas, we should not be putting large numbers of people together in indoor spaces. Use science to guide decision making about when and how to open Kansas schools.
7/21/2020 14:33:11	Paula	Thompson		Hesston	Kids need to get back to school in August.
7/21/2020 14:33:13	Erica	Smith		Harper	I am for allowing individual districts to decide on when school should start and how they choose go return depending on their Covid presence in their communities.
7/21/2020 14:33:15	Megan	Pfannenstiel		Hays	Concerned more about the isolation that children have been living in since March. Concerned about child care costs and lack of childcare for working parents. My child misses his school, friends, and learning environment. We need to weigh what is worse, illnesses or the mental toll this is taking on children, parents, school employees, and our community.
7/21/2020 14:33:18	Jonathan	Fisher	Parent Maranatha Christ	Lenexa	Do the right thing and allow kids to go back to school. Parents need to be able to work again. Kids need to socialize and get away from technology, get away from bad environments and getting into trouble. Our numbers are much lower than other states who are already planning to open! DO THE RIGHT THING PLEASE LET US GO BACK TO SCHOOL>
7/21/2020 14:33:29	Terri	McNally	Hiawatha usd 415	Morrill	I would prefer that each school district should be able to decide on their own when they would prefer to start their school year. I feel that 2 or 3 week delay wouldn't matter as to when to start school.

7/21/2020 14:33:29	Nancy	Levine	USD 453	Leavenworth	I support Gov Kelly's decision to delay the beginning of the school year. Thank you for considering the health of students and staff.
7/21/2020 14:33:34	Angela	Durland		Spring Hill	Please vote yes on Executive Order 20-58. I do not feel like our district is ready to safely start school in person in August. They need the extra time to put more safety plans in place not only for students, but for the Teachers and staff. They also need more time to prepare a sufficient online option. I want my daughter in school, but I don't feel like it is safe. I cannot choose the online option being offered because it does not seem like our district has put any effort into this option.
7/21/2020 14:33:36	Jennifer	Stoskopf	USD 233	OLATHE	Please uphold delay of school to lower the spread before coming back to buildings.
7/21/2020 14:33:44	Kyle	Nelson	Auburn Washburn school	Topeka	As a teacher, it feels comforting to know that the governor is willing to protect schools and students, even when that means she got a lot of political attacks for it. It doesn't feel like many leaders care much about the health and safety of teachers. Please vote to postpone until after Labor Day. I don't mind teaching into June.
7/21/2020 14:33:47	Karen	Arbo		Olathe	Open the schools. Since they lost three months last school year the schools shook open on time and be extended For an additional 3 months to get kids back to where they need to be. ACTs and SATs are a fat of life and they need to be prepared.
7/21/2020 14:33:52	Audra	Seeman		Larned	Kids and teachers can be safe there are guidelines. Open the schools, extend the school year. Educate the kids.
7/21/2020 14:33:53	Jennifer	Freestone		Olathe	Kids need to start school, sooner than later. Masks are fine, but please send them back!
7/21/2020 14:33:55	Amanda	Hendry	USD 253	Emporia	Please delay the start of the school year for the safety of all. As an educator and mother, I'm concerned about rushing into reopening without the proper protective equipment and supplies. These few weeks will allow for more comprehensive planning and preparation. I hope we're able to sacrifice this very short amount of time; if not, we may be sacrificing lifetimes instead.
7/21/2020 14:34:03	Ashley	Barton	Myself	Lawrence	This is about science and it is not safe or wise to cram all of our children and teachers back into school buildings! PLEASE follow our governor's direction!
7/21/2020 14:34:03	Crystal	Fortin	Maranatha Christian Ac	Liberty	I feel the delay is very beneficial
7/21/2020 14:34:04	Kurt	Hudson		Healy Ks	Please allow school to resume as usual in August. Our school has gone above and beyond with cleaning and preparing a plan for school to start in August. The students and teachers need to get back to teaching and learning. Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:34:04	Kurt	Hudson		Healy Ks	As a father of 3 school age children ranging from kindergarten to a senior. We will be doing more damage to the children of our state if we don't get back to as normal life as they know it. There are kids in this state that school is the only thing close to safe and normal life they have ever known. We have to also look at what these kids have put into activities that they participate in. What are they going to miss out on? Scholarships? The commroderity amongst the kids and how hard they have worked is something we need to look at. We need to get busy living and not so worried of the alternative! The kids in our state are not a political pawn and we should look at the damage that can happen if we don't get these kids back to school and activities as possible! In 5 months the epidemic has not gone away and it won't anytime soon. There are kids that need school and without it is worse that any virus. Please look at the big picture and get these kids back to school and the sports and activities that they have worked so hard to get.  Thank you for all your time and patience.
7/21/2020 14:34:10	Marin	Massa	my family	Lawrence, KS (rural resi	Kurt Hudson
7/21/2020 14:34:13	Nicole	Williams		ManhattanKansas	Please follow guidelines offered by epidemiologists and other scientists for the safe opening of schools; allow communities a chance to decrease positive COVID cases, and then have 14 days without a positive case in the county. Schools were struggling before the shut down with retaining enough teachers and substitutes, large class sizes, and digital equality in their communities. Opening without proper safety guidelines and overall good community health will threaten/sicken teachers and staff, not to mention students and their families. This will cause the closure of schools and yet another disruption to our children's school year. Please use common sense and science to help make decisions.
					I'd rather have it safer to send my children back to school than starting in August.

7/21/2020 14:34:14	Christina	Riley		McPherson County	I do NOT support the delay in the start of the academic year.
7/21/2020 14:34:15	Amanda	Araujo	Soderstrom Elementary	Lindsborg	I agree with Governor Kelly postponing school start date. No one was prepared for COVID to get worse. We need to make smart, thought out choices to make our kids safe and Provide a productive learning environment.
7/21/2020 14:34:15	Jennifer	McAllister		El Dorado	Delay the opening. We r grandparents w health issues and do not want the kids to bring home additional illness
7/21/2020 14:34:16	Kristina	Girkin		Lawrence	We need at least a blended online with limited in person student ratio. Doing nothing is only sacrificing the health and safety of students and staff. Do not open until you have a valid and safe solution
7/21/2020 14:34:32	Stefanny	Aquino		Kansas City KS	I will like you to open school after Labor Day for the safety of every teacher and students.
7/21/2020 14:34:40	Jima	Peterson	Olathe School District p	Olathe	Please uphold the mandates put forth by our governor to keep our children, teachers, and school staff safe. We as a community put our faith in you to make a decision that puts politics aside and keeps our health a number one priority. Online or hybrid schooling is the only fall option that makes sense right now. I appreciate how hard of a job you have right now and have faith you will make the right decision for our children, teachers and community.
7/21/2020 14:34:55	Troy	Anderson	Parent	Lawrence KS	Let the kids play sports and go to school. It is possible with appropriate risk management, masks, sanitation, hand washing, etc. I am considered an "essential" worker and have been managing the risk for 5 MONTHS!
7/21/2020 14:35:07	Rebecca	Bowles	Countryside UMC	Lawrence	Please delay the School year. We need to keep our kids, teachers and school staff safe. We need more action take to keep everyone safe. Kansas can not loose more teachers. We already have a shortage.
7/21/2020 14:35:13	Kirsten	Nelson	Former 501 teacher	Topeka	It is not safe for my husband and son to go to in person school yet. I have multiple preexisting conditions that make it dangerous for my husband to infect me from working. I have liver disease, and my biggest personal priority is not worsening that. We have been wearing masks and only going to the store once a week. We do not eat out. We are doing our part. We were grateful schools were online in the spring, although my husband worked harder than he ever has to teach remotely. Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day to give time for the cases to go down.
7/21/2020 14:35:15	Leah	Green	Private school	Emporia	I am for delaying the school year until Labor Day. I am against masks for children 10 and under.
7/21/2020 14:35:19	Haley	Lemman	My family	Manhattan	Please don't take away our children's opportunities to be children. They're mental health is just as important as everyone's physical health, and yet it is harder to treat.
7/21/2020 14:35:21	Natalie	Robbins	Maranatha Christian Ac	Lake Quivira/Shawnee K	I believe that as a private school (not funded by the state of KS) the Maranatha Christian Academy leadership team should be able to decide if they would like to start the new school year in August 2020 as planned. I support their decision to get our kids back in school sooner than later. I strongly believe that the risk of delaying school openings (particularly canceling in person school) far outweighs the risk of sending them to school in person. Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:35:23	Don	Caywood		Maize	I support Government Kelly's decision to delay start of schools.
7/21/2020 14:35:43	Jenna	Myers	Circle Benton Elementar	Benton, Ks	Please, hear my plea! As a mother of a special needs child, I need my son in school. With the closing of school last March until now, I feel he has regressed. I am an nurse - an essential employee and I do no feel I can do an adequate job of teaching him properly. Our kids need to get back to school. Please consider challenging Governor Kelly!
7/21/2020 14:35:54	Erica	Howe		Johnson county	Please delay k-12 school opening until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 14:36:08	Cade	Leeper	USD 300	Wilmore	Please let our local schools be in charge of the upcoming 2020 school year. Each district will know how their community is handling COVID 19 better than the Governor.
7/21/2020 14:36:16	Patty	Mullen	Parent	Oberland Park	My daughter needs active schedule at school to maintain her mental health.
7/21/2020 14:36:23	Tina	Tucker	Emerald City Gymnastic	Leavenworth	The delay in school will not change anything, except delay all our lives for your convenience or your own political agendas. All employees in the essential jobs for the last several months took extra precautions within their own family and lives to stay safe, this all that needs to be addressed and how important that will be for school teachers and workers for all kids to get back to school. As reported, children are not a high risk of this illness and hospitalization, therefore, if you are worried of adult age, then set guidelines for them. Ask all the daycare and camps that have been in session for the past 5 months, how many of these kids are sick??? Please do your homework on our real kids, not just a piece of paper.
7/21/2020 14:36:25	Dave	Woodward	Hesston Schools	Hesston	I'm against delaying school, as well as sports. And if you need to delay it, then move all of Inservice days to the front of the year. Allow for sports and activities to begin. Allow for face shields to be used in place of face masks.

7/21/2020 14:36:28	Deb	Cohoon	Grandma to six school	Kingman	I believe schools that offer in person instruction are essential. The sooner , the better. Day cares are open and that has been “justified” to assist essential/in person workers- Walmart, Home Depot and medical providers. And teachers aren’t essential? We continue to perpetuate shaming, divisive pandering and hostile comments on social media. Shame on us Adults. We are bullying and refusing to participate in common sense discussion. It is either “my way or you are stupid”. I challenge you as elected officials to do a gut check. We are not immortal, kids and adults do get sick and some die sooner than we would like. We cannot continue to live under this umbrella of fear and “what if’s“ or we will drown in self doubt. Trust that your schools and students will do their best to diminish the threat of this virus and perhaps all will have a deeper appreciation of our educational freedoms and each other.
7/21/2020 14:36:46	Amy M	Altwegg	my family	Abilene	Don't make this political Please delay the start of our schools
7/21/2020 14:37:10	Sydney	Carnes		Pittsburg	Please delay the start of school. As a teacher, I am terrified to go back to school and risk getting myself or my family sick. These extra weeks could help us better prepare. There’s so little time to the initial start of school right now and with so much still undecided, it would be very beneficial to have these extra weeks to prepare and be able to plan what would be best for my students. Please do not vote solely on political lines and make the best decision for the teachers and students who will be working in close proximity.
7/21/2020 14:37:10	Carmen	Clark		Hutchinson	I do not believe a blanket mandate is what’s best for our state. Schools need to be able to make decisions at a local level as what is best for their communities and children. There is a huge difference in how a 6A school in Wichita or KC function vs a small 1A rural district. I do not believe elementary children should be expected to wear masks all day. Children aren’t not going to wear them properly making them completely ineffective. Let local schools make these decisions based on the guidelines from the BOE and local county health officials.
7/21/2020 14:37:13	Mello	Manley	Lawrence	Lawrence	Please uphold the EO and do not pass the buck to local boards. Covid is increasing in many areas of our state. A new study that came out today shows children do pass and contract this horrible disease. I implore you to do right by protecting our children and families! Teachers cannot teach from their graves.
7/21/2020 14:37:20	Sarah	Karns		Topeka	Hello, first of all, thank you for much contemplation and dedicated work toward achieving the best possible solution for Kansas. Second of all, my deep and strong plea is to altogether stop this from being political. The health of Kansans is at stake here so please stop making this political. I ask that considerations be made based on guidance from health professionals, school teachers and administrators, and families. Please bring different voices to the table, do not look to your own opinions for a decision. Please consider child development as you weigh pros and cons with the risks you're deeming necessary to take or not take. Please consider the wellbeing of teachers and student guardians. Ask yourselves if starting school in the traditional sense is worth the burden put on school staff and families effected by default. Individuals will contract COVID-19 if/when you decide to open schools. That being true, please consider what is worth it given the fact this will happen. Is it worth it to burden teachers, administrators, and families with starting school to then ultimately and abruptly close school when a teacher or student contracts the virus before exposing many individuals. It was difficult for students, teachers, and families to transition from spring break to online learning in March. Please imagine how emotionally taxing (not to mention the logistics of it) it will be to send students and teachers back to school to ultimately send them home once a school affiliate contracts COVID-19. Additionally, in urban areas especially, many students live with their grandparents. Those living in poverty (who are likely also living in multi-generational households) are already more deeply affected by the virus and are more likely to have preexisting health concerns. When a student contracts the virus at school the could very well be spreading it to not only school affiliates but also to their guardians who are well over the age of 65 and have chronic illness. I, personally, live with my sister who is an educator. Our brother is also an educator. Should school begin as originally planned, I will be the sole caretaker for our parents who are over 70 and sometimes require emergency care. I will have to move out of my home in order to be apart from my family working in the school system who could no longer care for our parents while they are exposed to the virus at work. Truly, personal story aside, taking the public health viewpoint informs what the decision should be. Please do the right thing. Please be kind and have compassion for all Kansans. To those who are considering the economy before human lives, please stop. The economy will grow stronger faster if we get rid of COVID faster and we can only do that if you make the right decision in keeping students and school staff home awhile longer. Thank you.



7/21/2020 14:37:23	Karen	Reedy	Concordia Elementary	Concordia, KS	<p>Good Afternoon,</p> <p>I know that there are many difficult decisions that need to be made regarding the safety and education of the children of Kansas. I have been an educator for 17 years, in rural schools. However, I grew up in Dodge City, (one of the major hot spots in Kansas this summer) and I realize that there is some real concern over this virus. I don't envy anyone making these decisions for our state. With that said, I don't believe that delaying school openings is in the best interest of ALL of the students in Kansas. I understand the fear of sending students back to school. I worry about my own children, three of which will be attending public schools this year. What I have seen in our own small community has been very positive for reopening our schools. We have Summer Programs that have operated without spreading the virus. Granted, our summer sports programs included students who tested positive for the virus, but we were able to stop the spread of it and contain it to a few individuals. My youngest also attends the Community College Children's Center, and the procedures there have been effective as well. Yes, school will look different this fall. Yes, I worry about the virus affecting my family and my community. However, my community is not the same as Dodge City, Wichita, Topeka or Kansas City. In education we believe that what's best for one child may not be best for all children. We were taught not to treat all children the same because they are individuals coming from individual situations. The same is true of our schools. What's best for the city is not what's best for our rural communities, so shouldn't the local communities be making the decisions that's best for them? I ask you to consider the fact that we as communities have elected leaders that know our situation much better than the people of Topeka ever could. We need to trust them to make the decisions that's best for our students. Please vote NO to Executive Order 20-58.</p> <p>Respectfully Karen Reedy</p>
7/21/2020 14:37:30	Andrea	Passantino		Overland Park	<p>I really believe schools need to open. I know we are in unchartered waters, but we cannot shelter in place and hope this passes. It may be here to stay. In the meantime, children need some semblance of normalcy. They need peers, teachers, and school. I know there is no easy decision but many local pediatricians are saying the same thing. They are not the most at-risk group. Their mental health is also at stake. Allow parents a choice, but I firmly believe nothing will replace brick and mortar education.</p>
7/21/2020 14:37:30	Nadine	Bennetts	Teachers	Olathe	<p>These are unusual times, and COVID-19 is a dangerous virus - and as a community, (Kansas), we all need to do our part to provide for the safety of one another. Our state is currently experiencing a spike, much higher than the one we had in mid-March. Bringing our students back together in August would be the traditional thing to do, but as mentioned above, these are unusual times, and bringing students, too soon to school will cause more harm to our community (Kansas), and have a negative effect on students' ability to learn due to distractions and worries about the virus, and possibly spreading it to family and friends. Time can be our ally, along with mask wearing, to stem COVID. Let's do the necessary things to help our community. Please follow the guidance provided by qualified medical professional and scientists, which Governor Kelly has been doing to help keep the citizens of Kansas safe. School districts and teachers can adapt this year's schedule. Please leave politics out of your decision. Thank you!</p>
7/21/2020 14:37:37	Trinity	Coots	Para at Lincoln central	Independence	<p>I feel it is okay to go to school! With Paras I believe they should have an assigned area and only work with specific grade so they are not floating and spreading to other grades! I don't mind wearing masks...but it would be uncomfortable at recess duty</p>
7/21/2020 14:37:43	Janet	Roecker	I'm a parent	Lawrence	<p>I fully support delaying the opening of school until after labor day. I would also support online learning for the first semester to ensure health and safety of students, teachers and staff.</p>
7/21/2020 14:37:46	Angela	Knigh	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	<p>Please do not delay school opening. Kids have been out of school long enough! They need a full education.</p>
7/21/2020 14:37:57	Diane	Williams	Grandparents	Salina	<p>I support Governor Kelly's decision</p>
7/21/2020 14:38:00	Paula	Burgett	parent	Goddard	<p>I support the governor's decision to delay the start of the school year.</p>
7/21/2020 14:38:06	Natalie	Yoza	Parent, tax payer, Kansa	Lawrence	<p>I urge you to vote that the EO is in the students best interests and adopt the necessary resolution. If Covid is not fought through social distancing, masks, and this delay to the school year, it will continue taking the lives of Kansans and hamstringing our economy.</p>

7/21/2020 14:38:16	Madison	Stratton	USD361 Anthony Elem	Anthony	I'm hoping that the executive decision to postpone schooling for all districts is something that is mandated. We need to take into consideration staff, and staff's family members. This is just too great of an unknown for schools to be opening on time.
7/21/2020 14:38:19	Christy	Levering	Classical school of wich	Please open school in A	Kids need to go back for mental health and well-being
7/21/2020 14:38:24	Kristi	Guthmiller		St. Francis	I believe this decision should be left to each individual school district and the families involved. NW Kansas is not the same as a big city. We have had the fewest cases in the state and all of them recovered (Since April in CN County). I know that this question addresses the start date of school, but I would also like to address the wearing of masks. I again think this should be decided by the individual school districts and the families themselves. I don't believe our government has the right to take those decisions away from us. Have you looked at the State of South Dakota, their governor trusts their citizens to make the right choice, and they have - voluntarily. Maybe Kansas should do the same.
7/21/2020 14:38:31	Connie	Stoker		Lawrence	I support a delay to the start of the 2020 school Year. I have a grandson in kindergarten and I would appreciate the administration and teachers have extra time to plan. It will not do parents or communities to start before adequate planning is in place that results in stopping schools again. Just think of how disruptive that will be for our children. Please plan adequately the first time!
7/21/2020 14:38:33	Christina	Kirkpatrick	USD109	Belleville	I truly believe schools need to start asap. Our kids NEED to get back to some sense of normalcy and with the percentage rate of kids getting infected, There is NO REASON to keep them out.
7/21/2020 14:38:39	Maria	Tacoa	self/ USD 204	Shawnee	I am a lifelong k-12 teacher, and as such am a MANDATED REPORTER. At this point, we have seen a spike in the corona curve and a shortage of tests/sanitizer/PPE. I will have 27 students/class (5 classes rotating) in a room without external circulation/windows, and without space for social distancing.  This is NOT SAFE for my students, their families, the staff at my school, or myself. I am happy to teach outside, online, or in a situation in which you can guarantee our safety. We are not a political pawn. These are human lives.
7/21/2020 14:38:42	Jalynn	Nomte	Usd 443 and USD 613	Dodge City	Please delay school opening until after Labor Day. We already have had people Involved in school that have tested positive for Covid this summer...as recently as this week. In the past, I have seen parents send their children to school even though they were sick. We have teachers who fall in the category of being at risk for Covid and with the numbers showing an increase for Covid, I am concerned. I encourage you not to make your decision based on politics but based on the health and welfare of Kansas families.
7/21/2020 14:38:47	Linda	Augustine	Im a grandmother that ta	Salina	Please delay the starting date
7/21/2020 14:38:59	Sharon	Jelinek	USD 428	Great Bend	I would like to see the after Labor Day start date so we have plenty of time to plan and truly prepare.
7/21/2020 14:39:00	Julia	Heimsoth	Parent of 3 children enr	Olathe	I support the order delaying the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 14:39:03	Jack	Low	The Low Family	Lawrence/Eudora	The delay should be supported to allow schools to better prepare. Three weeks is time to help prepare and doesn't hurt students
7/21/2020 14:39:07	Kelsey	Chadd	Teacher kckps	Overland Park	We should wait until after Labor Day. Allowing for staff to prepare and the districts to be able to access and create plans that are safe for both staff and students.
7/21/2020 14:39:15	Jerri	Ehrlich	Home	Manter	We are fine with starting school after Labor Day. We are not fine with taking away sports or in class learning for students.

7/21/2020 14:39:25	Seth	Dills		Manhattan	Thank you for taking all of these comments into consideration and for trying to make the best choice in a difficult situation. I urge you to maintain the importance of public safety as the number one priority for students, teachers, administrators, staff, and their families. However, I also encourage you to consider the diverse experiences happening around our state. If there is a way to ensure that this decision is taken county-by-county based on active cases with special regard for the individualized needs of school districts and counties, that should be the first decision. I feel that it would be appropriate to waive the minute requirement for face-to-face time if we force the start of school to be moved back and find ways to continue to support schools through this and to avoid adding extra stress to schools. For instance, in hot spots it would be appropriate to not allow in person classes to resume but in counties with no active cases, modified schedules or extra precautions may be more appropriate. I trust that whatever decision you make will be in the best interest for everyone's health, even though many may not agree. In my area (Riley County), I support the delay of school, due to rising cases and especially the return of KSU students to Manhattan. I also support the reduction of minutes and emphasis on grade bands/ standards based work to reduce the minutes requirements so that districts do not have to completely re-work their calendars.
7/21/2020 14:39:27	Caroline	Eddinger		LAWRENCE	No. This is not acceptable. Especially if we end up with online learning. The kids' education is important. My daughter enjoys learning and is going into her senior year. Americans are already uneducated enough. Don't make us find a private school in Kansas City, which is what we are currently exploring.
7/21/2020 14:39:32	Virginia	Cutrell	None	Admire	The 3 week delay may (and I emphasize may) allow schools to stay open. Schools need to have time to prepare. Ideally, we should be following the plan the KC schools, starting fully online and transitioning to partial F2F as the Covid numbers drop.
7/21/2020 14:39:36	Dawn	Wilcox	Maranatha Academy	Shawnee	I ask that you allow local school districts to determine whether or not they are ready to begin on time. School districts who can put the required mitigations in place by their original start dates should be allowed to do so. School districts in Kansas do not all begin with the same start date normally.
7/21/2020 14:39:38	Deann	Steinle	Parent of kids in public	Lawrence	School should be delayed until it is safe to return for all.
7/21/2020 14:39:49	Brittney	Garner	Special education teacher	Overland park	Delay school and plan for online learning
7/21/2020 14:39:56	Christina	Brandenburg	USD 232- school nurse	Olathe KS	If we are to temp check students each classroom teacher will need a touch less thermometer. In buildings with 500 people in them it's not a realistic expectation that one single person be in charge of that process.  Also, parents pre treat temps prior to arrival at school regularly, taking them after lunch and Prior to dismissal would yield more accurate results.
7/21/2020 14:40:05	Ashley	Carlgren	Carlgregn Family	Norway	I have been a teacher for 22 years. My entire family tested positive for covid-19 June 23rd. My 3 children will all be in high school next year. My kids bounced back & I am the one that suffered the most from the virus. My kids need to be in school. Online school did not meet their needs but was better than nothing. I feel as if they are being cheated. No education, no sports & no jobs. They work hard & are very active in their community & school. They are very aware that they may get the CORONAVIRUS again but are willing to take that chance to live their lives. Mask up & let's get school started.
7/21/2020 14:40:16	Mary	Fleming	Parent/caregiver	Junction city	I like that school will be delayed until September when I went to school we never started school before labor day but our kids need to be back to school after that they need the structured teaching of the teachers when you have a child with special needs
7/21/2020 14:40:20	Sophia	Miller		Lenexa	I am a teacher in the Blue Valley School District. I completely agree with Governor Kelly's order. We should NOT go back to school in person until case numbers are declining. Please support this decision!! For the safety of the kids and the staff, we cannot go back yet.
7/21/2020 14:40:43	Maggie	Rust		Wichita	As far as delaying the beginning of the school year, it does not matter to me. But please, really reconsider having all students at once in the buildings. The hybrid plan (half of each grade level Monday & Tuesday, the other half Thursday & Friday, with Wednesday's reserved for cleaning, etc) makes much more sense, as far as distancing and whatnot. Less children in classes at once means less children exposed.
7/21/2020 14:40:46	Natasha	turner	Sacred heart ness city	Ness city	I don't think making kids wear mask is a good idea. They are just going to play with them making them touch their face way more than they already do. Delaying school is just making it harder on these kids. The more time they are out the harder it's going to be for them to get back in to school! Online is hard. Some kid can't learn this way I know my oldest child struggles so bad with this. Please please let these kids back in school

7/21/2020 14:40:48	Jessica	LeFort		salina ks	Both of my children are ready to be back in a school setting!! If we wait a month that is half a yr of them out of school setting and not learning!!
7/21/2020 14:40:49	Donna	Caywood		Maize	To protect our children and teachers I would like Gov. Kelly's decision to delay the start of school and once school is in session that masks and sanitation requirements be enforced.
7/21/2020 14:41:04	Heather	Watson		Lawrence	The kids need to go back to school for educational, mental and social reasons. I'm a health care worker who never stopped working. I have treated ALOT of patients and have not contracted COVID. Adults spread the disease much quicker and at a higher rate than kids 16 and under. We cannot lose another school year. Especially since there is no online curriculum in place although 4 months have gone by. When did school become non-essential? Right now there are people working minimum wage at grocery stores and gas stations so people can have food and gas. Those people come into contact with ALOT of people and they still go to work. School needs to start.
7/21/2020 14:41:14	Dace'	Inbody		Lawrence	I work at Eudora Elementary School, in special education and I have a son going to Lawrence Free State High School. It is important to me that our schools have the time and resources needed to prepare for close proximity of students and teachers. If waiting till after Labor Day would give us this time, please let us wait. As a teacher, having this time to prepare and organize my classroom for social distancing would also be valuable.
7/21/2020 14:41:15	Teri	Briggs		Shawnee Kansas, De So	We believe on site instruction is imperative for our kid's education and social development. The unintended consequences of keeping kids at home seem worse than potential exposure to a virus that is not high risk for kids. For us, we also have a boy who struggles with video game addiction and therefore online school is not a healthy option for him. We assume many others are in this same position. Studies have concluded, without doubt, the detriment of excessive screentime for children. Virtual learning was ok in the short term but is not a sustainable long term solution. Our kids need to interact and grow in a school environment albeit with some alternations to make teachers and administrators comfortable. Thank you for asking for input. We know the decision you have before you is very difficult.
7/21/2020 14:41:16	Lynn	Van Horn		Wichita	Delay opening to September 9, 2020
7/21/2020 14:41:39	Kelsey	Olden		Lawrence	Please consider voting yes for governor Kelly's EO 58. The schools are not prepared to go back at the normal time. The additional time will give schools and teachers time to prepare for students safely and effectively. We also need additional time to hopefully see some cases drop. With Lawrence being a college town. I am very concerned about an increase of cases when the college students returning. Some school districts may be better prepared but Lawrence has been really slow on the ball and needs that additional time.
7/21/2020 14:41:43	Timothy	Lipscomb		Olathe	Each district should have the ability to decide for themselves based on positive cases. Needs of students, ability to make needed precautions. This is not a one size fits all. Please overturn this and allow each district to start when they feel it's best
7/21/2020 14:41:50	Andrew	Edmondson	Teachers	Lenexa	I support Gov. Kelly's executive order to delay the start of the school year.
7/21/2020 14:41:51	Amy	Shamp		Wichita	I think it's a great idea. Gives teachers and districts time to adjust and time for people to get the numbers down.
7/21/2020 14:41:57	Terra	Miller		Wamego	Please adopt Laura Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. This will give our administrators and teachers the time needed to allow for a safe return to schools for our children and staff. The Roadmap to Reopening document is an extensive document that will require additional training for teachers and staff. Let's give them the time they need so that the schools can open and stay open.
7/21/2020 14:41:59	David	Woodbury		Overland Park	It is too dangerous to open schools in the next few months.

7/21/2020 14:42:00	Rosanne	Green		Basehor school district	Of course we care about our children, but we also care about all of the adults that go to their schools everyday to teach, feed, and support our children. We also care about our families and the families of all of the other children, who will come in contact with the children and further increase the chances of COVID 19 spreading even more, and killing more lives. Most experts, government officials, and people agree that the likelihood is much greater of spreading COVID 19 when social distancing is not practiced. Until the schools can guarantee that at all time social distancing can be enforced, sending students back is is not thoughtful at all, it is down right cruel and tempting fate. Please help make the best decisions for all of our communities by either 1) postponing the start of school until there is a better handle on this pandemic, 2) do virtual schooling until there is a handle on this pandemic, or 3) do a hybrid approach to learning this year where days, hours, classrooms, etc. are staggered to allow for social distancing. There are several creative ways to do hybrid teaching, and I bet a lot of our teachers have some great ideas. Just ask, listen, care, and please do the right thing, because doing the right thing is the right thing to do.
7/21/2020 14:42:05	Kendra	Vaughn	USD 489	Hays	You want to delay back to after Labor Day, great. Fine by me. But drop all the other "mandates" period. NO mask requirement, KSSHA PLAYS ALL SPORTS FULL SEASON, no distancing in schools. PERIOD. You people are really not with it if you think these kids have been social distancing, and protecting themselves. I promise they are partying it up, going to clubs, having field parties and moving in with friends. Life doesnt stop because you say it should. Kids have enough STRESS ON THEM! With the CDC announcing as many as HALF of these positives in the past 30 days could be the common cold and NOT COVID you have ZERO RIGHTS to treat the kids like this or our teachers!
7/21/2020 14:42:09	Angela	Zysk	Parent of elementary kid	De Soto	Please vote to affirm the executive order to delay school.
7/21/2020 14:42:13	Hannah	Singleton	USD 450	Topeka, KS	I am a 1st grade teacher in Topeka, KS. I ask that you support Gov. Kelly's executive order to delay school until September. If districts are pushed to start school sooner than this, they will not be able to amply prepare for what is needed. Realistically, it takes more than a couple of weeks to get things together for a normal year, much less an exceptionally different year. It is already the end of July. Teachers need more than one and a half weeks to train, and prepare for what will inevitably be another challenging year. What doesn't need to happen is teachers being thrust into the frontlines unprepared, by politicians, and having parent frustration be aimed at teachers. If teachers are given time to train for this, we will do great things. Without the delay, we will not be able to do everything that can make in-person, hybrid, or online learning what is best for our students.
7/21/2020 14:42:20	Terry	Beurskens	USD 446	Independence	Should start after Labor Day for sure
7/21/2020 14:42:22	Bobbie	Dinkel	Individual	Hays	I am writing on support of Governor Kelly's executive order postponing our school start date. I am a classroom teacher with nearly 30 years of experience. I do feel kids learn best in the classroom and want them to come back. However, I would like the time to be better prepared and to hopefully see 57% rise in cases we have had reverse trend.
7/21/2020 14:42:29	Nicole	Herber	Educators/private school	Prairie village	I support the mandates of delaying schools. Teachers, staff, students, and families need the extra time to put in place safety protocols for all. Schools should also only open if there has been a 14 day downward trend in cases.
7/21/2020 14:42:30	Celestial	Arnold		Silver Lake	Delaying the 20-21 school year will allow schools to request the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) necessary to comply with Governor Kelly's mandates. Many schools operate with limited budgets and resources, this will allow more time to gather the necessary supplies and also to gather technology if the state were to shut down again. It also gives parents longer to find childcare during school months. It's much better to be proactive than reactive during a pandemic. Additionally, the school year can be extended into June to make up the time in August.
7/21/2020 14:42:31	Jacob	Davis	Andover central high	Wichita	I'm scared to go back to school and catch the rona.
7/21/2020 14:42:47	Katie	Carder	Community	Overland Park	Schools should not open for in-person teaching until no new cases have been reported for 2 weeks. This is the only way teachers and students will be completely safe. It is dangerous to send kids and teachers back now, or even immediately after Labor Day, when so much is still unknown about how the virus affects children.
7/21/2020 14:42:54	Paticia	Ciotti		Wichita	It makes no sense to open schools now with Covid being much worse today then it was when schools closed last spring. Please for the safety of teachers, students, parents, custodians, grandparents, etc. etc. allow another month + to lessen the severity of this pandemic. Now that bars may close again and other measures be put back in place, this just might happen.
7/21/2020 14:43:04	Jocilyn	Oyler	Parent	Lawrence	Please. Postpone school until September as the governor requested.

7/21/2020 14:43:13	Susan	Stanley		Overland Park	I am all for delaying in person school as I don't think it's safe right now but I do think online learning needs to begin ASAP. I am anxious for my kids to get back to learning and they are too.
7/21/2020 14:43:14	Sarah	Hendrix	Cedar Hills Elementary	Overland Park	There needs to be options available for families in the blue valley district. Continuing to push back the start date is just denying the inevitable.
7/21/2020 14:43:21	Blake	Braddock	N/a	Manhattan	Schools opening is not a smart idea. Cases are growing quicker than when the schools closed!!!
7/21/2020 14:43:32	Brooke	Smith	Usd 290	Ottawa	Don't delay school openings
7/21/2020 14:43:33	Nikki	McMeans		Fort Riley	Open school on time!! Our kids need routine and back with their friends!
7/21/2020 14:43:35	KaCee	Smith		Offerle	Have to school day for 5th -12th be from 8-5 like a normal person
7/21/2020 14:43:36	Jennifer	Moore	Self and family	Gardner	Please delay the opening of schools, or go to virtual learning for the first couple weeks. We don't want to expose those students or teachers who are immunocompromised! It would be extremely sad to have a page in a school yearbook with a memorial section for those teachers, staff, and students who perished from COVID.
7/21/2020 14:43:51	Katie	Kohlasch	Teacher in a Catholic sc	Olathe	Thank you for your hard work on the executive order to delay school until after Labor Day. I know many teachers and administrators in my school who are grateful for the additional time to plan for the year and to get more PPE to protect our teachers, staff, and students, as well as their families. My husband and I are both teachers, and we'll welcome our first child next week, so staying healthy has become even more of a priority for us this year. Thank you for making tough choices to keep our school communities safe and healthy.
7/21/2020 14:43:57	Ben	Alexander	none	Iola	I've worked many years in schools, and there is no possible way to have in-person classes and ensure safety and health for students, parents, and staff. Kids have to be reminded to wash their hands, they pick their nose and smear it on their desks, they swap and mix up their lunches, they wet their pants and need new ones, they wrestle pens and pencils from each other, they get sick and vomit in the hallway, etc. etc. Older students sneak into staircases to perform sex acts and leave dirty gym clothes in their lockers for six months. Basically, unless the proponents of reopening have an entirely different population in mind, it is literally unimaginable that children could successfully social distance and maintain healthy practices.  In addition, there are many, many school staff who don't receive KPERS benefits or other inducements to grin and bear it, and we will not risk our lives to make a silly point. Schools will suffer from shortages of classified staff, and will be forced to hire less-qualified staff for all the jobs most important to maintain a safe and healthy school. I foresee schools opening for less than a month, followed by massive outbreaks and emergency closures. Rather than panicking and closing on October 1, we must plan for continued closure now, and work to ensure that students will have access to the things they need AND are safe.
7/21/2020 14:44:01	Rita	Baxa	USD 443	Ingalls	Keep schools closed until you can guarantee the safety of every single person in those schools!! The first time a child gets Covid, the schools will be blamed. I would rather we wait a little longer than go back and forth between opening and closing. Let's start with something that we can do consistently until Covid is over!!
7/21/2020 14:44:20	Michelle	Struble	USD 361	Anthony	I feel it would be better to let each district decide based on their health data and number of cases in their respective counties instead of putting our whole state under the exact same regulations (which may not be necessary in all places).
7/21/2020 14:44:29	Doug	Joseph		Topeka	I would like to see the governors order upheld. The reason I believe it should be upheld is if a unified policy is not presented school districts in the same city will have different policies. For example I live in 501 and across the street is 437, each could start at different times and I feel this would not be beneficial to the students, parents, or faculty.
7/21/2020 14:44:30	Cynthia	Duncan	Self	Shawnee	We need for kids to go to school in person!

7/21/2020 14:44:32	Brett	Burhenn	SMSD	Gardner, KS	I fully support EO 20-58. As a teacher and especially as a parent, I have little to no faith that the area in which I live is ready to open up fully. The risks to our student and children are much too high, and the answers to all of our "what if..." questions are not there or are not satisfactory. With cases on the rise, there is absolutely no way to make the virus go away if students continue to share it amongst themselves. I've heard the "Kids aren't at risk and can get over it easily" arguments many times, but that doesn't account for the people those students can and will infect while they're getting over it that WON'T get over it easily. As long as we're encouraging students to show up to school in person, we're negating all of the stay-at-home time we all put in over the spring. I believe governor Kelly has the right idea. At the very least, give us more time to plan for the inevitable disaster that an in-person school year will bring.
7/21/2020 14:44:33	Johnnie	Johnson		Milford	Thank you for considering our children's and the teachers safety. Please uphold the Governor's ruling to postpone face-to-face instruction. We closed schools (appropriately) when there were far less cases than there are now. Seems irresponsible to send students and staff back at this time, with as many cases as there are!
7/21/2020 14:44:53	Stacey	O'Neill		Olathe	Open school in August
7/21/2020 14:44:54	Stephanie	Manley	Lawrence	Lawrence	I implore you to uphold the governors EO. Please do not allow schools to open prior to meeting CDC guidelines of a 14 day decrease on Covid19. Once this decision is made it can't be undone. Learning time should happen virtually until it is safe and schools have adequate PPE. All school staff needs a raise for risking their lives by returning. Teaching has risen to the 5th most dangerous job in the country due to Covid19.
7/21/2020 14:45:06	Kellie	Lacey		Lebo	Stop making this political and listen to the science!! Our numbers continue to increase, daily! Do what's right And safest for our kids, keep the schools closed. Their purpose is not to provide daycare but to educate which can be done safest at home!!!!
7/21/2020 14:45:06	Meghan	Plankers	Olathe School District	Olathe	As a teacher in the Olathe school district I feel strongly that we should wait till after Labor Day to begin the 2020-2021 school year. Our district has not had the opportunity to update the staff and families of the plan for the year. With the extra weeks in August the district will have more time to solidify a safe environment for kids and staff. A plan should be put into place that has longevity and can be used throughout the semester. The rise in COVID positive cases and the push to start at the beginning of August, I think, will lead to more spread and quick closure. Pushing back the start of the year will hopefully lead to a confident plan within the Olathe district and more confidence in teachers as they transition back to classroom.
7/21/2020 14:45:10	Mrs. Sharry	Huysen	Retired teacher from Bl	Lenexa, Kansas	Please vote to delay school until after Labor Day. Let's not send the children back to school when the pandemic is so out of control in Johnson County. Give the teachers and schools time to make it safer for the children. Also, please support that the children wear masks. If preschoolers at Growing Futures (used to be Head Start) in Overland Park can wear them, so can our k-12 students! Schools used to not start until after Labor Day not too many years ago. Cut the Fall Break and Spring Break shorter to make up the time!
7/21/2020 14:45:11	Maggie	Ascherman	Myself	Lawrence Ks	Please delay the start of school
7/21/2020 14:45:17	Kaysie	Morris	Head Start (& I'm a mor	Hays	I feel it's best to delay school until after Labor Day. This will give school admin, teachers, & parents more time to prepare (emotionally and physically.) However, I don't think masks should be mandatory. There are so many potential problems with that order. My personal reason is that My son is deaf & relies on lip reading to communicate. With those around him wearing masks he will be completely isolated & struggle with instructions (more than he already does.) Small children will play with them & probably pass more germs to one another than if they didn't have masks! Thanks for considering my opinion!
7/21/2020 14:45:18	Robin	Kingeter	Johnson County Resider	Overland Park	Please delay the start of school for the health and well-being of our students, their families, and the people who work in schools. It is not worth risking lives.
7/21/2020 14:45:18	Amy	Ball	Parent of a 3rd and 6th g	Bartlett	Delay please
7/21/2020 14:45:21	Caden	Byers		Pratt	I think it is best to let school districts who have 1. Low or no cases and 2. Have already done a great job planning for this unusual semester to make decisions for themselves on when to begin school. I also believe kids need to be in school for many reasons besides academics.

7/21/2020 14:45:32	Caroline	King		Lenexa	Gov Kelly's EO EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-58 states: K-12 public and private schools shall not allow attendance, instruction, athletic practice or competition, rehearsal, performance, or other interaction of an instructional manner—including virtual, online, and any other direct or indirect means of providing instruction—between faculty/staff and students of public or private K-12 schools from August 10, 2020, through Sept. 8, 2020 No virtual classes, workouts, nothing, zilch, nada. This makes NO sense, none whatsoever. Many of our Kansas schools are prepared to teach remotely, the virus doesn't spread through ZOOM. Why is the Governor demanding that schools do NOTHING from Aug 10 - Sept 8. If our schools are ready and prepared to teach remotely, why is this necessary? If a school needs the extra time, they have the autonomy to take the extra time. But to DEMAND EVERY SCHOOL in Kansas to stand down till September 8 is a gross over reach of power. I urge you to vote according to the specific needs of the schools in your district and not capitulate to a wide sweeping generalizing EO that doesn't make sense.
7/21/2020 14:45:41	Joni	Burkett	Elementary School Para	Topeka	Thank you for your efforts to keep school staff and students safe. It is important to delay in-person classes until after Labor Day at the earliest. Your executive order is necessary because not all residents are following guidelines to wear masks and maintain social distance. Children with the virus will infect other children & staff, who will in turn, infect their entire families.
7/21/2020 14:45:54	Timothy	Burkhart	I serve the Lord Jesus Ch	Newton KS	I'm asking the State School Board to vote NO on Executive Order 20-58.
7/21/2020 14:45:55	Anne	Bertie	Parent of student athlete	Independence	Allow sports practices, even if school is not in session.
7/21/2020 14:45:56	Kristin	Massoth		Prairie Village	I understand the importance of school, but I feel that safety must come first. There is still much to learn about this virus and its effects. Delaying school provides more time for Kansas to get the numbers of cases under control. Opening schools with our current numbers is not a scenario I'm comfortable sending my kids into.
7/21/2020 14:45:57	Barbara	Durler	Kansas resident	Wright	Students need to return to classroom instruction! They have already lost out on a full quarter of instruction and since they were told they were not "graded" on the on-line instruction they received in those 9 weeks most didn't bother to fully do the work!  Daycares have been open and there have been no issues with "wide virus spread" in Daycares. These children are closer to one another in their play than classroom students tend to be with less children per adult than in classrooms plus these children are not in masks which we are led to believe will cause more virus spread BUT it hasn't!  Common sense shows from Daycares continuing to operate in these past few months without wide virus spread that schools should have the same results AND our students will not be denied these 3 weeks of instruction hours by starting normal start dates!
7/21/2020 14:46:17	Renee	Friess		Goddard	Schools should open with option to have children learn from home or on-site
7/21/2020 14:46:18	Kyle	Elliott		Shawnee	Schools should open on time!! There is no justification to delay school opening except political manipulation.
7/21/2020 14:46:19	Linda	Sieck	NEA Shawnee Mission	Overland Park	We need to be sure all safety measures (and supplies) are in place before we go back. Teachers need time to prepare for whichever plan our district eventually decides to follow at the start of the year - not to mention extra professional development to be better at delivering instruction virtually and truly know which students have limited or no access to WiFi. And of course, we need people to use the extra time to wear masks, socially distance, and help flatten the curve.
7/21/2020 14:46:19	Sara	Hamer	USD 232 parent and sta	Lenexa	Please support our Governor. Kansas is a scary situation that needs to get under control. A couple of weeks delay is a great compromise that just might get our kids back in school long term.
7/21/2020 14:46:29	Amy	Maxwell		Frontenac	I am letting you know that I agree with all the people that are saying it is not dangerous to kids, I believe the lack of socialization is more detrimental to children than the covid19. Look at the rate of suicide. Also I believe mask are not going to help, kids don't leave them alone. Thanks



7/21/2020 14:46:31	Josh	Davis		Jetmore	I am a teacher at Hodgeman County Schools, but I support the delay in the start of education for Kansas Schools to September 9th because I understand that COVID-19 has caused more harm to other counties in Kansas, than my county has received. I feel that it would be best for all Kansas students to have the same delay and have safety protocols in place. If we do not, we risk having another shutdown of Kansas Schools, which adds more stress to parents, students and teachers. Teacher across the state can then use these 3 weeks to network and work together to solve the problem we foresee based on the delay in education. However, in the future, I strongly request the State Board of Education suspend the 1,116 hour requirement hours for education. As much as all teachers will strive to make this year a normal as possible, it will not be normal. We will be taking temperatures and being masked monitors along with caring for students who will be carrying the effects of living in a new world. I think we need to recognize this, however teachers will rise to the occasion. State testing should also be suspended again. I think if we take precautions this year and act appropriately including delaying, suspending requirements and testing, normal can return to the 2020-2021 school year. I, therefore, respectfully request you approve the Governor's order and at a future meeting discuss the items of contact hours and testing.
7/21/2020 14:46:41	Susan	Boller		Geary County	Delay school, give Teachers and Administrators time to prepare and plan for the changes necessary to promote a safe , Healthy learning environment.
7/21/2020 14:46:50	Jennifer	Paxson	Highland Park High Sch	Topeka	Na
7/21/2020 14:46:50	Sarah	McGinnity	Parent in Shawnee Miss	Overland Park	I beg you to uphold Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the reopening of school buildings. The COVID cases are rising exponentially in our area, and I fear for my health and safety, my children's health and safety, and all the staff and students in schools.  Kansas is currently on the list of states recommended to go back to Phase 1 (via a White House report) because of such an increase in cases and positive rates. As a parent, I get one shot at my kids' childhood and keeping them healthy is the top of the list. I love our school but if I don't have the confidence that those in charge have my children's physical safety in mind, I cannot put them in Kansas schools for the next year. Upholding the governor's order is the first step in ensuring Kansas children are not the victim of petty politics.  Please uphold the governor's order and put Kansas children first.
7/21/2020 14:46:53	Alahora	Belcher	Maranatha Christian aca	Shawnee KS	The small private schools do not have the amount of students that public schools have and can take reasonable precautions to open school In August . Please consider making exemptions for smaller schools .
7/21/2020 14:46:53	Ezra	Shove		Topeka	Schools should NOT be delayed. K-12 works best in a classroom and the first delay will lead to more delays and eventually resulting to online classes. Online classes only work if the students do. Students who need extra help will struggle. Schools should NOT delay!
7/21/2020 14:46:57	LauraAnne	Grammer	USD 497	Eudora	Schools should not open until after Labor Day so that teachers and school staff have the time to make necessary accommodations, training, planning, and preparation to ensure the safety of students, staff, and the community. Furthermore, I firmly believe that schools should not engage in, in person instruction until their is a steady decline in new cases. Preferably not until there are 14 days with no new cases.
7/21/2020 14:47:01	Kim	Workman		Spring hill	Hybrid learning

7/21/2020 14:47:06	Sarah	Irsik-Good	Myself - mom of 12 y/o	Topeka	The guidance put forth by the American Academy of Pediatrics is compelling ( <a href="https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/">https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/</a> ) and while three weeks seems menial, the amount of time our children have already spent out of school may have long lasting and devastating effects on their emotional, physical and academic health. The most important thing to consider is this: "Although many questions remain, the preponderance of evidence indicates that children and adolescents are less likely to be symptomatic and less likely to have severe disease resulting from SARS-CoV-2 infection. In addition, children may be less likely to become infected and to spread infection. Policies to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 within schools must be balanced with the known harms to children, adolescents, families, and the community by keeping children at home." School choice and flexibility should be the priority (with variable options for children whose parents have different perspectives and desires for in-person, virtual, and blended learning to accommodate all students and families. Mask should be recommended, but not required. If my child doesn't want to be in school, and masks are required, are we kicking kids out of school if they refuse to wear masks, for whatever reason? Seems to be counter productive and like a perverse incentive for some. Additionally, there are students in my daughter's district that are not safe when not at school. During Spring virtual classes, there were young, elementary children home, alone, taking care of younger (not school age children) because single parent homes must work and can not appropriate supervise or provide for. Each parent should have choices that match their desired and needed learning support. I would encourage the school board to reject the Governor's executive order delaying the opening of schools (EO 58), and also push back against EO 59, allowing for more tailoring at the individual school and district level so that the response matches the current environment and districts are able to respond accordingly in real time to changes in need and improvement in spread within the school and community environment.
7/21/2020 14:47:12	Larry	Sonsthagen	Parent	Olathe	Due to increasing rates of infection our schools should not start in person classes prior to Labor Day. Schools need more time and money to get the PPE, go over the 1000 page refs, and training. This will hopefully give communities time to decrease numbers.
7/21/2020 14:47:16	Brenda	Buehler		Scott City	Don't force young kids to wear mask. It becomes a petri dish for germs on their face.
7/21/2020 14:47:18	Stacy	Yehle		Lenexa	Kids are asked to do as adults tell them and trust we are making good choices for them. Please help keep them safe by not sending them back to an indoor space with many other people until all recommended safety protocols can be adhered to and cases stop continuing to rise. Keep our future safe.
7/21/2020 14:47:21	Susan	Kraft		MANHATTAN	Please vote to delay the start. We need to slow this back down.
7/21/2020 14:47:22	Emily	Plotkin		Prairie Village	Protect the teachers and staff and help them prepare for the fall semester. Even if that means postponing classes. Value the lives of students, parents and teachers. Fight the urge to rush back into the classroom when so many lives are at risk. Think about prioritizing safety and health over anything else.
7/21/2020 14:47:43	Sarah	Beaulieu		Lawrence	Please support our governor and keep Kansas schools closed until it is safe for our kids, educators and staff to return. I have a first grader and a junior in high school who I know both would benefit the most from in-school learning but that's not a choice I'm willing to make at the expense of their or their teachers safety. I think we should focus on remote learning and how to make that successful for students instead of gambling with our children's lives and those of the community.
7/21/2020 14:47:51	Amy	Wing	None	Lawrence	With the number of cases in Kansas still on the rise, it is prudent to follow the instructions issued by Governor Kelly. It's not enough time to implement new guidelines, instruction and physical necessities to open as previously scheduled. For the safety of the students/staff/workers under your care, I hope that you do what is not only in their best interests, but also in the interests of all the residents of this state. Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:47:53	Priscilla	Howe	Self	Lawrence	Please do not open the schools until at least after Labor Day. Even that does not feel safe. I would prefer after January 1, 2021. Why is the health of children and teachers (and the families of both) being sacrificed for economic reasons?
7/21/2020 14:47:54	Bert	Stramel	taxpaying parent	Colby	Open the schools. Closing has devastated our oldest son 2020 senior year. Please don't do more damage to rest of the kids. We humans have been spreading germs for thousands of years and to think we can eliminate all risk is total ignorance.

7/21/2020 14:48:06	Rebecca	Anthony	Shawnee Mission School	Lenexa	I am a teacher in Shawnee Mission and also have a child in its elementary schools. I would love to go back to school as normal, but that is just not safe right now. I think starting and then having to quickly transition to virtual learning will be much harder and more disruptive than delaying a bit. Please help encourage everyone in all communities to do their part. Wear masks, quit socializing, and help slow the spread so we can safely return to schools sooner rather than later.
7/21/2020 14:48:10	Jill	Siebert		North Newton	My husband and I are teachers and we fully support Governor Kelly's school delay mandate. As much as we miss our students, we are incredibly uncomfortable with the thought of going back to school in person as virus numbers continue to rise and we are still without a vaccine or cure. This is a traumatic time for everyone, and we acknowledge the difficulty of the decisions being made in all facets of our society. That said, the serious illness and/or death of loved ones/teachers/friends/community members of all ages would be so very much worse than any educational or social experience that our students may miss out on in the 3 additional weeks off of school. This should not be a political issue or an opinion-based decision - we need to listen to the scientists and health officials who are working tirelessly to provide us with the most current best practices, acknowledge the disproportionate effect this is having on people of color within our community, and work, not to please the masses, but to keep the effect of the virus on our communities' health as small as possible. Please keep the safety of our students and staff as your first priority and vote to uphold the mandate so we have more time to find the best, safest way to educate our students in this unprecedented time.
7/21/2020 14:48:16	Abby	Shull		Winfield	Please delay the start of the school year to ensure that administrators and personnel have time to make all of the adjustments needed to prevent widespread COVID-19 outbreaks in our schools. As a parent and former teacher, I urge you to make the safe, cautious decision.
7/21/2020 14:48:18	Luke	Bunker	Myself, a student at Spr	Olathe	Please, vote NO on upholding Governor Kelly's mandate. As a student-athlete, this negatively affects the academics, athletics, and mental health of myself, my teammates, and my peers. We students need something to look forward to. All of us have been safely conditioning and practicing with our teams this summer. We have worn masks when we cannot social distance, we have done temperature checks and make sure to stay spaced out when we weren't doing drills. If the governor wants to give schools extra time to prepare, that is fine. However, in her mandate, she cuts off all communications between myself and my coaches, teachers, and advisors. Here is the excerpt: "K-12 public and private schools shall not allow attendance, instruction, athletic practice or competition, rehearsal, performance, or other interaction of an instructional manner—including virtual, online, and any other direct or indirect means of providing instruction—between faculty/staff and students of public or private K-12 schools from August 10, 2020, through Sept. 8, 2020...". I believe this is the first step in taking our season away. If that happens, the feeling of hopelessness among our student body will be like never before. I have heard from district officials that there are already many students in our district on suicide watch. The consequences of ripping away extracurricular activities and most of all communication with teachers will be much more severe than the consequences the virus (which has killed ZERO kids ages 0-18 in Kansas). Not being able to communicate with my advisor and counselors will also make me much more unprepared for the coming year, in which I am supposed to take the ACT and start accumulating college credit. Again, vote NO on upholding the governor's mandate, for the sake of students in my community and across the state.
7/21/2020 14:48:19	Megan	Jenkins	Wiley Elementary School	Holcomb, Ks	Start school at the normal date. This is my student teaching year and I could use all the time and help I can get before I take over my classroom in the Spring alone.
7/21/2020 14:48:19	Vickie	Tholen	parent	Iola, Ks	Please reject Gov. Kelly's plan to delay the start of school. It is the local board of education that should decide this and also the way things should be handled. Children need to be in school and the local board is capable of deciding how to best handle this in their communities.

					<p>I'm writing today to share a couple of things on the importance of reopening schools. These kids need a safe place and place where abuse can be identified. A place where normal is laughing with friends and learning is essential. Again, I'm very worried for the sake of our kids. Here is an article where YMCA has had success in caring for over 40,000 children during this time.</p> <p><a href="https://www.insider.com/how-the-ymca-childcare-centers-prevented-coronavirus-outbreaks-2020-7">https://www.insider.com/how-the-ymca-childcare-centers-prevented-coronavirus-outbreaks-2020-7</a></p> <p>Many individuals are working 8 hours a day around tons of germs and no covid outbreak with employees at all the places that are open. It is ridiculous that schools are not opening!</p> <p>Data shows that the 0-25 age group is the least impacted by this virus...again...as educators who have a responsibility to our children, you already know this statistic. I believe those that are in charge of their individual school districts have the knowledge and understanding to proceed with the school year with the best options for the parents and students in their communities...you should allow them to do so. What the school year looks like should be left up to the district leadership in partnership with the parents....but allowing them to do so...is something you have the power to do.</p> <p>So far, every decision made on behalf of our children has been made by people who have the privilege of being "safe at home" and in my opinion have not taken proper consideration for those who are not that privileged. I myself have grown children, no grandchildren or school age nieces/nephews, but as a caring citizen of this state, I can not sit back and watch these decisions being made that do not take into account those kids whose very lives could depend on being IN SCHOOL!</p> <p>Please get our kids back to school...</p>
7/21/2020 14:48:22	Kelly	Ryder	myself	Basehor	Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 14:48:24	Travy	Johnson		Lenexa	Please do not open in-person school until after Labor Day (and beyond)!
7/21/2020 14:48:30	Keri	Ochoa	USD 214 School Counse	Ulysses	I think you should approve Gov. Kelly's order to delay school at least 3 weeks because we need more time to prepare for an unprecedented school year. This will also allow time to hopefully slow the spread of covid before school starts.
7/21/2020 14:48:36	Valerie	Tollefson	BCK-SEI #615	Hiawatha, KS	Please vote to support Governor Kelly's executive order to start school after Labor Day. DO NOT vote to leave this up to our local districts--the division over will potentially destroy us at the local level. Don't fuel the divisive fire, with our students, staff, and administrators left to be caught in the crossfire. Thanks!
7/21/2020 14:48:42	Just	Mick	Teacher and parent	Larned	Start after labor day to allow preparation and safety measures.
7/21/2020 14:48:56	Jeania	Embry		Fort Scott	Our kids need to go back to school. School needs open up and kids needs to go back. Not doing this would be detrimental till their health and mental state.
7/21/2020 14:49:06	Courtney	Durando Warner	California Trail parent	Overland Park	I encourage the BOE to adopt EO 20-58. I believe this will give schools, especially large schools, necessary time to plan for re-opening for in classroom learning. Teachers and staff should not be expected to rush into re-opening while cases of COVID 19 are still on the rise. Adequate planning ensures that children, staff and teachers are provided a safe environment to learn. I'm not willing to roll the dice on my child's health in order to stimulate the economy.
7/21/2020 14:49:25	Lisa	Stein	USD 477 Ingalls	Ingalls	I am praying you vote against our governor EO 20 58. Lumping all districts in the same pool is unfair. In SW KS we are doing great and especially in Ingalls America. We have had NO cases and have been getting kids together for the past 7 weeks for conditioning and vball skills and drills, with NO sickness. These kids are excited for school to start with their friends and want it to be as normal as possible. Thank you for your time and the job you are doing! Lisa Stein

					<p>Please support the Governor's Executive Order to delay all school activities until after Labor Day. This will buy time to make needed changes within all schools, urban or rural.</p> <p>As a teacher, I did not plan much because I expect to be trained on how to be a (more) effective remote teacher and possibly switch to a 4x4 system. What we did in March was emergency planning. We should not recreate that situation but prepare for a disrupted school year where in-person learning is not always an option. Teachers will also require training for new safety protocols when we do return. We will essentially be distance learning with our classrooms with all of the precautions.</p> <p>With so few decisions made at this point, I doubt the facilities comply with acknowledged standards for safety: multiple, staffed entries with temperature-taking equipment and procedures for entry, rescheduling of classes to reduce class size, repairs to the HVAC system to make sure the building does not recirculate viral material as an aerosol, rearrangement of classrooms including removal of flexible seating as needed to accommodate separate desks, placement of protective plexiglass panels where needed, modifications to classrooms and the Commons to make traveling from place to place or eating lunch relatively safe, creation of sick rooms where students can be isolated, light duty retraining to handle some of the issues that will arise when students and teachers are restricted.</p> <p>Until we have reduced the number of COVID cases in Sedgwick County, it does not make sense to return to our buildings. We have already seen how a premature re-opening of area businesses led to an exponential rise in the number of people afflicted with COVID. The more time we have, the better the odds of bringing the numbers down ESPECIALLY if it is no longer optional to comply with public safety measures. Clearly, many people favor individual choice over community safety.</p> <p>Kicking this decision down to local school boards wastes time and endangers all of us. The three unaffected counties all border counties with COVID cases so it seems likely that they will not remain untouched. The numbers have been rising across the state. This virus has demonstrated how interdependent we are. Until Kansans take the necessary precautions, we are all in danger. Why does the state BOE meet in virtual space when many of you come from areas</p>
7/21/2020 14:49:26	Lizanne	Minerva	USD 259 teacher	Wichita	
7/21/2020 14:49:28	Sarah	Ball	Parent	Paola	The 3 week delay is understandable. Please consider sending the kids back to school full time after Labor Day. They need it and we need to ensure our tax dollars are being spent in the appropriate means for our children.
7/21/2020 14:49:47	Sam	Soliday	Maranatha Academy	Olathe	Schools need to open on time. There have only been two deaths of people under 60 in Kansas and very few teachers are over 60. Kids need to be able to return to normalcy.
7/21/2020 14:49:50	kelly	guzman		wichita	<p>Evidence-based decisions are necessary, but the peoples' voice is also important -- these are hard to balance. Please carefully consider both.</p> <p>The data available to the public says COVID-19 is very contagious and can be fatal, therefore it would be a devastating and inevitable outcome to our communities to lose teachers and/or students to COVID-19. Thankfully, it has not happened locally but because schools have been closed. Please consider these devastating outcomes and the long-term financial (e.g., costly and mandatory PPE for daily use, professional cleanings after exposures, potential lawsuits to school districts after deaths or exposures, etc) and emotional impacts to our communities. Waiting for in-person school until after Labor Day or even delaying until the spring may help reduce financial and emotional impacts.</p>

7/21/2020 14:49:55	Greg	Worley		Andover	<p>I am writing in support of delaying school. With the current rate of infection, especially in Sedgwick County, I do not see any way that schools can be opened safely. Israel tried something similar, with lower case transmission and had to close again within 2 weeks. (<a href="https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/06/03/868507524/israel-orders-schools-to-close-when-covid-19-cases-are-discovered">https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/06/03/868507524/israel-orders-schools-to-close-when-covid-19-cases-are-discovered</a>). We need the extra time to try to reduce the case count here so as to not repeat what happened in Israel.</p> <p>I do understand that there are many rural counties that do not have an issue with COVID at this moment. In a vacuum it would make sense for them to go back to school. However, rural areas need to delay any COVID spike as long as possible due to the rural hospital situation. They have to send their series COVID patients to Wichita or Kansas City. Right now Wichita only has 12.5% of ICU bed available to take patients (<a href="https://sedgwickcounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/7b2b4364a5fa4ba3a015d52450acfe0d">https://sedgwickcounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/7b2b4364a5fa4ba3a015d52450acfe0d</a>) and it is only going to get worse in the next month or so. If COVID hits in the rural areas before it is under control in the metro areas then there won't be any where for rural COVID patients to go. This will significantly increase the mortality if it happens. Lets keep kids out of schools to reduce the possibility of this happening.</p> <p>Finally, the AAP, one of the few doctors' groups arguing for opening schools, has walked back the original statement with and updated one: <a href="https://services.aap.org/en/news-room/news-releases/aap/2020/pediatricians-educators-and-superintendents-urge-a-safe-return-to-school-this-fall/">https://services.aap.org/en/news-room/news-releases/aap/2020/pediatricians-educators-and-superintendents-urge-a-safe-return-to-school-this-fall/</a>. There original argument that kids don't spread COVID has been proven wrong. We still don't know if they are super-spreaders or not. The reason we don't know is that there isn't much evidence on either side of the argument. This is mostly due to schools being closed during most of this pandemic. I seems foolhardy to assume that an absence of evidence is proof of a negative. I don't want Kansas to prove that kids are super-spreaders. Leave that to Florida or Arizona, both state which seem hell bend on helping COVID spread.</p> <p>Thanks for reading through all of this. I do want students to go back to school, but I do not want to sacrifice anyone for kids to be able to go back to school.</p>
7/21/2020 14:49:58	J	G		Augusta	Schools have had since the beginning of the pandemic to prepare for this upcoming school year. It is ridiculous to think that they need more time. For the teachers that don't want to be back in the classroom, I question their dedication to the students. Kids NEED to be in school and, more importantly, returning to a business as usual setting. NO masks, NO distancing, just like we treat any other flu. Hold parents accountable but let those of us who have common sense and the best interests of our children in mind make the decision on sending our children to school each day!!!
7/21/2020 14:50:04	Liv	Frost	Self	Lawrence	I'd like school to resume after Labor Day. I'd like kids to wear masks and have temperature taken daily.
7/21/2020 14:50:11	Theresa	Gram	Kansans 6th District	Clyde	Please uphold the governor's data-driven, evidence-based, scientifically-rational executive order to delay the beginning of face-to-face instruction until after Labor Day. Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:50:18	Amy	Mayhugh	Usd 232	Shawnee ks	I have 3 kids in the Desoto school district ages 6-15 and we support in person at the school for their education and for other growth development. Thank you
7/21/2020 14:50:21	William	Corbett		Wichita	Even Fauci now says masks are not useful, and to open back up. I will not wear a mask! Open our state back up!!
7/21/2020 14:50:22	Lindsay	Osborn		Liberal	Our schools need to open. I would prefer a hybrid model format for those districts heavily affected by active cases. Areas with less of a threat should have flexibility to open as they see fit. Masks, social distancing, and health checks seem like common sense expectations to ensure everyone's safety during this stressful time. A lot of people forget that these guidelines are temporary, even though this pandemic has and will create change to what we perceive as normal in the future.
7/21/2020 14:50:24	Teresa	Feyerherm	parent of 3 students	Hays	PLEASE DELAY for the safety of our children and teachers and their families.

					<p><a href="https://blog.usejournal.com/i-spent-three-weeks-in-school-with-kids-under-covid-19-21b78c1a9339">https://blog.usejournal.com/i-spent-three-weeks-in-school-with-kids-under-covid-19-21b78c1a9339</a></p> <p>Please take the time to read this article. I think it will be very eye-opening about what in-person school would be like... Nothing like we've known it in the past. I believe kids and families believe that going back will be like it used to be, and it just can't be right now.</p> <p>I believe online schooling is the way to go for now and for the foreseeable future. At some point, of course, we would all like to be back in the classroom, but now is not the time for that. I believe with some creative thinking and problem-solving we can help the families that would struggle with online learning the most. We are going to lose many to homeschooling if we do not do this.</p>
7/21/2020 14:50:30	Stacey	Tischhauser		Wilsey	Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/21/2020 14:50:32	Ryan	Boyer		Mission	I am supportive of the Governor's orders. No child, parents, teacher, or staff member should have their lives put at risk when there are alternatives.
7/21/2020 14:50:35	Mary	Campbell		Wichita	It does not make sense to open schools when tightening restrictions for gatherings because our community spread of COVID is so high. We should not open schools until our numbers are at a level that allows students and teachers safety
7/21/2020 14:50:53	Julia	Brockway	A school employee/ parent	Eldorado	<p>As much as I miss my early childhood kids, I'm extremely fearful for them and myself that going back to school too early would be a huge mistake. I'm also greatly concerned for my daughter who has asthma to be wearing a mask all day long would be hard for her but not wearing one could be worse. Please also take into account those of us that work in special ed. We have extremely close contact with our students. We help with toilet needs and are often sneezed, coughed, spat, and hit on. I feel like Paraeducators deserve some sort of hazard pay! We receive no benefits, so if we get something from the students, we pay our own medical. Plus if we pass it to our family it can ruin us. Please consider a considerable raise and hazard pay. Even grocery store employees are getting that.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
7/21/2020 14:50:57	Deborah	Bartley	Teacher in Johnson County	Overland Park	As a teacher the delay of school allows teachers to plan for any of the contingency plans that may need to be implemented. This year will not look like any other we have experienced and having time to be as prepared as possible will provide a more stable and rigorous academic program making up for time lost with the delay as opposed to floundering through the potential frequent changes in teaching modes. In addition with this area being a hot spot it will allow more time to see if there is a steady downward trend.
7/21/2020 14:51:04	Jordan	Ford		Cheney KS	Yes keep schools closed until after Labor Day! Keep our teachers and our students safe!
7/21/2020 14:51:07	Anthony	DeFilippo	Kansas Resident	Lawrence	It seems that it would be best to ensure that in person classes do not begin before the number of new cases per day has reached a sufficiently low amount such that the outbreak does not explode again when schools open. If the schools begin online and formulate plans to allow safe reopening, they can perhaps avoid an inevitable closure and end up with more total time in-person than if they started when numbers are still high.
7/21/2020 14:51:23	Roanne	Doty	USD232	De Soto	PLEASE wait until AFTER Labor Day to open schools! PLEASE!!!

7/21/2020 14:51:25	Rebecca	Taylor		Overland Park	Will schools be providing the same plexi glass dividers between desks that the Kansas board members are privy to? I can only assume our children are just as important as the board members. How is it going to be possible to distance 20+ children 6ft apart in a small classroom, many of which do not have any working windows? How are the districts going to account for the children who receive Motrin or Tylenol prior to arriving to school? Parents send their children to school sick all the time so how will this be prevented? Temperature checks will not work when these children are given medication before school. Will hybrid options (remote and in-class) options be provided? What measures will the schools do to ensure that my child with a medical 504 is safe? How can children go back to school in the counties when the positivity rate is reaching 12-14% with rapidly rising transmission rates (Johnson County, Wyandotte, Sedgwick)? If my children or myself becomes hers COVID due to school transmission, is the state of Kansas going to pay for my and my child's medical bills? As a single parent will the state come in and help me take care of me and my children if we catch COVID? Help from my parents who are almost 80 would not be an option. It is not right to put the burden on parents to make the right decision for their families. We all want our kids back in school. We all need our children back in school. How can anyone right now say that the state of Kansas is in any position to do that safely right now? This is absurd. Our state failed at proper mitigation which is why we are one of the top states for transmissibility. I hope we don't fail our kids and teachers as well. We all need to do our part in containing this, but we are not even close right now in this state. Perhaps we should take note of how other countries handled this. They did not send kids back to school with the virus at its peak.
7/21/2020 14:51:33	Sunnte	Haines	Larned usd 495	Larned	I am writing to request that our kids aren't mandated to wear masks! I believe enthusiasm is a huge part of teaching little kids at least and if the teacher is covered and the kids are covered that will make it very hard to do. They also learn a lot from Pronunciation of words when they are learning to read... I would really love to see it being left up to the parents to put their own child in a mask ! I feel as though our rights for our own children in our own lives are being taken away . Please consider all your options before making a decision
7/21/2020 14:51:35	Jeremi	whitham	Parent	Tribune	Please consider giving each district the choice of delaying start of school. We are not being affected by high rates of COVID -19 in our community. I've been participating in a site council with our school administrators for the past 6 weeks. They have a safe and common sense plan in place for our students as they return to the classroom where they belong. I'm both a parent and health care professional and I'm confident our students will be in a safe environment where they can continue learning. I appreciate your consideration of this.
7/21/2020 14:51:36	James	Norris	None	Topeka	Open the schools. Children a VERY low risk and it makes no sense to keep things shut. If you are going to delay opening your going to reduce my taxes right?
7/21/2020 14:51:37	Natalie	Freeman	Self	Overland Park	Please do NOT delay the start of the school year! Education has not been happening since early March and the kids are at risk of falling too far behind. In addition, they are suffering from depression and isolation which has the potential to be more detrimental to them than COVID-19. School can be attended in person in a safe manner. At a minimum, this decision needs to be made by each school district, not by a one-size-fits-all mandate by the governor!
7/21/2020 14:51:45	Stephanie	Bailey	Parent	Scott City	I am a mother to 5 children all school age and I want my children to resume their school and activities. School needs to resume immediately and no masks need to be required. Our kids need to get back to life. Deny Laura Kelly's orders



					<p>Please uphold the Governor's delayed start executive order. This is a time for my children's schools to actually get things in order to be able to do what is necessary to be safe and collaborate go have solid lessons.</p> <p>Please do not make local boards have to go through and decide individually. We elected Governor Kelly. She made an executive order that will help. Please don't do anything to prevent it from going through (and have to start over the process with each local board).</p> <p>Regardless of numbers in counties currently, they are likely to go up with sports etc. Others might go down. Administration needs time to get things ready, get supplies, update systems to keep the buildings safe for children. Teachers need time to collaborate, spend time making good lessons that can easily flow between remote, hybrid, and in person depending on the numbers in the counties. Please do not take this gift of time away from schools. As a parent I want this time for the schools to prepare all safety precautions so it is actually done correctly. I want teachers to have time to collaborate and adapt lessons so they are well thought out and can provide meaningful learning on these new environments that are also fluid</p> <p>No matter the number of current cases, each school needs time to make these preparations now for the year. Please don't rush this and jeopardize the health of my children or the quality of the instructions that could have been provided for them.</p> <p>As a teacher, I am willing to and wanting to do this collaboration even if some of it isn't paid, even if we go later into May or June as a consequence. As a parent, I am even more adamant that time is provided for schools to do this well. We simply have not had the time to prepare like we usually do since we haven't known what we are preparing for (this includes both prepping the building for safety and prepping lessons for quality in new formats). Please don't take away this gift of time to start school right for all districts in the state. Regardless of current numbers, all schools need to do this work before starting with students.</p>
7/21/2020 14:51:57	Crystal	Kerr	Parent to middle school	Andover	Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:51:58	Jerad	Gorney	My family	Gardner, KS	If you pack teachers and kids in schools face to face kids will become vectors to parents and others in the community. People will die. Go online until we have a vaccine. (2nd semester, Spring 2021)
7/21/2020 14:52:06	Ashley	Westfahl		Wichita	As a parent and an educator we need to delay. 3 weeks will allow numbers to decrease as well as giving us all a chance to properly prepare for returning safely. The lives of children, educators, and all the family members of everyone that enters a school building are in YOUR hands. Make the right choice and delay start. It will affect how I vote in November.
7/21/2020 14:52:09	Jeremi	whitham	Parent	Tribune	Please consider giving each district the choice of delaying start of school. We are not being affected by high rates of COVID -19 in our community. I've been participating in a site council with our school administrators for the past 6 weeks. They have a safe and common sense plan in place for our students as they return to the classroom where they belong. I'm both a parent and health care professional and I'm confident our students will be in a safe environment where they can continue learning. I appreciate your consideration of this.
7/21/2020 14:52:13	Lisa	Reed		Newton	Open the schools as usual and let wearing a mask be preference, not mandatory.
7/21/2020 14:52:16	Bill	Taggart	Individual	Overland Park	Keep making decisions based on advice from the experts that are still learning about this new deadly virus to keep our students, their families and school staff safe!
7/21/2020 14:52:18	Monte	Evans	Self	Wichita	I support Executive Order 20-58.
7/21/2020 14:52:23	Michele	Gerber		Silver Lake	I am a teacher and mother of 6. I would like to see you override the Governor's EO and place the reopening of schools in the local districts hands. Throughout the process of developing the Navigating Change document we've heard decisions would be at the local level. That's what's best for Kansans in my opinion. Our district has plans in place and is ready to return in August. Our own children need to return to structured learning environments with other adults. Thank you for your time!
7/21/2020 14:52:49	Jennifer	Power Steketee	Blue Valley Highschool	Overland Park	School needs to begin on time— look at the stats— the deaths around Covid are not around kids of highschool or elementary age— they are around LTC facilities and older populations!!!!

7/21/2020 14:52:55	JEFFREY	MOSS		OVERLAND PARK	While I can understand the argument that a "one size fits all" order does not address the unique needs of various districts EO 20-58 is the only and the safest option left the governor in the absence of any clear guidance. In urban areas forcing the schools to open while there has been no clear or continuing reduction of Covid-19 propagation is an invitation for even greater loss of life; students, teachers, staff and family members. The board, not individual districts, has a responsibility to create metrics that can be used to determine when schools can fully open, when a hybrid model is more appropriate and finally under what conditions a school or district must close. Until those metrics are defined and agreed upon all schools should remain closed and plan on starting the year via distance learning. Sticking your heads in the sand and leaving the decisions to individual districts will guarantee failures that were unnecessary. Hold schools to nothing but distance learning and take the necessary time to do your job well. Bottom line, do your jobs or resign.
7/21/2020 14:53:05	Paul	Walls		Wichita	I am the parent of a high school student, and I do NOT feel comfortable sending her to school right now while cases are so high. I AGREE with the delay of schools (public AND private K-12 schools) until after Labor Day and reevaluating at that time. There's no way high school students are going to adhere to social distancing and wearing masks during the school day, AND temperature checks do NOT account for those who are asymptomatic!
7/21/2020 14:53:25	Todd	Burroughs	Myself	Williamsburg	I do not believe that Governor Kelly should have the final say over the education of our children. That authority should rest with the local school boards.
7/21/2020 14:53:39	Scott	Currier	Retired Educator	Overland Park	As a retired educator I can't believe you are willing to put the lives of our students, teachers and community at risk. You must do the right thing and keep schools closed. If not, the death of every person connected to the Kansas education system will come back on those who vote to open.
7/21/2020 14:53:46	Joan	Frederick	Grandparent	Hutchinson	Schools NEED to reopen in August as planned. Surely you realize what this shut down is doing to this generation of school kids. Many are at home doing nothing because parents have to work. 2 and a half weeks will not make much difference...Open schools.
7/21/2020 14:53:48	Donna	Deever	Educator	Topeka	Please start schools after Labor Day, not because it is a political stand, but it is the safe and right thing to do. Children can be infected with COVID. School districts need time to get safety precautions in place, classrooms set up, teachers need time to prepare and districts need time to train teachers how to beat approach the new year. This is not a political topic, it is a health topic.
7/21/2020 14:53:49	Alexis	AMOS		Olathe	I fully believe the delay should take place and I will NOT be sending my 2 elementary children to in person school this year, unless there is some sort of hybrid. I think they should do something similar to what I've seen other districts and states do. A group goes in person on Monday and Tuesday, no goes Wednesday and another group goes in person Thursday and Friday. They can distance learn the 3 days they are not in person. It gives the best of both worlds and doesn't force kids to wear masks for 8 hours a day, 5 days a week. It is also less stress on the kids and everyone involved in the case of a possible need for full remote learning due to exposure or spikes this season.
7/21/2020 14:53:49	Emily	Yeager	Teacher/parent in USD	Manhattan	I support waiting to reopen in-person schools across the state until COVID-19 numbers drop significantly in Kansas. This is a short term situation that will become much more dire if reopening is hurried, leading to much greater educational and economic consequences for Kansans.
7/21/2020 14:53:52	Gitanjali	Thomas	Blue valley schools	Overland Park	Even though I would want nothing more than to go back to work....I am extremely worried about it not being safe, just yet. So many parents have expressed anxiety about their children going back to school. Some have grandparents living with them, some have children prone to pneumonia and severe allergies. One loss will be one loss too many. Please support Gov Kelly. She is not taking any chances and is devoted to keeping us safe. Sincerely, Special education Teacher
7/21/2020 14:54:16	Scott	Robinette	Maranatha Christian Ac	Olathe	Please allow schools to reopen without delays. We can manage risk effectively with masks, distancing and other important safety protocols, but we can't effectively manage the emotional distress and educational shortfalls that come with delays. Parents can still choose not to send their kids to school if they need to manage their own risk, but we need to have the option of in-person for those who need it. Thanks for your consideration and for all you are doing to provide leadership during this challenging time!

7/21/2020 14:54:22	Maria	Volden		Liberal ks.	The kids have been out of school long enough apparently this "virus" has no time limit...we need to move on and continue to live our lives...kids need to get back into the swing of things
7/21/2020 14:54:30	Jessica	Acosta		Hays	I believe kids need to be in school, not just for education but for social growth. I have seen my kids have been affected and I can only imagine this is the same situation with all children across Kansas and the US. Please let schools open on time. Our Kansas children need it.
7/21/2020 14:54:39	Elizabeth	Morris		Kansas City	Please do not put districts in a position where we are forced to ignore public health recommendations and social distancing requirements that are in place for all other settings. We know it's not safe. KDHE knows it's not safe. The medical community knows it's not safe. Making the start date after Labor Day is not the real issue. The incidence within the school will reflect the incidence of its community. Teachers and other staff should not have to choose between their health and their job. Parents should not have to accept the risks in order for their children to be educated. All the time and money spent on trying to plan, change plans, and change plans again to achieve the impossible—a safe school environment—could have been spent on ensuring internet access and purchasing robust online education platforms. SARS CoV2 is in the same category as all the communicable diseases that require vaccination for school enrollment. If an entire school can be dismissed for an outbreak of measles (which can be vaccinated for) we shouldn't be attending with the prevalence it has in our communities. Thank you.
7/21/2020 14:54:44	Deena	Amont		Lawrence	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of public school. My reasons are twofold: one, it will allow Kansans time to follow health and safety protocols and reduce the sharp rise in Covid-19 infection rates in the state, and two, it will allow school personnel to properly plan for the best education for Kansas students.
7/21/2020 14:54:46	Ashley	Ippert	USD 380 Schools	Frankfort	I am opposed to opening schools before the labor day holiday. I feel it is in the safest manor for the staff, teachers, and especially the students themselves. We don't know the long term affects of this virus. Everyday there is new information and new studies. We opened the state to fast and look at our cases and deaths starting to spike. I would feel more comfortable and confident in waiting to start school until after the labor day holiday. Thank you for reading.
7/21/2020 14:54:46	Mary	Martin	Resident	Lenexa	Let's consider the health and welfare of our children and getting them back to school. Learning and social interactions are a very important component of a child's well-being. Let's be leaders and move forward by getting our kids back in school. Look at the scientific data, not the fear mongering emotional pleas to make this decision. Do NOT kick the can down the road. Make it as safe as possible with cleaning policies, hand sanitizing, etc.
7/21/2020 14:54:55	Sara	Stapleton	USD 300	Coldwater	Let the districts determine what is best for their individual school!

					<p>I am the mother of four active teenage children in the USD 497 district. I am also a registered nurse at a local pediatric clinic. Because of this, I understand very well both sides of the decision that you have to make concerning school and what it will look like for the 20-21 school year. I am thankful that I am not in your position, therefore I appreciate the time and effort that has been put into making this decision. I think delaying the start of school was a good idea, as I know that things can change, for better or worse, in just a few weeks time. I think that providing options for online, in-class and hybrid learning is a fair, safe solution. I am asking that you consider allowing sports conditioning to continue in the month leading up to school. As a healthcare provider in a pediatric population, I have seen the mental and emotional toll this has taken on our kids over the last few months. The amount of increased anxiety and depression concerns and the reports of attempts at harming themselves has skyrocketed-I know this because daily I see the effects and triage phone calls from parents that are worried about their kids. I can tell you as a mother, the morning conditioning workouts are what motivate my kids to stay out of trouble-especially given the enormous amount of free time they now have-and to come home early and get a good night's rest. It is the only thing that is getting them out of bed, sometimes before I do. It is keeping them off of their electronics and the endless black pit of social media. For some, sports and activities are sometimes the only motivating factor for them to succeed. I can tell you from personal experience, the LHS football coaches have done an outstanding job of adhering to proper social distancing, safe conditioning workouts. I have a difficult time understanding why this would be an issue if it is done in a safe way. If there are some that are uncomfortable with allowing their kids to continue participating, I can appreciate that and they certainly can choose not to opt out. But to take this one thing completely away during a time that is as dark and stressful and full of anxiety as this is right now could be detrimental to our kids. Please consider doing everything you can to keep our kids involved, while keeping them safe.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Kelly Mondri</p>
7/21/2020 14:55:00	Kelly	Mondi		Lawrence KS	
7/21/2020 14:55:08	Wendy	Macrorie	Holy Trinity	Lenexa	Reopen schools no mask for students before Labor Day
7/21/2020 14:55:12	April	Brenner	Blue Valley Randolph, U	Randolph Ks	I have three children under the age of 12. They need regular school days. They are desperately looking forward to being in their regular school environment with their peers. They are at critical ages where school is vital to their daily growth. I am a taxpayer & I choose to send my children to public school. If I wanted to homeschool, I would choose that. If I have to mandate my children's remote learning again, I would like to receive monetary compensation for doing so. It was a lot of work & it isn't my career choice. I didn't not see any growth within my children during remote learning. They miss school. Desperately. Please allow school to move forward on September 9th. They WANT to be in school again.
7/21/2020 14:55:20	Henry	Friesen Guhr	Community member and	Newton	I believe that it is incredibly important not only for students but also for teachers and staff that the executive order stays in place. If we don't delay schools, it could contribute to a major breakout of the virus in our community. It's not just about protecting students but also about keeping them from spreading it to others that they interact with outside of school.
7/21/2020 14:55:22	Karin	Kaufman Wall		Newton, KS	I am so grateful for the wise leadership of the Governor! Delaying the start of the school year allows teachers and administrators contract time to develop a plan (hopefully with online option) for our kids to get an education without jeopardizing the health of our kids, all of our public school employees and the community that comes into contact with them!
7/21/2020 14:55:22	Rachel	Robb		Lenexa	I agree with the order that Governor Kelly is wanting to put into place, delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. This allows for us to do more to prepare and also flatten the curve more on COVID cases.

7/21/2020 14:55:24	Hilary	Nash	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	I know you are getting many opinions and comments so I will attempt to keep mine brief. I am a physician in Johnson County, as well as a parent with children in elementary and junior high. Although the issue is complex, I agree with the American Academy of Pediatrics and Children's Mercy that the long term risk of not having our children attending in-person school is greater than the risk of a Covid surge. The data continues to show low risk of transmission from children under age 10. Although the risk of transmission is likely equal to adults in ages 10-19, this age group is better able to comply with masks, hand washing and social distancing. I also think smaller schools, which are better able to meet social distancing requirements, should be allowed to start on time. Lastly, with flu season looming in the fall, the more school days we can get in before then, the better. I appreciate your time and consideration and we are certainly praying for wisdom and clarity with the difficult decisions the board has to make.
7/21/2020 14:55:25	Nina	Caldwell	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	Our family would love for school to start this year at our original time planned. They have been out for far too long. Distant learning isn't great for younger school aged children. They need social interaction. Keeping our kids safe is first priority. If our school is taking all those safety measures there's no reason for school to be postponed. We are blessed to be in a smaller setting. Our school has been taking these precautions over the summer when hosting summer camps. It has worked. My daughter is attending a different camp then the schools due to we needed all day camp and our schools was half day. With that being said daycare facilities still remain open. What is the difference from going back to a school setting and daycare? People still have to work. If we continue to shut down school or have distant learning where will our children go? We are fortunate enough that we have options but not everyone has this luxury. People quitting and not being able to provide for their families is a non negotiable.
7/21/2020 14:55:26	Sandra	Urban	Children	Lawrence	Keep our kids and teachers safe. Do not open schools at least until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 14:55:41	Lisa	Howard	None	Atchison	I think Governor Kelly is spot on. Please allow our teachers and administrators to make sure they have all the supplies they need and also to make sure they have the right plan in place for our children and staff. This is new for everyone, they need the extra couple of weeks to figure out what is best. Hopefully the number of covid cases will decrease and make us feel a little safer taking our children out as well as keep our teachers and staff healthy.
7/21/2020 14:55:42	Charles	Hunter	Self	Olathe	Delaying the start of the school year is only effective once the governing bodies have made a decision on what to do. Until a firm plan of action is in place, delaying the start of the school year just causes the DoE and school boards to push back making decisions. What our schools and teachers need is more time to implement those decisions. As it stands now, parents and teachers will receive about two weeks notice in our area to enact whatever plan the school board decides. This means that if the school board's plan is woefully insufficient or if the DoE and school boards continue to pass the buck instead of taking responsibility for the safety of the students in the hope that someone else will make a decision first, parents won't have time to make the right decisions for their children.
7/21/2020 14:55:44	Katie	Kidwell		Junction City	I think we should absolutely delay school as long as possible, or do the fall semester online. If it is not safe for teachers, staff and students to return to school we should absolutely not force it.

7/21/2020 14:55:50	Andrea	Berg	Olathe District Schools	Shawnee	On KU health system's Facebook live, a pediatric infectious disease doctor said that they're finding that child to child and child to adult transmission is really only uncommon through age 10-12. After that, kids are basically acting like adults as far as transmission goes, which is particularly worrisome for middle school and high school students, teachers and staff. I am a 4th grade teacher, and I would like schools to have enough time to get any safety equipment in place that they need and safety procedures in place. I would like the staff to have proper training on what this will look like. I would like to see teachers have PLCs & staff meetings via zoom and no adults other than the classroom teacher should be in the classroom. That also means special teachers should not be coming into the regular classrooms to do art on a cart, etc. On nicer days maybe PE could be done outside to social distance. It would be great to have elementary students wear masks, but I don't know that this is always going to be doable for them. All adults in the building should be wearing masks. For middle and high school I think a mask should be worn by students and adults. I would also hope that as a classroom teacher I would have the ability to scan my students' temperatures as they come into my classroom and after they eat lunch. There should be a policy in place that if a child has a temperature they need to go home immediately. Parents should be reminded to keep allergies under control with proper medications. I would also hope that the school districts have enough cleaning supplies, gloves, hand sanitizer, etc. It might be beneficial for classrooms to also have air purifiers. I do think sports should continue because it's good for our bodies and mind, but precautions should be in place. I do believe it is important for the kids to start school in person.
7/21/2020 14:55:51	Becki	Bowman		McPherson	Please delay the school year until Sept 9. (LONGER WOULD BE BETTER!) It's not safe for schools to be open yet. We should not rush back to normal just because we want it.
7/21/2020 14:55:54	Terri	Maas	Me, Myself & I	SOLOMON	I personally think this is all idiotic! But really why delay the start when summer/fall is when the kids are the healthiest. Doesn't make any since to me! My daughter is young, active and healthy the chance of Covid causing her trouble or anyone in our house hold is pretty much none!! Its called building you immune systems. If parents have a worry about it then they can keep there kids home and have them zoom meeting classes.
7/21/2020 14:55:02	Tiffany	Baker		Shawnee	I think our Governor is ridiculous and does not have the best interest of our children in mind. Our children need normalcy again. The percentage of children catching or spreading Covid-19 is 0%! Not a single child has suffered or died. Keep that in mind when making the decision to close or delay our school. If you choose to close or delay. Make sure you furlough all employees so my tax dollars are not used for teachers sitting on their ass while us working essentially employees are now forced to either quit or find someone to actually teach our children because the virtual learning is an absolute JOKE and my children and I know several other kids got absolutely NOTHING out of the joke of virtual learning.
7/21/2020 14:56:02	Rae	Law	Mother of 4	Louisburg	I think it will be beneficial for the teachers and schools to have adequate time to prepare for the upcoming school year. As a former teacher, and now mother to 4 elementary age children, I know how much work teachers put into preparing for a normal school year. This has been a time of change and uncertainty. I believe that more time is needed before the start of school not only for health and safely needs to be met, but so that the teachers have time to prepare and be the best possible for our students. Thank you

7/21/2020 14:56:02	Peggy	Brown	Maranatha	Basehor	<p>When reasonable social distancing guidelines are met, we can reopen the classrooms safely. Maranatha Christian Academy has the classrooms ready to meet these guidelines.</p> <p>Staff members are also ready to teach in that environment. Health checks will be done before school starts and as needed, per guidelines throughout the school day.</p> <p>Students do not ride school busses. Parents are responsible for getting their children to and from school. This creates less exposure to individuals in a confined area.</p> <p>Any students with autoimmune issues, other health issues can be offered an online course alternative.</p> <p>Please allow students and parents the ability to make the best choices for their family's situation. A one-size-fits-all approach is counterproductive in our student's academic and social growth.</p>
7/21/2020 14:56:04	Nora	Schoenthaler	USD 231	Gardner	I would request the board vote to support the delay. Because of the rise in numbers and the often daily changes, our district, like many districts, have not yet released a plan to the teachers. Teachers want to teach, but they must be given the time to plan and train so they can provide the best education for the circumstances while keeping the students safe.
7/21/2020 14:56:06	Aubree	Alexander	Parent	Colwich	Let the kids go back to school, mask free, let the parents decide what is best for their children
7/21/2020 14:56:08	Sheri	Richter	Beeson Elementary	Dodge City	Please vote in favor of governor's order. Schools need time to figure out how to open the safely
7/21/2020 14:56:08	Georjann	Randall		Paola	Childcare centers, Walmart, grocery stores, and restaurants have been deemed essential, are schools essential or nonessential?
7/21/2020 14:56:14	James	Carney		Colby	Please let our children go back to school. I have two children that need a regular schedule and someplace to be around children their own age.
7/21/2020 14:56:23	Michelle	Kadolph		Derby	School should be online, but if it has to be in person, delay as long as possible. Children 4th grade and up are super spreaders!
7/21/2020 14:56:27	Christa	Minks-Brown	PTO member at multiple	Olathe	It is a difficult decision either way. Kansas already has an online public school however, and I don't see why a virtual option should be delayed. Having each district develop their own 3 pronged approach (online, hybrid & in-person) seems destined to fail because it spreads resources and attention even thinner. Why can't Kansas use the already existing virtual schools as an option for everyone who wants to be virtual and allow the previous existing brick and mortar schools to focus on making the in-person experience as safe as possible? Allow for fluid transfers between districts and virtual schools to fit the needs of the teachers/staff wishes and the parent requests.
7/21/2020 14:56:29	Kent	Kramer	Myself	Winchester	I think we should delay the start of schools until we have a plan for the safety of our kids and faculty .
7/21/2020 14:56:48	Megan	Ibarra		Olathe	I support the delayed start for the 2020/2021 school year. Teachers, staff, schools, etc. need time to prepare for all scenarios for their safety and the safety of our kids and families so that we can attempt to start and continue the year without disruption of school closure due to an outbreak, etc. Thank you for your consideration and all the time and energy you're putting forth to help put the best guidance and practices out there!
7/21/2020 14:56:48	Richard	Epp		Colby, KS	There no reason school can start as originally plan and scheduled. Everybody can check for a fever multiple times a day and hand washing can be done multiple times a day. If anybody has a fever send them home until they're fever free for 24 hrs, they could also be checked for COVID-19. Get the kids back in school and back to as normal as possible. I personal feel masks could be optional.
7/21/2020 14:56:52	Debra	Schwylhart	Retired Teacher	Winfield	School should not open for the sake of students, teachers and staff health both short term and long term. Scientists do NOT know long term effects! Remote learning should happen this year.
7/21/2020 14:57:21	Jane	Dor		Shawnee Mission	I know that you are being bombarded with all points of view in regards to delaying the beginning of school. I just ask that you take our current upward climb in cases into consideration. Every single child from Kindergarten to 12th grade is incredibly precious and worth protecting and if a delay in the start of school can allow the people of Kansas time to try to get this under control, then it is in our best interests to do so. In the end, every single life here is worth protecting and it is our utmost priority to keep them safe. Please consider the lives of both the students and staff here and give districts the time needed to prepare for what teaching will look like this school year.

7/21/2020 14:57:22	Allison	Cox	Myself	Leawood	Until the state can show a 14 day decline in cases of COVID, we need to avoid in person school. Delaying the start of school to after Labor Day will give the state time to see if the masks mandate is working and cases are going down! It will also allow for teachers to use their contract time (mid-August to Labor Day) to finalize their virtual lesson plans!
7/21/2020 14:57:51	Carol	Brown	Resurrection Catholic School	Wichita	I know you have a very hard decision to make, but I feel the students are much safer in school than at home. They are missing out on nutrition, socialization, and education. Many are at home without supervision, getting into trouble/abused, and lacking food. Please consider the children over the greater good.
7/21/2020 14:57:55	Sue	Forstner		Leavenworth Kansas	When will we get a refund of our taxes which was allocated towards the school system? I would also like a detailed spending report of last year as well as this year.
7/21/2020 14:58:03	Dawn	Prehn		Overland Park	I support Governor Kelly's decision to delay starting the school year until after Labor Day. I strongly encourage you to allow this decision to stand - the health of Kansas families depends on it. Please make smart, data driven decisions. Thank you!
7/21/2020 14:58:09	Shelley	Phelps	Teacher	Ulysses	I have mixed emotions about delaying the start of school. As a parent of two teenagers I'm ready for them to get back to school. They need to be with their peers and teachers. However as a teacher I could use the three weeks to prepare. Teaching in a mask with students in masks is a daunting . However my biggest hurdle is getting more comfortable with the technology so that I can be prepared to have a virtual class again. I am also concerned with how our community has dismissed the mask mandate and social distancing recommendations. Because of this we have seen an increase in cases. What will happen when we get students and teachers together? So overall, I think delaying the start of school will benefit the health of our teachers and students.
7/21/2020 14:58:14	Nancy	Wilkerson	St. Ann School	Prairie Village	Yes On after Labor Day start
7/21/2020 14:58:23	Brian	Hall		Topeka	<p>In March, Governor Laura Kelly did the right thing in keeping Kansans safe by finishing the rest of the 2019-20 school year online. That, combined with stay-at-home orders and the usage of masks helped keep the number of COVID-19 cases and deaths down in our state.</p> <p>Sadly, due mostly to political motivation, our numbers started to increase exponentially when the state re-opened. Now, our state is in worse shape than it was when schools went online back in March. While I don't think delaying the start of school until after Labor Day will decrease the number of cases or deaths without measures of additional stay-at-home orders, mask mandates, and increased testing, it will give districts, teachers, other staff, parents, and children time to get what they need to protect themselves and others and give extra time to work out how online school will work if needed.</p> <p>I understand there is no easy answer and the answer to every question just brings up more questions but we need to try to keep our numbers down as much as we can. Allowing students and staff to congregate in school buildings for upwards of 7 hours a day with little time to prepare is irresponsible. If one person in a school building is sick then everybody else is sick and everybody they interact with is sick.</p> <p>In closing, I am asking that you agree with Governor Kelly's executive order to postpone the start of the 2020-21 school year until after Labor Day in order for everyone to prepare, in whatever way they need to, for the new school year.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 14:58:27	Ashley	Nichols	Teacher	Topeka	I support the decision to start school after Labor Day. Districts need time to put a good plan in action and be prepared for the upcoming school year. With COVID cases increasing, it is better to start a little later. So many times parents would give their children Tylenol and send them off to school when the child had a temperature. Parents have also sent their child to school after the child had been throwing up all night. It is best to wait until everything is more under control and districts have a plan in place. The safety of everyone is more important than starting school in August.
7/21/2020 14:58:30	Ellen	Kampfe	KNEA	Lindsborg	Please comply with the Governor's mandate that schools delay opening until after Labor Day. I teach in Salina, and numbers need to go down before opening with children in the classroom.



7/21/2020 14:58:34	Kerri	Christian	Lawrence High, Billy M	Lawrence	I agree with the governor's order. Thank you for keeping our kids safe. I would also be in favor of stopping in person/ classes by before Thanksgiving and keeping it online only until after winter break
7/21/2020 14:58:38	Brian	Cody		Leawood	Delaying the start of school until after Labor Day is the responsible choice for our kids, the school administration and faculty and all of our families. An extra couple of weeks could do a lot for public health/safety but won't have a negative impact on the school year.
7/21/2020 14:58:41	Patty	Leary	Usd259 Nutritional Serv	Wichita	Open Schools these kids need structured education and proper social skills <del>Dear State Board of Education representatives,</del>
					<p>I'm writing to urge you to vote in favor of Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-58. This is literally life and death. If we mess this up, there will be no way to recover the lives of the children, parents, teachers, and staff we lose. With COVID-19 cases trending staggeringly upward over the last few weeks and over a thousand cases identified yesterday alone (July 20th), it would be hugely irresponsible of us to put our communities at risk by allowing schools to open at this time. I've heard the argument made that this should be a local decision left up to each respective community to decide what is best. Unfortunately, this idea fails to account for the fact that some of our more rural communities are also the most vulnerable. Even if numbers are currently very low in these areas, the scarcity of hospitals, the fragility of local economies, and number of high-risk individuals (due to health conditions and/or age), mean that an outbreak spread through the school system without warning could be devastating in ways that our already-strained small-town communities may never recover from. All evidence from scientific experts makes it clear that the level of risk is too great at this time and we need to follow Governor Kelly's leadership in instituting a policy that unites the entire state.</p> <p>As a current public school teacher, I know many of my colleagues are looking to Wednesday's decision to decide whether they will stay in teaching. If folks feel that their health or the health of their family members is threatened, many of them will stay home or look for other employment, exacerbating the shortage of teachers which already exists in our state (not to mention the paucity of substitutes). In other words, trying to push forward in reopening schools without making sure teachers and staff members feel safe is almost guaranteed to backfire and leave us in a situation in which districts are do not have the minimum number of teachers they need to keep a building running, let alone meeting the recommendation of smaller class sizes which ensure safety.</p> <p>I am healthy and in my early 30s. However, a friend of mine who shares the same characteristics (similar age, healthy, and no pre-existing conditions) contracted COVID-19 back in March. She was bedridden for six weeks and made two visits to the hospital. She is still working with her doctors to determine if some of the health effects she suffered are temporary or permanent. Please understand that if you vote to block this executive order, you are sending the message to teachers, staff members, and parents of our students that their lives and their long-term health are expendable at the</p>
7/21/2020 14:58:42	Laura	Bock	N/A	Overland Park	I understand that people are scared, but leave the health decisions to the parents. It is your job to keep schools open and the parents' job to make health decisions and raise their kids the best way they see fit. Do not delay the opening of schools.
7/21/2020 14:58:45	Emily	Boehm	USD 253 Middle School	Emporia	Please follow the Gov. Executive order for delaying the start of the school year. The students and educators should not be out in harm's way to satisfy politicians that know nothing about the workings of a school building. Educators should not have to feel the pressure to update their last will and testament before returning to work. Virtual learning is the obvious solution while the numbers continue to rise in the state. Virtual learning does not mean expectations are lower or that students won't receive a good education. Kansas teachers care for students but we shouldn't be forced to choose between our family safety and work. It is not a teachers job to be the glue that holds together our economy or takes care of kids so parents can go back to work. That falls on the politicians to help those families until it is safe to return to school.
7/21/2020 14:58:50	Kerry	Wixon	USD 204	Lenexa	
7/21/2020 14:58:59	Susanna	Cooper	Healthcare	Horton, KS	Please let science and public health guide your decision. There is no way students will be able to socially distance adequately. I 100% support Governor Kelly's executive orders and plead with you as a mother and a nurse to vote to uphold these orders. It's not a question of if but when we will have massive statewide spread, illness, and loss of life.
7/21/2020 14:58:59	Amy	Stevens		Shawnee	Please delay the start of school per Gov. Kelly so our administrators and teachers have more time to prepare for a safe re-entry.

7/21/2020 14:59:07	Shelley	Jaderborg	Myself	Shwnee	Please follow Gov. Kelly's fact-based recommendation to open schools after Labor Day. The economy will improve and thrive when the corona virus is defeated. I will homeschool before I will send my family to school without a mask before Labor Day.
7/21/2020 14:59:11	Autumn	Williams		Olathe	I applaud Governor Kelly for taking the extra steps to keep our children safe. The school's will need that extra time to put in place new safety procedures, train staff, and acquire additional PPE for the upcoming school year. Our children, and students, need the extra time for infection numbers to decrease, as well.
7/21/2020 14:59:23	KRISTI	CARRITHERS		DERBY	I have a grandson that attends school in Derby, Ks. I have witnessed too many people disregard the science that wearing a mask protects everyone. The wearing of masks has become a political issue. I humbly ask you to support the governor's order to postpone the opening of schools until September. While I understand that not all districts face the same challenges to dealing with the safety procedures necessary, this is only a couple of weeks. Please support the order so that all districts are on the same path to recovery from this crisis. Thank you
7/21/2020 14:59:24	Mary Jo	Gates		Overland Park, Ks	I support the governor's order to delay opening schools until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 14:59:28	hi	hi	hi	ks	If teachers are exposed to covid 19, what happens to that class?
7/21/2020 14:59:30	Michelle	Westrup	Parent of middle and high school	Lenexa	Please delay in-school teaching until at least Labor Day. Also, only allow in-person teaching after cases have shown a trend of decline.
7/21/2020 14:59:35	Gina	Cabanas		Lawrence	I would like to see schools start back up asap and as soon as it is safe for the kids. It is important for them to get back to routine. There needs to be temp checks and more disinfecting along with handwashing and sanitizer. It is possible to get them back if everyone works together
7/21/2020 14:59:43	Kendra	Moss		HOXIE, KS	Our children need to go back to school and back to normal. This political agenda needs to be stopped. Please send the kids back to school in August and make masks optional. Aren't we in America.....?
7/21/2020 14:59:50	Jeff	Watts	parent	Olathe	I support the Governor's mandate. I feel that it is irresponsible to even attempt to hold such large gatherings in what is still the midst of a pandemic.
7/21/2020 14:59:52	Susannah	Louderbaugh	Myself	Tribune	I believe that it is unjust to mandate all counties schools have to push back the start date for the school year. Our school district in Tribune, Ks can follow the social distancing and has only a few contained Positive cases. Also the pushing back of the start date will interrupt the custody agreement between divorced parents and cause undue court fees to determine wether the child can finish the school year with one parent or be cut short on their school year to go into the other parents custody. There is a difference for county with 10,000 plus people and just 1,000. I believe the elected county representatives should be able to decide what is best for their own county. Thank you for your time!

7/21/2020 15:00:08	Brenda	Carroll		Shawnee	<p>I am a school nurse and a parent of students that attend USD 232. I am writing to ask you to eliminate the need for temperature checks at school. 1) Covid patients are contagious 2 days before symptoms begin and many pediatric patients do not present with a fever. 2) Temperatures are impacted by hot or cold weather conditions as well as if the student has recently exercised. 3) Thermometers continue to be in short supply and the cost to obtain high quality (meaning accurate) thermometers is quite high. 4) The logistics of taking temperatures are mind boggling and will take significant time for little benefit.</p> <p>Please consider allowing schools to monitor for symptoms throughout the school day rather than doing temp checks. Additionally, please consider having parents monitor temps at home rather than making this another burden on the school.</p> <p>I am in favor of the delay until after Labor Day IF school staff, particularly school nurses, are allowed to use the time productively to prepare rather than simply having our start dates pushed back too. Additionally, I am in favor of a hybrid model of instruction with some in person contact and some online instruction. While Covid is scary, there are many other concerns including mental, emotional and developmental health that must be balanced with physical health concerns.</p> <p>Finally, please consider waiving all screenings (vision, hearing, dental) for the 2020-21 school year. These will be difficult to manage with social distancing and online instruction plus nurses are going to have a heavy burden of care this year with Covid restrictions.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>
7/21/2020 15:00:13	Kjia	Hart		Overland Park	<p>I am in favor of delaying the opening of schools for the safety of staff and their families. Returning to the classroom before it is safe in the name of “learning” and “getting back to normal” is reckless and will not accomplish that goal. No quality learning will take place with the precautions necessary at this time. I would be in favor of opening for online classes only. Teachers will need time and training to prepare for this option.</p>
7/21/2020 15:00:26	Leslie	Krehbiel	USD 331 - BOE Membe	Kingman	<p>I urge you to vote against EO 20-58 based on the damage it causes to all civic engagement. Our area is mitigating covid-19 with efforts that make us proud. Over all this time, we have minimized effect to 5 cases. Citizens have responded, school officials have worked tirelessly to prepare for a meaningful school year in the midst of uncertainty. We held a graduation, but cancelled a prom celebration for the second and final time. We've handled tough and disappointing decisions and maintained a determined attitude - until EO 20-58 which leaves us doubtful, hopeless, listless, and defeated. Disengagement on all levels will be the result of EO 20-58 if it is passed. No one in our area will be affirmed for previous efforts and the hope of some sort of school year becomes elusive. EO 20-58 is very damaging to any interest in civic service possibilities, after all we watch 2 months of work by volunteers to the KS BOE become null and void by an EO that surprised everyone. Please allow the local areas to survey and determine what is right for their area. The governor calls it a burden for local leaders to decide, I call it robbing their dignity for the reasons they ran for elected positions.</p>
7/21/2020 15:00:30	Mary	Colvin		Weir	<p>We just received the guidance from KSDE. We need TIME to put everything into plans and action. We had to rush to turn in a dime in the spring and it didn't go well. Let's not go about it the same way again. The delay is what is best for everyone!</p>
7/21/2020 15:00:37	Mary	Kraft	Self	Emporia	<p>Schools need to open up!! Children are falling behind academically at a rapid rate. Abused and neglected children have no one to report the abuse and neglect. There is no data to support keeping the children home, they need to be where they can learn socialization skills, age appropriate educational material and have food. We have so many children that these are the only meals they get! There is no one to drive them to a location to pick up food. Some parents cannot provide for their families and help the children with their on-line classes. Very few children learn well using on-line methods. We want our children safe, educated and socialized - they need their peers!! Please open Kansas schools. Thank you.</p>

7/21/2020 15:00:37	JOHN	stalec	MCA Shawnee Kansas	Shawnee Kansas	I don't agree with wearing masks. I don't agree with you closing the schools last year. I'm an essential worker I I drive a truck for a living and work with 583 other drivers out of the FedEx terminal. We've had to covet cases in the FedEx terminal since its this stuff came around. We just started wearing masks due to Governor Kelly's brilliant idea to force everybody to wear a mask which I think is wrong turn! I will let you know this if you do not open them up in August more than likely I will look into homeschooling.
7/21/2020 15:00:48	Robert	Brooks	Grandparent	Wichita	Wait to open school is the best idea
7/21/2020 15:00:54	Carmen	Cutting	Mom of 3 children in Ka	Overland park	Kids need to go to school for mental and social stability! The risks of Covid are minimal for kids and a much smaller risk than the common flu. Pediatricians even recommend that they go to school. Our Governor is STEALING school experiences (including sports) from our kids. If some don't want to send their kids, then they should have that choice, BUT don't make that mandatory for others who want to go! Have each school determine the risks they have. It's not the same for all schools. Our Democratic Governor is trying to CONTROL us!
7/21/2020 15:00:57	Megan	Casper-Rose	Parent	Bennington	I don't mind delaying school until after Labor day just as long as kids can actually go to school in person and participate in sports! Please do not do all online learning.
7/21/2020 15:01:00	Robin	Simmons	Olathe233	Spring Hill	Please uphold the EO.
7/21/2020 15:01:01	Susan	Lehrman	USD 411 and USD 373	Goessel	I support the executive order to delay the start of all Kansas schools.
7/21/2020 15:01:13	Kayci	Weimer		Gardner	Good afternoon-  I am a parent in the Gardner-Edgerton School District, and I am writing to ask you to support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the opening of Kansas schools.  As a single, working parent, I desperately want schools to open back up again; however, I am not willing to send my child into an unsafe situation. The order by Governor Kelly will help ensure that students, teachers and school staff are able to return to schools in the safest way possible. I strongly urge you to support our Governor's efforts to keep our children & teachers safe.  With thanks, Kayci Weimer
7/21/2020 15:01:15	Elizabeth	Godfrey	Parent in the Blue Vally	Overland Park	Thank you, Governor Kelly, for putting common sense and science first when making the difficult decision to send our children and educators back to school. We appreciate you and support you.
7/21/2020 15:01:23	Rhonda	Buckles	Myself	Independence	I am a grandparent of 4 children who will attend KS schools this year. I am FOR Gov. Kelly's delaying the start of school. The delay would allow a reasonable amount of time to lower the rate of positive Covid cases. In addition, if Gov Kelly would again mandate masks, require social distancing,, & turn back the reopening phases of our cities, our KS kids could more safely return to school after Labor Day. As a retired teacher of kindergarten, for over 20 years, I would not want to return to teaching during these dangerous times. I don't want my grandchildren there, either - at least until the virus is contained. It would also be my hope that when schools DO OPEN, they have shorter hours of instruction with some virtual learning. Small children should not be required to spend as much time in school, as their older counterparts.
7/21/2020 15:01:24	Kayla	Shaughnessy	Holton Elementary	Holton	I am an educator in Jackson county at Holton Elementary school. I have been a 2nd grade teacher for 4 years. Never in a million years did I think I would live through a pandemic that would close down our schools, but here we are facing a very challenging time in the United States. I am writing to voice my opinion on the governor's recent executive order on delaying schools until after Labor Day. I believe that this is exactly what Kansas school systems need to prepare for the challenging times we face ahead. As you are voting on this decision, please keep the safety of our educators in mind. We can't wait to get back and make a difference in our children's lives, but we also need to make sure it is safe to proceed. We can't risk losing our greatest educators, as we are already struggling to keep teachers in schools. So please, hear my voice and share my thoughts with the board as you vote to delay school until after labor day.

7/21/2020 15:01:31	Shawna	Hansen	Self	Maize USD 266	I am anxious for my children to start school on time. Even though they had distance learning in the spring, it was not to the standard that we expect. There needs to not be a gap of 5 months in children's educations. We must find a way to do both appropriate learning and stay as safe as possible. The option of zero cases of corona virus will never happen, so we must find a way to do both items. If we delay now, who's to say we won't delay again and again. I vote for kids in class 5 days per week or have virtual option. This works for working parents and for parents able to help with a virtual program. The governor is not using appropriate data to support this choice.
7/21/2020 15:01:40	Robert	Coberly	Maranatha Christian Ac	Lenexa	Please allow schools to open as regularly scheduled in August and not after Labor Day. Science is showing kids are at very low risk of either getting or spreading Covid 19 and delaying or diminishing their education is certainly not without significant risks to their future well being.
7/21/2020 15:01:46	Kim	Spillman	Myself, as a teacher	Lenexa	Please give us the time we need whether it's to open in person, or to prepare new curriculum we will need to teach online. Please vote to start after Labor Day. Teachers need TIME. Why are we in such a hurry? Schools used to open after a Labor Day all the time.
7/21/2020 15:01:50	Austin	Mann	USD 259	Wichita	I'd like to see a hybrid. That way students and teachers that are immunocompromised can teach and learn safely at home while the rest of us who are healthy and know we will be ok, can wear masks and social distance at school effectively.
7/21/2020 15:01:50	Adrienne	Geiger		Troy	Please DO NOT delay the start of the school year!!!
7/21/2020 15:01:53	Trisha	Adams	Community member	Dodge City	Don't push it back to September 9th!
7/21/2020 15:01:57	Megan	Belisle	USD 259	Wichita	I believe that the delay to the beginning of the school year is a very smart idea. The cases of COVID 19 are increasing daily and far worse than when the schools were shut down in the spring. I love my job but am not willing to risk my life or the lives of my loved ones and that's what I'm scared of doing if schools open up too soon before there is a significant decrease in COVID 19 cases. Hopefully with this delay and the mask mandate in my county, there will be time to see if the cases do decrease. If not, I still think schools should open on Sept 9 but not in person. School should be online until we can lower the curve. Getting back to school is not worth risking the lives of staff members, their families or students and their families.
7/21/2020 15:01:57	Janel	Voorhees		Belleville	I think it's a good idea to delay school I also think it would be much safer to do online schooling as well..I would much rather my kids be in school and so would they but I also worry about everyone's health and well being
7/21/2020 15:01:57	Candice	Rambo	Sedgwick county comm	Wichita	Please consider not opening school until there had been a major improvement in this pandemic. We opened too early as a city and now our positive cases, hospitalizations, and deaths have all significantly increased. These children MAY NOT get as sick as older populations but they are bringing it home to their relatives who then spread it farther. We do not have any type of solution for this pandemic and sending a bunch of children back to overbooked classrooms with terrified teachers will only make the situation worse.
7/21/2020 15:01:58	LeAnne	Stowe	Business owner	overland park	Support schools being online only including colleges
7/21/2020 15:02:00	Chris	Davis	I am a parent	Liberal	No they need to go back to school they do not need to be delayed
7/21/2020 15:02:07	Amands	Kennedy	Teacher	Holton	I support the Governor's orders to delay school until September 9th. It will give the administrators, teachers, secretaries, janitors, bus drivers, etc enough time to properly plan and prepare a plan that is safe and appropriate for our students. If not given enough time I feel pushed into an unsafe environment.
7/21/2020 15:02:12	Mary	Boehm		Elbing	Do not delay the start of school! Leave the health decisions to the parents.
7/21/2020 15:02:14	Kristen	Hopkins	USD 383	Manhattan	I teach at Manhattan High School. I have been in contact with many students over the course of the past months. They are struggling, emotional, depressed, and scared. Not because of the virus, but because they need interaction. They need a strong, safe and caring learning environment. Please consider not approving Governor Kelly's order. We have never in history closed school because of a virus. We are still 50+ million away from hitting the Swine Flu numbers from 2009! Kids are regressing. I have a second grader and kindergartener. They are praying to go back to school. Please, school should not be delayed. Do this for our kids.

					<p>Please remove the politics from this decision!</p> <p>When you consider all the variables and possibilities, we have little control, as a society, over how this virus is spread. It is easy to describe certain orders and mandates as absolute when standing at a podium or making comment in a public forum but the reality is no law, order, mandate, regulation, or even public shaming will have absolute control over whether this virus is contained by masks or any arbitrary delay to the start of school. We cannot logically assume that ALL kids AND faculty will wear their masks all day without question. We cannot assume they will wear them correctly, keep their hands off them, wash them daily, or limit any exposure to anyone or anything outside of school hours. The reality is these mandates become empty promises that will never be able to provide the security or protection they are said to achieve. They will instead be a major distraction that prevents the education they should be receiving. They may even lead to a false sense of security that risks higher infections instead of preventing them. The executive orders will not magically create absolute adherence or somehow correct the usage of masks. In addition, this proposed delay is more likely about lining up with other executive orders expiring on Labor Day, than related to any facts about the virus. To my knowledge, there is no data anywhere that says September is different than August in relation to this virus. The idea that school officials need more time to review the plan is interesting considering they have been reviewing and planning since March. There are certainly a lot of things to consider but if our educational leaders throughout the state cannot find a way, at a minimum, to provide the same level of education as in previous years, then what is their priority. Is it more important to save face and associate with one public opinion over another or should they take a step back and remind themselves what our educational system is designed to do? This decision should be about how to best educate our students DESPITE the pandemic, not how much we can reduce their education, and still be "OK" with it. Everyone has the right to be scared for many reasons but please do not let fear drive your decisions. What we need right now is clear thinking and honest decision making about what is in the best for our children's education. Everyone in the school system can and should take whatever precautions they deem appropriate for themselves but truncating the school year and trying to force mask usage on ALL students and faculty regardless of their own beliefs does nothing but weaken the education our students receive and further politicize an educational system that should be unbiased. Regardless of political beliefs, we have always kept schools open during other seasons of illness. In fact, when the 2009 H1N1 pandemic swept the nation, there were no school closures or delays even though it was much more dangerous to the children! Education was still provided because there was an understood agreement</p>
7/21/2020 15:02:19	Craig	Poe	My own children's and a	Manhattan	
7/21/2020 15:02:20	Julia	MacLachlan	Patron of USD 512	Lenexa	I completely support Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 15:02:24	Megan	Lorson	None	Gypsum	Please keep schools closed. An inconvenient short term is much preferred to possibly devastating consequences.
7/21/2020 15:02:26	Nolan	Hull		Colby	No masks. Everything goes back to normal. Play sports. Don't cheat these children.
7/21/2020 15:02:31	Sheyda	Jahanbani	Self	Lawrence	I fully support whatever measures the Governor thinks are necessary to keep our children and communities safe. I do not support Republican death cultists who seem to have gotten so far away from facts that they no longer recognize simple science. Please, Governor Kelly, protect us from them as well as the virus.
7/21/2020 15:02:35	Jennifer	Green	The Green Family	Abilene	I appreciate the need to start a few weeks late to prep for sanitation, etc., Please do not mandate children to have temperature checks nor wear face masks. Suggest, please do not mandate. Very Respectfully, Jennifer Green
7/21/2020 15:02:36	Austin	Mann	USD259	Wichita	I think we should delay opening school.
7/21/2020 15:02:46	Lynn	Malir	Resurrection Catholic G	Lenexa	As I read the fine print of the Governor's executive order, I am surprised and disappointed to see that both public schools and private schools that are ready and can go on-line in August should be held back! Our students at Resurrection Catholic School already have many barriers to overcome and this order holds them back when our school was already fully on-line last year. Why make an order that hold back schools that are ready? 75% of our students are at poverty level and almost the same percentage are English as a second language. They are already behind and this forces them to be further behind. This order is a penalty for being prepared and hits our school even harder. Please please let the private and public schools that are ready to continue instruction in August! Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:02:46	Brianna	Boehm	Remington High School	Elbing	Do not delay the start of school! The best thing for children right now is to get back to school. Open school and leave health decisions and precautions to the parents.
7/21/2020 15:02:47	Isabel	Bogowith		Delia	No, schools should not delay opening. We are the only nation who is not opening schools as normal. The CDC says that children rarely ever transmit the virus or even catch it, therefore I see no need to put children through unnecessary pain.

7/21/2020 15:02:51	Heather	Leggett		Derby	Please delay, please allow choices upon return, please mandate masks and temperature checks, please allow distance option students to participate fully in athletics and extra-curriculars
7/21/2020 15:02:52	Lissette	Calderón	Wichita HS South	Wichita	Hire all subs. Eliminate electives for the 20/21 school year. Have those teachers assist in students main courses. Monthly in-service meetings on Zoom. Focus on catching up and working ahead to bring up state scores. Allowing seniors to graduate early or use 2nd semester to catch up on elective requirements. We are too far behind.  All students and faculty stay in the same room. No passing period. Lunches to be distributed to classrooms, providing better head count, no additional waste of food daily. Be the case COVID19 becomes a threat, that classroom can be closed and taught through computer/iPad for the 14 day or required time.  If students are allowed to work from home, those who do not show signs of improvement or meeting standards are mandated school after the first 6 weeks.
7/21/2020 15:03:01	Melissa	Lollar	Parent	Easton	I think we should start school on time. Starting school late will put a huge burden on my family, trying to find childcare.
7/21/2020 15:03:04	Nicole	Ratzlaff	Parent	Colby	Start after Labor Day in Classroom
7/21/2020 15:03:08	Elizabeth	Loomis		Lenexa	Why are private schools thrown into this EO? Our private schools have been diligently preparing for this scenario. Students need to return to the classroom. Have you seen the recent article in the WSJ about the social interaction our kids are missing? I am more worried about the mental health of students and teachers than i am of a virus with a 99% cure rate. If teachers do not want to, return, they have the freedom to make that choice and not return. Our students and families of those students also need that choice. I do not understand why you are limiting virtual learning. Please give the power to the district Administration or Principal for making this decision. Small private or rural schools are prepared for social distancing in the classroom. Private high schools require laptops and are ready to begin teaching. Every year we are told how much knowledge a student loses during the summer, this year they have been out 6 months, how much review will be needed? Why don't you want our students learning? Please let our students learn!
7/21/2020 15:03:13	Brent	Mariman	USD 315	COLBY	Please veto the EO. With two parents that are essential workers my child falls behind with online learning. My child does not get the education he needs.
7/21/2020 15:03:16	Alyssa	Kendrick	Member of the Olathe c	Olathe	As a parent of 3 high school children and a nurse practitioner, I urge the board to please approve the Executive Order to push back the start date of school to after Labor Day to slow the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the burden on our health care system and mitigate the risk to the students, their families, and those who work in the schools.
7/21/2020 15:03:16	Patti	Worthington	Teacher	Olathe	I am for pushing start date to after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 15:03:24	Cheryl	Ostmeyer		Oakley	I am in favor of and support Executive Order 20-58 that will delay the start of school until September. As a teacher in a private school I know we need more time to prepare to safely bring students into our school. Please vote YES to delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 15:03:28	Darcy	Hansen		Ellsworth, KS	Let's do what we need to do to keep our kids and teachers well. As a parent you a child with severe asthma I am concerned about her health and am worried about the other kids as well. I think this late into it, it's just best to start after Labor Day and give our administration time to take the proper precautions. I would rather start later and get to stay in than to jump the gun and have to go back to all online learning. Please keep all your constituents in mind when you make your decisions because it effects all of us. Don't make this a political game. Do the moral thing.

					<p>As a pediatrician and the parent of children in Wichita Public Schools, I support the decision to delay the reopening of Kansas schools and make the KSDE guidance mandatory for school reopening. Please work to approve Governor Kelly's executive order.</p> <p>On-site learning is vital for academic achievement and the social and emotional wellbeing of children. In order to successfully return to on-site learning, we must work together to decrease viral transmission in our communities as well as set up safety measures to mitigate transmission within schools. Delaying school reopening until after Labor Day will allow public health officials to have a better understanding of the viral transmission in our state and also give schools time to prepare and implement measures that will improve student and staff safety.</p> <p>The success of schools reopening will directly depend on the community prevalence of SARS-CoV-2. Currently, our state is experiencing increased cases, case rates and percent of positive tests for COVID-19. Opening schools at this time would be unwise. We are in the midst of a serious pandemic and the primary focus should be the safety and health of all students and staff. Furthermore, it is difficult to predict how the prevalence of COVID will change over the next few weeks. Our state is at a crucial time where we must work together to reduce the transmission of SARS-CoV-2. This means that all Kansans must limit non-essential public activities, wear masks in public places and practice good physical distancing and hand hygiene. Although these efforts have reduced viral prevalence in other communities, there has not been a consistent public effort to execute these recommendations in our state. It is likely that Kansas will continue to see increasing rates of COVID-19 in our communities.</p> <p>So, in the midst of the rising cases and uncertainty about the trajectory of COVID-19 in our state, schools must develop and prepare for on-site learning while also developing hybrid and remote learning programs. They must maintain a focus on academic achievement while also supporting our state's students in other domains such as social and emotional wellbeing, essential therapies and mental health. The "Navigating Change: Kansas Guide to Learning and School Safety Operations" document released by the Kansas State Department of Education outlined important academic guidance and safety measures. Parents, students, teachers and staff must feel protected and safe upon school reopening. The KSDE guidance should be mandatory to make school as safe as possible. Schools have only recently received this guidance and will need extra time to obtain supplies and prepare for the start of the school year in order to implement these recommended operations effectively.</p> <p>Kansas needs strong leadership that prioritizes safety during this ongoing public health emergency. Your collective</p>
7/21/2020 15:03:29	Paul	Teran	Pediatrician	Wichita	
7/21/2020 15:03:33	David	Drew	Individual Wichita Citiz	Wichita, KS	Considering the safety of students, teachers, and all staff I believe that school should be delayed until case numbers drop significantly. What will happen when a student or teacher gets sick? Even following all the safety measures it is likely to happen. What will the policy dictate if a student tests positive and has exposed the entire class or the greater school community? Will there be contact tracing and all those exposed sent home to quarantine? This situation is very dynamic and dangerous for our students, teachers, and school staff members. It is nearly impossible to keep younger students from sharing supplies, masks, or enforce distancing and hygiene standards. Please give serious consideration to delaying in-person school until it is safe.
7/21/2020 15:03:39	Andrea	Arnoldy	Self	Colby	Schools need time to make plans for each individual district. Sports should not be the main focus of education. One death in a school due to lack of planning is one too many.
7/21/2020 15:03:47	Joy	Lenz	Parent, public school tea	Winfield, KS	I am in full support of delaying school. This gives teachers and staff more time to re-think every aspect of their school day and make buildings safer for students.
7/21/2020 15:03:47	Cheryl	Ostmeyer		Oakley	I am in favor of and support Executive Order 20-58 that will delay the start of school until September. As a teacher in a private school I know we need more time to prepare to safely bring students into our school. Please vote YES to delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 15:03:49	Jessica	Gad		Olathe	I would like to see kids back in schools in August, with the option to attend in a school setting. No waiting until September.
7/21/2020 15:04:03	Matt	Clarke		Spring Hill KS	Please open schools on time to in person learning
7/21/2020 15:04:12	Gail	Smith		Lenexa	When making the decision regarding executive order 20-58, I urge you to take advice from medical experts and vote to delay the school year. I should not have to explain to educated adults that we are living in a Red Zone in the middle of a pandemic and if you choose to listen to unqualified political voices, you will be risking the lives of students, staff and their loved ones. Now is not the time to play politics when so many lives are at stake. Once again I urge you to delay the start of the school year so that Kansans can attempt to slow the spread of COVID-19 and so school districts have more time to prepare to protect the lives of all students and staff, including my own.



7/21/2020 15:04:14	Amy	Guerra	Family	Wichita	Please do not delay the start of the school year unless more time is needed for the faculty to prepare for kids to be in class at school.
7/21/2020 15:04:16	Erin	Debler		Alma	Good afternoon,  My name is Erin Debler. My husband and I live and work in the Flint Hills of Kansas as a rancher and banker. Our children are in the Wabaunsee USD 329 school district. I would like to encourage you to allow Kansas children to return to school in the fall as soon as reasonably possible. Thankfully, my children have been able to stay active at home on the ranch with their 4-H projects, but the extended period has taken a toll on them. Their attitudes and moods have been in greatly improved as they were able to safely play rec ball this summer for a shortened period and have returned to summer weight training thru the local school district. Being able to see their friends have been huge for them! And we have a stable home and family life. What about those children that don't? What about those children whose only safe place is school? Please see fit to give that back to them. It is desperately needed for the mental and physical well-being for not only them, but of all children in Kansas.
7/21/2020 15:04:16	Erin	Debler		Alma	Thank you very much in advance for your consideration.
7/21/2020 15:04:16	Quintin	Flanagin		Colby	Let our schools decide what is good for them. We are not having a surge in Covid cases in our area. We can safely get our kids back to school. Metro areas might be different, but don't punish our kids for what's going on in KC or Topeka.
7/21/2020 15:04:19	Brian	Vulgamore	Vulgamore Family Farm	Scott City	We need to open schools and have sports at their normally scheduled time this fall. We have learned that Covid is not a threat to young people. Poor and disadvantaged kids will be hurt the most by delaying school reopening. They Have already been out of school for nearly 6 months.  Continuing to live in fear is causing much more damage to our country than the coronavirus could have ever caused. We have to stop this nonsense and get back to living life normally! Our country can't afford this any longer. It will take some strong leadership on the local and state level to go against the Governor. I hope you are willing to step out.
7/21/2020 15:04:20	Brittany	Barton		Colby	I think a hybrid approach is best. This will allow the exposure to be minimized but will also allow children to get interaction with other children. For those kids who did well online have them physically attend classes Tuesday and Thursday and for the children who didn't like online format allow them more in class time - Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. For kids who have disabilities allow them to attend school daily with restriction to specific teachers and other kids. Something needs done to minimize exposure or there are going to be more and more outbreaks and children dying or having last effects from COVID.
7/21/2020 15:04:21	Tara	Schroer	Colby public schools	Colby	Start school later but please have activities resume as normally as possible. Let districts decide mask policies. Western Kansas is FAR different from eastern Kansas and even then our districts here differ too. Let the local boards decide what is best for our kids. Thank you for allowing us to give input. I appreciate your work and consideration.
7/21/2020 15:04:28	Lisa	Mathes	Usd361	Harper	We need to start school in person, we need to follow the AAP and CDC guidelines for safety.
7/21/2020 15:04:29	Brenda	Conrad	St Francis catholic school	Wichita	We need to delay and see our numbers coming down before bringing everyone back to school. Safety first. Gives us more time to prepare for precautions also.
7/21/2020 15:04:36	Michelle	Webster		Maize	Educators have always been data driven in preparing and presenting instruction to students. Opening schools should be no different. At this time the spread of Covid-19 is in the rise. To protect all that would be in direct or secondary contact in a school building Gov. Kelly's order should be upheld. The time will also allow for more plans to solidify in how to move forward with the entire school year.
7/21/2020 15:04:42	Melanie	Vandenberg		Lenexa	Please allow a local approach rather than a blanket policy that cannot possibly adequately address the needs of rural v suburban; parochial v public; and HS v elementary education.
7/21/2020 15:04:46	Kara	Warren		Hutchinson	Please delay the start of school to allows schools to have plans in place to keep staff and students safe.

7/21/2020 15:04:50	Emily	Mailey	n/a	Manhattan	As a working parent I have experienced how difficult it is to try to balance work and childcare/school. It is nearly impossible to do it all and I would love to have my children back in school. However, the governor is absolutely correct that it is not safe to reopen the schools right now. It is not safe for our children and especially not for our teachers, who may not have a choice to stay home if and when schools reopen. As parents we are going to have to continue to be creative, but our health should be the priority right now. I would like to see an allowance for districts to begin online/virtual instruction prior to Labor Day if they believe it is feasible to do so.
7/21/2020 15:04:51	Janice	Grisham	Just retired, 38 years wit	Frontenac	Please keep schools closed until it's safe for all involved.
7/21/2020 15:04:51	Hollie	Zimmerman		Wichita	Please start school on time.
7/21/2020 15:04:51	Brice	Barton	parent at usd 315	Colby	We have to be back in school for the sake of our kids. With that said we will likely need to make concessions to make that happen. If that means a needed delay or mandatory masks then that is what we need to do.
7/21/2020 15:04:53	Jacolyn	Cook		Great Bend	Please open our K-12 schools on time in August! Do not delay! Thank you!
7/21/2020 15:04:58	Kathy	Phar		Olathe	Please reopen our schools and vote no on Governor Kelly's overreaching mandates. Our children should not be a political pawn. This is causing children unnecessary and long-term social and emotional distress. Please vote no.
7/21/2020 15:05:04	Bailey	Stupka		Colby	I don't think the school year should be delayed.
7/21/2020 15:05:07	Bruce	Coleman		Wamego	Open schools when they are scheduled. Do not approve the executive order to move the start date. Kids need to be back in school. Thank you
7/21/2020 15:05:18	Marilyn	Moss	Myself	Overland Park	Schools should NOT be opened until after Labor Day, as specified in Governor Kelly's Executive Order. The current rates of COVID-19 make the school environment too risky for students, teachers, and staff. It may be necessary to have online learning only for some time until a healthy environment can be assured for all. Currently however, sending students, teachers, and staff into close indoor spaces for multiple hours per day, and then sending them home again to spread all the germs they've picked up is a guaranteed way to spread the COVID-19 virus efficiently, resulting in much unnecessary illness and probable death. It would be foolish and a dereliction of your duty to vote to do so. Please do the right thing and vote to keep our students, teachers, and staff safe and healthy. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:05:17	Jack	McNickle	None	Cambridge, Kansas	It should be left to each individual school district. It is not for the governor to make a rule that applies to all school districts, because there are great differences in urban and rural schools.
7/21/2020 15:05:24	Stephanie	Simmons	Usd 382	Pratt	The kids needs to be back in school.
7/21/2020 15:05:25	Jennifer	Mencel	Parent and also teacher	Hutchinson	As a teacher, I am thankful for the possible opportunity of additional time to prepare for the safest opening of schools as possible. I want to be at school, I want to be with students, and I want my children at school, but only if schools are adequately and safely prepared to do so. The additional time will allow for the best decisions to be made, the safest decisions to be made and them implementation of those decisions. I don't want stressful, important decisions to be made in regards to my own children's safety and learning environment in a quick manner. This goes for my students and myself as well. We also need time to order the necessary equipment for a safe reopening and that will take time to get here. It's logical to wait a few extra weeks, especially if that means we can be in person with students.
7/21/2020 15:05:41	Jack	Jamison		Colby	Vote YES in support of E.O 20-58. School and teachers need time to prepare for all the changes they need to make.
7/21/2020 15:05:47	Morgan	McCabe	High School Music Teac	Concordia	I fully support Gov. Kelly's statement that schools should not officially open until after September 8th. Everyone's health is at risk and this time gives the teachers and students the appropriate time to readjust and create compatible opportunities for our students.
7/21/2020 15:05:51	David	Klahr	Holton USD 336	Holton	I request you follow Resolution 20-58 and delay the start of schools until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 15:05:50	Jackie	Kindred	Parent	Lenexa	Please allow virtual classes/learning for those schools and/or districts that are ready. There is so much that can be done in this manner to allow students and teachers to begin the year. Teachers can set the rules and expectations. They can learn names, they can talk about requirements. Students can meet the teacher, get comfortable with the subject matter, see friends. It has been five months, please don't punish the schools and students that are ready to start. Even virtual learning is learning. As a parent of a child who did receive assignments, grades, and had to attend online class for the last two months of the year, I saw the good that happened. And how beneficial it was for my child. It can be done but don't make the whole suffer because some of the parts need additional time. Thank you.

7/21/2020 15:05:59	Tammy	Sanders	Teacher	Topeka	Our lives matter as well. We all want to go back to school but not until it is safe for all. I don't want anything to happen to my friends, students, their families or my myself and my family. Wait. Get everything in line. We need testing! If baseball players can get it why can't teachers.
7/21/2020 15:05:59	Sabina	Hoffman	USD 489 Early Childho	Hays	Please stand by and support Governor Kelly's EO to push back the start of school until after Labor Day. Randy Watson and our educators of Kansas have worked tirelessly all summer to create a well-rounded document to guide us through this school year but with that document comes many changes that need time to be implemented properly. Considering all of the changes because of Covid-19 and the constant changes we are still seeing in our state, please give us as educators the best possible way to prepare for our students by giving us this additional time to plan, prepare, and train our staff to properly serve our students. As the time frame sits, districts across Kansas will already be rushing to purchase necessary supplies as well as training employees in best practices while they coordinate with local health officials. Our students and families are dependent on us to serve them in the best capacity and we want to serve them accordingly by preparing ourselves to the highest extent. This is new and uncharted territory for all of us, please give your educators a fighting chance to create a somewhat "normal" year for our students. We all deserve the best for ourselves and our children!
7/21/2020 15:06:07	David	Jarmolowicz		Lawrence	Please delay opening
7/21/2020 15:06:17	Jennifer	Dugan		Arcadia	I believe that schools should resume as normal. There should NOT be any delay in school, activities or athletics. I feel as though the numbers speak clearly. We can not live in fear. We can take precautions to keep children as safe as possible, but should allow us the choice to send our child to school and allow them to participate in these types of things. Taking precautions with cleaning, hand sanitizer usage, temperature taking and such should have been used all along for things such as the flu virus. Give an option. If parents would like to opt for online learning, fine. But don't punish the ones that need the face to face learning. Don't punish the children from losing the opportunity to play sports, activities, etc. We can not live in fear for the rest of our lives over a virus. We have a right to be given a choice for our children. Schools in different states are resuming as close to normal as possible, and this should be Kansas as well. Governor Kelly should allow a choice to be given. A parent can sign a waiver, if it comes to that. Just like restaurants and businesses that have the opportunity to be open, so should schools. I work in healthcare daily and we are seeing more asymptomatic numbers than symptomatic by far. This is what they are not telling the public. We can not live in fear! Let them go to school. Let them play sports and participate in activities. Let them resume school on the original start date!!! Governor Kelly needs to allow us to have a choice. It's our right as a parent! We can't live in fear. Trust in God! Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:06:18	Sindy	Rosproy	none	McPherson	I support Gov Kelly's decision to not open schools until September 2020. Teachers and staff need time to plan for opening their classrooms safely.
7/21/2020 15:06:19	Sheyene	Heller	parent of incoming 8th g	Lawrence	Please accept Governor Kelly's recommendation to start school after Labor Day so that local school districts will have more time to develop their plans and prepare. The lives of our children, teachers, staff, family members, and friends are at stake here. We should not gamble with the health of our communities. Many of us with children in K-12 share the belief that school districts should not be rushed. Our children will do better if there is more time for appropriate planning and teacher training for various in-class, hybrid, and online options. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 15:06:20	Justin	Lehrman	Parent	Goessel	I think starting the school year later is the best thing to do. If Positive Covid-19 cases don't go down then maybe we should look into going online like we did the last semester.
7/21/2020 15:06:21	Elizabeth	McCleary	My community is Scott	Scott City	Please vote to allow each district the right to make their own choices in this matter. This matter is too important to be a "One size, fits all" scenario. Our local school board knows their teachers, students and community best. This is what America is all about. We voted in the local leaders because we trust them, to know us and have our best interest in mind. LET THEM! Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:06:25	David	Rieder		Overland Park	I am aware that this is a big decision to make and I do not envy those having to make it. I am in favor of keeping the school schedule start date in August, or at the very least allow schools that want to start in August do so by distance learning until Sept 1.
7/21/2020 15:06:26	Tonya	Raaf		Holton	I dont think delaying it will help because influenza season is only weeks away from September 9th.
7/21/2020 15:06:28	Cindy	Bowman		Goodland	Please vote to accept Governor Kelly order to delay school opening.

7/21/2020 15:06:37	Shelly	Duvall	USD428	Great Bend	Kids and teachers need to be in school. Every precaution necessary will be in place to create a safe environment for everyone!
7/21/2020 15:06:37	Mindi	Edwards	Scott City Kansas school	Scott City	I am not in favor of the order to delay schools. Kids in our community have been practicing sports, in the weight room, attending camps and everything else for quite some time now. And they will continue to meet right up until 8/10 when they will instantly be forced to stop for a month. I do not understand how shutting down school for 3 more weeks will help in any way? Schools need to be allowed the right to decide based on the information in their specific area. I realize that not all counties look like ours as far as numbers go. Currently our numbers remain low, only 2 active cases. This virus is not going away, even with a vaccine available. There will remain risks no matter the decision but kids NEED to be back in school. The risks of keeping them out far outweigh keeping schools closed. I am also not in favor of my kids wearing a mask all day at school. I strongly feel that poses a greater risk to them than wearing a mask does. I think it should be left up to the parents as to whether or not a kid wears one. And Kelly isn't even following the American Academy of Pediatrics recommendation of masks for 6th-12th only. Younger age children shouldn't be wearing a mask all day. I hope and pray that you really think through every scenario and make the decision to get schools back open and allow each county to set the standards that fit their area.
7/21/2020 15:06:39	Heather	Holstein	USD 466	Scott City	We need to get back to the way things used to be!!!!
7/21/2020 15:06:42	Charles	I Cannon	Maranatha Christian Ac	I Shawnee	I believe that the school's should be delayed
7/21/2020 15:06:47	Libby	Long	USD 259 Wichita	Maize	Delay school until at minimum Labor Day
7/21/2020 15:06:48	Melissa	Gilliland	Parent, Staff at USD 43	Jackson	I wanted to share that I support Governor Kelly's initiative to keep Kansas students and teachers safe.
7/21/2020 15:06:53	Jason	Whitener		OLATHE	As a life-long conservative who has never voted anything other than Republican, I support the governor's orders.
7/21/2020 15:07:10	Nancy	Rothwell	Parent of student	Lawrence ks	I don't think schools should be starting yet. It needs to be delayed until the positive cases gets under control.
7/21/2020 15:07:13	Amber	Walters		Olathe	I DO NOT want school to be delayed. Children need school. Pediatricians have echoed that as well. Our children deserve an education and we as parents should have a choice to send them. If parents are concerned then they can make the choice to keep them out and go online. Do not take the choice away from the parents who want/need to send their kids.
7/21/2020 15:07:23	Angela	Lee	Parent	Overland Park	Online learning when school should start!!
7/21/2020 15:07:29	Diane	Owens		Overland Park	I am unable to pick up as planned my grandchildren Joshua & Emma after school. Please support the order.
7/21/2020 15:07:41	Hans	Krohn		COLBY	There is no need to delay school. FYI I will not send my kids to school if masks are required ever! We will homeschool before we wear unnecessary masks. If teachers are worried about getting infected then let them choose whether to wear a mask. Not my child
7/21/2020 15:07:46	Amanda	Moon		Merriam	Kids need things to go back to normal! Send them back with extra precautions such as twice a day temp checks, hand washing and germ x! Keep the interactions small within the class room. Allow one group of kids at recess that way it's contained.
7/21/2020 15:07:58	Susan	Lynn	None	Iola	Dear members of the board, I appreciate the concern you have for our teachers, staffs and students in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic. Today's positive number of cases in Kansas exceed 23,300, up 10,000 in just one month. Clearly, we do not have this virus under control. I would ask that you postpone school until after Labor Day so that our schools can appropriately prepare for this health crisis. I would also ask that as leaders, you continue to lend Gov. Kelly your public support. Thank you, Susan Lynn
7/21/2020 15:08:07	Steve	Glickley	Emerald City Gymnastic	Lenexa	The State should reopen schools for numerous reasons; education and social benefits to the children come to mind. Human beings cannot legislate a virus to behave the way we want. The current "actions" are an over reaction and over reach of government. My customers are reacting to your decisions; totally afraid to return to healthy activities, like gymnastics. Your decision can additionally affect private businesses like mine to go permanently out of existence. Please remove the fear factor. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:08:08	Shannon	Myers	Colby Public Schools	Colby, KS	My opinion is that the opening of the 2020-2021 school year should NOT be delayed. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:08:13	Michelle	Mullins		Quinter	Our kids need to be learning from teachers in the class room with peers. It allows them to learn other ways of thinking, other questions to ask, it teaches them patience, it allows them to build their strengths and weaknesses. Children need social skills and interaction. They need structure, and schools are essential to them having that.
7/21/2020 15:08:21	Jessica	Wollesen	Parent	Lawrence	Delay it

7/21/2020 15:08:22	Kristi	Hecker	Concerned parent	Clearwater	School should begin on time, no delay. Governor Kelly claims she is giving the extra time for schools to plan for reopening, but they've had 5 months to prepare. Let's get our kids back to a sense of normalcy... Masks, no masks, part time, in person school.. whatever it's going to be, let's get it going! Our kids deserve to get their lives back!
7/21/2020 15:08:27	Mary	Beebe		Augusta	I am in support of delaying the re-opening of schools.
7/21/2020 15:08:27	Ben	White		Anywhere in Kansas	Will ONLINE ONLY be available to parents who do NOT want to send their kids to school? Underlying health issues with child and other family members.
7/21/2020 15:08:29	Kim	Walters	Parent	Overland Park	Schools need to start on time!!!! Kids need the structure and continuity. Parents are at work and their kids or teens are running around crazy doing god knows what!! Please don't delay the school year, kids are suffering more then we could ever imagine
7/21/2020 15:08:30	Cherie	Duprez	Myself	Haysville	Schools need to open! The kids need stimulation and social interaction. What kind of life is it when you are cooped up alone in your house?
7/21/2020 15:08:31	Joanne	Burckhart	USD313	Buhler	Please support the executive order 20-58 to delay the start of schools. Number of covid cases are increasing across the state. Teachers are worried about the health of their students, co-workers, and themselves being in a confined classroom with 20 students for 7 hours a day. Districts have not had time to fully plan after receiving guidelines for reopening from KSDE. In this situation reopening should not be rushed. District administrators, school boards, and teachers need this time to prepare for in-school and remote learning platforms. Too many lives are at stake to just push us all back into the buildings to see what happens.
7/21/2020 15:08:32	Alisha	Berry		Overland Park	Please support the delay in opening schools until after Labor Day. The COVID-19 virus is still spreading rapidly across the state. Children should not be put at risk needlessly by forcing them back into the classroom when it is not safe.
7/21/2020 15:09:13	Sally	Morrison	Parent	Olathe	School should open and run under as normal a circumstance as possible. The science shows children are at very low risk for having severe symptoms from the virus and from spreading. Children need normalcy, a strong academic experience (unlike that received online last spring) and social and emotional development. The ability of families to work and fuel the economy depends upon our schools being open. Governor Kelly is trying to make a name for herself and doing so to the detriment of the future of our state and nation. Please board of education provide an appropriate and measured approach to this situation and step in and do what our governor has been unable to do this far.
7/21/2020 15:09:19	Timothy	Turner		Ness City	I thank you for the chance to give you my opinion. I think it not good for our kids to keep them out of school any longer. I have worked part time at the Sheriffs Office as a Deputy in Hodgeman County and work for the City of Ness as a maintenance person. I have had lots of interaction with many different people in this State and others and I only know one person that has even came down with this sickness. The kids of this state have already had a big enough seat back because of the on line School. It was better then nothing. My kids had to do a lot of it on their own because me and my wife both have to work to keep the bills paid and was not their to provide all the help needed and it showed in my kids grades. I try to teach my kids not to live in fear and enjoy life. God has a plan for us all and when it's our time there will be nothing any of us can do to change it. You take away the things they are used to doing then you are telling them to give into the fear. I am not saying not to take some precautions but let school start as normal and let them play sports. They played softball and baseball all summer long and it didn't hurt anyone. I know I am not the only person in this State that is tired of this mess and want our lives back. I pray when you make the decision you take into count that at some point we are going to have to go back to normal and I say there is no better time then now. Thank you for taking the time to read this.
7/21/2020 15:09:23	Suzanne	Broddle		Wichita	I feel we as a state need to slow down and allow hospitals and staff to recover from the recent surge of cases. Although young students are not as likely to get sick or show symptoms, they are taught by adults who will get sick. Districts need time to implement the health standards in the executive order and work with staff to prepare to teach students either in the classroom or using a hybrid approach. Based on the guidelines in your document there are some counties in the state that should be teaching online. We should delay the start date until after Labor Day. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:09:23	Brandon	Pepin		Overland Park	Please open schools. Too much time has been wasted. Kids need to be in school. I am a teacher.

7/21/2020 15:09:25	Pascha	Medlin	Goddard Public Schools	Wichita	I believe we are ready to start school back up in Aug. Daycares have been successful, so why can't schools reach out to them and see what their day looks like.
7/21/2020 15:09:30	Susan	Jones		EMPORIA	Definitely delay the opening of school. Teachers can and will find a new way to instruct children. IF you must open in-person school at some point, you need to have no more than 15 students in a room. If this means half the class in the morning and half the class in the afternoon like Kindergarten used to do, then so be it. You will have to hire additional teachers to teach online or have different teachers in the morning in-person and then in the afternoon in-person. If space is a problem, we should use churches who generally have additional space during the week. If an empty warehouse is available, that could be used to separate some spaces and have some classes there - yes, there will be additional costs. Yes, there will be additional staff needed for janitorial services, lunchroom services, cleansers, masks, gloves, etc. We must take all precautions to keep our children safe, the school personnel safe and others that may come in contact with them.
7/21/2020 15:09:35	Tamara	Fish		Little River	Please re-open schools in August children need to go to school and socialize and get an education. All this waiting and back and forth is not good. Let them go back. They are resilient and are more likely to get milder cases of COVID if they even get it.
7/21/2020 15:09:38	Cheron	Tiffany	Children of Kansas	Olathe	If you're meeting via Zoom to discuss the opening of school, it's not safe. Delay the start until September.
7/21/2020 15:09:38	Braden	Unruh	USD 411 Goessel Public	North Newton	My wife and I are both educators in Marion County, and we ask that you please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school opening until after Labor Day. While we are yearning to get back to teaching students in person, we are extremely uncomfortable with putting ourselves, our students and community, and our families at risk of serious illness or even death. We must flatten the curve of Coronavirus cases in our state so that is safer for our students and teachers to return to some form of in-person education. We must also prioritize the safety of the families that we all go home to at the end of the day. I would much rather get the local spread of the virus under control now, rather than open school prematurely and have to shut down shortly thereafter due to outbreaks within our communities.  Yes, if you support Governor Kelly's order, there will be anger and frustration from some. However, they will live. If you defy Governor Kelly's order and send our students and staff back to school too early, we or our loved ones might die. Are you prepared to live with that consequence, for those deaths to be a result of your decision to send us back to school too early?  I am not comfortable with the risk that my loved ones and community could get sick or die if we prematurely send our children back to school. Our classes, activities, and sports can wait. Some may not understand that importance, but you as our State leaders must prioritize the safety of our students and communities first.
7/21/2020 15:09:39	Andrea	Sullivan	Christ prep academy	Overland Park	While I don't believe returning to school is risky for children, there are many administrators, support staff and teachers that I believe would benefit from a delayed start because hopefully the numbers of infected people will have made a downward turn.
7/21/2020 15:09:42	Martha	Clements	Citizen/Educator	Fort Scott	Please follow the Governor's direction to not open the Kansas' schools until September. I feel as an educator we are not fully prepared to handle school and this pandemic in a safe manner for all who will be attending, educating and working within the Kansas' schools.
7/21/2020 15:09:44	Shelby	Westerhaus		Haysville	I beg of you as a k-12 special education teacher and a mother to a son starting sixth grade to make the correct choice of waiting to start school until after Labor Day. Why would we put staff and students at risk when numbers are continuously rising with no signs of relief. This would make no sense to expose either one of us to hundreds of people daily when we have been doing our part and staying home with minimal contact since March. Until the numbers dramatically fall, I think putting me as a teacher and our students at risk for especially when health officials say the opposite, is a foolish and borderline unethical decision, when we strive to protect our students, by offering them a safe environment and teach them proper decision making skills. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:09:47	Trevor	Martin		Abilene	Please open school in August. Do not delay!

				<p>The question on the block is "should children go back to school right now?" To that end, let's go back to school ourselves and do a little mathematics.</p> <p>Let's use the Shawnee Mission School District as a sample. They have about 30,000 students spread out across several campuses. Let's also assume that every 30 students is taught by exactly 1 teacher. This is, of course, an exceptionally lowball estimate, owing to the underfunding of the public school system, but that is an argument for another day, so let us concede that this estimate gives us about 1,000 fulltime teachers. This does not include administration, substitute teachers, dining staff, custodial staff, mass transit staff, etc., so let's add this in as another 1,000 people. This gives an estimate of about 32,000 people involved in the education of children in a single school district in Kansas, on both sides of the education equation.</p> <p>1/32000 is about 0.003125%. It just takes that three-thousandth of one percent to be asymptomatic, go to school or work, and unknowingly spread the disease. We already know that social distancing is the best way to prevent the spread, and that is virtually impossible within the school setting. If a slight uptick in public cases was enough to close schools back in March, why are we talking of reopening in the midst of the worst cases of infections here in July?</p> <p>Some will say that children have a better chance with the disease, that their illness and death rate are lower than that of their parents and grandparents. The response there is threefold. First, we simply do not have enough science on what the longterm effects of COVID-19 are to say that recovery from the immediate effects of the disease means recovery from the effects. Second, the argument ignores the adult portion of the population surrounding the children - teachers, principals, nurses, custodians, librarians, and of course, parents. These adult caretakers will be exposed as well when a child becomes infected. Finally, and this is the most morbid of the arguments, this argument supports that there is an acceptable number of dead children to chance having all children go back to school.</p> <p>In conclusion, it is unconscionable, immoral, and mathematically unsupported to reopen schools at this time. The government should keep schools closed indefinitely until the COVID-19 crisis has passed in order to ensure as few familial tragedies occur - otherwise the blood of thousands will be upon their hands.</p>
7/21/2020 15:09:55	Stephan	Pfuetze	Overland Park	
7/21/2020 15:10:04	April	Pfeifer	St. Mary's School	Ellis
				I understand the political divide as far as a delayed start for school, but as an administrator, I feel I need that time to implement all of the necessary precautions and complete my plan for the school year.
7/21/2020 15:10:08	Jane	Smitj	Moundridge Communic	Newton
				We own Moundridge Communications and live in the Newton school district. (Two very different school districts) It is imperative that these kids get back into school and ALL of the activities involved with "school". If someone is uncomfortable with going back they should be able to go online... however there are so many kids and districts that are not facing the same kind of issues that large metro schools are facing. One size fits all is not the answer, let them go back as scheduled and let the parents/students make the decision if they are ready to go back in person. If a metro school admin is not ready, let them delay until September. The smaller districts can do this in August and they are ready! The many kids I have been in contact with have indicated they are ready to go back, the ones that are "scared" are being led to believe that it is scary. The older kids that can think for themselves, by and large are "let's go!" There are those that are scared and that's fine, give them an option to go online and go to class... hold them to the same standards of attendance, but online. It can be done and the fast work of the teachers last spring proved it might not be pretty, but it can be done.
7/21/2020 15:10:14	Danielle	Armitage		Emporia
7/21/2020 15:10:15	Judy	Faurot	Retires Speech Therapis	Scott City
				Our children DESPERATELY need to be in school!!
7/21/2020 15:10:17	Travis	HAMPL	Individual Teacher/Parent	Hutchinson
				Please vote to support Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. The increase in positive COVID-19 cases in Kansas has made it unsafe to begin in-person instruction in August. Teachers and school districts will need proper time to get PPE supplies and ready the buildings for students. As a teacher and parent I feel now is an unsafe time to return to in-person learning. I fear if you leave it up to each county or district there will be many students, teachers, parents, and community members put into harm's way. Please be careful and deliberate about your decision and how it will impact the health of all Kansans. Thank you.

7/21/2020 15:10:17	Donna	Erpelding	Ms.	Manhattan	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day....or until the Covid 19 curve has flattened.
7/21/2020 15:10:20	Jamie	Nutt		Stilwell	School needs to happen. This delay is pointless considering there has been months to clean and get prepared. I financially cannot work and homeschool, I'm a single mom with an essential job
7/21/2020 15:10:23	Tonya	Martinez	USD 259	Goddard, Kansas	School should start after labor day to give school staff time to work out all details and give cases a chance to decrease.
7/21/2020 15:10:26	Jessika	Werner		Colby	Please let our children go back to In School setting. They need to have social interaction all school year! The last few months of the last school year have been the hardest time for their vulnerable minds. It has affected their summer as well.
7/21/2020 15:10:27	Sherry	Geng	KC Parents Education G	Overland Park	I Like to see school open on August as originally planned
7/21/2020 15:10:27	Julia	Strnad		Wellington	Being a farm wife, with my child on the farm trying to learn has not been easy. He would rather be working outside then doing school work. When I got him in the house to do his work, he wasn't focused at all on it. He needs to be back in school. Especially if he wants to learn anything. He will be a SR. this year and that brings all sorts of other reasons why he wants to be at school, but the main one is to get his school work done and correctly so that he can move onto college. He is also a football player that was wanting to play on in college. Without sports he has become a little withdrawn and upset with all of the accomplishments that he has made and slowly watching those go away. He lost weight because he couldn't be in the weight room. Weight he really worked hard at getting while in the weight room. PLEASE, look at the science of it all and open the schools back up. The school that he goes to is willing to do what ever they need to keep them safe, we just need to get them back to school. THANK YOU!
7/21/2020 15:10:29	Amelia	Burbank		Ellsworth	I am a paraeducator for elementary aged children. I absolutely adore my job but am anxious about in-person schooling. I have four of the co-morbidity risk factors for COVID, one of which is classified as very high risk. The ratio of para to special education students is not one to one exposing me to a variety of grades and classrooms. While social distancing looks good on paper, I do believe in practice it will not be obtainable. Working with special ed students requires me to be next to them, often even hand over hand. Socialization is vital to children's development and we adults are still learning what this new "social" looks like and children have not adapted to playing with social distancing. Increasing exposure during rising daily case counts puts successful opening at risk. While other countries have opened schools they also had a declining daily case count whereas we do not. Here in Kansas our numbers are increasing daily and neighboring counties are seeing significant surge. I'm a proud resident of a rural community and increases at the rate our neighboring counties are seeing would overwhelm our hospital. Although I believe we can open schools and maintain a relative amount of safety for the students, doing so increases the risk to our dedicated faculty as well as vulnerable members of student families. Please vote in favor of Governor Kelly's executive order to give more time to slow the spread and lower the curve so we can open safely as possible.
7/21/2020 15:10:34	Samantha	Lindsay		St. George	Our state as a whole is having a heck of a time keeping up with COVID-19 and we failed miserably by ignoring the Governor's orders for safety last time. As a mom of medically complex twin 9 year olds I believe that Kelly has our best interest at heart and we need to follow such!
7/21/2020 15:10:35	Stephanie	Graff, MD		Leawood	I support a delayed start
7/21/2020 15:10:36	Roger	Owens		Overland Park	I am unable to pick up my grandchildren. Please support the order.
7/21/2020 15:10:47	Cheri	Nace	Rose Hill High School	Rose Hill KS	I want school to open ASAP
7/21/2020 15:10:50	Lynn	Mehlinger		Olathe	School should be delayed per the governor's order. It's unfair to put the pressure of deciding teacher and staff safety on parents.
7/21/2020 15:10:54	James	Bell	myself	Hays	Please allow the delay.
7/21/2020 15:10:56	Julia	Reel		Topeka	Please allow school districts to make decisions based on how and when school will start. You have given them excellent guidance. They know what is best for kids in their county. Kansas is so diverse in the pandemic with many counties hardly having any active cases. Don't keep kids out of school where it isn't necessary!!!



					<p>I am very concerned that people are not understanding or preparing adequately for the inherent risks in re-opening our schools in the midst of this ongoing pandemic.</p> <p>Even if we think that children are largely unlikely to have complications when (not if, but when, since data proves that containment efforts are not working) they contract the virus, how are we not also thinking about the fact that other people connected with these children (teachers, substitute teachers, and staff at school, bus drivers, extended family and caregivers outside of school) are likely to have complications?</p> <p>How will social distancing protocols be determined, and more importantly, how will they be enforced? We had children participate in a summer sports program in our school (Basehor Linwood High School), and despite the reassuring talk of social distancing protocols, the reality was very different. Not only were protocols ignored, but efforts to communicate responsibly and conduct contact tracing and quarantine surrounding positive cases were half-hearted at best. What will happen when there are all the students, all day long, inside school together?</p> <p>Our communities have, unfortunately, utterly failed to show humility and kindness and cooperation since the pandemic began. We have chafed at and reacted violently towards attempts to simply require masks in public. We have refused to stay at home and avoid large gatherings or risky activities. We have seen only short-term inconvenience, equated it with loss of liberty, and rebelled against it. We now need to face the fact that we cannot open our schools. Maybe we should have thought about this at the beginning of the summer, and planned ahead, instead of screaming about our rights to get haircuts and go to parties and cough all over each other at the grocery store.</p>
7/21/2020 15:11:02	Anne	Hollond		Linwood KS	
7/21/2020 15:11:04	Deborah	Byers	Early Childhood SPED	Kansas City	<p>When Johnson and Wyandotte counties are leading with the most Covide 19 cases it would be wise not to open schools until September 9th. A lot of staff living in Johnson county and a lot of staff and families in Wyandotte county with compromised conditions.</p>

					<p>Open up - there is more evidence showing it's safe for kids to return to school and make don't work. Conclusion Regarding Masks They Do Not Work</p> <p>By Dr. Sherri Tenpenny, DO, AOBNMM, ABIHM www.Vaxxter.com www.Courses4Mastery.com</p> <p>There are NO randomized, controlled trials (RCT) with verified outcomes that show a benefit to healthcare workers or community members for wearing a mask or a respirator. There is no such definitive study. Likewise, no study exists that shows a benefit from a broad policy to wear masks in public (documented below).</p> <p>Furthermore, if there were any benefit to wearing a mask, because of the blocking power against droplets and aerosol particles, then there should be more benefit from wearing a respirator (N95) compared to a surgical mask. There is not. Neither masks nor respirators protect; cloth coverings are essentially worthless.</p> <p>It should be noted that the surgical masks are primarily designed to protect the environment from the wearer, whereas the respirators are supposed to protect the wearer from the environment. (Balazy, et al).</p> <p>o Public Health Experts Keep Changing: Mask vs No Mask • <a href="https://www.news-medical.net/news/20200315/Reusing-masks-may-increase-your-risk-of-coronavirus-infection-expert-says.aspx">https://www.news-medical.net/news/20200315/Reusing-masks-may-increase-your-risk-of-coronavirus-infection-expert-says.aspx</a></p> <p>§ § March 30, 2020: WHO Emergencies Press Conference on coronavirus disease <a href="https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/transcripts/who-audio-emergencies-coronavirus-press-conference-full-30mar2020.pdf?sfvrsn=6b68bc4a_2">https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/transcripts/who-audio-emergencies-coronavirus-press-conference-full-30mar2020.pdf?sfvrsn=6b68bc4a_2</a></p> <p>§ at 00:22:39) "We don't generally recommend the wearing to masks in public by otherwise well individuals because it has not been up to now associated with any particular benefit...It does have benefit psychologically, socially and there are social norms around that and we don't criticize the wearing of masks and have not done so but there is no specific evidence to suggest that the wearing of masks by the mass population has any particular benefit. In fact, there's some evidence to suggest the opposite in the misuse of wearing a mask properly or fitting it properly or taking it off and all the other risks that are otherwise associated with that.</p> <p>§ March 31, 2020: <a href="https://www.newsmax.com/us/surgeon-general-adams-masks/2020/03/31/id/960679/">https://www.newsmax.com/us/surgeon-general-adams-masks/2020/03/31/id/960679/</a></p>
7/21/2020 15:11:06	Sean	Fisher	n/a	Gardner	
7/21/2020 15:11:18	Patty	Flory-Evans	Usd348	Overbrook	Please delay school for a few more weeks. We need the time to organize and get the school ready. Teachers are amazing but we are exhausted trying to be all things, in all situations, for our students. We want to go back but safely. Also subs are in critical short supply.
7/21/2020 15:11:19	Katelyn	Blasi	USD 233	Lenexa	I support Governor Kelly's executive order and I support the DELAY of the 2020-2021 school year
7/21/2020 15:11:20	Gina	Sucher		Andover	I'm okay with the delay to start school but do not want my young kids in masks all day.
7/21/2020 15:11:22	Christine	Byard	USD 231	Gardner	I do not think it is safe to return to in person schools. Cases are increasing every day! I support delaying the start of school so we can look at opening schools safely..... knowing that if the cases continue to rise we should have remote/virtual learning for the fall. It is the only way we can keep teachers, staff and students safe!
7/21/2020 15:11:23	Sara	Forsberg	Forsberg Family Inc.	Gypsum	Our schools need additional time to devise proper cleaning, teaching and administrative policies. We closed school in the spring in order to keep everyone safe and it makes no sense to send our children back into the environment while the number of cases in the state is climbing at an alarming rate. I have 3 kids, 2 are on IEP's and 1 has medical concerns. Additional time to ensure that our schools have everything in place to keep people safe is quite simply a matter of life and death.
7/21/2020 15:11:34	Katie	Gartenmayer	Teacher	Overland Park	I do not think it's safe to open up schools due to the high and increasing positivity rate in the state of Kansas. Please let health, science and data lead to a decision that is best for all Kansans.
7/21/2020 15:11:35	Judy	VanSickle	Self	Newton	Delaying the start of the school year until after the Labor Day Holiday is a good idea. Should be implemented every year to possibly be cooler weather and thus be a savings for the schools.
7/21/2020 15:11:37	Kimberly	Cicora		Haysville	I'm in support of the delayed school year as a parent and a teacher.

7/21/2020 15:11:39	Travis	Glassman		Colby	I feel that delaying our public teaching any longer will be a detriment to the already suffering well being of our children and their learning. Many parents don't have the means of teaching or supervising at home learning and we've extended this delay long enough. Get the kids back in school WITHOUT masks and let our immune systems do what they're supposed to do, fight and build antibodies. Our kid's education and social interaction is much more important than the agenda that's currently taking over our lives. Thanks for allowing us to give our feedback.
7/21/2020 15:11:41	Roswell	Schlesser	Parent	Shawnee, KS	Please do not delay the start of school any longer!
7/21/2020 15:11:43	Alexandra	Driskel	Former USD 383 employ	Manhattan	I think delaying school should happen. However, I recognize that there are families on the lower socioeconomic scale that rely on sending their kids to school during the day. If there were a way to offer in school classes to those on the free lunch program I think it would be greatly beneficial to these families.
7/21/2020 15:11:50	Meghan	Strassburg	Independence High School	Independence	<p>**Please note, I am not on the district's reopening committee, but I have provided feedback when asked. I have also submitted a more detailed letter to Mr. Porter regarding my thoughts and feelings on Executive Order 20-58. In summary, I believe the delay in allowing students to begin school should be approved for the following reasons (not listed in order of priority):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. School sports and activity seasons can be adjusted easier if we don't have as wide of a range on our school calendar's statewide. Imagine trying to plan a season when half of our schools are starting almost a month earlier and half of the schools are going to school until mid June. (depending on how school calendars work)</li> <li>2. The delay will allow schools to gather ample supplies needed before the school year starts. Some of these supplies are already hard enough to find right now.</li> <li>3. The delay should be for students only. Staff (administration, teachers, custodians, librarians, lunch staff, etc.) could be using the time to clarify school procedures, practice procedures that will be put into place, and continue to revamp curriculum if needed (depending on the school's plan). These plans will only work if everybody is on the same page.</li> <li>4. The Navigating change document and Governor's orders were issued roughly about a month before most schools begin. This would allow teachers who aren't on reopening committees time to review the document and figure out how they will implement that document into their teaching in addition to their individual schools' reopening plan.</li> </ol>
7/21/2020 15:11:55	Todd	Horsch	Renwick USD 267	Mount Hope	Centralized control is not the answer. Leave it up to the local school districts as the situation is different for each of them. Vote to ignore/overturn the executive order.
7/21/2020 15:12:00	Marci	Patton	Usd 466 second grade teacher	Scott City Ks	We have been together all summer with very few cases. I feel like we need to move on with our lives! I will do any safety precautions it takes so we can go back to school on time and have our fall activities.
7/21/2020 15:12:11	Lisa	Pierce	Usd 409	Atchison	As a elementary school principal I agree that we should approve the executive order
7/21/2020 15:12:18	April	Johnson	Usd 412	Goessel	We need are schools open. Are children need to learn. They need there teachers and class mates.
7/21/2020 15:12:25	Marisa	Larson	self	Manhattan	Please allow the delay in opening schools until after Labor Day. Our community needs the extra time to get the virus under better control and to plan on how to instruct students well and safely. It's imperative that we keep our children, teachers and school staff safe and keep all of their families safe as well.
7/21/2020 15:12:34	Jeffwry	Joyce		Shawnee, Ks	Each school has its own circumstances and should be allowed to adjust accordingly. Smaller schools, especially rural and private schools, may be better equipped to open safely than others. A statewide, one-size-fits-all, order is not in the best interest of Kansas. Please focus on parameters that allow for schools to open on-time, rather than mandates that require a delay, even when unnecessary.
7/21/2020 15:12:35	Andrea	Cartwright		Olathe	I think starting school at the normal time is beneficial because I fear a greater re-occurrence in the flu season that may require a change of schedule then.
7/21/2020 15:12:39	Erica	Buchanan	USD 383	Manhattan	I was relieved when the govener made the announcement. Not because I don't want to be with students, but because our teachers need more time to prepare this year. Normally I would be in my classroom multiple times a week after July 4th, but we aren't allowed in the buildings right now. I am also responsible for training my building on how to use our online resources. Many have never used them and we need this extra time to prepare our staff. We can't train anyone until after August 5th, our contracted start date, so postponing the start date of classes would give us the time we need.

7/21/2020 15:12:44	Julie	Harber	Students	Overland Park	I have two high school kids who weathered the end of last semester but who need to be in an in person learning environment for their emotional well being. Also as an educator I understand that there are 3 types of learners; visual, tactical, and auditory. Ignoring a subset of tactical learners would set them at a great disadvantage. Our kids need to be in schools and participating in athletics and other extracurricular activities. The risk of COVID-19 is not as great as the risk of having a majority of our students lost emotionally and academically.
7/21/2020 15:12:45	John	West	myself	Healy	I cannot fathom, as a teacher, how delaying will enhance the students' educational experience. They are suffering socially and emotionally. Several have told me that they cannot wait for school to start. Another month cannot help them. It can only damage our kids.
7/21/2020 15:12:51	Michelle	Reed	Olathe usd 233	Overland Park	With the proper accommodations, I feel school should be held in person starting early September.
7/21/2020 15:12:52	Teresa	Richards	Usd259	Wichita	I believe the decision should be made district by district. This is not a one size fits all decision that needs to be made. I for one want to be back to work and back to school...with precautions.
7/21/2020 15:13:01	Sandra	Myers	Parent	Cimarron	Do NOT delay school! Our kids need the socialization and mental/emotional support they receive in school & activities. Let the counties or regional school districts decide what is best for their area. You can't compare rural towns to Wichita or Kansas City.
7/21/2020 15:13:03	Cory	Davis		Olathe	I think the need for education outweighs the need to be over protective. This decision should be left up to the voluntary school staff and parents who can decide what is best for their children.
7/21/2020 15:13:06	Carrie	Paschke	Mother of 3 athletes	Overland Park	Our teachers are essential employees and should go back to work like everyone else. If they are not comfortable doing so then, with all due respect, they should seek another profession. It IS possible to keep them safer at work than we ever have before. We have masks, face shields, Plexiglass boards between them and the students, hand sanitizing, temperature checks, etc. Even with all these in place, is there still a risk? Sure, but we can not live in a zero-risk society. That doesn't exist. And anyway the risk of surviving Covid is high - 99.984% survival rate (per Johnson County Health Department) as of today (July 21). Please consider that we CAN send kids back AND keep teachers safe, it doesn't have to be one or the other. Please don't let the demands from the teacher's unions overshadow what's best for our kids.
7/21/2020 15:13:09	Lisa	Crook	Walnut Grove Elementa	Lenexa	I support the executive order to delay the start of Fall 2020 school year.
7/21/2020 15:13:10	Vickie	Oard		Colby	I appreciate you, Our School Board, asking and taking into consideration opinions. You all have a big decision and will weigh carefully the options. Growing up we always started school after Labor Day. But with this strange season we ended the 2019/2020 school year in, and also planning ahead for any storm days (if we are IN school building!) I think our school board should be able to make the starting date decision rather than be ruled by the governor. Also, it is important for the children to be back with teachers and friends. But, please, NO masks. Thanks!
7/21/2020 15:13:12	Derrick	Slocum	Parent	Iuka	I think this was a great, temporary, solution. It gives schools and districts more time to prepare. Also a great idea on requiring mask wearing.
7/21/2020 15:13:15	Tran	Vu	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita	This is just a thought, have you thought about tiering and transitioning the students, teachers, and staff of the school by quarters? For example, continue online learning for the 1st quarter and re-evaluate whether it is safe to go back yet? If so, start transiting slowly the 2nd quarter and eventually over time we'll have everyone back in school, if it is safe.
7/21/2020 15:13:20	Robert	Deister	We the People	Buhler	It is time to get our children back in school for Education and socialization. This past spring was nothing but a sham at Education once the school buildings were closed. The once in a lifetime events like graduations, primary, athletic championships are a huge loss in students lives. Education did not happen for most students after the buildings were closed. I know Districts did their best to create online curriculum that students could use but the truth is most did not use it without the structure of going to school everyday. I recognize that there is some risk but the numbers are suspect and in my opinion are not anywhere close to accurate. It is time to open school buildings, get the teachers and students back into a structured and organized environment. Thank you for your consideration and time. Sincerely, Robert L Deister
7/21/2020 15:13:28	Angela	Gantzer		Shawnee	The governor should not have the authority to make decisions for our schools. That should be left to individual districts and schools.

7/21/2020 15:13:40	Dean	Caldwell	Maranatha	Mission	Kids need school!!!!!! You guys ended school early didn't stop COVID!?! Now you want to start late!?! It will still be here in December.Lets use some personal protective equipment and teach some proper sanitation.
7/21/2020 15:13:41	Kristin	Dillard	School nurses	Olathe	I am a school nurse. I work with the most fragile of students...special education students. They won't understand the importance of social distancing or wearing a mask. They will cough and not cover their mouth. It is important that we do not rush back to school, especially with Covid cases on the rise in Kansas. We need to be fully ready with PPE, plans, and spaces to deal with sick students! Please listen to the scientists. They know and understand this virus. For the safety of our students and staff, please support Governor Laura Kelly by voting for her mandate to start school after Labor Day. Thank you!
7/21/2020 15:13:47	Therese	Cannon	Maranatha Christian aca	Shawnee	I would like that the schools opening be delayed.
7/21/2020 15:13:51	Marike	Janzen	parent of high school stu	Lawrence, KS	I agree with Governor Kelly, we need to delay the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 15:13:57	Tonya	Grider		Halstead	Please allow schools to start up in August and reject the Governor's executive orders
7/21/2020 15:13:59	Stacey	Chik		Lenexa	Please open schools August 11. The children need to be in school and have a sense of mental, social, emotional, and in some cases physical safety. Keeping the schools closed means that hundreds of thousands of children in our state are languishing at home with subpar attempts at academics and are more prone to fall into horrendously unsafe activities online due to a lack of parental supervision. Nevermind the ways this affects the parents. Please, for the childrens sake open the schools!
7/21/2020 15:13:59	Stephanie	Hessling		Clay center	Delaying starting school isn't going to make a difference in the Covin situation. But I can say having kids 5 and above wear masks 8 hrs a day isn't going to work. I can see older kids but not kids in elementary school especially Kindergarten thru 3rd grade. I've got kids in kindergarten, 2, 3, 6,7 and 11th grade. I am giving my kids the options to go back into the classroom & will respect what they want. I feel all this is going to add more stress on staff than anything.
7/21/2020 15:14:03	Sam	Kepfield	n/a	Hutchinson	Comment removed due to profanity
7/21/2020 15:14:04	Rhonda	Koehn	USD 418	Galva	Unless it is deemed safe for elementary students not to wear a mask, I think we should delay or just plan on remote. I think masks will cause emotional trauma and distract our young students from learning.
7/21/2020 15:14:05	Stephanie	Southard	Walnut Grove Elementa	Olathe	Vote in favor of the order if youbat all care about our children.
7/21/2020 15:14:07	Beth	Olson	Elementary level reading	Lindsborg	DELAY start and mandate CDC standards
7/21/2020 15:14:04	Natalie and Dav	Brown	Blue Valley School Dist	Leawood, Kansas	Due to the facts that the number of COVID-19 cases continue to rise with a large percentage of cases in our teens, schools need time to prepare buildings and staff with safely regulations, and parents have yet to receive the school plan options from districts to make the best decision for their families, it is necessary to delay the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 15:14:29	Stephannie	Erie		Fort Scott	Our children need to get hack to school NORMALLY. This virus isn't hurting our children. If people are scared they should keep their kids home. In our home both parents work and we have no way of doing home school even 1 day a week. The fact that this is even a thought is insane. My child also will NOT be wearing a mask to school. Asking a child to wear a mask is also insane. Our kids need interaction with others. It is VITAL to their growth. Stop the Governer from making these TERRIBLE decisions!
7/21/2020 15:14:22	Dori	Hilker-Ridge		Cimarron	I am a current school board member in USD 102, Cimarron-Ensign. I disagree with the mandated delay of opening school. We have been working on reopening plans since May in our district. One size (solution) does not fit all districts in our state. We are ready to start school as scheduled. Further time out of school is a detriment to children in many different ways. Medical guidance on the issue is clear, and we have worked diligently to plan for a safe reopening. Please leave the decision at the local level, where it belongs. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:14:34	Brittany	Beard		Riley	Delaying the start of school allows time for covid numbers to decrease while allowing school officials to better prepare for students to re-enter the classroom. As a parent and a teacher I believe this is highly beneficial for all parties involved.

7/21/2020 15:14:37	Y	Allen		Olathe	I have two school aged children that suffered greatly with online schooling the last quarter of 2019-2020. Specifically my oldest, who is starting high school this year, she has a learning deficient and needs to be in a class room. While I understand the gravity of the pandemic there have been several studies proving children are not at great risk. This is particularly going to hurt low income communities. There are ways to make it safe for everyone, including online learning for those who opt in. Please let the schools open on time to ensure all of KS children are getting the best education possible.
7/21/2020 15:14:40	Carmen	Cutting	Mom of 3 children in Ka	Overland park	Kids need to go to school for mental and social stability! The risks of Covid are minimal for kids and a much smaller risk than the common flu. Pediatricians even recommend that they go to school. Our Governor is STEALING school experiences (including sports) from our kids. If some don't want to send their kids, then they should have that choice, BUT don't make that mandatory for others who want to go! Have each school determine the risks they have. It's not the same for all schools. Our Democratic Governor is trying to CONTROL us!
7/21/2020 15:14:42	Shelly	Allmon	Blue Valley	Olathe	No school until after Labor Day! Also let's keep students and staff safe with hybrid model.
7/21/2020 15:14:46	Signe	Truelove	USD 253	Emporia	Asking schools to wait until after Labor Day is a small ask. Most schools in other states don't start until after Labor Day. Even if it saves one life or keeps people safe, what's the harm? A few week delay or weeks in the hospital... or the end of life. Seems like an easy decision to me.
7/21/2020 15:14:47	Danielle	Reda		WICHITA/ANDOVER	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school opening until September 9, 2020.
7/21/2020 15:14:53	Sarah	Harris		Topeka	I am writing to ask you to leave school control in the hands of local school boards. It has been said over and over that one size does not fit all in Kansas. I believe that to be true. I am asking you to vote no on allowing the governor to control education across Kansas.
7/21/2020 15:14:58	Deborah	Hill	Teacher - I represent my	Spring Hill	<p>As we anticipate moving into a completely new realm of instructional delivery, time is the only thing we have on our side at this moment. The safeguards put in place will not be sufficient to protect students and staff. However if we are forced to work under poor conditions, the very least we can have is additional time to prepare properly. We know that there will be days of instructions that must be remote once the virus begins to spread through buildings and while we did wonderful things with our quick fix last spring we all know it wasn't sufficient. Time to properly prepare new setups in classrooms, time to train staff on new protocols, time to let families adjust to new realities, this is all we have right now. This pause in learning and pause in life is not the end of the world, some losses can be recovered; others, such as a human life, cannot.</p> <p>I have worked most of the summer. I have read research documents, I have participated in webinars, small group planning and discussions, learned about apps and tools for remote learning. I have studied so many research documents that I can't keep them straight, but I do know they all had the same gist. This virus is not going away anytime soon. We must be vigilant about public health safety protocols and aware of the aerosol studies that indicate how easily the virus spreads.</p> <p>I believe the only reason children have not represented a significant number of cases is because they haven't been in schools where the exposure risk will be greatest. Anecdotally, we know that first year teachers and first time public school students have a higher rate of illness during that first year than other staff and students because they haven't built up immunity yet. Anecdotally, we know that introduction of technology devices into schools saw an increase in illness because so many different people were handling devices when they weren't "working" properly.</p> <p>Life turns on a dime, teachers are called upon more than any other profession to pick up the broken pieces of society. Most teachers have two, three, four or more degrees - to help us be better at what we do, because our passion is the classroom and learning. For our students we are counselors, social workers, parents, medical consultants, bullet takers, problem solvers, suppliers of food and clothing and school needs.....the list is long. Please don't think for one minute we are running from yet another piece of broken society. As always, we want to do what is best of our students while maintaining our dignity, our families and personal health.</p> <p>If you have not had an opportunity to read all the studies related to this virus and how to appropriately respond, please ask any educator where to find them.</p> <p>We need this delay in the start of the school year. It's the least you can do for us.</p>

					<p>While I would like to think that the many of the school districts across the state of KS would have used the time after spring break and through summer to prepare and plan for the eventuality of returning to school in the fall with SOME type of modifications needed; if they (collectively) need additional time (three weeks, three days, etc.) to plan for the return of kids, so be it.</p> <p>I do believe, that each school district should treat the school year the same academically, regardless if the student attends physical, virtual, or a hybrid approach. It doesn't feel equitable when one district doesn't allow students grades to go down if they attend virtually.</p>
7/21/2020 15:15:08	Zack	Odell		Colby	
7/21/2020 15:15:12	Richard	Carlson	USD 383	Manhattan	I support delaying in-person classes until schools are much better prepared.
7/21/2020 15:15:20	Bonny	Brown	Northwest Kansas Educ	Colby	I am in favor of waiting until after Labor Day to start back to school. I have an underlying health condition, so I am in favor of waiting.
7/21/2020 15:15:22	Meghan	Cunningham		Shawnee	We, as a family, need in-person schooling to begin. My husband works away from the home and I am part of a 2 year program for Neurodiagnostic Technology. In order for us to go on with daily life we need to be able to send our kids to school. I know that Covid-19 is an issue but for us not sending our kids to school creates a hardship.
7/21/2020 15:15:37	Kyle	Taylor		Colby	I would like Kansas K-12 to start the school year on the regular date that it should start.
					<p>I strongly support the governor's executive order to delay the opening of schools until after Labor Day so we can address some key issues.</p> <p>One issue I foresee is the actual physical space that would be required for proper social distancing. My first grade students sit 4 to a table, share materials, and work frequently in small groups. This coming year, I have 21 students on my list. I do not see how they can each be 6 feet from the next student, or even 3 feet in that space. Even if we could designate areas for each student, there is no guarantee they will remain in their spaces.</p> <p>Young children, in the best of circumstances, cannot be expected to wear masks and maintain social distance with a level of fidelity that would make these measures effective. For many of my students, life circumstances have left them with fewer supports, tools, and skills for maintaining self-control, making following directions for social distancing extremely challenging.</p> <p>One other big concern I have is staffing. I predict our substitute shortage will only grow this year, because many subs are retired teachers who are in a higher risk category for complications with COVID19. Classroom teachers' ability to be at school if they or a family member gets sick will be undermined, elevating our need for subs at a time when we have fewer.</p> <p>We as teachers know that our students need to be in school with us to learn best, and we want them back in school. Honoring the governor's executive order will give us time to learn, plan, and strategize about issues of space, instructional practice, and staffing. It will also give time for (hopefully) more robust social distancing practices among all Kansas to lead to a decrease in the number of cases of COVID-19. If we begin before these things are in place, we will most likely have to shut down at a later date, to a greater detriment to our students and teachers.</p>
7/21/2020 15:15:42	Laura	Cooper		Leawood	
7/21/2020 15:15:47	Steve	Vequist		WICHITA	Please vote to delay school opening.
7/21/2020 15:16:07	McKenzie	Smithson	Parent	EIDorado	Please vote to over rule the EO and let schools start. Our youth need to get back to normal, they need a safe place to continue to grow and mature. Behind a computer screen is not ideal for all. There are many barriers that create a greater educational divide if we continue at home. Sadly for some of our Kansas youth home is not a good place and school provides an opportunity to get help either through counseling, meals or a safe shelter. We must make sure we are looking at all groups of kids and how they will be impacted.

7/21/2020 15:16:09	Lauren	Farmer	Myself	Olathe	Please uphold the decision to delay the start of the school year until after Labor Day. As teachers, we give so much of ourselves to our students, but we should not be asked to give our actual lives because we rush this. Doctors and scientists are finding evidence of damage in asymptomatic coronavirus carriers, including children. Infants have also become victims of this disease, which shows we know nothing yet. Rushing back puts our students, their families, all educators and staff, our families, and our communities at risk when we go back. Please also note that cases are up by 190%, which means we're worse off than in March. We should not rush because we want to be back to normal. We need to be cautious. If anything, please look at how things worked during the Spanish Flu in 1918-1919. It probably started in Kansas, so let's be proactive this time and not let this get out of control like before.
7/21/2020 15:16:15	Lisa	Robbins		Louisburg	I believe school should be delayed until after Labor Day. I feel the extra time is needed to prepare our kids/teachers during these unprecedented times. My oldest is a senior, and this is not how I want his last year to be, but I want him (both my kids) to be safe. My kids will wear masks if that is what it takes to be back in school.
7/21/2020 15:16:16	Laura	Oyler	USD 497 - Lawrence Ki	Lawrence	Hello! Thank you for taking the time to read my comments today. I am a kindergarten teacher in Lawrence and I am writing to ask you to please support Governor Kelly's order to postpone school until after September 8th. Last year I had 25 five and six year olds in my class. I was so blessed to be their teacher and deeply love every single one of them. However, I can also say they are experts at spreading germs! As a kindergarten teacher, it is normal for me to ask students to stop picking their nose, take their hands out of their pants or mouth, or even to not lick classroom materials. I say these things multiple times a day, everyday. Just last winter alone I was diagnosed with influenza B, bronchitis, and multiple sinus infections. I am confident I picked up all these viruses at school, as my students always had them before I did. In fact, we had a large outbreak of influenza B in kindergarten for several weeks. While my heart aches to be with my students, I know that starting school in August is not safe for me or them. Not only will the delay in school give us time to lower the number of cases of COVID-19, it will also give teachers like myself time to plan for the school year. Today is July 21st and my district has not released their plan for our return to school. I know they are working hard to make decisions and plans, but I still do not know whether I will be teaching kindergarten remotely when school starts or if I will be back in a building. Those extra three weeks we would gain by your approval of this order would be invaluable. I ask you to please vote yes so we can have that time. I know there are some Kansans asking this be a decision that is made locally, but I ask you to please keep in mind the spike in cases that occurred as a result of the mask mandate not being a requirement statewide. I know this is a difficult decision. It is always hard when you have to make a decision you know some people will not agree with. I ask one last time that you will please do what is safest for all Kansas teachers and students and vote yes to delay the start of school until after September 8th. Thank you for your time!
7/21/2020 15:16:19	Sarah	Standage		Colby	Would like to resume school as soon as possible as our county has less than 25 cases. My child was struggling with online school as he was in kindergarten and worry that with any further delays will struggle for years to get him caught back up. At this point I worry that we will only be in school this coming year for a few months. I want my child to continue to get in person teaching to help with his development socially.
7/21/2020 15:16:26	Andrew	Breese	Colby Public schools	Colby	As much as I don't want to see home schooling again, I'd rather my family be safe in the long run. I also know the isolation of kids staying home is damaging as well. I do not know what the answer honestly is. There has to be a way to play and socially interact besides zoom meetings while still being safe. These kids need actual physical social interaction. I know that we need to be safe a socially distant as well.
7/21/2020 15:16:28	Carla	Sloan-Brown	Colby Public School	Colby	If delaying helps educators better prepare for what has to be done in this weird time, I'm for it. I would like schools to send out information for community resources (counseling, food banks, technology,etc.) so that families in need can find them. I'm not sure what avenues schools are currently using to proactively reach these students but these efforts may need to be increased during this time of delay. There are many needs that school meets that aren't academic. The loss of these will be greatly felt this year.



7/21/2020 15:16:31	Peter	Werkowitch	My family	Louisburg	I am beyond supportive for the mask mandate. We have a surgeon, an ER nurse, an ER doctor and a Radiologist in my immediate family. They are in 100% agreement masks work and are an effective component of fighting COVID. They are astonished at the level of false information some people are being presented and believing. Please do the right thing and protect our families by keeping the mask mandate in place until at least the vaccine is being administered or case count falls a great deal. Fall is near and so is flu season, we do not need to take a step backwards. Kansas is already being severely impacted from the perspective of job losses due to COVID and a continued spike will only worsen our economic outlook along with the health of Kansans. Taking every measure we can to protect both economic and health interests are critical. Masks are temporary, health and economic impacts are long lasting.
7/21/2020 15:16:33	Chanelle	Martin		Leoti	Open the schools!!!!!!
7/21/2020 15:17:03	Mary Jo	Worthington	Elementary Classroom T	Andover	I agree with the delay but support the reopening of schools. We need to use the delay to put proper protocols in place to keep everyone safe.
7/21/2020 15:17:04	Kristy	Bergstrom	USD 400	Lindsborg	Please strongly consider overturning the Governor's order. This should be something decided locally. I am a 30 year veteran teacher and I saw the mental health take a hit even from my students with a strong family support. Online learning doesn't do justice to those younger students. I appreciate your dedication to do what is best for students.
7/21/2020 15:17:06	Kristin	Kent	Private school/homescho	Overland Park	I am respectfully asking that you do not approve this executive order. As it should be, leave the decision in the parent's hands. They may decide if their child is more susceptible to this virus to keep their child at home and let them continue their education online, not the governor. Additionally, private schools should not be included in this mandate. They are not supported by the government and should not be told when they can or can't start classes. In general, these private schools have fewer students in attendance, and, therefore, they don't have a "large gathering of people" at these schools. They can provide a safe environment for our kids. For their mental health, kids need to get back to some normal activities and classes. They have had to deal with disappointment after disappointment over these last few months. They have missed being with friends, playing sports and just going to the park. It is time for those least susceptible to this virus, our kids, to get back to a normal life.
7/21/2020 15:17:14	Karen	Parsons		Oxford	Please listen to your educators and health officials and leave politics out. Thank you, Governor Kelly, for having the courage to lead in these divisive times.
7/21/2020 15:17:15	Megan	Marasco	SMSD 259	Overland Park	Hoping to encourage placement of our children back in school asap with precautions taken. Our children need to continue boosting their immune systems around people, places and things. We are not only hindering their academics, but also their physical and mental wellbeing. Please please reconsider continuing to withhold children from schools.
7/21/2020 15:17:37	Andrew	Lake	High School Math Teac	TOPEKA	I support the delay.
7/21/2020 15:17:43	Joe	Pfannenstiel	JH/HS Counselor	Inman USD 448	As a school district we desperately need the time to implement the best practices for the safety of staff and students. We all want to be back in school but not in risking safety of any of our kids, parents and staff. We are a small enough school that if we have a teacher or two that gets sick or quarantined we are in big trouble delivering what we need to for students and it affects us grades 7-12. We have a lot of details to work out to provide a safe environment rather than just taking a stab at it and hoping it goes ok. I'd rather see us go in with a "smart, thought out " plan than start and have to send everybody home again. Please support the Governors recommendation.
7/21/2020 15:17:49	Justin	Smith	Usd 204	Kansas City	We have more cases per day now than in March when school was suspended. As a teacher, I implore you to vote yes to the Governor's executive order and delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 15:18:03	Tina	Mensch		City of Riley	Online is safer. Kids will spread germs like crazy
7/21/2020 15:18:06	DJ	FREEMAN	USD411	GOESSEL	Please do not delay start of schools.
7/21/2020 15:18:07	Jeremiah	Enna		Merriam	Start school on time. Based on the E.D. of the governor (wear a mask, have sanitizer in the room), I see no need to delay the start.

7/21/2020 15:18:10	Christina	Jeffery	USD 107 - Rock Hills	Mankato	I believe that there shouldn't be a 'one size fits all' plan for the school year. I believe it should be left up to the school district. We are in a small community in a small county and feel that it is completely safe to send our children to school. If there were to be an outbreak, I feel that no more than 3 weeks should go by before getting our children back into the schools. It may be easy peasy for stay at home parents to school their children, but this is not the case for our community! And if it is safe to send a large majority of children to daycare facilities - there should be no difference for sending our children to school.
7/21/2020 15:18:14	Shannon	Reilley	Colby public schools pa	Colby	I am fine with waiting until after Labor Day! I believe this will give our teachers and staff time to get into their classrooms and prepare for the semester as far as Covid preparation. We don't need to rush in a week and then backtrack.
7/21/2020 15:18:25	Shawna	Scott	Heritage Christian Scho	Topeka	I feel as a private school that I pay for out of my own pocket with no support from local government that we should be able to start our school at normal times. I also feel that it should be up to us (the board, parents, and principal) on what is acceptable in out classrooms and what precautions we should take while allow our kids to go back to school for some routine and normalcy.
7/21/2020 15:18:38	Isaac	Reed		Stockton	As a student in high school I find Postponing school until a later date to be irresponsible. If we begin to postpone now, when will the start actually occur. We've had since March to figure out how school should start. The virus is not going to die down more before September according to most data. Require masks or anything that needs to happen, but do not postpone.
7/21/2020 15:18:41	Candace	Mcartor	Usd264	Clearwater	Schools should open on time in August.
7/21/2020 15:18:47	Michele	Reed		Olathe	I support delaying the start of school, in the hope that in the meantime Kansas can reduce the number of coronavirus cases in the state.
7/21/2020 15:18:48	Jill	Schulz	Holton USD 336	Topeka	I strongly believe in delaying the start of school, as mandated by Gov Kelly.
7/21/2020 15:18:49	Sara	Weinert		Winfield	I urge the board to uphold the governor's mandate. As I watch the Kansas numbers in horror, I cannot imagine the precipitous climb the curve would take if classes, sports, and other activities were added to contact on the mid-August schedule. Thank you for your leadership in keeping us safe.
7/21/2020 15:18:54	Brent	Wiedeman	F&M Bank of Colby	Colby	Please do NOT delay the start of school. If it is done once, it will continue to be delayed! Kids need to go to school and will be safe and it is better than staying home and getting farther and farther behind in school. Masks should not be required either! There will be more germs spread by dirty masks then it will do good.
7/21/2020 15:18:54	Alison	Replogle	USD 400	Lindsborg	I am a proud Kansas educator, parent, and member of the Kansas School Counselors Association. As a public educator and parent of school age children, I support Governor Kelly's executive order keeping schools closed through September 8. Educators need time to plan and be ready to safely welcome our students back to school. We have a tremendous amount of work ahead of us. As a parent, I do not feel safe sending my children back to school until I am certain we have done everything possible to ensure their safety. I do not feel we are at that place yet. Please uphold Governor Kelly's executive order. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:18:57	Jeff	Koelzer	Usd 322 board President	Onaga	We are gifted with 2 great administrators. Please let our district resume in August liked planned. They have worked endless to improve the safety of our students and staff at 322. Many parents with students with IEP's have seen their kids learning fall behind. And for parents that have concerns about students safety we have implemented virtual school with 2 families already signed up. I'm free to visit any time 785-799-4072 Jeff Koelzer Board President USD 322.
7/21/2020 15:18:58	Tori	Mace	USD615	Horton	I would like the schools to open as they were supposed to with safety measures put in place!
7/21/2020 15:19:03	Meagan	Roth		Paola	If we do not postpone the school start date cases will start to increase and we will have to call it an early semester. This would be the same outcome of last semester. It is important that we look out for the safety of the teachers and students. I feel as if we act now, we can fix things but if we ignore the virus now it will only ruin things later on. No point in ending a long period of time off only for it resume two months later. Think about the safety of not only the students, but the teachers.
7/21/2020 15:19:04	Kay	North		Lenexa	Our kids need to be in school, in person, at the very least for the core classes. Online school was/is suboptimal at best. Having only online school will further increase the disparity between the top and bottom students. Not to mention allow those with few resources or home support to fall further behind which may also negatively impact their future. Our teachers should be deemed essential employees and as such should be required to teach in person. It would be fair to offer an online alternative for those who want it.

7/21/2020 15:19:05	Betsy	Hadley	public school teacher &	Overland Park	<p>I am writing to express my relief when Governor Kelly announced the order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. The additional time gives schools time to gather necessary supplies and to solidify plans which will allow them to do our job as educators in a safer manner. Delaying the start of the school year is important to teachers because we are going into this next school year blindly. We had very little time to prepare for the 4th quarter in the spring. This added time does not look like an extended summer break, but rather a longer time for professional development as a staff to prepare for our students. When teachers are prepared, they are better able to meet student needs. This is especially true in a time when we will be planning for academic needs and health needs. Never before have we had to plan to keep our students safe and healthy with this high of risks.</p> <p>On a personal note, I have done my part to keep myself, my family &amp; my community healthy. I came home for the start of my district's spring break in March and have basically been home since then. We pulled our daughter from daycare to keep her healthy and reduce the number of people walking in and out of our in-home daycare which we loved. We have hardly seen our family except for driveway visits and front porch drop offs. I have been into public places only when necessary and took the proper safety guidelines seriously. I know not everyone in our community has done the same. I am worried about the virus making its way into our school building when school resumes and I'm worried for my health (as a high risk person) and the health of my loved ones (who we will limit seeing even more).</p> <p>I know there are no easy decisions, but following the Governor's order to delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year seems to be the right decision in the long run when it comes to the safety of everyone in Kansas!</p>
7/21/2020 15:19:06	Marsha	Tannehill	N/a	Manhattan	The Governor's order re delaying start of school until after Labor Day should be supported. More data is confirming that children, when tested, test positive positive for COVID-19, and could obviously pass it along to others in the house.
7/21/2020 15:19:06	Stacy	Teske	Parent of 2 young school	Wamego	I am pleading with you to veto the governor's executive order to delay the start of school and make masks mandatory. Leave it up to the school districts as one size doesn't fit all. My kids need to be back in school, in the classroom. They have already missed many months of school from last year, please don't delay it any further. Facial interaction is very key in the success of kids learning. They need to be able to see each others faces, see their teachers faces and the teachers need to be able to read their kids. Wearing masks will be a huge distraction to the kids' learning and the teachers will spend the majority of their time making sure the kids have them on instead of doing what they are paid and love to do, which is teach! Please veto the governor's order to delay schools. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:19:16	Jill	VonFeldt	Blue valley school distri	Overland Park	I would still like to start in school instruction after Labor Day for my Kindergartener and second grader. I am comfortable with them wearing masks and getting their temperature taken. These kids need their peers and a real teacher teaching them. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:19:21	Katie	Usiak		Lawrence	I think giving the school system time to prepare for a mixed schedule of in person and online schooling would be what's best for kids/families.
7/21/2020 15:19:26	Susan	Gerth	USD 383 paraeducator	Manhattan	Please delay the start of school until September 9, at the very earliest.
7/21/2020 15:19:29	Jean	Janner	Myself	Olathe	I urge you to vote AGAINST delaying the start of school. 3 weeks' delay may not sound like much, but having a target start date on the calendar and honoring it feels like a victory. Schools have been preparing for months. Give administrators/teachers/parents credit in their ability to plan wisely and responsibly.
7/21/2020 15:19:33	Dan	Paschke	Parent	Overland Park	The kids needs to be in school. Please provide an in person educational opportunity. The risks are within reason and it is time to get back to normal life. The kids need the full benefit of a full school, social, mental, physical. If someone is not comfortable with the risks, they can do school at home. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:19:33	Grant	Lunkenheimer		Wichita	As a Pediatric ICU RN I cannot imagine anything worse than closing schools. We are putting kids at risk for abuse and neglect that will damage or take their lives all for a disease that does not effect them. Teachers need to decide if they want to serve the kids they signed up for or walk away- if you are essential than be essential. There are ways to mitigate the risk. There is only way to reduce neglect and abuse in our kids- open the schools. ON TIME!

7/21/2020 15:19:40	Sarah	Dolence	Blue Valley School Dist	Overland Park	Keep schools closed until after Labor Day!! A mild inconvenience and deviation in routine can save lives and help curve this virus. It will give schools and teachers more time to plan for ALL students. Students will not fall behind - we don't have to resort to "normal expectations." We must do what's right - and in this case, it's what's different. Please please please do the right thing.
7/21/2020 15:19:46	Nick	Stamatis	Christ Prep	Overland Park	The delay is not needed. It is a safety measure that is out of line with the severity of the threat. People who are at risk should not come to school or be in the public but at this time the medical facilities have plenty of capacity. Open the schools on time.
7/21/2020 15:19:52	Rachel	Baumbach		Lawrence	I am a nurse, I see COVID day in and day out in my ER. Cases are rising, young people are getting sick, extremely sick. We DO NOT want our children going back to school while cases continue to rise. Children are social individuals who don't always understand the reason they're being asked to do things or pay attention to why they're important. They're not going to social distance or wash their hands enough, or even wear their masks correctly. It's not in their best interest to send them back to school while this virus is spiking. We didn't want them in school during the beginning of these outbreaks - so why send them back now that they're worse? I urge you to delay sending children back. And if my word isn't enough - go into a hospital and see for yourself why it is a bad idea.
7/21/2020 15:19:52	Betsy	Morin		Wichita	Please vote to start in September
7/21/2020 15:19:55	Amanda	Metcalf		Fort scott	Start as normal. Void face masks on all children k-12. Take governor to court. Fight this!!
7/21/2020 15:19:57	Travis	Branum		Colby	I don't think the delay needs to happen, kids will be around each other as they have been all summer, weather you start tomorrow or in January. Makes no difference so why not start on time.
					<p>man at the middle school level.</p> <p>Things that keep me up at night:  I have a small classroom with no windows and everyone who enters my room remarks how humid it is, the air vent doesn't work properly. I am a special education teacher, so my pull out classes are smaller, but not small enough to properly socially distance in my small room. I wonder how to teach math from 6 ft away when I can no longer use manipulatives (not enough for everyone to have their own, same with calculators). Also I cant have small group sessions at my table. I will not be able to see their math problems either on paper or device from 6 feet away to see if they are solving them correctly. I will not be able to monitor if they are on the assigned website if they have to all face me and I cannot safely circulate the room to ensure they are on the correct site and not YouTube or games. When I push in to assist my students in a gen ed class how do I assist them 1 to 1 from 6 feet in a mask quietly enough that only that 1 student hears and I don't disrupt the other students or the gen ed teacher's lesson? Plus, then I am adding another body to an already over-crowded room. Where do I find enough sanitizer and wipes to keep my classroom clean enough without risking my life going to multiple stores? How do I even begin to do my job when everything I have done the last 9 years is basically impossible? How do I teach a class and monitor the students zooming in remotely from home? How do I take students to wash hands every hour in a building without near enough sinks?  Worst of all, how do I deal with the fear, guilt, and loss if anyone at school gets covid-19? How do I keep from infecting my students and family. How do I teach in person and remotely (at same time) 5 days a week without worrying about my own children being home to remote learn the 3 days a week it isn't their days to be in the building with no one to monitor them? If I get sick who takes care of them? What if I pass it to them? I could go on and on... I have loved being a teacher. I just don't know how to do all of this. I hope we can go remote until things simmer down. School in person will be nothing like it was.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 15:20:07	Laurie	Lane	Usd 501	Meriden	
7/21/2020 15:20:14	Jessica	Twin		Olathe	I think delaying the school year is the best choice possible since we must have an in person option. It allows more time to develop an appropriate plan for best protecting the teachers and children, and to gather the supplies needed to implement those plans. Optimally only the children who must go to school in person would attend and any others who can do distance or virtual learning would do so to help protect as many people as possible.

7/21/2020 15:20:14	Megan	Bastemeyer		Overland Park	As a district employee, I believe that adopting Governor Kelly's order to delay openings until after Labor Day would be the best way to keep everyone is the district and community safe. It would give us time to slow the spread and prepare for a safe return. Returning in August would be a detriment to our community and the cost would be human lives. We can not afford to take that risk. Our children, their families, and our staff are worth too much to take that risk. Protect us. Uphold the executive order. Keep us alive.
7/21/2020 15:20:29	Esther	Martin	Christ Preparatory Acad	Lenexa	Private schools must be allowed to best accommodate their students in the ways that they deem best, which includes the setting of their own school calendars and starting and closing dates. As we keep the safety of our students foremost, we must maintain the ability to choose for ourselves based on our particular students, their families and their needs, both academically and socially.
7/21/2020 15:20:33	Jessica	Ciaccio		Lenexa	I support keeping schools closed until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 15:20:40	Jenny	Karr		Manhattan	A delay to the school year is absolutely vital. It will ensure schools have time to plan and implement not only safety procedures but all effective teaching. It is highly likely that most instruction will occur digitally and teachers need time to set up appropriate online course materials.
7/21/2020 15:20:46	Sally	Schuler		Chapman	Please honor Governor Kelly's Executive Order regarding the delaying of the new school year until September 9. This gives the school districts extra time to organized and gather materials that will be needed for this new normal. Please respect the lives of the teachers, students, and all the other employees in our Kansas schools. Everyone wants them back in school. But it's imperative that it's a safe environment for all. DO NOT let politics guide this decision.
7/21/2020 15:20:49	Colleen	Goldblatt	n/a	Overland Park	Dear Kansas State Board of Education,  As a parent of two children in school, I implore you to please consider approving Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school. I want my kids to have as rich of an academic experience this year as possible, and being in the classroom I know is a top priority for our family.  I know that you all, like me, are seeking the insight and guidance of scientists. In listening to them, I see that:  1) masks work... PLEASE give them time to work in our communities. In Johnson County, we're just beginning to see declines in cases again, linked to the Governor's mask order  2) our schools need time to acquire supplies to follow the Governor's order (centered on your guidelines) and keep our kids safe  Getting kids into the classroom as consistently and much as possible, is also of vital importance to getting employees back to work. But we cannot do this if there are constant interruptions to the school year. My family is among many who have 2 working parents, and are unable to both work AND supervise our children's learning and do a sufficient job at either.  Thank you for your consideration. We need you to support our kids, our teachers, and our communities.  Sincerely, Colleen Goldblatt
7/21/2020 15:20:55	Helen	Solem	Christ Preparatory Acad	Lenexa	I concur with the Governor. Please delay the opening of school until September 9, 2020.

7/21/2020 15:20:57	Jim	Cameron	Kansas Resident-Johnso	Gardner	<p>I find the Executive order issued by Governor Kelly to be misguided and a huge over step of her authority. I believe the previous recommendations made by the school board were more than adequate in light of the actual facts about COVID-19. Our kids need to be back in school ASAP and without any additional restrictions or stipulations from Topeka. My children will not wear masks and thus will be discriminated against due to the governor's order. It should be left up to the school, their administration, and parents on how to handle our children's educational environment. We cannot continue to live in fear of a virus that 99.2% of people recover from or show no symptoms at all!</p> <p>Sincerely, Jim Cameron</p>
7/21/2020 15:21:02	Andrea	Berg	Olathe District Schools	Shawnee	<p>On KU health system's Facebook live, a pediatric infectious disease doctor said that they're finding that child to child and child to adult transmission is really only uncommon through age 10-12. After that, kids are basically acting like adults as far as transmission goes, which is particularly worrisome for middle school and high school students, teachers and staff. I am a 4th grade teacher, and I would like schools to have enough time to get any safety equipment in place that they need and safety procedures in place. I would like the staff to have proper training on what this will look like. I would like to see teachers have PLCs &amp; staff meetings via zoom and no adults other than the classroom teacher should be in the classroom. That also means special teachers should not be coming into the regular classrooms to do art on a cart, etc. On nicer days maybe PE could be done outside to social distance. It would be great to have elementary students wear masks, but I don't know that this is always going to be doable for them. All adults in the building should be wearing masks. For middle and high school I think a mask should be worn by students and adults. I would also hope that as a classroom teacher I would have the ability to scan my students' temperatures as they come into my classroom and after they eat lunch. There should be a policy in place that if a child has a temperature they need to go home immediately. Parents should be reminded to keep allergies under control with proper medications. I would also hope that the school districts have enough cleaning supplies, gloves, hand sanitizer, etc. It might be beneficial for classrooms to also have air purifiers. I do think sports should continue because it's good for our bodies and mind, but precautions should be in place. I do believe it is important for the kids to start school in person.</p>
7/21/2020 15:21:13	Julia	Straw		Wichita	<p>We need to wait at least until after Labor Day to begin school. Hopefully the infection rate will improve and if not, schools will have time to successfully plan for fully inclusive, online instruction.</p>
7/21/2020 15:21:16	Jeanine	Meiers	Private school	Lenexa	<p>The kids should start in person in August. They are ready and teachers are ready to go in person. They have time to get ready and, for their mental health and education quality, they need to be in school. This could just keep getting pushed out more and more. It is time to take a stand and listen to the doctors and have the kids in school. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 15:21:30	Sharae	Slater	USD 253 as a parent	Emporia	<p>I support delaying the start of school, but want the days excused and not required to be made up. If we do delay the start of school, then PLEASE allow parents the option to send kids to school or keep them home. Please allow BOTH options.</p>
7/21/2020 15:21:40	Rebecca	Maher		Overland Park	<p>Yes, to delaying schools until after Labor Day!</p>
7/21/2020 15:21:40	Maggie	Peterson		Prairie Village	<p>Start school after Labor Day</p>
7/21/2020 15:21:42	Tracy	Mai	Parent	Hays	<p>I think we need to delay school until at least after Labor Day!! There are too many positive cases and the schools need time to prepare!!</p>

7/21/2020 15:21:45	Rob	Kooser		Derby	<p>I am taking a few moments to express my views/opinions on the recent changes that the BOE is considering regarding the COVID19 "Pandemic". This is yet another inconsistent, illogical decision made that is not clearly supported by data. There are countless data (for and against) this view, however it is very upsetting to see the BOE decide to follow an order given by Leadership that chooses to not let reality play a factor. These children (ages K-12) MUST get back to school SOONER then later. The data clearly shows the deaths in Ks of people under the age of 25 is ZERO! This is still a "virus" that 99% people who happen to acquire it, FULLY RECOVER! DEATH RATES continue to be below 1%.....the logic the BOE would be taking would beg the question as to why they don't use the same approach to the Flu Virus (that is 4.5 Times MORE then the Covid deaths this year!).... Please, I ask that you please give a true, open minded approach to such a decision. It is clearly obvious that there are other "agenda's" at hand and this is a topic being used as a political divide. These children need to get to school soon! There are too many kids hungry because they are not in school. There are kids who are getting abused at home because they can't go to school. Please consider ALL options when making this decision.</p> <p>Regards, Rob Kooser</p>
7/21/2020 15:22:01	Jessica	Gibbons		Louisburg	I am a special educator and mother of 2. As much as I want to be back in school and have my girls be in school, I do believe that our governor's plan to delay school is the right decision. We need time to plan and determine what actions will best for our staff and students when that first day comes. We want to be back so badly, but in terms where we feel safe and can enter without fear. Allowing the extra three weeks will give our administration time to collaborate to devise the best reopening options. Thank you for listening to our governor, health department, educators and parents while making this difficult decision.
7/21/2020 15:22:03	Joyce	Verkinderen	Usd259	Wichita	School needs to be canceled or online until we can safely return. Many staff, including me, are high risk
7/21/2020 15:22:09	Hallie	Vaughn		Colby	Start School in August. We need activities and athletics. Western Kansas is different than the other side of the State.
7/21/2020 15:22:21	Lisa	Colson	Beloit elementary	jewell	Please let our schools be open. This is hurting our children to pushed to stay home, not go anywhere, not see friends. They need to have a normal life again. I understand sickness is always among us. It always has been and always will be. We have to teach the young to wash hands and be proactive against sickness, not to stay home and hide. Our children have the right to get an education!
7/21/2020 15:22:27	Sharla	Reynolds	My children	Clearwater KS	My children need normalcy and deserve an education. They were already cheated of weeks of education last spring. School should resumed full time as planned. For this at risk or afraid of the virus, let them do online school.
7/21/2020 15:22:32	Brandy	Loomis	Nurse	Great Bend	I feel that this delay is a smart decision. This allows districts to put safety precautions into place. I also feel that having all students and and staff wear masks is smart .
7/21/2020 15:22:34	David	Pinckard		COLBY	Start school at normal time of year as we have always had.
7/21/2020 15:22:38	Chris	King	Lawrence // Parent of tw	Lawrence	K-12 in Lawrence needs to open and in session on time and in person for each student. Fall Sports should also be allowed prior to September. Areas throughout the State are already participating in sports camps without problems. Based upon information available to public .007% infection rate for state as of today. .001% DGCO.
7/21/2020 15:22:40	Paige	Rounds	My family	El Dorado	I feel like waiting until after Labor Day is a good call. I live in a multigenerational household. My mom has severe health issues and my son has a weakened immune system. I prefer to be extra cautious to when it comes to germs in general, but especially right now. Until we start to see cases decline, I'd rather not risk the health and safety of families, children, and school staff.

7/21/2020 15:22:41	Michelle	Lippelmann	Mother	Colby	As fast as this virus is spreading and the concern of young children wearing a mask for 8hrs a day is almost impossible, then you've got some of the older kids who think it's all a joke therefore there's gonna be more issues with having the kids wear them properly. You've gotta think that just by wearing a mask ur still carrying the virus on ur clothes shoes body (that is not covered) I for one will NOT risk my children's health by sending them to school. I have 1 child who is 6yo and a respiratory child and for him to come into contact with a class/school of the possible virus is unacceptable for me. Some people are A symptomatic so screening at the doors is really not stopping anything JMO. I will be looking into online and homeschooling my children this year if they continue to open usd 315 back up for school. Kids are massive germ carriers no matter how hard we try to keep them safe things happen, and again a classroom and school full of kids with all this virus goin around nope I'll school online. Thank u
7/21/2020 15:22:42	Melissa	Oakma	Myself, private citizen	Lawrence	Postpone in whole(in-person) or everyone will have to opt out.
7/21/2020 15:22:47	Jamie	Porter-Knox	Topeka Public Schools/S	Topeka	I support Gov. Kelly's delay of school, as well as future closures or 100% remote learning, that may be warranted due to increased or spiking local cases. Students and staff deserve every reasonable expectation of safety when we return to buildings, especially at-risk staff members who won't have the option to work from home (like students). Compromising the safety of students and staff by prematurely opening schools, in order to boost the economy, is not acceptable. Thank you for looking out for the health and safety of Kansas students and staff.
7/21/2020 15:22:52	Christine	Parsons	Holy Trinity Catholic Sc	Olathe	I am writing today to have you please strongly consider opening schools on-time, August 20th. I am a parent of a first grader and third grader and believe these children need to be in school ASAP! I look at HTS to be my partner when it comes to my girls education, they are not their babysitting service! Back in March, HTS had a strong virtual learning system and as a family, we completed every assignment and went above and beyond. With that said, I made the choice to get a summer tutor for the both of them because I felt that what transpired in the Spring was still not enough. And I fear that with the delay of school and the potential for online learning again that it still won't be enough. I don't have the answer and applaud you for having to make the difficult decisions! But I do know that my kids thrive in the classroom, and we as a family will do what it takes to make sure they are safe but know that when it comes to their mental health it is vital that they attend school and find some sense of "normalcy" through this entire pandemic! I hope you will give the schools as well as private schools the opportunity to make their own judgement call as long as protocols are in place so that my healthy 6 and 8 year old can get an education! Thank you for reading!
7/21/2020 15:22:55	JOHN NEIL	UEBELEIN		OLATHE	I believe educating our children through in-person learning is critical to their development and well-being. In addition, the at-risk communities will suffer the greatest harm from any delay. Please fully open and on time.
7/21/2020 15:22:57	Sarah	Giddens		Lawrence	All for it. Please keep our kids and teachers and staff safe.
7/21/2020 15:22:58	Connie	Herbster	Prairie Hills usf1 14	Sabetha	With Covid cases spiking and citizens not wearing masks and meeting in lg groups, Ithink school should be online for the 1st 9 weeks at the minimum. I'm scared to death to be in a classroom rotating HS STUDENTS every hour. I have diabetes and high blood pressure. I also don't want to give it to my family
7/21/2020 15:23:03	Kelley	Freund		Christ Preparatory Acad	Please consider allowing schools to start at the regularly scheduled date at the end of August. It will be very difficult to cover the necessary material if the days are reduced.
7/21/2020 15:23:08	Alicia	Farley	Parent/Para	Clay Center	I think we should delay school. With numbers rising it would be the best interest for all staff members and students to wait until after Labor Day or longer. This would give schools more time to prepare for what they need to do.
7/21/2020 15:23:08	L.	Alvarado		Shawnee	Open our schools! Governor Kelly continues to act like a tyrant, making ridiculous decisions regarding Covid19. The lockdowns, mandating masks, and now delaying of school is not acceptable to the majority of people I know. We will always have viruses around— it is part of our human existence. The precedence being set for how we are going to live from here on out is so important— Hiding from every virus and having the government control us is very un-American. Please tame Governor Kelly's tyranny and send the kids back to school! If school isn't in session, these kids will still be going to stores and restaurants and getting together—they need to be in school and regain some sense of normalcy. We cannot continue to live like this.



7/21/2020 15:23:18	Michelle	Crews	Heritage Christian Acad	Overland Park	Please allow private schools to maintain jurisdiction on decisions related to COVID-19 recommendations for minimizing risk and spread of the disease. Our smaller school community allows for adequate implementation and supervision on protocols put in place to keep our kids and families healthy and safe.
7/21/2020 15:23:35	Amanda	McGreer		Colby	I do not understand what the benefits are to delaying school. My husband and I work full time and find the timeframe that our kids have been out of school and away from adults disturbing. Kids are resilient but need structure and continual education. I believe a breakout amongst the teachers is possibly a bigger risk. With that said, maybe trying to deepen the bench in terms of substitute teachers is worth exploring.
7/21/2020 15:23:36	Patty	Hennes	Teachers	Osawatomic	I am writing in support of the order to delay school opening. This time is for the safety of students and staff! Schools need time to procure supplies needed, training on implementing the guidelines and time to digest and plan from the guidelines YOU unanimously passed! We want kids back in school, but safely and with thoughtful plans in place.
7/21/2020 15:23:44	Shane	Winsor	Parent at USD 382	Pratt	VOTE NO ON GOVERNOR KELLY'S SCHOOL MANDATES
7/21/2020 15:23:51	Amy	OHara	Parent	Lenexa	Please allow local districts and private schools to make their own determination on school start time.
7/21/2020 15:23:57	Haley	Weidman		Clearwater	I think schools should be delayed until September. It gives staff more time to figure out their plans and gives the cases in the county time to decrease.
7/21/2020 15:24:06	Karen	Truitt	USD 475	Manhattan	Please, give honest consideration to delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. This will give district and teachers more time to prepare. Don't make this about politics and/or down playing the severity of coronavirus. Make your decision based on preparing for the worst and planning for the best. Remember it's not just about the children, but it's also about educational and support staff. It's what's best to ensure the safety and security of everyone (students, staff, families, and community). Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:24:11	Penny	Vogler	Parent of high school stu	Colby	The kids have been getting together all summer whether it is for summer weights, to hang out with friends, to have prom, to have graduation and receptions. Even if school is delayed they are already together. It is important for them to get back to a regular schedule which includes school, sports, and activities. I find it interesting that colleges are starting early so they can dismiss at fall break when "they" anticipate a second round or increased cases, yet our governor delays the start of K-12 school by as much as 3 weeks in some cases. Let's get the kids back in school!
7/21/2020 15:24:23	Thomas	Swartz	My family	Pittsburg	I do not feel we are ready to send kids back to school. It is unsafe kids and the entire staff and their families.
7/21/2020 15:24:38	Andrea	Bauer	Parent, First-grade Stud	Great Bend, KS	I support the delayed start to the school year. This extra time is important for public health as well as professional development for our teachers. They spent the end of the last year teaching on the fly and need time to train and hone skills for on-site, hybrid and remote learning.
7/21/2020 15:24:42	Kyle	Helmer		Lenexa	This is a terrible decision not based on data around the world that kids do not get sick from this and they do not spread it. It's based on politics and fear. Very sad and disappointing
7/21/2020 15:24:43	Saleena	Skillett		LaCrosse	I can't imagine the stress that everyone is under in trying to make the right decision for school. Delaying the start of school is going to be harmful for our kids. Our kids are already behind with how last year finished out. The longer we wait to start school, the more these kids are going to have to have refreshers to even begin to learn new material. A one size fits all approach for the schools across Kansas won't work. Small schools can adapt and take precautions so much easier than the larger schools. I understand if a larger school needs to be virtual due to the sheer volume of students and faculty. Our kids need normal...they are hurting emotionally and scared of what the future holds. Our kids have been playing ball and gathering in parks and going to the pool all summer together...I don't understand why they should not be allowed to go back to school at the scheduled time. Please think about letting the local school districts decide for themselves what will work best in their community. I understand that the mask mandate is not something you guys can review, but I still want to touch on it. My 14 year old will struggle to stay focused while having something covering his face all day long. He struggles to stay focused under normal conditions...this is a huge distraction that is going to affect his school work. I can't even begin to imagine how are kindergarten and 1st graders are going to be expected to learn and stay focused. How they are going to learn sounds and how to form their mouths when learning how to spell. Thank you for your time and your service to our kids.
7/21/2020 15:24:44	kelly	kelly	Heritage christian acad	Overland Park	Let us go to school. Let our kids learn and be together. They can wear masks in between classes. Let them go to school

7/21/2020 15:24:49	Tammy	Lind	Christ Preparatory Acad	Lenexa	Please vote to allow schools to start at their regularly scheduled times. The students have been out of the physical classroom for so long that it would be extremely helpful to their well-being and particularly their mental health to be allowed to return to school and proceed as we have always in the past. Many scientific and educated sources indicate that it is imperative that students return to school quickly and as usual with little or no limitations. I appreciate any concern you have for our health, but I believe it is time to allow us to be completely back to school and business as usual. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 15:24:51	Katelyn	Blasi	USD 233	Lenexa	I support Governor Kelly's executive order and I support the DELAY of the 2020-2021 school year
7/21/2020 15:24:56	Courtney	Devot		Fort riley	Delay
7/21/2020 15:24:56	Tiffany	Hentges	Kansas Connections Acad	Shawnee	I am a teacher and mother of a 7th grade boy and a ninth grade girl. I support the idea of returning to school with an option to stay home. I think a "skeleton crew" model like is used in business can be used in the school setting. Where the minimum number of personnel is needed to operate and maintain the school day. So, families and teachers would have a choice to attend. If they choose not to attend, they can access online learning. If they choose to attend, the schedule can be split or reduced to accommodate less numbers at a time. While at school, students can participate in online learning at their grade-level. They can use a computer safely, socially distanced and wear masks. The teacher would be there to answer questions and clarify directions and concepts. The teacher would be considered their learning coach and assist with online learning. A special education teacher can be available to assist as well.
7/21/2020 15:25:03	Shelley	Pickardt		Lawrence	As the grandparent of elementary aged students and mom of a high school teacher I am in support of delaying the school year until after Labor Day. The health and safety of the students and faculty is important and the additional weeks will give the state time to flatten the curve.
7/21/2020 15:25:16	Diane	Smith	None	Lenexa	Do what is safe for all. Remember the ages of a large percentage of teachers, Food Service Employees, janitors and all other staff. Many are over 60 years old. Please do not jeopardize their health and lives. If you have no staff, you have no school, whether it is in person or online! And please keep our kids safe. We will need all of them to take care of us someday!
7/21/2020 15:25:25	Christy	Younger	Self	Wichita	I am happy with the decision to wait.
7/21/2020 15:25:28	Brenda	Johnson	Childcare	Olathe	Definitely school should not start! Friend caught Covid and she died from it. The nursing home was so careless and Covid spread thru out. Several died there. Now her family is suing the nursing home. I do not think the schools need to have this liability against them! Protect yourselves and have the teachers protected too! Elearning is the way to go! In December consider the possibility of in class learning!
7/21/2020 15:25:33	Sonya	Horsch		Mount Hope	Please do everything you can to get our schools back open ASAP! There are many reasons our school children should not be forced to wear a mask all day and I hope you have studied the risks. We need to provide as much normalcy in the schools as we can to avoid making a generation of fearful and anxious kids. Thank you for listening.
7/21/2020 15:25:39	Jeremy	Goode		Pittsburg	Please vote to support Governor Kelly's orders. They are consistent with the guidance of our public health agencies and provide time for our schools to implement plans to begin safe operation. As a parent of 3 children in Pittsburg USD 250 schools, I can certainly sympathize with the temptation of a hasty reopening. I don't however believe that you should undermine our governor in order to provide individual districts with the freedom to disregard public health and endanger our children.
7/21/2020 15:25:40	Stacia	Schwarz		Stilwell	Please consider opening school this fall according to the regular schedule. Please require masking, social distancing and other important safety and health precautions to ensure that students and staff are safe. I would like to see the schools open in August.

					<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I am a retired businessman, a parent and a grandparent. Both my wife and I have underlying medical conditions that place us "at risk" for contracting the COVID-19 virus.</p> <p>In my opinion, it is imperative that you delay opening schools in Kansas until such time that the recent spikes have leveled off to a safe place. Please. We need to make our children as safe as possible, not only for them but for their teachers, staff, administrators, siblings at home, their parents, and of course their grandparents.</p> <p>In an effort to keep as informed as possible, I watch a number of news outlets and follow social media in an effort to be as widely informed as possible. From the social media I have read, many parents simply want school to open so they won't have to deal with their children being home. This should be the last reason for reopening the schools.</p> <p>So, an option that I support would be online learning. While not perfect, it keeps the child/student active in learning and can be a good alternative in the short term.</p> <p>Thank you for your support!</p> <p>Best regards, Mr. Dana Messerly</p>
7/21/2020 15:25:50	Dana	Messerly	Concerned Citizen, Pare	Olathe	
7/21/2020 15:25:51	Amy	Mccalmon	Christ prep academy	Olathe	School should start no later than sept 9th 2020 and masks should be optional. If people feel strongly then they can wear masks and people who would rather not wear masks should not be forced to. This is America people!
7/21/2020 15:25:59	Crystal	Helm		Goddard	I feel we need to stay home and start at a later date to give more time to figure this out I also feel it would be safer to do online schooling. If college kids can do online so can the younger kids. They are very good with technology and we need to keep our children safe but also the staff and teachers who are in that high risk category. Otherwise we will have our children sent home multiple times through out the year for weeks at a time and this will never end.
7/21/2020 15:25:59	David	Friesen	Christ prep Christian ac	Lenexa	It is not acceptable to delay the start of school. We can not live in fear of getting sick. People have gotten sick and even died of said sickness for as long as there has been people. Seek the truth.
					<p>Teachers and students are not guinea pigs to get sick and die, or kill their families, so we can do a trial run of in person classes.</p> <p>A typical high school teacher has approximately 30 kids per class and 7 classes per day (assuming they aren't on lunch duty). That is the potential for 210 DIFFERENT students being exposed to them. Do not just delay schools, mandate they go back to online classes. Give assistance to families who will have to take leave from work to teach their children and put money into the education system instead of dancing around the larger issue.</p> <p>This is still a global pandemic. Kansas is the SECOND LEAST RESPONSIBLE STATE after Florida in our response to this Coronavirus. You and your team's, the people who are rallying against you, Governor Kelly, you are all failing your people. You are killing us. You are giving us no chance to recover. Mandate schools have virtual learning, lock the state back down, help the people survive this long nightmare.</p>
7/21/2020 15:26:05	Spencer	Buettgenbach		Wichita	Be. Better.
7/21/2020 15:26:06	Amy	Branum	Colby High School USD	Colby	I do not support delaying school or sports. I do not support wearing a mask, this should be your choice.
7/21/2020 15:26:18	Marypat	Kilstofte	Olathe public schools	Overland Park	Please delay school. It is vital for schools to prepare for the health and safety of everyone.

7/21/2020 15:26:20	Allison	Kramer		Overland Park	As the parent of a medically fragile child and as the spouse of an immune compromised person, please adhere to the governor's direction to delay the start of school until after Labor Day due to COVID cases rapidly increasing in our state. This delay will give everyone the best chance to go back to school with less risk and fewer interruptions to students' education due to schools and teachers being better prepared to handle the new normal. As a lifetime Kansan, I am frankly embarrassed by how many of the leaders and citizens of this state have shown such disregard for public health in this pandemic.
7/21/2020 15:26:27	Jenny	Wyatt	Wyatt Family	Olathe	It is our hope that school starts as initially proposed in August. Our kids desperately want to return to school and return to normal lives. They have been attending summer weights and camps with no issues. They also play summer sports and have had no issues with exposures or symptoms of the virus. While we understand there are risks of exposures to viruses at school this has never changed. Kids have always been exposed to viruses at school. This virus is no different and people need to stop acting like it is. Let the kids return to school!!
7/21/2020 15:26:34	Kay	Scott		Johnson county	Schools need to reopen sooner than later. There were over 60 million cases of H1N1 while oBama was in office and no panademic and schools remained open and that mist kids got. Covid is safer and less infected. This is a political move. Open schools
7/21/2020 15:26:37	Tim	Harder	USD 492	Cassoday	Please make school NORMAL ... no wearing masks, starting regular time! We are HURTING our children's health mentally and physically by keeping them distanced, and having to wear masks. That will not help.
7/21/2020 15:26:37	Laurie	Ramirez		Lawrence	I am asking you to support the govenor's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. This will give districts time to finalize plans and train staff in rigorous online education platforms and/or safety measures in buildings not designed for social distancing. Staff has been working tirelessly since June to develop plans but early June plans are not good plans now. Please support the safety of teachers, children and the community. Teachers will be working during this time to get ready to give kids the best experience possibly.
7/21/2020 15:26:40	Vlada	Binshtok	parent of a child with sp	Overland Park KS	Please make plans to restore services for special needs children a priority. While you are allocating resources either to safely reopen schools or to prepare for virtual learning for all, this small population of students could be safely served with either option at the scheduled start of school year. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:26:40	Misti	Valentine	Students (my children) i	Derby	I believe that it is not in the best interest of our children to delay school. The schools have put precautions in place so our children can return to school on time. I believe that schools closing at the end of last year and not starting on time will do more harm to our children. At this point I'm more concerned about my children's mental health and their social emotional health then I am covid.
7/21/2020 15:26:41	Jim	Briggs	Christ Preparatory Acad	Baldwin City	Even though I reside in Douglas County, my place of employment is in Johnson County. I teach at a private school, which receives NO tax money at all. However, the parents of the students still pay their property taxes to support the government schools. The private schools MUST remain open beginning in August!! Closing the schools has already caused enormous harm to numerous students and families. Our school year MUST begin on time, with face-to-face contact at the beginning of the school year next month. To vote to close private schools is a vote to cause enormous harm to numerous students and their families.
7/21/2020 15:26:49	Jessica	Roths		Viola	We absolutely should delay the start of school. I work as a para at my daughter's school. My daughter has a heart condition that puts her at higher risk. I also know of several other children and staff at our school that are high risk. Give us the extra time to make the proper preparations to keep our students and staff safe and healthy. If we can't open safely we're going to see detrimental things happening when it just doesn't have to be that way. Please delay school starting for the well being of our students and staff.
7/21/2020 15:26:50	Brittany	Zschoche	Parent of child in SMSD	Prairie Village	I support upholding Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of school. The facilities and staff need ample time to procure PPE and solidify contingency plans. I think virtual options should be encouraged for those who can and are willing to utilize that option, in order to reduce the number of people in buildings at one point. Teachers are nimble by virtue of the profession and now is when they need our support. They need time to procure the means to be safe and well as the funds to do so. We also need to include their voices in the discussion - I urge all of you to listen to the teachers' responses. Being a public servant (and an underpaid one at that) should not be a death sentence. Teachers go into this profession because they want to serve their communities, not because they want to be sacrificed to a poorly-handled public health crisis.
7/21/2020 15:26:53	Ana	Ortiz	Yes	Olathe	Safety for my kids is my number one priority.

7/21/2020 15:27:03	Jaci	Littrell	Educator	Winfield	I think delaying the start of school to after Labor Day is a wise idea. It allows districts, administrators, and teachers more time to prepare to safely conduct in-person classes with the new KSDE guidelines. It also could allow more time to (hopefully) see a decrease in COVID cases statewide.
7/21/2020 15:27:16	Lorna	Larson	Self	Lawrence	Please approve the delay in opening schools.
7/21/2020 15:27:17	Laura	Randall		1124 Atchison St	I think school should go as planned in August
7/21/2020 15:27:18	Kim	Hutto	Teacher	Cowley	Please support the delay in opening schools
7/21/2020 15:27:20	Kylie	Smith		Derby	As a teacher, I don't have a choice in keeping my children home to do virtual. With the rise in cases and hospitals becoming full, I feel that delaying school would be the best option. I have people in my life and home that could become very ill from this virus.
7/21/2020 15:27:23	Tanya	Jensen	My child	Stilwell, KS	The kids should be in school this year. This summer kids have not been quarantined. Teens have been at parties/hanging out with friends/working out with sports teams. Kids have been in their neighborhoods, pools, parks playing with friends. Because of this I don't think I will see a spike in numbers. The benefits of children being in school far out-weighs the minimal risks.
7/21/2020 15:27:25	Sasha	Gilbert	self	Hays	My children attend USD489. I will keep this short and sweet but would like to state my opinions: 1) Schools need to open as planned in August 2) Young students should not be expected to wear a mask 3) School entrances need to be remained locked and monitored (not open to allow daily temperature checks & the potential for masked visitors) 4) Five day/week onsite education should be an option for the families that want their children to continue in-person learning
7/21/2020 15:27:26	Karen	Downing	The public	Overland Park KS	Please do not continue to keep things locked down like school. We need to have schools open & business to keep our economy strong. Children do not pass the covid/19 virus to adults/staff/teachers. This is a time we show we can use mask, gloves if necessary to keep everyone in school safe.
7/21/2020 15:27:33	Amy	Turner		Wichita, KS	The delay is almost certainly not enough of a delay, given current trends. As much as I hope students are able to return to school, I urge the Board to institute delays and virtual requirements until the risk of infection to students, teachers, staff, parents, siblings, and the community is minimal and well controlled.
7/21/2020 15:27:34	Alisa	Ehrlich	None	Wichita	Please follow the Governor's Orders. They are prudent and the safety of our children, teachers and school staff is paramount.
7/21/2020 15:27:37	Amber	Cameron	Christ Preparatory Acad	Gardner	I disagree with the governor's executive order, and her extension of school start times. I urge you to consider starting school as planned, and allow our children to further their education and socialization. As a fellow Kansan, I believe the Kansas board of education should have the final decision in the welfare and education of our students... not the governor.
7/21/2020 15:27:44	Chris	Cameron		Goddard	The only reason Kelly is continuing to sign executive orders regarding COVID-19 is because this is an election year and she wants everyone to be unsure what is really going on. This COVID-19 hoax is just so they can hurt President Trump, H1N1 was just as bad and the Obama administration covered it up. We see what the democrat idiots are doing and the silent majority will issue our response in November. Kelly is unfit to hold office and should be recalled immediately.

7/21/2020 15:27:45	Britney	Williams-Bey	Piper USD 203	Overland Park	As a Middle school teacher I am concern with the health and well-being of my students as well as myself if exposed to COVID. Knowing that there are some unknowns to how the virus can effect children & teens with variants of strains this virus has districts need to be given more time to prepare multiple plans. Delaying school to Sept. 9 will give school districts opportunities to prepare. That includes giving teachers a chance to plan and learn what is needed to go either remote or in-person teaching. Part of everyone's goal should be to prevent another statewide school closing. I hope that you take into consideration of ALL children's health over your political views. Ask yourself the question- Would you send your child back to school (in-person) knowing the potential health risks? Knowing there is NO vaccine to combat this particular virus. Keep in mind that if your child's teacher is exposed who will replace him or her? There are not enough teachers or substitute teachers in this state as it is.
7/21/2020 15:27:47	C	J		Hutchinson	With the delay of school and parents working full time this is adding to the financial stress of parents and more personally my own household. Paying more than we would in a typical year for childcare and also trying to find said childcare has been extremely hard. My children are not old enough to leave home alone/ unattended for any length of time. My husband and I both have full time jobs that we cannot and don't have the luxury of working from home. Online education was extremely hard for us as a family with both of us working full time jobs and then trying to come home and home school our children in the evenings. It caused lots of added stress and anxiety on all of us for those several weeks of them being out of school and trying to do home online education. One of my children just started IEP classes prior to school getting closed which also caused a lot of added stress and confusion for her on top of her feeling and being more delayed in her schooling/ education. I personally feel like everyone that is still working already has the same risks that teachers and children are going to face day to day. Teachers have an essential job and they need to be able to do it. Yes there are risks but it s not different than anyone else that is working. My children specifically need to be in an in person school setting to be able to get the proper education and the one on one learning they need and desire. My children want to attend school! Also, what is the difference of children that are all attending daycare and other child care facilities and attending school. They all carry the same risks everyday!
7/21/2020 15:27:49	Sarah	Leonard	USD 259	Wichita	I think it is incredibly smart to wait until at least after Labor Day to start school.
7/21/2020 15:27:56	Sylvia	Fleming	Home	Olathe	Opening schools in Johnson County is a death sentence for all that walk through the door. Show compassion and integrity and keep schools closed
7/21/2020 15:27:59	Malarie	Umscheid	Parent	Wichita	Please delay the school year..... One month/semester/year "lost" is minor compared to loss of life or lifelong effects. Increased viral load is a contributing factor of illness. Keep kids & staff safe & healthy
7/21/2020 15:28:16	Johnell	Holley	Mom	Delay school till Sept 8,	I would like to see the Wichita School Year to start after Labor Day so that the city of Wichita and the Wichita School District have a better idea of where and how the COVID 19 virus is declining for everyone in the state of Wichita Kansas. I feel it would be in the best interest of our children and for our teachers and our community to just hold off on starting the school year after Labor Day because our kids and teachers and everyone's health is more important at this point of time
7/21/2020 15:28:24	Brianna	Fox	Sped teacher	Wamego	As a teacher who has an autoimmune disease, what is the plan to protect the teachers who are at high risk? On a typical day I have 40 + students from different classrooms come into my resource room to receive direct instruction or to simply take a break. I do not know how I can safely meet my students needs while minimizing my exposure. I am extremely concerned for my health and my children's health. -Thank you!

7/21/2020 15:28:25	Nathan	Hanson	Christ Preparatory Acad	Shawnee	I believe that private schools should be allowed to begin classes on the normal date. The governor's orders should be followed as far as in-person, at-home, or hybrid, based on the current COVID status in the area. While large school systems need the extra time to prepare, our school administrators, teachers, staff and parents have been planning since spring for how to safely open in the fall. We have a small enough school that we have been able to prepare for a safe return. We should be allowed to start on time, since we are ready. The governor's mandate to delay the start would have negative and unnecessary consequences that are entirely avoidable in our small setting.
7/21/2020 15:28:29	Trish	Staab		Spring Hill	Please do not delay the start of school. Vote NO to the governor's recommendation!
7/21/2020 15:28:31	Dene	Dryden		Manhattan	I am in support of Gov. Kelly's order to delay the start of K-12 instruction in Kansas. I hope that the Board of Education also advocates for wider COVID-19 testing throughout the state (including asymptomatic/random population testing) and other measures like face masks and gathering size restrictions to limit the spread of COVID-19 in Kansas before any in-person instruction resumes. While education is important, online-only instruction is far better than in-person instruction interrupted by a COVID-19 cluster that results in the death of a student, teacher, staff member or parent. Health should be the board's number one priority this year. My mother is an elementary school teacher in Rooks County. One of my sisters is entering high school; the other sister is an elementary para. If Kansas does not center health in its plan to start the school year, my family and countless other families will be subject to unnecessary risks to their health, happiness, educational progress, and life. Children can't get a good education if they are dead or battling illness for several weeks. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:28:32	Kimberly	Burbank		Wellsville, Ks	My family and I are AGAINST delaying the start of school. We are ready for our children to have as normal of a life as possible. This virus is not as bad as the media portrays it to be, we need to move on and move back to normalcy.
7/21/2020 15:28:36	Jennifer	Dunhan	Lawrence Public School	Lawrence KS	At what point can we be concerned with the emotional health of our children? Schools have had since March to come up with a plan- get the kids back to school. There is no perfect answer. Do what we do in healthcare- the best we can with the info we have. Be kind to parents who have worked EVERY DAY of this pandemic. We can't all stay home and homeschool.
7/21/2020 15:28:38	Brianna	Brooks		Winfield	I agree with delaying the start of school. This will give schools and staff more time to create a plan that will easily adjust for all learning modalities. It will also give staff the ability to gather supplies needed to keep the buildings protected and clean.  I would suggest against a hybrid week if possible. I do not feel like this will lower contact. Having teachers teach 2 in person groups a week will keep the teacher and other staff exposed to all students who attend. Also, this increases the exposure of the children because many of them will have to go to a 3rd location outside of school and home during the week. If a district does not feel like it is safe enough for all students to be in the building together, all students should move to virtual together.  As a parent, I do not mind if we have to extend part of the school year into next summer to make up hours. Also, as a parent of young children, I do not mind asking my children to wear a mask, and they will. That being said, I know there will be many young students with sensory issues who will not be able to manage a mask. It may be worth it to consider making masks optional for K-5th grade.
7/21/2020 15:28:44	Sh	Call	Parent	Overland Park	May your decision on reopening be based on facts, the true interest of families, and sound reason. May you genuinely set politics aside and vote in a manner that is wise and just.
7/21/2020 15:28:47	Sheryl	Rorabaugh	Democrat and previous	Wellington	Please, they must not continue reopening until all are safe and they have everything, in a newscast, Sedgwick County said they did not have funds to support teachers and staff. My daughter is a teacher, 2 grandchildren in school, and my Grandson in High School when I asked how he felt, said "It is dumb to go back and everyone get sick and have to shut it all down again." My kids better be protected, do not get bullied into an earlier opening or insufficient funds to protect everyone.

7/21/2020 15:28:49	Traci	Hutchinson		whitewater	I am a single mom of two boys as well as a K-8 Music teacher at an amazing district. I am imploring you to let us all go back to school in person without a mask mandate. It should be a personal choice to wear or not wear a mask. For the mental, emotional and physical health of all involved we need to be back in school. My boys and I are abuse survivors and we all 3 have PTSD and anxiety and wearing a mask creates trauma and increased anxiety for us. I support the decision of others to wear masks but do not support a mandate of wearing one. As a teacher who teaches almost 400 students I am desperate to get back in the classroom. Please let us go back in person. I appreciate all the hours you are putting in and look forward to returning to educating my students and interacting on a personal level with them.
7/21/2020 15:28:51	Tracy	Abendroth		Lenexa	Schools open on time. 3 weeks won't make the virus go away, nothing is going to change in that time frame while our kids have missed out on any kind of education for 6 months. If you say the mask works, then I don't see a problem with having kids in school. But if the masks don't work like you say they do then we have another issue.
7/21/2020 15:28:51	Michell	Ray	Skelly Elementary	ElDorado KS	PLEASE FOLLOW! Our staff needs the proper amount of time to prepare our classrooms for the safety of all of our staff and students and my family.
7/21/2020 15:29:00	Sarah	Langley		Topeka	Please don't shut down or delay schools for children. They need consistency. Parents need your help. Please don't add an extra burden on our society by changing things and upturning lives even more.
7/21/2020 15:29:01	Darrell	Dix		Moran	I believe that delaying the start of school is important. However I believe we should flip the spring and fall sports to allow a better chance of participation. Football and volleyball are high risk whereas baseball and softball are low risk. It would also be beneficial to flip them due to weather. Less rain days in the fall vs the spring and you can get more games in before the cold by having multiple games per week. Track and cross country can also flip.
7/21/2020 15:29:03	Kyle	Nelson	Auburn Washburn school	Topeka	As a teacher, it feels comforting to know that the governor is willing to protect schools and students, even when that means she got a lot of political attacks for it. It doesn't feel like many leaders care much about the health and safety of teachers. Please vote to postpone until after Labor Day. I don't mind teaching into June.
7/21/2020 15:29:06	Shiloh-Rose	Meikel		Lawrence	Allow the delay of schools till after Labor Day
7/21/2020 15:29:20	Lisa	Pinkerton	teachers	Rose Hill	With the continuing rise in COVID-19 cases in Kansas it is in everyone's best interest to wait until after Labor Day at the very least to start school if you are planning on sending students to face to face school.
7/21/2020 15:29:25	Katherine	Burns	My Family	Overland Park	As a pediatrician, I want both our children and our teachers to be safe. Data is accumulating that elementary children are NOT a significant route of transmission. This means that while basic social distancing and limited number of contacts (and likely masks in some spaces) needs to be in place, these are for ADULT protection, not the younger children. There is NO evidence that delaying school will improve the situation. The numbers are still increasing, and without a definite end point, plan, or specific criteria for reopening, delaying schools seems futile. I would be much more supportive of a plan which included definite goals and details for delay, instead of broad strokes, or a statewide plan to actively decrease new cases leading to safer opening of schools. Kansas has had increasing cases for weeks. Schools have had months to prepare for this, therefore I am uncertain the purpose of delay.  It seems punitive and random to delay schools while so many other activities, businesses, and such are open for business. Additionally, the delay does not address the needs of children with special education needs. These children need the services provided in person in school and also are less likely to learn remotely. Delaying the school year seems to increase the risk to this population.
7/21/2020 15:29:25	Andrea	Saffle	Valley Center Intermedia	Sedgwick	I'm a Para with Sedgwick County Coop #618. I work with special needs kids that have compromised immune systems. While I love our kids and want to see them, I want them to be safe and healthy more. I am also extremely concerned for my own health and safety. I've recently been considering returning to school to become a teacher, but seeing the lack of support and concern for those of us who work within the schools, I'm not sure I want to do that any longer. I am paid less than \$12 an hour to work as a para. I have insurance, but it's the lowest I could possibly afford. If I were to become ill as a result of working in the schools, there is no doubt in my mind that I would not be able to make it financially and I would likely lose everything. I'm scared. I became a para to work with children and teach them, and to love and care for them. I didn't become a para so I could contract and possibly spread a virus that results in my death or the death of our students and staff. That is more responsibility than any of us should be asked to shoulder.



7/21/2020 15:29:34	Laurie	Hutchison	Christ Preparatory Acad	Lenexa	I am a high school teacher at a small private school in Lenexa. I understand that the governor desires to delay the start of school, in part, to give districts the time to be well prepared to start school. In many ways, that makes sense to me, but our school does not have many of the challenges that our local public schools have; ie buses, large food service programs, taking the temperature of 1900 students every morning... and our families are paying tuition for every day that we are teaching their students. It seems to me that an executive order that would delay our start for over 2 weeks will do unnecessary harm to our school. If you do vote to uphold the order to delay, please consider waiving the requirement for private schools. We have 200+ students, and we believe we can be ready for our planned start the 3rd week of August with all required safety measures in place. Our school's task force has been meeting all summer to be sure to be ready to go. I would also like you all to know that many in our community are praying for you, as we know this has been a challenging time for all, and that you bear much responsibility for many students, families, teachers, and coaches in Kansas. Thank you for your service to us.
7/21/2020 15:29:36	Denise	Hansel	public school teacher	Mulvane	I support Governor Kelly's plan to open schools after Labor Day. This extra time is needed to make our schools safe for all, and to adjust our plans for a successful school year where all students can learn and be kept safe. Please vote in favor of schools starting after Labor Day. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:29:39	Dana	Braxton		Overland Park	I am ready for my boys to be back at school BUT we need to do it safely. Please delay school until after Labor Day. Give us time to try to get covid #s trending downward. Please put the safety of our children, teachers, staff before politics. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:29:42	Isaac	Burbank	Christ Preparatory Acad	Lenexa	Private schools should without a doubt be allowed to resume school in August. With the small class sizes, social distancing measures can easily be safely implemented. Please allow our children to resume in-person learning, as it is vital to their educational well-being.
7/21/2020 15:29:48	Caitlin	DeFilippo	Kansas resident	Lawrence	I believe that Governor Kelly's executive order should be confirmed. The rates of infection in our state are not yet stable, and outbreaks are happening in various places, both rural and urban. This is a good step toward keeping our communities safe.
7/21/2020 15:30:10	Amy	Rust	Parent of studenta	Olathe	I think kids need to be back on a regular school schedule in person.
7/21/2020 15:30:11	Colleen	Bloom	Sunflower Elementary	Lawrence	I fully support the governor pushing the start date back if it increases the chance of starting in a brick and mortar school!
7/21/2020 15:30:13	Marisela	Hernández		Garden city	Start school as governor Kelly has suggested.
7/21/2020 15:30:19	Gwen	McDonald		Ellinwood	Support this order to delay the school year.
7/21/2020 15:30:22	Jamie	Garrow		Olathe	Please vote to pass the delay in school. We are currently experiencing a spike in cases in our area. Our case numbers are higher than we've had any other time so far in this pandemic. There is also a new study that shows that kids aged 10 and up spread COVID at the same rate adults do.  Please allow schools an opportunity to get the materials needed to keep everyone as safe as possible, and time to see what happens to our case numbers so that we know if in person is a safe option. We need to keep students, staff, and families safe.  Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:30:24	Keli	Thelen	Olathe school district pa	Lenexa	Please allow k-12 students to attend in-person school after labor day. Parents will assume risk and liability. Please give students/parents a choice. The survival rate of Covid19 is over 99 percent, per the CDC. Not all kids are online learners and need in -person education. Thank you!

7/21/2020 15:30:25	Anonymous	Anon		Junction City	It is absolutely and utterly irresponsible to open schools in person for this school year, even for the beginning. As a local scientist, I know first hand of the dangers this will cause. You are not prepared, and cannot be prepared enough to handle an outbreak in a school. Schools are not hospitals and they are not equipped to stay sanitary. It is also not realistic for any parent to ensure their child has spent 6 hours doing schoolwork on the computer. The kids will catch up, but the virus will have a vaccine by around Feb/March. Just let the kids off. Organize zoom conferences for the kids so they feel like they still have some socialization. Do free kindle challenges for books (if you read x amount of books out of this list by the time school starts back you get to join a pizza party!). Don't make this worse on the families who are already struggling because of an innate need for funding. The children come first, always. The teachers, the staff come first, always. Just wait for the vaccine and stop contributing to scaring half the country with unknown plans. You have not given parents feasible options.
7/21/2020 15:30:25	Vance	Flowers	Christ Preparatory Acad	Lenexa	There is no scientific data to substantiate a delayed opening of school. The situation and infection rates are unlikely to improve over the next two weeks, so why delay? We need to get back to school, so we can all get back to work.
7/21/2020 15:30:27	Jenny	Voth		Overland Park	Our children attend Christ Prep Academy. We would like our small, private school to make the decision for our school community, whether in person or virtual learning, instead of a state-wide, one-size-fits-all mandate.  Our daughter takes band at the public school as well. We live with high-risk people and want proper distancing and precautions, but we think that those closest to each community are able to make best decisions. If they need additional time to get things in order, that accommodation should be made.
7/21/2020 15:30:29	Leslie	Coats		Paola	As a high school teacher, I request that you accept the governor's executive order because it allows districts the time to adequately plan for the possible scenarios for delivery of instruction this fall. Without the delay, my district will have two days of professional development/prep time before we have students in our classrooms, one of which is totally consumed by mandated dyslexia training. With the delay, we will alter our calendar and front load our professional development before Labor Day so that we can really be ready for our students no matter how we have to deliver instruction during the upcoming year.  Additionally, the location of Labor Day and Memorial Day in this particular year allows us to still complete our contract days and required student contact time before June even with the delay in beginning school for students. It's a win/win. Please accept the governor's executive order delaying the beginning of school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 15:30:31	Cody	Janousek		Lenexa	As a teacher, I am fully in support of Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-58 that would delay the start of the 2020-21 school year. If we are truly have the health and safety of our students, faculty, and community in mind, we need more time to adapt our educational system to reflect what we know about COVID19. It is my hope that our legislators will consider the information and expertise collected that prompted Governor Kelly to take this direction, and will use this Executive Order to facilitate our return back to a safe and healthy classroom.
7/21/2020 15:30:32	Katarzyna	Spiewacki		Olathe	School needs to be open.

7/21/2020 15:30:50	Matt	Bunker	Parent of 3 students in U	Olathe	I implore the State Board of Education to vote against Governor Kelly's mandate. The mandate itself is overreach and removes representation of public opinion, regardless of the current state of the COVID19 situation. As a parent of 3 students in USD 230, my concern is not about delaying the start date but rather the unnecessary and added agenda of the governor linked to the mandate, specifically the denial of interaction between students, teachers and coaches "including virtual, online, and any other direct or indirect means of providing instruction". COVID19 is not an "electronic virus" and the denial of even virtual communication and valuable interaction between school representatives and students tied to the mandate is abhorrent. It is neither benefiting the health of the student or preventing further spread of a virus. I'd argue the overreach is likely more damaging to the mental health of our students. This is unacceptable in any form and sets up all districts across Kansas for additional denial of local control via mandate for the rest of the school year as well as setting a bad precedent for control via mandate by future governors. Please let Governor Kelly know this is unacceptable for Kansans and allow local school districts the flexibility to care for and meet the safety needs of their students at a local district level. I'm confident that each school district in Kansas does not need to be told via mandate how to keep staff and students safe. I appreciate the time and effort the board has made in providing the districts with guidelines that can be used to execute safety protocols during the 2020-2021 school year. Thank you, Matt Bunker
7/21/2020 15:30:54	Nelly	Tovar	Parent	Wichita	I want to delay for the health of my child. He has had anxiety all summer about going back to school and possibly getting sick or us getting sick. Even if it's just a couple of more months, we would be willing to give up any breaks or have school go into next summer. Anything that could slow down the spread!
7/21/2020 15:30:56	Danny	Gilbert	Family	Hays	Reducing the school year will do absolutely nothing to prevent the spread of disease and it's unfortunate for the kids that their education is being held hostage without any scientific basis the for the fear being spread throughout the country.
7/21/2020 15:30:58	Robin	Stucky		McPherson	This should be left to each School District to decide when they should start back to school. They know if they are ready or not to begin and I would think they should have a plan by now as to what will happen. If they don't then what the heck have they been doing all this time have they stuck their head in the sand.
7/21/2020 15:30:58	Ashley	Reed		Hays	I feel kids need to be in school before labor day. Too many kids are being abused and there is another mental pandemic brewing with our kids. They need the structure of school. With the right precautions and some creativity i think we can open schools safely. Some school districts are having classes held outside. I think we can get creative and please open our schools back up!
7/21/2020 15:31:00	Shanelle	Canaday		Emporia	School is a safe place for so many children. When children from abusive homes don't have a place like school to go to, they are living with more devastation. We know that abuse is up but reports are down as teachers are not there to help and report. Sex trafficking is through the roof. Having children at home to do online school or due to delay is the worst decision to be made. When did we stop putting our children first? The devastation from not being in school is worse than the threat of coronavirus....which if you look at the data is not even a threat. Go look at the data. Coronavirus is not the biggest threat. Children need to be in school, end of discussion
7/21/2020 15:31:03	Marisa	Stone	Gardner Edgerton USD	Gardner	I wanted to take a moment to ask that you please not accept the delayed start that Governor Kelly has imposed. My children need to be in school, not because I need to work or need a babysitter, but because they need their education and their peers. I have a son with autism and he desperately needs his peers and the structure of school. I also have a daughter with severe anxiety and she needs her school schedule and routine as well. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:31:04	Rachel	Ledbetter		Olathe	Private schools have been working through the summer to prepare for opening. Public schools may need their opening to be delayed, but the order should not apply to private schools. At the very minimum private schools should be allowed to start getting kids in the building so they can practice all the new procedures the kids are going to have to follow without eating into additional instruction time.

7/21/2020 15:31:07	Rebekah	Smith		overland park	Delaying school does not benefit the kids. Kids need to be in school. Parents need to be able to work. Delaying the start of school is doing more harm than good. Some kids depend on that time away from a stressful home situation, depend on school for food, and need the physical outlet. Sports, especially outside sports, should go on as well. Kids need an outlet. They need physical activity. Taking away competition and activities is doing more harm than good. It weakens the immune system. Physical activities help to replace mitochondria that makes cells healthy. Unhealthy cells and unhealthy kids make for sick kids. It also affects their psychological well being. If Kids are stuck at home, no physical activities, no healthy competition... you might as well put them all in a bubble. Do you remember the movie, "Bubble boy?" This is ridiculous. You worried about kids and anxiety and depression and suicide before all this... Delaying school and taking away sports will definitely increase... much worse than the possibility of "catching" a disease that may or may not affect them. Good teachers teach despite the risk (school shootings are one example). It is more than a job, it is a mission. The kids are more important. I am a teacher. Let me teach! Masks should not be required. It should be up to the school, parents, teacher.... government has no idea what makes a certain school work. It would be like me coming into your house and telling you how to raise your children... ridiculous. Kids are at no risk. By taking away outside competition sports and school, we are dooming a whole generation. Life is not safe. You can not keep everyone safe from any thing. School shootings, suicide, sickness, death, it will happen. And if you take things away... you are at risk of losing kids to something much worse than a disease.
7/21/2020 15:31:07	Kristi	Williams	Olathe SD	Overland Park	I believe the delay is a great idea from the perspective that this gives the state time to really evaluate the situation. Also it gives districts plenty of time to plan and prepare. Being a teacher on the other side of the state line my state is being forced into hurrying through the process. I would rather them take their time and give us time to make sure we are prepared in the classroom for something that's going to look very different.
7/21/2020 15:31:09	Arlene	Noll		Nortonville, Kansas	Good afternoon. As a parent and former educator, I wanted to express my feeling about the delayed start of school. I firmly stand by the Governors decision to delay the start of school. I think the families, educators, and children all need this extra time to prepare. We all know this school year will be different and in order to ensure we can all be working toward the safest and best environment for the students, staff, and families there needs to be proper preparation. The extra time will allow for this to happen. I think it will allow for a smoother transition into what will likely be a bit of a nontraditional school year.
7/21/2020 15:31:10	Kelly	Ranz	Goddard Parent	Wichita	Keep school closed until after Labor Day
7/21/2020 15:31:11	Ashleigh	Hill		Colby	The proposed date (delay of school starting) is fine with our family. What we are not okay with is wearing masks at school or delaying activities like football, basketball, cheerleading, ect.
7/21/2020 15:31:16	Wendy	Watts	Parent	Lenexa	Voting no
7/21/2020 15:31:20	Liza	Perry		Princeton	I think we need to follow the Governor's order to delay schools for both student and teacher safety.
7/21/2020 15:31:21	Christina	Hicks	Olathe District Walnut C	Overland Park	Please at a minimum keep the delayed start as it will give teachers, parents, and school officials more time to prep and prepare. As a parent I need more than a few days to decide if I am going to enroll my children or not specially since I have yet to see the official plans from our district. I can't make a safe decision without my knowing what to expect for the safety of myself, working in the school, my children, who attend the school, and the vulnerable loved ones we have contact with to help them with daily needs. At least I feel like virtual learning is the best decision and would be in support of the 1st semester being virtual learning to help lower our numbers then slowly introduce children back into the school building at small steps to see how the covid numbers go after allowing a few back at a time. Please consider the unknowns that we still are unaware how covid affects our children and the spread of it from child to child.
7/21/2020 15:31:27	Cathy	Penner	Title*UDS 418	Newton	Please wait until after Labor Day to start school in the hopes that with masks in place we can bring our covid numbers down and allow schools time to get all things in place to have a safe start to the year. Thank you for your consideration!!
7/21/2020 15:31:29	Mindy	Barr	Goddard Middle School	Wichita	I prefer the September 9th start date as the order calls for. With the number of cases on the rise, it buys us more time to hopefully a healthier start.

7/21/2020 15:31:32	April	Brenner	Blue Valley Randolph, U	Randolph Ks	I have three children under the age of 12. They need regular school days. They are desperately looking forward to being in their regular school environment with their peers. They are at critical ages where school is vital to their daily growth. I am a taxpayer & I choose to send my children to public school. If I wanted to homeschool, I would choose that. If I have to mandate my children's remote learning again, I would like to receive monetary compensation for doing so. It was a lot of work & it isn't my career choice. I didn't not see any growth within my children during remote learning. They miss school. Desperately. Please allow school to move forward on September 9th. They WANT to be in school again.
7/21/2020 15:31:35	Stephanie	Wixon	I work for SMSD 512	Lenexa	Please work with Governor Kelly on this! Teachers are terrified to go back right now. It's not safe for us or our students, especially middle and high school aged students. Studies are showing that their transmission rates are much higher than younger children. School districts will worry about state funding if this decision does not come from the state level. Please do not put this pressure on local school board, have courage and take your leadership roles seriously. This is not a political issue, it is an issue of the health and safety of our families and communities.
7/21/2020 15:31:37	Elizabeth	Meagher	USD 383	Saint George	I believe that if we delay school starting, we also need to delay teacher report dates. Teachers with school aged children will be left without care for their children.
7/21/2020 15:31:39	Virgil	Calhoon	Myself	Wichita	PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE! It is science, not politics. Do not send the kids and me back to school when the numbers and infectious rate is high. I drive a school bus, as a lot of us "older" semi-retired people do. Bus drivers are in high demand. We have always been short drivers over the past four years that I have been driving. What protection do we have from Covid; very little other than masks. I carry an "average" number of kids on my bus. Some drivers carry a lot more. I carry 45-55 K-5, and 40-45 6-12. Buses are cramped with little ability to distance anyone on the bus, yet alone control the airborne particles from the kids. Especially, the K-5 kids. Death from Covid is a small part of the consequences. It is way too early for long term comorbidities of the disease to appear. I recently saw where as many as 1 in 8 survivors have some sort of cardiac issue after recovering. It is unknown at this time what the recovery will be. Currently, I think there are about twenty percent of our drivers, older with potential health concerns, that have not made up their minds yet. They, like me, are waiting for the guidelines to come out to see if the risk is worth it. We all want to drive. I have two daughters that are teachers as well. They want to teach but are extremely concerned about protection. I am building plexiglass shields for their desks. Do the schools have ample stockpiles of protective gear and sanitation equipment? Will the hospital staff have enough supplies to protect them? Will they still have enough after all of the school systems stockpile? It's a tough decision. I'm counting on you to make the correct decision.
7/21/2020 15:31:40	Tony	Ballard	Self	Manhattan	I am the father of a 6th grade daughter and and 8th grade daughter. My 8th grade daughter is a high needs special education student with multiple medical issues. My wife is also an elementary teacher. While I want my kids to be back in school and my wife back to work comfortably, I do not believe we are there yet. With so much being decided at the last minute, I believe it would be in the best interest of my wife and my daughter's for school to be delayed. That delay will allow school districts to properly provide the professional development needed to staff of all levels and ensure that buildings and staff are prepared for student arrival right after Labor Day. Personally I do not believe that we will see a significant change in COVID numbers between now and Labor Day, but I do believe that we can see vast improvement to preparedness by teachers and staff if given the appropriate time to work through all that will be expected of them. Districts of ALL sizes and locations will be dealing with new issues this school year that have not been discussed with staff at this point. It is unreasonable to expect that staff will learn, practice and implement all that will be expected of them without giving them the time to work through the process. I ask you to vote in favor of delaying the opening schools across the State of Kansas.
7/21/2020 15:31:46	Susie	Brown	Family	Eudora	By keeping the children home longer and wearing masks all day and for as long as being required, that is hurting their immune system. I'm concerned with the mental and social problems this will also cause along with weakened immune systems. Leave it up to each school district on how they want to handle it and start back to school.

7/21/2020 15:31:52	Tara	Perdue		Lawrence	Comment removed due to profanity
7/21/2020 15:31:55	KYLEE	JAKABOSKY	ELYRIA CHRISTIAN S	MCPHERSON	SCHOOL SHOULD NOT BE DELAYED. OUR CHILDRENS EDUCATION DEPENDS ON IT
7/21/2020 15:31:59	Joanna	Kimball		Westwood, KS	I am a resident of Westwood, KS and also happen to be an Infectious diseases physician at KU medical center. I wanted to voice my support for delaying the school start date. Our numbers are rising plain and simple, and unless those numbers dramatically decrease soon, which we have no evidence that they will, teachers, cafeteria workers, bus drivers, students and their families will all be put at risk. I strongly urge you to support this delayed start.
7/21/2020 15:32:01	Toby	Green		Shawnee	I do not support delaying the start of school. While I am supportive of the mask mandate in place, I feel there is nothing gained by pushing the start of school. With proper social distancing and masks when social distancing can't be achieved returning to school can be done safely. At the very least this decision to be left to the school districts and not a statewide mandate.
7/21/2020 15:32:01	Tamara	Knutsen-Hagemann		Manhattan	I'm glad they aren't starting until after Labor Day and I really wish we we're starting online.
7/21/2020 15:32:06	Chelsee	Poskey		Lawrence	As a teacher myself, I believe that the delay is a MUST. It allows for a number of things to happen, hopefully cases to lower and also more time for districts To prepare a safe and adequate plan. Going back as planned in August is dangerous, stupid, and a risk I'm not willing to take for myself, my family, my students and my students' families. We do NOT deserve this risky situation, our lives should be protected NOT risked by going back too early.
7/21/2020 15:32:07	Sean	West	Self	Overland Park	I believe the Board of commissioners, with input from school and health officials, should make the decision about school start dates and conditions.  The Governors' heavy handed exercise of emergency powers regarding this issue as well as her comments to the Board of Commissioners to "Not make this political" are absolutely appalling. Our school administrators and teachers have been working extremely hard with the health of our children, and their own, in mind. I MUCH PREFER to hear from them rather than have their work blown up by the Governor sitting in Topeka!! Our teachers and administrators will actually be in the building with our kids, shouldn't we hear from them????
7/21/2020 15:32:09	Gail	Sherron		Lawrence	Please delay the start of the school year.
7/21/2020 15:32:11	Somsanit	Sengchan	Self	Lawrence	Yes, delay the start of the school year.
7/21/2020 15:32:16	Jessica	Nagel		Bucklin	Please consider allowing our public schools to start on time rather than delaying until after Labor Day. As a parent of 2 children whom I have previously homeschooled and will be first time enrollments at USD 459, my children are excitedly waiting for the school year to start, especially my Freshman as he is anticipating the start of fall sports. I do not feel that this virus is reason enough to delay. We have spent our summer swimming and playing ball as soon as allowed by Ford County and have had no issues in our small community. I know that there is always a risk for exposure but believe that we can not put our lives on hold any longer for a virus that statistically has shown to have a high recovery rate. As essential workers, my husband and I have continued working through out the pandemic and do not feel that our children would be at any more risk than they already were during that time. It is time for our communities to return to an as normal as possible way of life. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 15:32:25	Arlene	Kirby		Syracuse	Let the kids go to school, on time, without masks. Kids are in the lowest percentile of threat potential.
7/21/2020 15:32:26	Sara	Graff-Daugherty	My children	Spring Hill	I support the decision to delay school opening until we can stabilize the spread of COVID-19 via masks or other methods. Also, I support a delay until we can adequately equip our local schools with funding to provide PPE and a proper social distancing setup.  My children (8 and 9 yrs old) both have asthma and are at higher risk during this pandemic. I believe every school should also offer a fully remote/virtual option for families such as mine. Thank you for putting the safety of our children and teachers first. Your thoughtful and cautious consideration is greatly appreciated.
7/21/2020 15:32:34	Brett	Sramek		Lenexa	It is important for school to start on time and get kids engaged in learning, please vote to start school in August

7/21/2020 15:32:36	Diane	Hulet	My family	Olathe	Please do not delay the school year. Allow the marching bands to practice outside immediately. There is minimal risk for the spread of Covid for outside activities. Covid is less deadly than the flu, especially for children.
7/21/2020 15:32:36	Ty	Wilder	School parent	Hutchinson	The following is from a study they did in New South Wales where they did not shut down school in the heart of the so called pandemic. They found that this virus less contagious than influenza in children. Here is a full link to the study, <a href="http://ncirs.org.au/sites/default/files/2020-04/NCIRS%20NSW%20Schools%20COVID_Summary_FINAL%20public_26%20April%202020.pdf">http://ncirs.org.au/sites/default/files/2020-04/NCIRS%20NSW%20Schools%20COVID_Summary_FINAL%20public_26%20April%202020.pdf</a> . Our detailed investigation of COVID-19 cases in 15 NSW primary and high schools found only two secondary cases, both in students. This was despite initial cases occurring in 9 students (including two students in two schools) and 9 teachers. Very detailed follow-up, including additional testing for the presence of the virus and for antibodies to the virus, occurred in a proportion of the total 863 close contacts identified from the school setting. Our investigation found no evidence of children infecting teachers. One secondary case (in the child in a high school) was presumed to have been infected following close contact with two student cases. The other secondary case was presumed to have been infected by a staff member (teacher) who was a case.
7/21/2020 15:32:45	Faith	Robertson		Overland Park	Delay
7/21/2020 15:32:47	Melissa	Petz	Myself	Wichita	I strongly believe that our children need to be in school, starting on time in August. This is not a risk free society and there will always be risks for our children of something in this world. Many millions of viruses are out there and anxiety, depression are not worth the risk for our children not being in school. They need to be in a structured classroom with teachers and their peers without masks. Please do the right thing for all of our children.
7/21/2020 15:32:56	Valerie	Walter		Beloit	I'm deeply concerned by the closure of schools mandated on the state level, and I implore the State Board of Education to not approve the governor's action. School closure decisions should be left to the county and local school boards.  Barring a miraculous development, this is sure to be a difficult school year for most. I expect multiple extended closures will disrupt nearly every community, complicated more by the upcoming cold and flu season. However, closing schools statewide now, when many students, teachers, and communities in general might be healthy, is unnecessarily shortening the school year further. These warmer months may be our best opportunity for normalcy, and the governor is needlessly taking that away from us.  Local counties and school boards are fully capable of making these decisions for themselves. There are still multiple counties with no active cases, low population density, and small class sizes, and they should not be treated with the same broad brush as Johnson and Shawnee counties. Rural communities may lack many of the advantages of larger cities, but in many ways we are in a superior position to manage this pandemic, and people who don't live here should not be making these decisions for us.  Furthermore, I ask that you allow schools to follow their own county's mandates regarding wearing masks without fear of losing accreditation. A statewide mandate of face coverings for children as young as preschool is unnecessarily detrimental to children's health, development, and emotional well-being. The safety of young children wearing masks has not been proven, in terms of not *increasing* infection due to misuse. Please allow schools and counties to make these decisions at the local level!
7/21/2020 15:32:57	Terah	Robinett		Salina	Please vote in support of the governors executive order.
7/21/2020 15:32:57	Jared	Slusser		Lenexa	The children need to be able to go back to school on time. With already almost 6 months out being out of school, it begins to hurt the student mentally. Not having the schedule and social structure that they need so bad at these ages. Pushing the school back 3 weeks will only open the door to kicking the can down the road and continually pushing the opening back further after each interval. The children and teachers are ready to be back.
7/21/2020 15:32:59	Jeff	Benton		Cimarron	Leave the opening up to the individual districts

7/21/2020 15:33:04	Candy	Hill		Valley Center	It is beyond ridiculous to think these kids need to lose out on anymore education. If a parent is worried they need an option to home school, some children don't learn by being on a laptop. Different learning styles matter and delaying thus is putting already disadvantaged children at an even bigger disadvantage. In no way should expect these children will wear mask appropriately without the urge to share them or pass them around. There should be steps enforced when a child is sick, but children should be in school.
7/21/2020 15:33:08	Kelly	richardson	Patent and teachers	pratt	Please allow our communities to take their own precautions to this virus for our area and let our children get back to the classroom!!
7/21/2020 15:33:12	Kirby	Daetwiler	USD 259	Mulvane	I prefer to wait until after Labor Day to return to school due to the rising Covid 19 numbers at the present time. Why make a serious situation potentially worse?
7/21/2020 15:33:15	Pam	Ogle	Christ Preparatory School	Olathe	I appreciate all that Governor Kelly and her staff are going to keep Kansans safe. I don't pretend to know the best course of action to take. I have family and dear friends in the medical field, including a nephew who went to NYC to help with the Covid 19 crisis there. All are very concerned about this pandemic and both the short and long term effects of this insidious virus. Along with teaching, my husband and I own and run a restaurant. This struggle is very real to all of us on so many levels. As someone teaching in a small, private school, it is important to remember that 'one size' does not fit all. While certain restrictions may be necessary, best practice, for large school systems, the same is not true for a small private school where certain distancing, safety and protective measures can be maintained. We can distance, ensure mask wearing, monitor health, etc. better than a large school setting. We believe that in person class is better for our small community. Our school admin and board have taken extensive measures to evaluate the pulse of our teachers, staff and families and while our views are as varied as the people of our great state, we feel confident that we can create a hybrid model that will meet the varied needs and concerns of our community without moving to solely remote learning or starting late. Thank you for your time and consideration!
7/21/2020 15:33:20	Dani	Durand	Teacher	Garnett	I feel school districts should decide when school starts. Our county (Anderson) has 6 current positive cases compared to Johnson county that has hundreds. I feel that it is critical to get students back in school for their mental health and academic learning.
7/21/2020 15:33:34	Cate	Jenks	Kansas City Christian School	Prairie Village	Hi, I believe that it should be up to each school (private) and district (public) as to whether they want to start school or not. I believe that with schools following the safety guidelines already set forth by the Dept of Education and medical professionals, then the timing of the start of school should be up to each private school or district. If we continue to delay the start based on current trends or numbers then I feel we are in a never-ending cycle of pushing things back. With the likelihood of Covid-19 not being completely resolved quickly and without guarantee, then it is necessary to consider the other ramifications of not having the option for kids to attend school in person and for kids to continue learning online.



					<p>I am concerned that governor is creating executive orders with advice from a very small group of like minded advisors. I understand that your meeting tomorrow is around whether or not to delay the school start date until after Labor Day.</p> <p>1) I agree with delaying the start of school if we are waiting to make sure the schools are prepared, but with the restrictions of EO 20-59 mitigation procedures, how will schools be ready?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Temp checking every person entering the school every day - we have small schools and I don't know how that is feasible. Time, staffing and availability of enough reliable no-touch thermometers are the main barriers.</li> <li>- Masks required for everyone? Data shows that children under 10 aren't generally spreaders, and until they are used to wearing a masks it does more harm than good to have it on.</li> <li>- How do you have masks for everyone? Kids will misplace them and just use someone else's (gross and the opposite of the intent) - why would we expect them to act differently about masks?</li> <li>- I believe that kids from low-functioning households with poor parental support are going to be the ones most impacted</li> <li>- are we going to punishing children because they don't have a mask, or will the schools supply masks for everyone? That's not very reasonable but it would seem it's one or the other.</li> <li>- Who makes sure kids have clean masks? Breathing through a dirty mask makes people sick, again supplying clean masks to everyone?</li> <li>- I have a junior high student with a hearing deficit and she relies on seating preference a bit on lip reading. We know how muffled our speech is through a mask, what kind of learning environment can be created for kids like that?</li> <li>- I believe the schools plans should reflect the student body, staff and the ability of the school to use its space to create safe environments, and yes, I believe that masks and temp checks are part of that. I think that the school districts should continue to work with local public health to develop plans using the Navigating Change guidance tool fitting it to their staff, students, facilities and the COVID-19 data in their area.</li> </ul> <p>2) I agree with delaying the start of school to wait for the data to be more favorable but if we think the number of positive cases will go down by September, I don't know if that is realistic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We are now testing in Kansas at a high rate so the numbers will keep going up. In Ottawa County we have increased positive cases recently mainly due to an out-of-county funeral. Funerals, for one, have caused more spread than any</li> </ul>
7/21/2020 15:33:38	Sara	Hodges	Public School Parent	Bennington	
7/21/2020 15:33:38	Craig```	Archer	Student	Olathe	State BOE please vote NO regarding this E.O.
7/21/2020 15:33:42	Michelle	Siegrist	Christ Prep Academy	Olathe	I've always thought the school year should run between Labor Day and Memorial Weekend. I'm in favor of starting school the day after Labor Day but allowing for teacher in-service days to be completed before Labor Day weekend.
7/21/2020 15:33:46	Angela	Swartz	My family	Pittsburg KS	I think that remote learning needs To be an option for the students in counties where the cases are still rising, like ours. I do not feel that it is safe for children or staff to be crammed into these old buildings with questionable ventilation. It is inevitable that this will cause super spreader issues. This puts everyone in danger - parents, grandparents, people with illnesses. I do NOT want to send my children into that situation. I have health issues that could cause me to get seriously ill if I got Covid. How would my children feel if they brought it home and their mother died from it? We have been diligent about social distancing and masks, while many people around us feel it's a hoax. There will be kids at school who won't follow the rules. I'm not ready to take that chance. I hope distance learning is being considered for the fall semester.
7/21/2020 15:33:50	Theresa	Meiwes	Overland Park Elementa	BASEHOR	Support
7/21/2020 15:33:52	Barbara	Boudreaux	Self	Topeka	Starting schools past Labor Day with no virtual learning in the interim will further set my children behind from their peers in other states. I urge you to require schools to provide virtual learning opportunities during that four week period. There is no reason schools should be wholly stopped from occurring during this nearly month-long delay when virtual learning opportunities exist. There are no local summer camps or other structured learning opportunities during that four week period to engage my children. If everyone wants Kansas children to learn, then let's let them start on schedule virtually in mid-August. The schools, after all, have been preparing since May for this start date.
7/21/2020 15:33:53	Kelly	richardson	Patent and teachers	pratt	Please allow our communities to take their own precautions to this virus for our area and let our children get back to the classroom!!
7/21/2020 15:34:17	Kristin	Brown		Wichita	I am in full support of delaying the start of school. I want schools to be open, but only if our numbers say it's safe.

7/21/2020 15:34:22	Clare	Stafford		Lawrence	All comments are related to High School—No cookie cutter approach like last spring. HS students can handle more in-person and virtual class time and workload. Grades need to count this time. Require masks in schools, classrooms (unless min. 6ft. distancing is possible, open windows). Consider staggering/alternating high school grade levels on certain days, times. Allow local districts to develop creative plans that best fit their communities. Please don't set low standards. Make HS students accountable for attendance and grades by giving districts guidelines that set expectations high for learning. We send 60% of our taxes for public education. Parents and students should expect a public education that delivers academic excellence as a return on investment.
7/21/2020 15:34:26	Liz	Ewing	Educator	Wichita	Please honor the governor's mandate and give us the gift of time. We need numbers to go down to feel safe and we need time to plan effectively.
7/21/2020 15:34:27	Jana	Peirce	Rockville elementary US	Louisburg	I agree with the governor's executive order.
7/21/2020 15:34:31	Lindsay	O'Neil	DeSoto School District	Olathe but within school	Please delay the start of school or utilize remote learning until there are no new cases for at least 14 days. The cases are steadily rising in Kansas and it is unsafe for our students and staff to return to school. Please do the responsible thing and keep families at home.
7/21/2020 15:34:43	Elizabeth	Musil		Manhattan	My hope is that the board will vote to uphold Executive Order 20-58. Delaying the start of school will allow districts and educators to properly plan for the school year with social distancing measures in place. Many districts have not yet finalized plans for exactly what the school year will look like - if we start in August, there will not be enough time to plan quality education, be it online or distanced in the classroom. Delaying the start of school will give time for educators to react once opening plans are announced and finalized.
7/21/2020 15:34:52	Carol	Burgardt	Retired teacher	Wakeeney	Vote yes to start school after Labor Day. Protect our children and teachers!
7/21/2020 15:34:56	Doug	Westerhaus	My famil	Overland Park	Please support Gov. Kelly's Executive Order to delay school start until after Labor Day - for the sake of safety.
7/21/2020 15:34:57	Angela	Portenier		Washington	I feel that it would make no difference in health if we start school at the regular scheduled time. These kids need classroom education. I also feel requiring face masks will not benefit a proper learning environment.
7/21/2020 15:35:03	Rebecca	Miller	Broadmoor Elementary	Louisburg KS	Our family as well as the others in our neighborhood would like school to start in August. These kids have been home since March, losing out on education and social interaction. They miss friends, teachers, school and staff. This is a small town that needs schools open in order to thrive. Waiting an additional month over minimal cases here seems more detrimental to the kids then the public if school was to open on time.
7/21/2020 15:35:12	Kristina	O'Connell	private school parent	Bucyrus	Students need to be in the classrooms learning. Delaying the start of school will hurt students. Any action to be done should be on a school by school basis. IF they have anyone in that school building contract the virus, then that school needs to deal with it. As for private schools they should be allowed to open when they see fit and not be mandated by the government. They receive no government aid so therefore the government should not be allowed to put restrictions on them.
7/21/2020 15:35:16	Terresa	Kohman		Rural Solomon	I support Governor Kelly's postponement of schools until after Labor Day. Having served on USD 393 school board for 12 years, I understand the tough decisions schools have to make to keep them safe for students and staff. As a grandparent of school age grandkids, I'm even more concerned about the safety in schools.
7/21/2020 15:35:17	Holly	Day	Parent of middle school	Olathe	As a parent of a student going into the 8th grade this Fall, I would like to see him begin school, on campus, in August. If the decision to open schools after Labor Day is final, then I would like to not see another delay after that. I understand the importance to keep staff and students safe during the pandemic and that school will look different. My student does better in class vs remote learning. Speaking for myself, I am willing to do what I can for him and others to stay safe while learning in school. Whatever that looks like. I appreciate your consideration in this matter and the hard work that I know this is causing.  Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:35:19	Noel	Delgado	Sunflower Elementary S	Liberal, KS	The consequences of bringing together small children and then sending them home just does not make any logical sense in the middle of a pandemic. Most children lack the discipline to keep hands off their face and they love to touch everything! I believe a delay is better than starting everything and then having to shut down later due to students/teachers getting sick.
7/21/2020 15:35:21	Kate	Carnahan		Lawrence	Please allow sports to continue. These kids need an outlet of some kind of school cannot happen. It's so important for their mind body and soul.

7/21/2020 15:35:41	Karla	Haggard	Self & Kids	Gem, KS-Colby USD 31	I feel the kids need to get back to whatever kind of "normal" is possible at this point. They need to be in school and have structure and the chance to see their friends and teachers. Things with this virus are making it hard to have the "normal" we know. I'm not a fan of the kids having to wear masks but if it means they can be back in school with a somewhat "normal" atmosphere then my vote is to let them go back and go back in August. What is a couple weeks going to do? Waiting till September doesn't make it any safer than it would be right now. Let them get back into a routine and back to learning the way they're used to. Too many kids are suffering from not having that structure and atmosphere. The help of the teachers, the support of friends and activities. Have hand sanitizer, put in some plexiglass for separators in places if needed. I work in the court system and we have managed to make it work with plexiglass barriers, masks and frequent cleaning, washing of hands and sanitizer. I think the schools could do that too. Kids need to be back to school and whatever kind of "normal" they can have at this point. Kids still need to be kids and not miss out on everything because of this stupid virus and fear. At the very least, look at each individual school and the areas they are in. We are in Western KS and it's not as bad out here as it is in the Eastern part of the state and the more populated areas. So don't lump ALL schools together. Take time to look at the areas and what they're dealing with. How many cases they've had and how many recovered. Right now, we've had 20 cases and 18 are recovered out of a county of 10,000. Those are pretty good numbers. Those are things to take into consideration and not just lump the whole state into one pot. I vote for starting in August like normal and taking precautions so kids can go back and continue life! Don't let them live a life of fear.
7/21/2020 15:35:45	Melanie	Beard		Riley	I believe districts should be allowed to independently make the decision on when to open and to what degree, as well as to determine what methods should be available (on campus, distance, hybrid). My reasoning behind this is that what is necessary for a large district may be more drastic than what is needed for a smaller district. Similarly, what is sufficient for a smaller district may not be enough to ensure safety of staff and students or a larger district. Size of a district is not the only deciding factor that should be looked at. The number of cases and how it is believed COVID-19 is being spread differs from area to area and city to city. These are things that should also be considered. To make a blanket law for all districts does not make sense when considering what is best for students and staff.
7/21/2020 15:35:45	Courtney	Weis	USD 232	Shawnee	Please vote no to the governor's mandate regarding schools in Kansas. I believe that Kansas is such a diverse state that the decision needs to be left to each district as to when to begin and what class options will look like. There are many areas that are not overrun with COVID cases and would be perfectly safe to begin school.  I have read the Board's recommendations and they are solid. I feel confident that they have also provided options that will work for EVERY family. When numerous pediatricians (medical professionals) say that our children need to be back in school, I believe them!  Let's not politicize this decision and please ask the governor to stop overreaching into education. She is a politician! I understand teachers are worried, but essential workers have been working this entire time, including my husband. Education is ESSENTIAL and we need to get back to it!  Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:35:49	Amanda	Nolasco	Usd 204	Bonner Springs	I am a school counselor for Usd 204. One of the arguments for school reopening is a concern for the mental health of students. However, bringing students back to the school building during a pandemic when the numbers are trending upward will only cause an increase of mental health issues for students and teachers. Educators need as much time as possible to delay school reopening to make sure that it is a safe place for students to be. Not only should the board vote to uphold the executive order and delay school, they should also recommend virtual learning to prioritize the health and safety of educators and students.
7/21/2020 15:35:51	Erin	Ensz		Lawrence	I stand with the governor's plan to delay the start of school until a decrease in number on Covid cases is seen. I am a registered nurse and know the governor is making decisions based on science and safety. Please do not cave to those who do not base their feelings in facts and are using this issue to divide and politicize. Please show that Kansas is a state of common sense with educated leaders and follow the governor's plan.

7/21/2020 15:35:57	Rachel	Brown		Wichita	Please allow school to start on time, our kids have already been out of school for 5 months. Let the parents decide what is best for their kids. We want a vote against the executive order. We are 100% against starting after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 15:36:00	Deena	Clark		Hays	I would request you consider having school as normal as possible and extra curricular activities. I work In the schools as a counselor/educator and I also have children. Life is not a "non-risk!" The risks of not starting (abuse, mental health issues, suicides, etc) are far higher than the chance of our students getting Covid-19. I am not scared to go back to work. We will have precautions in place and use good hygiene, as we should on any given day. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 15:36:00	Sarah	Morales	Parent in the district	Geary	I prefer schools to delay opening
7/21/2020 15:36:02	Lynette	Koon	Student Parent	Colby	I understand the students need to be back in school for numerous reasons. These are scary times in more ways than just worrying about spreading the Covid virus. Our community has been fortunate thus far to have had very few cases of Covid-19, but due to that reason, there is a mentality here that this virus is not that serious and many individuals seem to think it is all a hoax and they are not taking the situation as seriously as they should be. I feel it's best to follow the governor's mandate to wait until after labor day to start school. That allows this community to see what happens after the county fair and a few other public events that are planned and to give the State, as a whole, more time to slow the spread (if that's possible), and the school leaders more time to work on the best possible plan for the safety of our kids and families. Thank you for the opportunity to give my opinion.
7/21/2020 15:36:07	Amanda	Winter		Andale	I think postponing until after Labor Day is a good idea if this will give school districts needed time to make classroom adjustments, acquire PPE and help keep our kids safe during the school year as well as hopefully see our numbers improve and have less disease burden on our local hospitals and resources.
7/21/2020 15:36:08	Melissa	Ross		Wichita	Please follow CDC guidelines. Listen to science and data and delay opening school.
7/21/2020 15:36:09	Rachelle	Morrison	Colby Public Schools	Colby	I am concerned about any physical school start date now. Local people have made the decision to hold the county fair. Two weeks from that event we will have a guaranteed increase in cases. This time line will come close to an earlier start date. If we wait until after labor day, then the irresponsible people who do not wear a mask or social distance will attend gatherings and will infect others. I have entertained the idea of homeschooling but am on the fence as my children feel they learn better in person. I am interested in the recommendations set forth by the board to protect our students health, their families health, and the community as a whole. You have a tough decision ahead and I realize not everyone is going to be happy with what you decide. Please make the decisions with your hearts and not based on politics. This whole situation has become political and decisions need to be based on what is the best for the children of Kansas. I will be praying for all of you as you decide what the future education of Kansas children will be.
7/21/2020 15:36:19	Nicholas	Quenzer		Colby	I am against the late start for the 20-21 school year.
7/21/2020 15:36:20	Holly	Schmitz		Baileyville, ks	I would strongly like school to start on original date set and not wait until after Labor Day. The kids need to be back in school for a multitude of reasons. Safety is important but mental health more important.
7/21/2020 15:36:21	Deborag	Hamil	Maranatha Christian Ac	Lenexa, Kansas	I ask that school would be able to start in August. Students and parents are ready for school to begin in August. Please don't extend it longer, past Labor Day. If nothing else, let each district make their own decision based on the demographics of what part of the state they are in. A blanket start/no start, isn't the best decision as some schools don't need an extra 6 weeks from now to get ready. Thank you for your consideration and all the work you put into this. I don't think that the whole state of Kansas needs to wait until September to start school. Thank you!
7/21/2020 15:36:26	Blake	Shinkle		Overland Park	I would like the executive order to be approved.
7/21/2020 15:36:33	Alyssa	Detwiler		Manhattan	I think schools should not be in person at this time. The first semester should be online.
7/21/2020 15:36:34	Julie	Laflen	Teacher	Pittsburg	The longer we can wait to put kids back in the building, the better. Teachers need TIME to learn how teach online and set up correct protocols for the classroom.
7/21/2020 15:36:46	Daniel	Dennis		Colby	Comment removed due to profanity

7/21/2020 15:36:48	Amanda	Chen		Olathe	Schools are safer and will comply with more rigorous cleaning policies than most public places people are already visiting. There are options for those who feel uncomfortable with sending their children, but please don't deny mine the right to the best education available due to fear or political agendas. Schools will likely face setbacks if cases spike again in the Fall as predicted so getting kids back on track as soon as possible is a key to educational excellence. My daughter, Kansas middle school teacher (100+ students), her husband, Kansas higher education instructor (200+ students), my 3rd grade granddaughter (19+ classmates) will return home, daily, bringing the possibility of exposure from a pool of over 300+ people. School for this year is unhealthy for teachers, instructors, and students.
					Let the schools be the first segment of society to set Covid boundaries by:  Virtual learning for the majority of students to last minimally through March 2021 or throughout the 2020/2021 school year.  Provide limited services for certain special education students and at-risk-for-abuse students.  Make internet hotspots available throughout Kansas for rural and non-internet zones.  Make equipment such as tables, computers, available for those without.  Give support to one parent staying home by giving guidance and skills regarding school learning and appropriate parenting.  Provide free lunches to those in need.  No foreclosures, evictions or utility cut-off during the pandemic.  Print the money to support those in need that are caring for children - it certainly isn't the same as giving out gold.  The children will quickly pick-up on education when Covid is over. This too will pass. Help it pass more quickly by being giving, compassionate, logical and health minded.
7/21/2020 15:37:00	Dayna	Peacock		Prairie Village	
7/21/2020 15:37:07	Joel	Arnold		Kingman	1. This is a local decision not a statewide decision. There are counties where there are still 0 cases, and many where it is in the single digits. This is having a huge impact on families, and in these areas, there is simply not the risk to justify something so detrimental to our kids and parents. 2. This just goes against science. The science on how kids are impacted by covid is very different than how it impacts adults. Studies in Denmark, Ireland, Australia, many more have detailed that schools reopening in those countries did not lead to a rise in infections among adults. Kids aren't driving the spread. 3. As a school principal, I don't buy the whole "schools need time to prepare" talking point. We had our plan 90 percent ready before Gov. Kelly's mandates, and then everything completely changed. We realize that our plan is going to go through even more changes as we adapt to the latest information. We are never going to be 100 percent ready. But we won't know what adjustments need to be made until we can put the plan into practice, and that needs kids in the building! So whether it is Aug or Sept, we are just going to have to be flexible.
7/21/2020 15:37:11	Rita	Mudd	Home	Belleville	Yes if it's needed by our school teachers and workers to make the changes that will make a smoother transition.

7/21/2020 15:37:12	Cynthia	Jacobsen	Christ Prep Academy pa	Olathe	I see no logical reason to delay the start of school if appropriate precautions can be taken. Our school and most others in the Johnson County area have been preparing all Summer for any contingency, whether it be online or in person education. There is no justification for mandating a delay for all schools, regardless of their particular circumstances. Not even allowing online classes to happen until after September 8th doesn't make any sense at all from an infection control standpoint. I would appreciate the Kansas board of education to allow school districts and private schools to make decisions appropriate to their circumstances instead of an all encompassing rule that makes the school year disjointed and sub-par again.
7/21/2020 15:37:17	Rex	douglas		Weir	First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas. Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening. I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following: Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities. In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions. This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense. Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.
7/21/2020 15:37:23	Belle	Gifford		Paola	Please do online classes. We need to protect our kids! It's just not safe to let them back into school! Why was it not safe last March, when school was closed for their safety, and there weren't as many people sick and dying from Covid-19, and why would it be safe now, when there are so many more cases and more people dying ???
7/21/2020 15:37:32	Derald	Carlson		Lawrence	I support delaying the school year. Do not open while infections are rising, wait as long as it takes until they are way down.
7/21/2020 15:37:36	Karen	Graves	Blue River Family Medi	Manhattan	As a family practice physician in Kansas, I implore you to postpone the opening of K-12 schools until after Labor Day. Our schools and teachers are not prepared to open in less than a month. Schools should not operate at full in house capacity. Hybrid options should be considered. ALL students K-12 should be REQUIRED to wear a mask to school, or be sent home. This a public health issue and must be treated as such. Politics does not belong in this discussion.
7/21/2020 15:37:43	Suzanne	Quick		Fort Scott	Our children need to return to face to face, in the classroom, learning as originally scheduled prior to Governor Kelly's mandate to push the starting of schools until after Labor Day. All sports activities including; conditioning, weights, practice and games should also resume as originally scheduled. If there are parents, students or teachers that do not feel safe returning to the regular classroom setting then they can choose to do online schooling/teaching. Let the parents decide if their children should return to the classroom and sports. I know that my child learns best from face to face instruction and I want my child back in the classroom. I also know the importance of sports and the roll they play in education and I want my child practicing and playing sports! The children have already lost so much from this virus. 3 months of classroom instruction and well as their Spring sports, proms and graduations. This virus will effect these children more mentally than it will ever effect them physically. Holding kids back until after Labor Day will not change anything except delay their education even further! If a waiver needs to be developed for children to be involved in practices and sports then I know that I along with many others will sign it. We will not live in fear and our children should not be punished because of this virus. We as parents should have the choice to decide what the next year will look like for our children.
7/21/2020 15:37:44	William	Titterington	Tax Paying grandfather	Clearwater	I believe the kids need to get back into a bricks and mortar school environment. Day cares seem to have been operating without major issues or positive cases for 3-4 months now in a similar environment. Waiting until Labor Day is fine but make some decisions so that teachers can make plans. Quit kicking the can down the street.

7/21/2020 15:37:45	Dedra	Boggs		Wamego	I believe parents and local school districts are the ones who should determine when and how students return to school. It is important students return to school as soon as possible, understanding a student loses nearly 40% of the knowledge they have gained in the summer break and our students have been away from meaningful instruction for nearly two months longer than they would during a normal summer break. For some children with underlying health issues, putting them at greater risk from Covid-19, in-person learning may not be possible. They should be assisted in receiving the instructional direction best fitting for their situation. However, for a majority of students the risk is small and following safety protocols should be adequate for their needs. Again, local school districts and parents are the best ones to determine the right actions for their students. Please, revoke the Executive Order delaying the start of school.
7/21/2020 15:37:48	Jennifer	Clevenger	Christ Prep Academy	Lenexa, KS	Please consider letting private schools be exempt from the start date. Our family believes that CPA will be ready and able to start on time. With the small size and high teacher to student ratio, they should be able to determine when they are prepared. When school was shut down in March, CPA was ready for online Zoom classes with only one day missed to prepare. We feel our 17 year old daughter did not miss anything in her final quarter of the year academically, all due to the preparedness of CPA.
7/21/2020 15:37:53	Kelly	Temple	A self-employed/stay at	Wichita	Do not delay school! These kids need social interaction!!!
7/21/2020 15:37:53	Sheri	Bonnet	USD253	Emporia	Please support Gov. Kelly's Sep. 9 start date. A few more weeks can't hurt.
7/21/2020 15:37:53	Michelle	Daugharthy		Roeland Park	I would like to ask that each school be allowed to make their own decision based on where they live and who they serve.
7/21/2020 15:37:55	Jen	Rosema		Olathe	I want our students to be able to go to school in person, so if that means they need to wait a bit longer to make that possible and safe then I am all for it. However, I do believe students should be allowed to practice and participate in sports prep at this time. This is so important to their emotional and physical health, and the programs and practices are being done in a safe way.
7/21/2020 15:38:13	Danielle	Molloy		Overland Park	I'm so proud of our governor and lawmakers for putting our children, teachers and citizens first!
7/21/2020 15:38:13	Magan	Harrell	USD204	Lenexa	I am a secondary teacher who is eager to go back to work, however I have concerns. I think there should be a delay so that schools/districts can develop a safe plan to return. Our district has nothing set up. I along with others are autoimmune compromised and do not feel comfortable returning to school without any set plans about what happens if a student is sick, PPE for staff, discipline for students who do not comply with mask mandate, helping students while maintaining, are we going back at 100% capacity or will there be a hybrid, what curriculum are we using for online options, how to catch students up who opt out of in school learning. There are too many unanswered questions for us to return on Aug 13th. And if admin wants us to return as a staff via Zoom and not in person, doesn't that say a lot about how safe they feel? They won't do in person staff development, but expect teachers and students to return at full capacity without safety measures does seem like it's in the best interest of students or staff.
7/21/2020 15:38:15	Kimberly	Harber	Eureka USD 389	Greenwood county	I think it is a huge mistake!! They are controlling us for a socialist economy and we have to stop them. I am not saying there is no virus, but it is spread like any other. And every person that has died was immune compromised! Allow time for handwashing No sharing of drinking/eating supplies, and checking temperatures is ok, masks don't help. But follow good hygiene Do not let them railroad you!!
7/21/2020 15:38:19	Karen	Hanneman		Lawrence	I fully support Governor Kelly's decision to postpone the reopening of schools. My child will not return prior to September 8th.
7/21/2020 15:38:28	Heather	Adams Encinias		Kismet	Open schools this new generation is dying from not learning, no social interaction...
7/21/2020 15:38:32	Michelle	Daise		Shawnee	Thank you for delaying the start of school to allow local districts additional time to determine the safest return for students and staff.
7/21/2020 15:38:33	Amy	Kirkpatrick		Parker	I believe that we don't need to delay school starting. Three weeks is not going to change anything and we have had months now to prepare for all of this. Our children need to go back to school in the school and be adequately taught. If there are teachers who don't want to go back then replace them or don't pay them. The rest of the world has had to go back to real life and function. That's life!

7/21/2020 15:38:34	Danya	Banning	Parent in BVSD	Leawood	Our children need to go back to school. If we delay until September, our kids will have been out of school for almost 6 months. What learning there was the last quarter of school was not really learning. My 5th grader was on a zoom call once a week with his teacher for 30 minutes. PPE should have been purchased well in advance of order 20-59 so to delay for that reason is ridiculous. Since there was an option for families to enroll their children in remote learning, I don't understand why we can't start there if the Health Department does not feel the kids should go back in person. If a child needs a computer, can't the schools have pick up times like we did for our kids belongings. Parents need to get back to work and kids needs to get back to school. Mental health of being out of school needs to be looked at too.
7/21/2020 15:38:35	catherine	seals	self--educator	topeka	Please support of the executive order to delay the start of school until September 9th.
7/21/2020 15:38:36	Carissa	Marshall		EMPORIA	no
7/21/2020 15:38:40	Amanda	Miller	USD 383, Marlatt Eleme	Manhattan, KS	PLEASE pass this. Elementary teachers ARE NOT READY to start school in August. We need time to train for online learning, move everything online, prepare our physical rooms to follow safety guidelines as close as possible, recreate plans that rely on small group learning and sharing, and then all the normal beginning of the year things. Older grades may be prepared, but elementary IS NOT. I was relieved when Gov. Kelly announced this, and I am hoping it is upheld either at the state level or by our district. Teachers need more time.
7/21/2020 15:38:48	Lisa	Yoder	McPherson USD 418, H	Hesston	I would encourage the board to confirm the governor's order to delay the start of school. As an educator, I want us to get kids back in school AND I want us to do it safely. I believe it would be so beneficial for educators to have more time to plan for the safety measure we need to put into place so that kids and staff can be safe in the school building. If we rush this, we could make mistakes, and unfortunately, that could result in very serious consequences. If we have more time, we can get it done well. More time will also allow Covid numbers to go down across the state and make schools even safer. I have talked to many parents who want their kids to have the opportunity to be in the school buildings - this extra time allows us to make that a safer environment. As a parent, I want my children to go to school and not wonder or worry about safety - if this extra time is given, educators will have time to adequately plan for and provide that safe environment.  I understand this has become political - this deeply saddens me. Please make the best decision for public health and remember, it's not just kids returning to school, it's adults who love to work in education in the state of Kansas. I have worked in 2 KS school districts and am a parent in a 3rd district - you know what's been the same thing in all those districts? Kansas teachers work hard and go above and beyond to meet the needs of their students, whether it's educational, physical, emotional, etc. Give these loving, caring, well-trained, and intelligent public servants the time to make safe and lasting decisions for this coming school year.
7/21/2020 15:38:53	Judy	Scheuerman	USD #428	Great Bend	Start school as usual ... no delays anymore !!
7/21/2020 15:38:55	Shelby	M		Spring Hill	Vote yes! For the safety of our students, staff and families, PLEASE vote yes to delaying school until at least September 9th.
7/21/2020 15:39:00	Hailey	Danyelle		Buhler	As a student myself I say schools need to reopen because by September I will already be out of school for six months. Six months which is way to long. This is my education and we should get a say. I understand everyone's concerns with masks, as a student I know for a fact it won't work and they will get in the way. I can hardly focus on a test when the heater is on in school little alone sitting in 7 classes with a mask on. Especially because with my heart issues my heart rate goes up and I can't breathe. Masks should be optional for students, saying that I know that most students will want to wear one to be safe. Masks should be required for teachers because studies show that adults spread it more than kids. We can take the precautions with extra cleaning and hand sanitizer and making sick kids stay at home and doing a two week quarantine before starting up school again. If the schools decide to make the classrooms smaller and limit the children to things they will not find joy in school and their mentality will go down drastically. I want to be able to sit with my friends at lunch and talk to them in the classroom. I would also like to add that last year a sickness that everyone thought was influenza spread around my school around flu season. Sickness is going to go around schools no matter what happens that's just how it is. All we can really do is take precautions but we don't need to make school not joy able.



7/21/2020 15:39:01	Sunny	Weiner	Parent	Gardner	Please send our kids back to physical school. Online is not beneficial and is not giving our children quality education. The learning That was done from March through the end of school was sub-par at best, and most kids did not log in. Many children do not have adult supervision so they are falling through the cracks widening the gap between the have and have nots. Our children are becoming hopeless and depressed. They need social interaction and the opportunity to strive for success in the classroom and with extra curricular activities. Depression and despondence are a greater risk for our youth then COVID. Surely 5.5 months has been an adequate enough time for the schools to put sensible plans together and get hand sanitizer. The loss of learning time Will be compounded by a late start date. It's time to get back to living.
7/21/2020 15:39:14	Megan	Owen	USD 233	Olathe	Please don't open schools and sentence, me, my children, my students and their families to death. Covid is rampant in Johnson County right now. We need a state mandate to make the district delay opening. Please keep us safe.
7/21/2020 15:39:17	Shelisa	Welde	Elementary teacher & parent	Overland Park	Teachers want nothing more than to welcome our students back to the safe, creative, nurturing environment school provides when the time is right and that is not right now. We're in the business of keeping kids safe. We practice fire, tornado, and active shooter drills. How do we not choose the safest path with a pandemic? Medical experts, including the US Surgeon General, and data support this delay even if politics do not. While the death rate is low among children so far we must think about the adults that run the school as well as the undetermined long term effects of the virus. Delaying just 3 weeks can put us in a safer position by giving time for the mask mandates to lower the transmission rate while giving us time to increase the physical changes and supplies needed within our schools. Delaying could decrease the likelihood of multiple opening and closing cycles which will be more disruptive in the long run. The calendar shouldn't force us back into a metaphorical burning building. Have you been in a room 7 hours a day with 23 five year olds? Social distancing and germ prevention is the exact opposite instinct of a child. 3 weeks could literally be life changing...make that live saving. Yes, sacrifices will need to be made, but I refuse to believe those sacrifices should be our students, teachers, principals, counselors, paras, lunch workers, janitors, and families. Let's be on the side of history of this awful pandemic who does everything they can to protect our most valuable resource, our schools. Please vote to support the delay.
7/21/2020 15:39:27	Laura	Sixta	De Soto High school	Shawnee	If we do not delay school until Kansas gets this outbreak under control, students will transmit the virus, teachers and staff will get sick, and people will needlessly die. Do not make me jeopardize the health and safety of my family.
7/21/2020 15:39:27	Jessie	Pullins	Blue valley	Leawood	Delay til 2021
7/21/2020 15:39:35	Mary Grace	Lanese	self	Leawood	I fully support Governor Kelly. Personal distancing, wearing of masks, and delaying the beginning of the school year until after Labor Day. I do not want the health and lives of the children of this state jeopardized. The Governor listens to facts presented by the public health authorities before making her decisions. I support her researched based decisions.
7/21/2020 15:39:37	Ashlee	Jack	Patent	Overland Park	I feel that someone needs to put our teachers and students before politics! Let other states open and be test subjects, we don't need it to be our kids.

7/21/2020 15:40:04	Savana	Debo	USD 447	Liberty	I have struggled for some time on what exactly to say to share my concerns for returning to school when Coronavirus cases are increasing rapidly in our state and county. What it all comes down to is that I feel the risk outweighs the benefits of returning to in-person schooling at this time. Yes, I am just as concerned about the students I work with that have social, emotional, and mental health needs being at home for extended periods of time. I am assured that teachers, counselors, and school social workers will undoubtedly continue to provide those students and families with support and resources they need whether we are in-person or working remotely. However, I agree with Governor Kelly and feel that to send students and teachers into schools when this serious virus is running rampant is too risky. You are essentially asking teachers to put themselves and their own families at risk for severe illness, possible lifelong health issues, and potential death to ensure that students don't "get behind in their studies". Not only are you asking teachers to walk into very risky situations, but you are also asking students and their families to carry that risk as well. Valuing the lives of Kansans is of the utmost importance. I have heard arguments from people that have several variations but technically say "essential workers have never stopped working, we should send kids back to school". The difference is that an adult essential worker has so much more control over their environment. They can step back if others are getting too close. They can keep their mask on all day. And they can do the tasks of their job sufficiently without too many added measures. Putting students back in the classroom while this deadly virus is increasing at fast pace will not only put everyone at risk, we can potentially cause more harm to students by being forced to continually urge them to "stay back", "keep your mask on", and "play by yourself in your isolated area". This is not how our children are appropriately socialized or educated. I feel that the stress of teaching and learning in this type of environment could not possibly achieve the amount of growth that we were able to pre-covid and I also think that more can be learned at a distance and online. This is just a temporary sacrifice to ensure that thousands of children, families, and educators are not put into unnecessary risky situations. Insurmountable Coronavirus illness, health complications, and deaths will occur if schools return too soon. I have stayed home and quarantined since mid-March, not attended any social gatherings, shopped for groceries online, and ordered meals curbside pick-up to ensure that my family and high-risk loved ones are safe. That will all feel pointless if I am forced to walk into school amongst those that haven't taken this virus seriously and social distanced at all. Its a terrifying feeling to want to be there for my students but to do it at the risk of my own children and family members. The only way I know how to do both in the current state of our world is to do it remotely. Please postpone physically opening schools until it is safe to do so.
7/21/2020 15:40:14	Candace	Davis	Maranatha Christian	Olathe	I wish school to start as planned. I have 3 girls k, 2nd and 6th and they miss the social interaction and also the additional learning they miss during a classroom setting.
7/21/2020 15:40:15	Anita	McDaniel	Retired Teachers	Pittsburg	This is the best idea ever. It's dangerous for children, teachers, other school personnel , parents and especially grandparents otherwise. Labor Day may NOT be long enough. ,
7/21/2020 15:40:18	Meghan	Shave		Park City, KS	Please uphold the Governor's order to delay the start of schools. Maybe we will then be able to send our children to schools safely. If schools start in August, I do not believe it will be a safe environment for our children. I understand that some feel this should be left up to local districts. Unfortunately, we cannot be sure that different districts or counties will make the best decisions for the safety of our children. As a parent, I allow my children to make decisions for themselves. There are times that I have to step in and make the decision for them. In the middle of a pandemic, it is completely acceptable for the state to step in and help us with these decisions. Thank you!
7/21/2020 15:40:22	Cindy	Johnson		Wichita	I am for waiting till after Labor Day to start.
7/21/2020 15:40:24	Jesse	Carr	-	Lawrence, KS	Please uphold Gov Kelley's decision to delay the start of school! I have a kid in elementary and a kid in middle.
7/21/2020 15:40:32	Tai	Edwards	Parent	Lawrence	I understand the reason for delaying start until after Labor Day. However, I think school districts should have the choice to start ONLINE LEARNING prior to that date. Our children need some kind of curriculum. We need some kind fo academic fulfillment. Also, if the entire school year is online, without any option to send children to school buildings where at least someone can help them with their online assignments, my spouse and I will not be able to work and my children will be in mental health collapse. One of my children was already in mental health collapse in May. I want people to be safe. But "going to school like normal" vs. "exclusively online" are not the only choices. Every government owned property (whether by city, county, or state) that is not at full capacity right now should be transitioned to temporary school space. Limit it to 10 people if need be. We should be asking our local churches and utilizing other vacant properties for this work. I'd like to see an executive order related to these issues as well.

7/21/2020 15:40:43	Mary	Plott	Teacher	Salina	I love my students and cannot wait to see them, however I feel waiting until the numbers are down is the safest choice. Thank you for all you do for kids and teachers.
7/21/2020 15:40:44	Kayla	Smith		Winfield	I support the governor's executive order for schools to open after Labor Day with safety measures in place. I am an elementary teacher and I am worried for myself, my family, and my students' health should school resume as normal. Please allow our districts the extra time to plan for appropriate safety measures.
7/21/2020 15:41:00	Gay	Henrikson-Ladwig		Wichita	I support delaying the start of school until after Labor Day (or later, if necessary) in order to reduce the infection rate of COVID-19 and bend the curve back to a statistically safer number, as well as reducing the census of COVID-19 cases in our hospitals.
7/21/2020 15:41:06	Jaime	Kavanaugh	Maranatha Christian Ac	Lenexa	I would prefer schools to open as previously scheduled for August 12th, with safety precautions in place (masks, sanitizer, etc).
7/21/2020 15:41:16	Kimberly	Copenhaver	USD 443 and USD 225	Fowler	In the best interests of all Kansas stakeholders, I urge you to move in favor of delaying the start of school until September 9th. This will give districts time to plan, provide training, and gather supplies in order to meet the recommendations of KSDE and Governor Kelly's EO on safety protocols. I realize that this is usually a local decision, however many districts are scheduled to start school in a mere 3 weeks. This is not a realistic timeline for schools to be ready. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 15:41:31	Andy	Lee	Myself and my school as	Prairie village	I believe we need to make sure to do best for everyone involved, not simply the children. While it turns out that children are less affected by Covid, that does not mean that they will not cross contaminate one another, contaminate or sick and the teachers and staff at the schools, nor does it mean that they will not bring home Covid to family members. I believe we need to look at a hybrid or combination of in school and online studies, and provide reasonable accommodations for learning. Nothing will be perfect, and someone will always be left out but we need to do what is best for the greater good.
7/21/2020 15:41:36	Linda	Franklin		Goodland	Please, our children need to be in school! Surely teachers should be considered essential. Many of the rest of us have continued in our jobs for the betterment of the community and so should they. If they don't want their jobs, let someone else have them. Our children are missing out in too much already. Thanks for your service.
7/21/2020 15:41:46	Mitzi	Hoeme	USD 466	Scott City	I think school districts need to make their own mandates based on their community needs. We live in a small town in western Ks where covid is not a problem. I feel the mandates will do more harm mentally and will be detrimental to our kids education. Our kids have gone all summer with no masks, playing sports, having open gyms and weights our community is not in peril from covid. To all of a sudden put these mandates in place is a huge step back and really unnecessary for our community and many, many others. Thank you for listening to the people who live, work and have students that will be affected.
7/21/2020 15:41:48	Charles	Nagel	USD 459	Bucklin, KS	I am not in favor of delayed start, I feel it is unnecessary. Our small community has functioned just fine despite this "pandemic" and see no logical reason for any delay.
7/21/2020 15:41:57	Shaunda	Chang	Family with kids	Wichita	Please give recommendations but let each school district decide based on the needs and risks in their area. Please recommend outside play time even if all classes need to take turns. Please provide options such as face shields for face covering for other students such as my son that are asthmatic and so far haven't found any mask that makes him short of breath.
7/21/2020 15:41:58	Stephanie	Allen		Hoyt	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 15:42:03	Ryan	Jacobsen MD		Olathe	I encourage you to follow the guidance of the medical experts and pediatricians who wrote a position from the American Academy of Pediatrics stating that the risk to children not going to school is much worse than going to school with the unknown risk of Covid. I strongly encourage you to open schools fully with mitigation measures in place.
7/21/2020 15:42:12	Ann	Edwards	USD259	Wichita	The decision of whether to delay the opening of school buildings should not be made politically. It appears everyone is afraid of taking a stand that might be unliked by some. Please stand up and protect families and all school staff from the possibility of being exposed by this virus!! So many have been trying to stay home and be safe - now we would even think of opening schools when our state is in the worst shape it has been in since this all began?!? My husband and I were both hospitalized with Covid and are now facing many medical bills. He was on a ventilator for 9 days I don't want to get this virus again and possibly pass it on to him again. We have 50+ adult staff and over 400 students in my building! Please all of us and approve the governors order!!!

					<p>July 21, 2020</p> <p>Kansas State Board of Education Members -</p> <p>I urge you to uphold your approval of the Navigating Change Document that you approved as a guide on July 15 which gave local control to school districts in Kansas based on their incidence level of the virus at hand. By approving a comprehensive guide which intentionally included both implementation and operations components, you gave respect to districts which face difficulty in maintaining physical distancing in their operational facilities given their district size and the county and patrons they serve, while at the same time respecting districts that have more feasibility in maintaining physical distancing given their lower student populations and the stakeholders in their district as well. The intentionality that you placed by approving the comprehensive Navigating Change document as a guide with respect to low, moderate, or high incidence of the virus at hand, spoke volumes of you as a state board in both respect to the educators, parents, and other stakeholders involved on the document state wide, and your respect of the local board of educations which operate under you, allowing each district in respect of their own incidence levels throughout the school year to determine measures such as masking.</p> <p>As a parent, a teacher, and a product of Kansas education my entire life, I urge you all to uphold your approval from 7 days ago, which respects your decision and tells the state that you not only value the work that was recommended in respect to local districts, but also demonstrates the confidence that you have in the decision that you made.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and service,</p> <p>Melissa Harlan</p>
7/21/2020 15:42:17	Melissa	Harlan	Parent and Teacher US	Madison	
7/21/2020 15:42:26	Brandy	Butcher		Overland park	Well personally I think school should always start after Labor Day but as far as this executive order I think the governor should let this be up to individual school boards. I definitely don't think this should apply to virtual schools or private schools
7/21/2020 15:42:28	Sherrie	Ratterre		Frontenac KS	I'm ok with waiting for school to start... I'm concerned with distancing, masks, hygiene, parents who send their kids to school who have fevers or are sick, home school, hybrid class time, getting a vaccine for covid.... the list goes on.
7/21/2020 15:42:35	Betsy	Morken	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	I appreciate all that Governor Kelly and her staff are going to keep Kansans safe. I don't pretend to know the best course of action to take. I have family and dear friends in the medical field, including a daughter in Texas who is working as a nurse with the Covid 19 crisis there. All are very concerned about this pandemic and both the short and long term effects of this insidious virus. This struggle is very real to all of us on so many levels. As someone teaching in a small, private school, it is important to remember that 'one size' does not fit all. While certain restrictions may be necessary, best practice, for large school systems, the same is not true for a small private school where certain distancing, safety and protective measures can be maintained. We can distance, ensure mask wearing, monitor health, etc. better than a large school setting. We believe that in person class is better for our small community. Our school admin and board have taken extensive measures to evaluate the pulse of our teachers, staff and families and while our views are as varied as the people of our great state, we feel confident that we can create a hybrid model that will meet the varied needs and concerns of our community without moving to solely remote learning or starting late. Thank you for your time and consideration!
7/21/2020 15:43:04	Cynthia	York	Blue Valley	Overland Park	Please delay start
7/21/2020 15:43:09	Cara	Andreasen		In town	I am ready for school to start, have a plan, let us start moving forward. Treat this like influenza if anyone exhibits symptoms stay home. Enforce sanitizing and frequent hand washing and lets start September 8th. If people are filled with fear let's get a plan and start homeschooling and start in January. Either way let's decide and move forward

7/21/2020 15:43:16	Matthew	Steele	my family	Meriden	If the executive order makes any reference to private schools you should not vote in favor of the order. You are public officials for public schools, those families that have chosen to utilize private school have done so to be separate from public schools.
7/21/2020 15:43:16	Emily	Jueneman	St. John's Catholic Scho	Hanover	I feel myself and the country as a whole are living in fear and letting it take over! I believe COVID is real and it is scary, but we are letting our fear paralyze us. Keeping schools shut down might be keeping us safe physically, but it's coming at a cost. It's hurting us mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. If you're sick, yes, isolate and the vulnerable should take extra precautions, but why are we punishing the healthy? Isn't there more to life than just not getting sick and not dying?
7/21/2020 15:43:19	Stephanie	Frohlich		Scott City	Our kids deserve and need to be in school. Delaying start may shorten their year even more if there is an early release due to a covid increase. Counties could make the best decisions for their schools in accordance with what is happening in their individual counties. There is a lot of variance in what is happening in different parts of the state. I strongly feel like my kids need to be back in the classroom with their teachers.
7/21/2020 15:43:24	Kellie	Magnuson	Parent, Substitute teache	Lawrence	<p>Hi - I'm writing to ask you to pass the Governor's Executive Order delaying the start of school until post Labor Day. I write you first and foremost as a mother of a 10-year old. He would desperately love to return to school, however if school starts as planned on August 17th, he will not be returning to the building. I am terrified of the possibility of him getting Covid or passing it on to someone, like my mother who was widowed 3 years ago when my father died of cancer. I hope that the three weeks will give enough time for the mask order and closing of the bars to have an effect on our community. It will also help us gain a glimpse of how students returning to the University of Kansas impacts Lawrence with regards to Covid.</p> <p>I am also a substitute teacher and studying to be an elementary school teacher. With the numbers as they are, I will not be subbing and I wonder how many subs will actual be willing to enter the classroom and risk their health for the \$100/day. I believe there will be a shortage of substitutes.</p> <p>Moreover I write you as a future elementary school teacher. I am terrified for my colleagues who are scheduled to return to work in brick and mortar buildings very shortly and for myself to do my student teaching. I want desperately to be able to be with the kiddos who bring me so much joy, as do my colleagues, but if we return soon we will risk teachers', staff and students' health and lives. We do not know the long lasting effects of Covid and I don't think we want to learn them this way.</p> <p>As the situation with Covid is day-by-day, three weeks can provide necessary time for teachers and districts to use your guidelines to figure out if and how they can return safely to school. Please put our children and communities' health above politics and support the Governor's Executive Order.</p> <p>Thank you for your service to our state.</p>
7/21/2020 15:43:34	Desiree	Granstra		Junction city	These kids need to be in school sooner rather than later. You are hurting them far worse wit this than anything covid could do. 246 People recently volunteered to test for free and only ONE was positive. Heath county is quite low on cases. And enough with the masks. They need to be focused on school. either no masks or choose to stay home and do elearning for those scared. Let US make those choices! Not the government or the school district.
7/21/2020 15:43:48	Mark	Kramer	Grandparents	2028 Quail Creek Dr., L	Please follow Gov. Kelly order
7/21/2020 15:43:59	Sarah	Donahue		Leawood	I urge the board to accept Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. All decisions to reopen schools must be grounded in data and safety. Transmission levels are currently at an all time high and this delay will allow time for them to decrease. Furthermore, this delay will allow districts more time to prepare and stay open. Students and teachers in Kansas should not be be used as political pawns. Thank you for your time.

7/21/2020 15:44:08	Angie	Williams	USD 483	Plains, Kansas	We need to delay school so that we can prepare for our students. Some say that we had all summer to prepare, but during that time we did not foresee COVID cases increasing, which they are doing each day with reopening. Delaying school two weeks will not hurt the child's education.
7/21/2020 15:44:11	Jennifer	Bowles	Teach and children of th	Wichita	It will not hurt anyone to wait til after Labor Day. The risk is there ppl will suffer if we open the schools too soon. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:44:17	Tassy	Rouse		Larned	I want to wait to send my child back to school as long as I can. This virus is scary stuff.
7/21/2020 15:44:19	Leah	Giger		Elmdale	Please let the districts control the school calendar. Studies have shown that kids are not in danger from Covid 19 and do not transmit it. Governor Kelly has over reached. We ask you to preserve our freedoms. She has not respected individuals to know what is best for their own families. We have not been treated as adults in this pandemic. Government is not our mother.
7/21/2020 15:44:20	Shawna	Glick		Plainville	There is no reason schools be delayed. This Covid crud is no longer considered a pandemic. I believe through a lot of research you are going to cause more problems then necessary. Children need to get back to as normal a life as possible, without restrictions. Governor your actions are proving to be selfish. Acting on your own agenda is wrong. You are causing massive problems and creating unnessecary division within this state. You are a problem!
7/21/2020 15:44:36	Heather	Schrotberger		Overland Park	Please delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year to allow all children across Kansas to return to school with a greater degree of stability and safety. The extended time will provide greater opportunity for planning, and troubleshooting, plans across districts. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:44:53	Sara	Ebberts		Overland Park	I do not feel that opening public schools for students right now is a safe or prudent decision. Cases of COVID-19 are on the rise and, while there is some debate among public health officials and epidemiologists regarding just how much children increase the R0 of this virus, there is no question whatsoever that putting kids back into a school setting will lead to an increase in diagnoses and death. If the Department of Education puts all of its efforts into making the best online education program it possibly can, there is no reason we can't make a success of this situation. I understand that there are kids who are vulnerable to other deleterious factors such as abuse and food insecurity. However, I believe that we can find a balance that will work to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 & reach out to provide services for children & families who are vulnerable in other ways.
7/21/2020 15:44:54	Scott	Maley		Stilwell, KS	I recommend the school year be suspended as it poses a significant risk to public health to have in-person classroom activities. Children, teachers, and other school employees will almost certainly get sick from coronavirus, and there will be people who die from exposure in the school setting. It is simply too high of a risk. I am a physician and recommend that the school year be suspended until the health burdens of the coronavirus are under improved control.
7/21/2020 15:45:05	Alice	Miller		De Soto	I am writing to ask you to support Governor Kelly's order to delay the beginning of the 2020-2021 academic year.  I miss students and fellow staff members and would love to be with them in classrooms again. Everyone, including me, wishes we could go back to the "normal" time before COVID-19. As much as I wish we were not in a hotspot of this global pandemic, we are. Regrettably, as reality stands in this moment, the infection rates here are rising. Gathering in schools right now would further increase the spread of the virus and put community members in even more danger.  As an immunocompromised person, I cannot help but think of going to back to school on-site and feel fear for my health and safety. I know I am not the only member of the educational staff, not to mention the student population and their families, at high risk for serious complications if I am unfortunate enough to contract the virus.  Please support the governor's order. Please give infection rates time to fall. And please give our schools time to better prepare for the challenges that are sure to come.  Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/21/2020 15:45:06	Jada	Tubbs		Colby	Please do not delay anymore. Please do not require masks.

7/21/2020 15:45:06	Rebekah	Adams		TOPEKA	Please allow schools that want to open the freedom to do so. Our children need to be able to attend school with their peers. If there are districts that feel strongly that they cannot resume classes, then they can make that decision, but it should not keep the schools in other districts or private schools from reopening.
7/21/2020 15:45:06	Amanda	Beatty		Vassar	Delaying school makes sense with the increase in cases. Schools shut down in March and today new cases are higher than they were in March. Children should not be sent back until it is safe whether that be after Labor Day or a later date. I have 2 children one in 1st grade and another in 4th it is not worth risking their lives or the lives of teachers and staff. We can do distance learning until we are in a better place with this virus. Anytime their have been large gatherings of people there have been outbreaks I suspect it will not be any different with school. It is not worth our children and teachers being test subjects for an experiment that we likely already know the result.
7/21/2020 15:45:12	Stephanie	Galusha	None	Great Bend	The kids miss school, but honestly what does a few extra weeks of summer hurt. My only questions are will they still be required to attend the same amount of hours (For the school year) as in years past and does this shorten next summer break by lengthening the 2020-2021 year?
7/21/2020 15:45:24	Meredith	Templeton	Emporia High School	Emporia ks	Let. Them. Play!!!!
7/21/2020 15:45:29	Brandi	Noonan	School dance team	Burlingame	Do not delay school.....
7/21/2020 15:45:30	Nathan	Aldridge		Wamego	Do what's best for the students and teachers. Extending beyond Labor Day gives teachers and other faculty the time they need to digest and find ways to implement the new learning plan.
7/21/2020 15:45:41	Grace	Rucker	Public school teacher At	Derby	Please delay opening schools. I don't want any children to get sick. I don't want them to be carriers and get other people sick. Please flatten the curve before reopening schools again. I know there are equality issues but I believe the safest thing for public health is to make part of this school year all online, at least starting the first quarter or semester.
7/21/2020 15:45:43	Leslie	Wohler	No organizations-School	Manhattan	Please vote in favor of Governor Kelly's order to delay school reopening.
7/21/2020 15:45:45	Mark	Scarborough	None - Retired citizen	Lenexa	Delaying the start of school until cases are significantly reduced is the only prudent action to protect students, teachers and staff. Time to support the governor.
7/21/2020 15:45:49	Kristin	Durkee		Manhattan	Agree with the delay to see how openings play out in other states
7/21/2020 15:45:57	Angela	Thompson	Walnut Grove	Overland Park	Agree to delay school until after labor day
7/21/2020 15:46:10	Melissa	Johnson	Public school teacher	Lawrence	I am terrified about going back to school right now. Cases are spiking and the behavior of our public gives me no reason to suspect we'll see a decline any time soon. Some concerns I have: We are not a child care facility. Yes, we provide oversight of children during the day, but we do that while providing education. Education is the primary reason for our employment. All the data I've seen suggests teenagers contract and spread the disease just like adults. There is absolutely no safe way to have our students at school and avoid transmission of the virus. Even if we see only 50% of our students on any given day, as teachers, we are still exposed to 100% of our students, and our risk is absurdly high. People working in health care at least get PPE and a limited number of bodies in a given area. We know that trauma and mental health issues make learning difficult. The constant anxiety that is a result of the worry and uncertainty from living during this pandemic will absolutely continue to pile up for students and staff, making learning difficult on top of the logistical issues. Additionally, when students or staff die (not if, when), that will add more to the already-too-big pile of trauma. Typically, when a staff member or students dies, the district's mental health support teams seem to drop everything to focus on that. There's no way we'll be able to adequately address student and staff deaths when our buildings become hot spots. Less well studied, from what I've seen, but what studies there have been concerning educational progress of students who lost long stretches of educational opportunities suggest that they recover and catch up. I'd rather we all lose a year of education (or do it online, acknowledging that it will likely be less effective, especially in regard to equity of access) than lose people or lose quality of life due to life-long chronic health and wellness issues that stem from COVID after effects.
7/21/2020 15:46:14	Brandon	Daley	USD 497 - Lawrence	Lawrence	Please delay school for adequate preparation, communication and surveying of families and staff, and to monitor numbers and health data.
7/21/2020 15:46:14	Jessica	Esh	Christ Prep Academy	Shawnee	I support my children's school opening on its original start date in August. Further, the decision as to when private schools will open should be made by the individual schools and not mandated by the state.

7/21/2020 15:46:16	Craig	Staab		Spring Hill	Please vote No on this EO. I see more harm in delaying school for children; particularly when you hear stories of school being one of the only safe places for some of these kids, or the only decent meal they're going to get for the day. I'm not denying there is a concern with this virus, but the development of our future generation outweighs it. There seem to be options for children that want to remote school, and that's good. But for the majority of kids, I think we need to get them back together sooner vs later.
7/21/2020 15:46:16	Shannon	Lee		Pittsburg	I've seen firsthand how this lockdown from school has impacted my child's mental health. Zoom classes were not very effective. The flu kills a lot more kids each year so if we are going to lock schools down for Covid, why not for the flu? We are supposedly protecting others by keeping kids home but we personally have a family member with a compromised immune system and we didn't expect the world to shut down to keep him from getting sick. We took our own measures. I think this is a political move. The governor does not care about my family or my son would not be sitting at home wondering when he can go places again and see his friends. He has changed from a kid who was learning to be more independent to being scared now whenever I leave the room. He's lost his confidence in himself. School was so good for him and this lockdown has gone on long enough. Please consider what this is doing to the mental health of the kids in Kansas. They really need someone to fight for them. If someone doesn't agree, I think having the option to learn online or in person should be offered. Thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 15:46:21	Julie	Yates	Kansas private school	Olathe	Please let the private schools make their own decisions on when to open school. Most private schools are smaller and are prepared to follow the social distance guidelines. Our kids need to be back in their physical school buildings. The private schools should not be in the same category as the large public school districts.
7/21/2020 15:46:22	Nathaniel	Bouton		Silver lake	Don't delay
7/21/2020 15:46:29	Catherine	vonSeggern		Wamego	I believe that each local school district should be able to determine what is best for their community/schools. The Governor and State BOE has not influenced when school has started or stopped before now, simply they have required a certain amount of days/hours for students and staff to meet in a school year. Many, many people in these communities want to get back into the classroom and others don't feel safe. PLEASE, let each school district determine their community's needs. Please, show our students that we live in a strong state that places value in their education, their futures and their lives. Show students that we consider them essential.
7/21/2020 15:46:39	Kendra	Neill	Paren of children in Priv	1959 N Sedgwick St	We have 5 children middle school and high school and want to see our schools back in session, as carefully as possible. Please do not delay school any further!
7/21/2020 15:46:41	Diane	Morgan	Teacher	Shawnee County	There are many people in my community who do not believe that wearing masks is necessary. There are many people in my community who are not being careful with their personal behaviors regarding taking care not to get exposed to the virus. If you do not approve a delay in school until the numbers go down, you are exposing me and my family at risk. Teaching school is different than shopping at the grocery store. I will have extended exposure to people who may be making poor choices for themselves, not a passing 10 minute exposure at the check out line. It is not the same.
7/21/2020 15:46:49	Joe	Quinn	Self	Lenexa	Please do NOT institute a delayed start to the school year. We want to open school as planned in August and to be able to provide excellent, in classroom education utilizing reasonable COVID precautions.  Do not cave to the scare-mongering, bogus science of the mob, but what we're actually seeing.  Even with the (questionable) spike in positive cases there is no correlation with deaths and hospitalizations.



7/21/2020 15:47:06	Cindi	Barta		Shawnee	<p>Please vote for an after Labor Day opening of schools. Give teacher the gift and grace of time to plan for the upcoming year. Give us the gift of time to see a decrease in the number of new active cases. The last thing I want to do this year is explain to students that one of their classmates has died or is critically ill because we opened schools too soon without time to prepare. I fear if we start school too soon we will be in lock down before we can turn around and students will suffer.</p> <p>Districts can change the length of day by just a few minutes to meet the required hours and not disrupt the already adopted calendar. Such a simple fix in these trying times.</p> <p>Please listen to the health professionals and do what is best for students and staff. We want to be back with our students in a safe environment where they can learn with as few interruptions as possible.</p> <p>I thank you for your time and service for building a strong education system for our students. Please do what is right for our school communities.</p>
7/21/2020 15:47:16	Tara	Rodgers	Wichita Public Schools	Wichita	<p>I support delaying the start of public schools under after Labor Day. My hope is that by delaying the start, we can give our local community a chance to lower the number of cases so that when they do open, masks and hybrid learning will not be required. Hybrid learning will not allow students a full education and will cause more work for all educators (with out any additional pay or resources). I also believe that students and staff should not be required to wear masks. There are plenty of other options like virtual schools and other jobs for those who are not comfortable with being in a school at this time. Majority of students and teachers want to be back without harsh guidelines.</p>
7/21/2020 15:47:26	Patty	Ortwaga		Emporia	<p>Let local communities decide. I do think a short delay is not a bad idea but believe in returning to in person school this fall.</p>
7/21/2020 15:47:32	David	Lang		Bucyrus	<p>It is inappropriate to delay the return to school for two reasons: 1. You cannot stop the virus. 2. It poses very little if any risk for morbidity or mortality for school age children. If you had wanted to stop this virus you would have closed the borders and made everyone wear masks from the beginning and isolated the sick and vulnerable. You didn't so now you can't stop it. Stop living in fear and live your life. The only thing your doing is delaying the inevitable while ruining the economy and people's lives</p>
7/21/2020 15:47:37	Terrence	Edelman	Concerned citizen	OVERLAND PARK	<p>For the health and safety of pupils and administration personnel school should not be open so quickly. I think we should take her Phased in approach and do what the other districts are doing</p>
7/21/2020 15:47:40	Jaelyn	Jenkins		Pittsburg	<p>Please keep the schools closed! Of all of the places that would be hard to keep clean and sanitized, schools are the top of the list. I know our kids might be "behind" right now. But I can only imagine how much further behind they will be, if they have to spend weeks recovering from COVID-19. I would rather my child struggle with fractions, than struggle to breath. Nothing about this situation is ideal. It's a time when you really have to list out what your priorities are. For this family, safety is number one. I hope it will be number one for you as well.</p>
7/21/2020 15:47:44	Garrison	Stamatis	CPA Football	Overland Park	<p>I just want whatever is best for all the students.</p>
7/21/2020 15:47:55	Jackie	Kerschen		Shawnee	<p>Please vote No and do not pass the governors executive orders regarding schools starting late and No against not allowing virtual learning (or teacher/student communication) prior to that date.</p>
7/21/2020 15:48:01	Robin	Henman		Ellis	<p>This is not a one size fits all answer. What the large Kansas cities are experiencing isn't what we see in western Kansas communities. All school districts should be given the right and power to do as their community sees fit without giving anyone a guilt trip! There is so much information out there involving the pandemic and how and who it is transmitted to that it is hard to believe the accuracy of any of it. Kids in our area have not been social distancing since day 1 in March nor have they been using PPE and yet we have very few cases. Why then do we think putting off formal schooling will stop or prevent the spread of Covid? I am a retired teacher who now babysits grandkids. The assignments my grandkid did on line in the spring was a joke. He was finished in under 5 minutes and there wasn't any challenge. Online learning was a failure in my opinion for good students as well as students that fall below the average level. I say start School with extra cleaning but don't expect kids to social distance nor wear masks. Teachers should be given the option but I wouldn't recommend it because masks give a person muffled voices and it is really hard to understand.</p> <p>Thanks for your time and thanks for asking for public opinion on this subject.</p>

7/21/2020 15:48:06	Tricia	Schmitz	Mom	Manhattan	The school year needs to start. Not every parent can afford to stay home. Children need social interaction with their peers. They are not going to understand why they can't hug their friend or why they have to do online schooling. Not every child can learn on an iPad. Teachers are there to TEACH. There are some students who's only safe place to be was at school.
7/21/2020 15:48:06	Ryan	O'Toole		Pittsburg, Kansas	Please do not open schools until cases of Covid begin to decline. It is dangerous to do so in a pandemic that has gone out of control. Please accept Governor Kelly's mandate. She has been very reasonable and has exemplified the spirit of compromise. Do not open schools until it is safe.
7/21/2020 15:48:16	Sarah	Beals		Clay center/ miltonvale	I think it is a good idea to delay school and I believe you guys will be doing everything you can to keep our kids safe. I am a little worried however because it will be hard to keep the younger ones apart from each other and keep the spread of germs to a minimal
7/21/2020 15:48:20	Jill	Smith		Overland Park	My sons are registered at new elementary and middle schools for the fall and the thought of them meeting new teachers and classmates for the first time hidden behind face masks and being discouraged to socialize makes me incredibly sad. No amount of practice wearing masks is helping my already anxious new middle schooler. If we attend school in person there is no question that masks should be required. I just wonder if all the mandates and guidelines will be more distracting and kids will get a better education mask free and healthy at home.
7/21/2020 15:48:22	Jim	Lind	Christ Preparatory Acad	Lenexa	Please read the article in this link as it will confirm that it is ok to open the schools on time safely. <a href="https://www.cnbc.com/amp/2020/07/14/schools-coronavirus-infection-rate-low-german-study-finds.html">https://www.cnbc.com/amp/2020/07/14/schools-coronavirus-infection-rate-low-german-study-finds.html</a> The science says we can open safely.  Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:48:26	Erin	Appuhn		Topeka	Please support the delayed school start. Covid numbers do not support return to school now. Also, teachers need more than a few non-student contract days to enact new health/safety and instructional recommendations.
7/21/2020 15:48:27	Angela	Sherman		Gardner	Please follow governor Kelly's order. This will allow teachers and administration time to plan and get things in order, either at the school building or prepare better for online learning. Either way, the extra few weeks would give all involved more prep time, instead of throwing something together real fast and hoping for the best! Please allow her order to stand.
7/21/2020 15:48:29	Lisa	Lynch		Olathe	I completely support delaying the start of school. If it is delayed or not delayed, all students should be given the choice to attend in person OR virtually and all schools - including private schools - should be prepared to provide students a quality education in both scenarios.
7/21/2020 15:48:59	Deb	Helmer	Retired teachers	Winfield	Please give everyone a chance to be on the safe side of this Covid! Children will be ok going later and certainly the adults will be safer!
7/21/2020 15:49:00	Shana	Lander	Self	Manhattan	Please vote in favor of the Governor's mandate to delay the start of school until after Labor Day. This will allow schools to have more safety precautions in place. Thank you from a K-6 music teacher.
7/21/2020 15:49:01	Jenna	Brunner		Colby	Please start school on time. I feel it should be up to the district/county to decide. There is no one size fits all for the state of KS. Also, masks should be left up to the individual.
7/21/2020 15:49:04	Stephanie	Carson		Wichita	In the spring we closed down schools around Spring Break early in this pandemic because it is widely known and accepted that children in schools are vectors for virus spreads. This is why each year many district mandate a flu protocol level cleaning starting in October. The current state of the pandemic in our state is worse than it was in the Spring when we forced shut down. In order to combat this we need our entire state on the same page. While local districts could make this decision on their own I fear they would not even if in the best interest of public health of their communities, students, and staff. Schools need leadership, guidance, and unwavering support to do what is right. Postponing will allow all districts to better prepare for the opening of schools, whether virtual or face-to-face. In addition, many teachers have been hesitant to begin planning for beginning of school as they still wait to hear what the beginning of school will look like. This additional time will allow educators to more thoroughly prepare a quality environment and education for all students during this difficult time. I know that people will be upset either decision you go with on voting for this mandate, however, I think Kansas can and will do better UNITED. Thank you for your time reading this.
7/21/2020 15:49:10	Sarah	Yaeger		Wichita	School needs to open! No masks inside class rooms. The can wear them in hallways but that is it!
7/21/2020 15:49:12	Richelle	McCarty	Private school	Shawnee	Open the schools or give me my tax dollars back so I can look out for the best interest of my children.

7/21/2020 15:49:26	Kimela	Woods	My family	Winfield	Please follow the Governor's executive order regarding Kansas schools beginning after Labor Day. I do not feel the schools are ready to open to students and faculty without procedures enacted for everyone's personal health. My daughter is a teacher and I am worried for her and her family if protective measures are not in place. The schools need more time to get these procedures implemented.
7/21/2020 15:49:27	Abbie	Davenport		Louisburg	Please delay the starting of school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 15:49:40	Brett	Murray	self	Lenexa	Just going to make this short. The State School Board should accept Governor Kelly's order to delay the start of the school year. As a school psychologist for 15 years, I have listened and followed plans about reopening the schools and at this point there are no clear plans. Accept her order and at least allow a little more time for some clearer ideas to be developed. Thank you for your time and service to all of us Kansans.
7/21/2020 15:49:45	PJ	Lassiter	Myself	Pittsburg	I am in support of governor's executive order. We have already seen the results of camps and summer school: mire virus outbreaks. We need to have a solid plan and reduced risks before reopening physical school - for teachers and staff their families (which I am among) as well students and their families.
7/21/2020 15:50:01	Angie	Bielefeld		Clearwater	This is ridiculous we even have to get on here and give an opinion. It's three weeks. What is the big deal? School never used to start until after Labor Day. You don't need our opinions. You need to lead. Do what is best for students and teachers. Not what the group that yells the loudest wants.
7/21/2020 15:50:16	Tawne	Martin	Myself	Wilmore	No mask for k-12
7/21/2020 15:50:16	Lacey	Gould		Benton	I think schools should start in August, because who knows what covid numbers will even look like in September? As a working parent my child is either going to face possible exposure in a child care setting or possible exposure in the school setting. Postponing the start date simply prolongs the inevitable.
7/21/2020 15:50:19	Chris	Lang	Self	Minneola Ksl believe	I believe this part of Ks is ready to start school
7/21/2020 15:50:22	Niki	Cash	Educator	Paola	Please keep school buildings closed and delay in class school.
7/21/2020 15:50:31	Jamie	Cole	WPS	Wichita	I believe that the delay will allow time for our District and buildings to fully prepare for students. We're not physically ready! Supplies and protcals need to be purchased and delivered! Training needs occur.
7/21/2020 15:50:33	Rebecca	Williams	My children in USD234	Fort Scott	I do not think a delay will do what we think. We are unfortunately delaying the inevitable. We quarantine for 2 months, opened and more cases due to more testing, numbers and many document pricing numbers of positive cases may be compromised. Let's give our children a chance!
7/21/2020 15:50:35	Heather	Simons	SMSD parent	Prairie Village	I am in full support of the executive order. I do not feel we k ow enough about this novel coronavirus and its potential impact on kids to risk reopening schools right now when the rate of infection is so high. We should not be treating our children, teachers and staff like Guinea pigs in an experiment. There is the option of reopening early online and using the time to do review work since the kids have been out for such a long time.
7/21/2020 15:50:49	Misti	Griffin	Goessel High School	GOESSEL	This is terrible. I have a 16 and 15 year daughter's who are now on social media more than ever. Depression is looming in them. They need a routine. They need education. They need athletics. They need to be social. They need interaction. Never have I seen such a poor decision.
7/21/2020 15:50:52	Jarrold	Black		Pratt	School needs to be delayed. It is not safe for our staff or students. Pratt's numbers continue to increase.
7/21/2020 15:50:58	Chris	Appuhn		Topeka	Please support the delayed school start. Covid numbers do not support return to school now. Also, teachers need more than a few non-student contract days to enact new health/safety and instructional recommendations.

					<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I appreciate the executive orders put in place to protect students, teachers, parents and communities. While I agree with the delay in school start times, I can't understand why, in these unprecedented times, our school activities and athletics are being limited by school start dates. These activities are an essential part of education and provide growth opportunities that are just as necessary as content centered instruction.</p> <p>A team or group of 50 controlled and homogenous student athletes working outdoors does not equate to the same risk as having 1800 students indoors moving freely throughout the school building. The risk is simply not the same. If we can limit team sizes the risk will be reduced greatly.</p> <p>Furthermore, many of our students have already been participating in outdoor athletics and activities throughout the summer. Is postponing the start of these activities going to curb the current spread of the disease? Unfortunately, I don't believe delaying activities will have any net effect on slowing the virus in our current climate of public dissent. Canceling or postponing activities will have a large effect on the psychological component of many of our students. I cannot imagine having my senior year of football canceled, that would have changed the trajectory of my life and career completely.</p> <p>As Governor Kelly has done it is important to provide leadership and make decisions during this time period. No decision will be perfect but if we work together we can do our best. I suggest activities limit roster size, cancel unnecessary events that underclassmen will have opportunities to participate in future seasons, but most importantly protect the full season for our senior classes. It is my hope that the State Board of Education will allow activities and athletics to begin practicing outdoors and in limited capacity two weeks prior to the start of the school year. This would allow activities to begin competition on the Friday after Labor Day and would only result in a net loss of one week of competition.</p>
7/21/2020 15:51:02	Kevin	Stewart	Free State Football	Lawrence	Thank you for your time, and I appreciate the forum to express my thoughts.
7/21/2020 15:51:13	Kimberly	Williams		Manhattan	While I am on board with the need to get our kids back in school, we have to have the capacity at our medical facilities to assist those in need. Evidence suggests that schools will exacerbate community spread of COVID-19, and delaying the start of the school year by two weeks will allow public officials to gauge the current exponential increase in cases before we throw our kids into the mix. We need to follow the science to reasonably protect the vulnerable.
7/21/2020 15:51:23	Amy	Reed		Gardner	I feel it would be negligent to send the kids back to school in the fall. This puts the students, teachers & all staff members susceptible to catching &/or exposing the virus & then the risk of having to shut schools down shortly after they are opened back up. My daughter is considered at high risk due to having 'compromised' lungs from having had RSV & double pneumonia when she was younger; if she were to contract the virus I'm afraid that I would be watching my child fight for her life again. Also, the younger kids have been so isolated all spring & summer that once they get back to school & see their friends, they won't be willing to socially distancing themselves from one another. Not to mention the fact that they will not have recess or eat on the cafeteria or drink from the water fountain & they will be required to wear a mask for 8hrs. I, personally, would like to see the fall semester be virtual.
7/21/2020 15:51:28	Colleen	Biggs	Just a parent - no specific	Lincoln	I feel like the delayed start isn't a bad idea...as long as the last day of school isn't moved to sometime in June! (Back in the day we always started after Labor Day!) Although I think smaller districts such as ours could safely start on time. As for the mask requirement...I don't see how it is feasible. Seems that the kids will be interacting in other ways (for example...at lunch or after school when teachers aren't there making sure they have masks on) so germs are going to be spread regardless. Plus, I highly doubt that all masks will be worn appropriately...especially in the lower grades! I just think they will distract from the learning that should be taking place and I question how effective they actually will be.
7/21/2020 15:51:29	Sheila	Tabb	Grandparent	Garden City	I do not consent to wearing masks

7/21/2020 15:51:31	Riann	Hand	USD 259 Teacher	Wichita	I fully support delaying the start of school and feel when we do go back it should start online. It is the safest! Think of all the lives that this will keep safe!!!
7/21/2020 15:51:36	Rachel	Kendrick		Overland Park	I feel strongly that every precaution should be taken to protect students and their families, as well as teachers/staff and their families. A later start would allow districts to strategize and plan the best ways to keep everyone safe.
7/21/2020 15:51:37	Amelia	Allen		Leawood	Please honor the governor's executive order and keep school facilities closed until after Labor Day. We are still seeing increases in cases, and this is the best way to protect our kids, teachers, and all other school staff.
7/21/2020 15:51:38	Ashley	Tumberger		Olathe	Please Open the schools, Our children need to learn. As a working parent I can't possibly give my children the education they need and deserve.
7/21/2020 15:51:38	Natasha	O'Donnell	My children	Lenexa	I have four children in three different schools; public, private and virtual. The virtual school is ready to go and shouldn't be held back to start. They are the most ready for this. If private schools are ready to teach online or at least start to acclimate students to an online learning platform, then I believe they should be able to start as planned. My oldest will be a senior at Shawnee Mission NW and he needs to be in a school/classroom environment to learn. I am fine with him starting after Labor Day if it can be in person.
7/21/2020 15:51:40	Susan	Rathert-Todd	USD 475	Milford	Please support Governor Kelly by delaying the start of the school year. I spent 33 years in the above district and cannot imagine all the changes that must be considered and implemented to keep everyone safe. In the event you are thinking "but the schools have had all summer and they should be ready" it really is not that simple. We know so much more now than in March and even the beginning of June. Add to that equation the constantly evolving nature of this situation and the extra time would be extremely beneficial to prepare. It might prevent us from having to backtrack later. I understand the concern that one size does not fit all; but the guidelines you have endorsed provide the flexibility to address local differences. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:51:44	Holly	Mcpeak	Usd 497	Lawrence	Please uphold Governor Kelly's order. Students are at risk and so are communities. Please allow all schools time to plan a safe opening. Even rural schools are being affected and need the time to prepare.
7/21/2020 15:51:51	Robert	Martin		Andover	Delayed start would give teachers and schools time to prepare more effective plans. Even a late end to the school year would be acceptable for the safety and effectiveness of students and staff.
7/21/2020 15:51:52	Richard	King	N/A	Lenexa	Schools must be allowed to open on time, at the very least via video, and in-person if they are prepared to do so safely. Anything else is an overreach of authority.

7/21/2020 15:51:53	Olivia	King		Olathe	<p>My stomach is in knots, this whole conversation is gut wrenching. I am completely torn in between wanting to go back to school and wanting to cancel learning in person in general. There are so many factors involved. I want to go back to school to see my co-workers and to see our students. I want my child to return to school to see his friends and his teachers. Yet, the more we think about the virus and the fear that people have over it, the more likely it is that school will never be the same. So is it worth the time and effort it's going to take overall to make our schools actual learning environments and not just a place for social interactions with protocols?</p> <p>We will have to invest so much time and money into making classrooms a practical environment regarding the guidelines. If students have to wash their hands every hour and it takes each student 20 sec (at minimum) to wash their hands, then how much time is cutting into the instructional time tax payers pay for their children to get everyday? How are we expected to keep the kids from getting up and walking around the room? How are we expected to force these children to keep the masks on their faces for 7 hours straight, especially the SPED students. How much time is going to be allotted for lunch time, seeing as students will have to be social distancing? How are masks going to make a difference, if our schools have poor ventilation anyway? How are we then going to compensate for the increase in duties among the faculty and staff at each school, when we aren't getting paid enough as it is? There are too many "what ifs" to continue down this road.</p> <p>I am more worried about what is happening to students while the schools have been shut down. Why are schools deemed inessential? We talk about safety, but we are forgetting about all the lives we're putting at risk by not reopening as usual. Malnutrition, abuse, neglect, suicide, anxiety, depression, these are all issues we need to be looking at when we consider reopening. Not just the inaccurate data everyone is basing their responses on. We need to be able and willing to face this virus head on, because it is inevitable, regardless of whether there is a vaccine or not.</p>
7/21/2020 15:51:54	Naomi	Reeh	Sacred Heart Catholic S	McDonald	I do not agree with the forced mandate to wear face masks all day whenever we are in the school. That is a long time to have to wear a face mask each day. That will be over 40 hours each week wearing a mask and not able to breathe the fresh air. I am worried that this will not be healthy for the students', staffs', or teachers' lungs. I think the temperature checks, hand washing and hand sanitizers are a good idea. Could we just wear the face masks at large school assemblies and situations when everyone is together?
7/21/2020 15:52:05	Paula	Bunde	Shawnee Mission Schoo	Overland Park	Please pass the governor's executive order to delay the beginning of school and allow staff to better prepare for the requirements, as well as have more time for the viral spread in the community to level. Delaying also helps us see how things go in schools across the country that open earlier and learn from them. Thank you.
7/21/2020 15:52:11	Lanese	Wherry	Parent	Lenexa	The school systems should have the plans in place already to begin a plan. The schools have worked all summer to begin school in person and go to online learning if needed. They do not need another 3 weeks. Start school in August and go with it. What is to say September 8th comes along and you move it to what-October 8th? Start school when it was scheduled to start-in August. Kids need an education and delaying and delaying does nothing for them.
7/21/2020 15:52:19	Logan	Schrag	TRUMP 2020	Bel Aire	This is all a false narratives and I am completely against keeping schools from starting. <b>START SCHOOLS ON TIME</b>
7/21/2020 15:52:22	Christopher	Ledbetter	None	Olathe	If the goal is the safety of school kids and teachers in the face of this pandemic, it doesn't make a lot of sense to delay schools from opening even if they are willing to use online tools as an alternative to face-to-face classrooms. It seems unnecessarily restrictive and it complicates the plans of schools, parents, and children.
7/21/2020 15:52:26	Regina	Keim		Sabetha	I strongly plead that you will vote to start school as planned on Aug. 22nd or before for school districts in Kansas or let the individual districts decide for themselves the appropriate time to start school for their district. My children WANT to go to school as planned. They are excited to be in school to learn with their peers. Their emotional and mental well being needs to be considered. School is their normal. Please let them have normal. I understand COVID and I understand the concern, but go beyond and think of the children and their desire to return to a normal life. Our county has had few cases and hospitalizations, none have been children, and all have recovered. Each county is different and should be treated as such. Please take that in to consideration when making your decision. Thank you. Gina Keim, parent in USD 113

7/21/2020 15:52:27	Carrie	Conley	Olathe Public Schools	Olathe	My hope is IN person school and school sports are available
7/21/2020 15:52:30	Becky	Benoit		Damar	I completely respect the decision to delay school until after Labor Day. What I do not agree on is mandating K-12 students to wear a mask. Each should be up to each parent to decide what is BEST for their family. Washing hands, using good hygiene I completely understand as well. What actually needs to happen is adequate time off for ALL. Workers that need to stay home and care for themselves and their children if happen to fall ill and feel the only way to make ends meet is to medicate themselves or their children and send them to school/daycare or return to work sick because they feel that they cannot stay home or risk being fired or not getting paid. THAT is not ok. This has always been an issue. Parents send kids to sick to school during a normal, non-pandemic year, because they cannot afford to stay home for one reason or another. FIX that and I feel that the results in kids being sick in school would dramatically decrease. Please also look at the regions of Kansas separately. What is done in a more populated part of the state doesn't necessarily fit into what happens in rural community. This cannot be a one size fits all Kansans scenario. Please, please, please let each school district decide based on their own region and circumstance. I understand there are so many what if scenarios and everyone is trying their best to do what is right. BUT PLEASE, PLEASE let the school districts and communities decide.
7/21/2020 15:52:39	Geri	Caraway	Parent of high school stu	Goddard	School administrators have been planning for school to start in August whether through in-person classes, on-line or hybrid. I would like to see the decision to start school be left to individual school districts and not a one-size fits all approach.
7/21/2020 15:52:39	Teresita	Deckard		assaria	Please get these kids back in school!
7/21/2020 15:52:54	Kacie	Olson	Parent	Lenexa	I believe it is important to rely on the foundations in which Kansas Education has set in place. Local control and decision-making ability should be given to the schools and districts. I agree that human safety and the well-being should be the number one priority. Then students receiving quality face to face instruction number 2. The state-board already approved guidance with these priorities clearly stated. Please allow and trust district and school leaders to make local decisions with the same priorities but differentiated and appropriate to the context in which they are living and serving families. Just like the districts and schools will give families the opportunity to do the same. Thank you for your support in not approving the governor's executive order to delay school.
7/21/2020 15:52:58	Timothy	O'Crowley		Douglass	Leave reopening decisions in the hands of local boards. One size does not fit all.
7/21/2020 15:53:05	Sheila	Stimatze	grandparent of a kinderg	Syracuse	While face coverings may be okay for older children but a younger child, elementary school, will only play with it all day distracting them from school work, hypoxia should be a concern in any child as face coverings limit the fresh oxygen they would breath. Temperature checks, smaller class sizes and social distancing via patricians are a good idea to help keep any and all illnesses under control. Limiting visitors inside the school would also be a good idea. Handwash and/or sanitizing stations at each and every door would be a good idea.
7/21/2020 15:53:14	Pat	Argueta	School district 497	Lawrence	Delay!
7/21/2020 15:53:15	P. Shelly	Myers	Parent although I teach	Colby	Although I don't mind the late start date of 9/9, I feel as though requiring students to wear masks while in the school building all day isn't realistic. As a teacher, I don't feel as though this is necessary unless the city in which I reside is under siege by the virus. I hope local decisions can account for some of the mandates aside from the start date.
7/21/2020 15:53:18	Stephanie	White	Westside Elementary	Pittsburg	I am in favor of Governor Kelly's executive order in delaying the start of school until after Labor Day. I would like to see our district take the time before Labor Day to properly implement the KSDE's guidelines as it pertains to our academics and school environment by allowing us to attend professional development to address our districts needs. After teaching summer school it is vital to have face to face instruction for my students but I am also concerned with the health and welfare of not only our students but our staff and teachers as well. My summer school students did surprisingly well with wearing a mask at school!! I have a picture of them if you are interested in seeing it! They look really cute!! :)

7/21/2020 15:53:26	Ashley	Beier	USD 259 - Elementary T	Wichita	I am concerned about the amount of work our custodial staff will be asked to do. Currently we have 1 of our 3 custodial positions filled. We are a building with an average enrollment of 550-600 students. One custodian cannot maintain our building and keep it safe. I am also concerned about our air quality. We are an old building. It is rare a week goes by without an issue with our heating or air. Many of our rooms do not have windows and many more have windows that do not open. I love my job, but I cannot do it adequately if we open on time. Please give teachers the time we need to adequately prepare for this unprecedented situation and our communities time to get the spread of the virus under control.
7/21/2020 15:53:31	Matt	Kendrick		Overland Park	With such a dynamic situation, I think it's crucial to allow schools this extra time in order to develop a plan that maximizes safety for all stakeholders.
7/21/2020 15:53:34	James	Stone	Nike Elementary School	Gardner	I disagree with the executive order and would like school to resume as scheduled without restrictions
7/21/2020 15:53:38	Sara	Jenkins	Wolf creek elementary	Spring Hill Ks	I do not think we should delay school, I think kids should have the option to attend school in person
7/21/2020 15:53:42	Mark	Williams	Parent	Paola	Open schools now with all activities, this nonsense has to stop!
7/21/2020 15:53:44	Joe	Hildebrand		Overland Park	Our kids need to go back to school as soon as possible. The data of this virus is available and it's a virus that isn't any worse than others we have faced in the past. The damage being done by politicians is treasonous. This needs to stop
7/21/2020 15:53:50	Jane	Wallace	Self	Wichita	Please open schools back up before Labor Day for the good of the students.
7/21/2020 15:53:51	Amanda	Juenemann	School	Colby	If this pertains to masks, I am very against the rule of having all students wear masks during the school day. As a parent and educator, this decision was made very poorly and not with a clear mindset of what is being asked of these students. How can we expect elementary school aged students to wear a mask all day? We are going to lose a lot of students if this is still in effect. If I was not a teacher, I would not send my kid to school where he has to wear a mask all day. This decision will shut down our schools and the students will not get their appropriate education. Try wearing a mask all day. It is hard to understand the person wearing the mask, glasses fog over and it's hard to breathe. All we will get done in a day is talking about masks! Think about the students who are speech impaired and how this affects them. I can tell already that the ones who don't wear a mask because if they have a disability that would do more harm than good won't wear a mask and then the other students won't keep theirs on because classmates don't have theirs on. If we have to wear masks, have them wear them in hallways but in the classrooms is just asking too much. Please think about the students and also how this decision will impact our schools for the worst and not the better.
7/21/2020 15:53:52	Ryan	Edwards	Parent	Lawrence	While I agree the physical closure of schools is important for the health and safety of educators and students, the order's prohibition against online instruction has no public health benefit, making the order an overreach. Local school districts that have prepared for the contingency of beginning the school year virtually (on time), should have the option to do so. Local school districts that are unprepared to do so, should be accountable to their constituents.  Finally, to the extent no instruction is provided until September (or later), what assurances is the BoE willing to provide to overcome the 6-month gap in education many Kansas children have experienced ( will the 2020-21 school year be extended through the summer of 2021)?
7/21/2020 15:53:52	Reuah	Knoles	Teacher	1031 E Dover Circle	I support Gov. Kelly
7/21/2020 15:53:52	Haley	Rafuse	Shamnee Mission Sou	Overland Park	I agree with delay order. Additionally, I think all extracurricular activities and non-GED required courses should be cancelled. The building could be used for required classes only, i.e. math, English, History, science. This would allow students to spread out into more classrooms and appropriately social distance. Any classes/lectures should be offered in person and virtual. The school days should be half days and students go home for afternoon study hall or reserve limited seats in MPR or library for additional wifi access or tutor help.
7/21/2020 15:53:55	Jennifer	Ninen		Gardner, KS	Delay!!!! Masks if needed. I think breaks in their classrooms will be appropriate
7/21/2020 15:53:57	Dave	Williams		Colby	True kids need to be back in the classroom to learn best and to have the social interaction with their peers. This is very important to their full and complete development



7/21/2020 15:54:06	MEgan	Wilcoxson		Glen Elder	Let them go back! I don't feel they are retaining much if anything over internet school. Emotionally they are failing too....no interaction with other kids, no structure when internet classes, and what is 3 weeks going to do. We live in Rural Kansas ans have a school of 200 that being K-12 grades. Let it be up to the districts what will work best for them, you can not compare our district to metro areas. They need normalcy and I know for one my kids want to go back sooner than later. Even if have to wear a mask for certain things, let our local districts decide whats best!
7/21/2020 15:54:06	Tammy	B.	Self	Topeka	I would like to take this time to ask for you to consider opening schools in August. Children have been out of school for five months. Kids need structure, which some do not obtain at home. Some children rely on a meal that some do not get at home, parents will not have daycare for the month of August, and last but not least, they need the opportunity to learn. Everyone wants safety to be number one. However, I feel that this can be done whether kids reintegrate in a block schedule setting or virtually. Virtual learning was rough at first in the early spring, but overall, my household had a positive experience. While some may not like virtual learning, if school is going to be delayed until September, I ask to at least implement online learning in August as an option to not only assist the children in getting back into a routine, but to help stimulate their brain from the long extended break. Delaying until September is not going to change any spike of the virus that may or may not occur. Mask mandates were made prior to the 4th of July holiday and what have we seen, an increase. What does September 9th fall after, Labor Day. The last holiday of the summer where families and friends gather. With that being said, socializing and mass gatherings will not cease. If anything, they will increase. If educators wish not to return work, I know many personally that would gladly take their place and earn their paycheck. I believe that if parents and educators work together, we as a team can make school happen in August. Please consider this option and don't make the children suffer from what they have no control over. Thank you!
7/21/2020 15:54:14	Lisa	Reeves	Parent in BVSD229 (for	Leawood	I stand with Governor Kelly and believe in-person school should be delayed until it is safe to gather in large groups in enclosed spaces. Virtual school is, in my family's opinion, the safest choice for all students, faculty, and staff until a vaccine is available, along with effective treatment for those diagnosed with Covid-19. Thank you for your consideration.
7/21/2020 15:54:16	Sandy	Nitcher		Wichita	Please support Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of schools. The numbers of Coronavirus cases in Sedgwick County is alarming and schools need time to have all safety measures in place.
7/21/2020 15:54:27	Sarah	Patton		Lenexa	Private school should be allowed to open, many have worked through the summer to prepare and are ready to open on time
7/21/2020 15:54:27	Kendra	Morford	373 & 259	Newton	Please delay the start of school! We are a parents of 3 school aged children and are teachers ourselves! This dramatically affects us!
7/21/2020 15:54:39	Jackie	Norman	Colby Public School	Colby	Please do not delay school, our kids need their education. The need to be social
7/21/2020 15:54:40	Kris	Shields	Kansas voter	Lawrence	Does anyone else appreciate the irony that the board members are meeting remotely in order to decide whether our kiddos should be crammed into school rooms together?? Incredible.
7/21/2020 15:54:45	Edwin	Gener	My Family and myself	Overland Park	Please allow the Governor's order to take affect. She is NOT shutting down in person teaching/learning. She is merely asking for time so that the appropriate stakeholders can evaluate and prepare for the upcoming school year. This is the most prudent course of action. We all know the horrible outcomes possible if we open too early and without a good plan (see Miami, Arizona, and California).
7/21/2020 15:54:51	Kathryn	Sheedy		1325 Stonecreek Dr	I support the Governor's order delaying schools until after September 8 as it is reasonable and necessary given the recent increase in COVID cases in Kansas. As a parent of elementary school children, I will not feel comfortable sending my children to school in person until new COVID cases begin to decline in our community over an extended period of time. Starting school in person at this point during the pandemic exposes teachers, students, and their families, as well as our communities as a whole, to unnecessary risk.
7/21/2020 15:54:51	Rebecca	Cumberland	Christ Prep Academy	Spring Hill	Please delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 15:55:08	Mary	Lonker	USD 320	Wamego	Please follow Governor Kelly's plan to delay the start of school to Labor Day. As a teacher who is on an Apollo redesign team, we will need time for not only the logistics of safety protocol and procedures, but more importantly to study and prepare for the new state competencies!
7/21/2020 15:55:12	Angie	Nelson	USD259	Wichita	It is not safe to open. Please don't put us or our kids in harms way. There are other options. Please consider.

7/21/2020 15:55:18	Abbey	Vogel	Usd 284	Cottonwood Falls	Please do not postpone the opening of schools on a "whole". Our community has had 6 cases of Covid and our children are ready to attend school after this extended break. They crave routine, sports, teachers and friends. No delay. Start in August!
7/21/2020 15:55:22	Kathy	LindseyKramer	Parent	Gardner	Our students need to be in school, delaying the start is not changing the outcome of the virus but the outcome of our children's future.
7/21/2020 15:55:24	Carol	Everley	Maranatha Christian Ac	Lenexa	Children need to return to school before labor day so they can return to as much normalcy in their lives as possible. They have been out of the learning process for far to long. They need structure and in person learning for many reasons which include interacting with their fellow students and the ability to return to a routine that is good for their mental health and their learning health. Teachers should be an essential worker as much as grocery stores, gyms and far more than liquor stores. The harm to their lack of education to their future is the greatest harm we can do to our children.  Statistics show that children are far less likely to contact and spread COVID19 than almost any other group of people.
7/21/2020 15:55:25	Hagan	Booi	Colby public schools	Colby	Please consider this request for the good of our future society. Our children have been taught nothing since March it is time to return to school veto the governor.
7/21/2020 15:55:26	Valerie	Buell		Westmoreland	Please do not delay the openings of school. Our kids need to be back in school. I felt our school district had a good strategy for our students to come back in August. Schools have been preparing for this since shut down. I don't think they need anymore time and some districts can't afford to hire new employees to take temps and whatever else they have to buy. Budgets are thin as it is. At least give them a chance to start before Labor Day. Let our children have sports and other activities.
7/21/2020 15:55:26	Brianna	Thompson	USD 383	Manhattan	I genuinely appreciate Governor Keny's consideration for school safety and proposing to postpone the start date until after Labor Day. We simply cannot deny the data within our state. We cannot deny that our data is far worse than when we closed schools in the Spring. We simply cannot deny the fact that if we were to return students to school buildings sooner rather than later, we would be jeopardizing the safety of students, educators, and all of their families. We cannot deny that schools are a shared space, among several grade levels, and several adults. Every student that enters school also goes home to a family every day, one who takes COVID seriously, or one who does not. But that's the thing, COVID doesn't play sides. Consider the spread that happens from school to home, even when we are not in a pandemic? Strep, cold, flu, lice, etc. We simply cannot deny the fact that schools have been notoriously known as spaces that spread sickness, especially when there is a lack in sanitation, ventilation, and proper hygiene. We cannot deny the fact that if we were to open schools sooner rather than later, it could be a pivotal moment in this pandemic. We cannot deny that this decision could make or break us. We cannot deny that it becomes important to consider that education never stops, we demonstrated that during continuous learning, all the way up to this moment right here.  We are constantly educating ourselves on best practices. As educators, we long and hunger for learning, all in efforts to benefit our students. We are constantly analyzing how can we keep our students safe. The love a teacher has for their students cannot even be put into words, and when you care for someone to that magnitude, you are going to sacrifice some things for them. More than anything teachers want to be with their students, but we are sacrificing the joy we get in working with them, to ensure they are safe and healthy. Not only them, but their families as well. We are more than okay with taking preventative measures, if that means we get to see them safely again one day and they get to see us. We are more than okay with taking preventative measures if this means that someone doesn't have to sit a student down and let them know they lost a teacher, a friend, a family member, due to COVID. We are more than okay preventing the opportunity for this virus to spread. The amount of time that educators and educational leaders have been putting into learning, preparing, observing, and so much more is incredible. But it is on every educator's mind whether it has been enough to prevent the loss of lives when it comes time to return to school.  More time. Time opens up more, in regards to gathering and assessing COVID data. Time allows us to prepare for what is best for our community. Time allows us to analyze what measures we need to take locally. Time provides us with

7/21/2020 15:55:39	Brett	Burhenn	SMSD	Gardner, KS	I fully support EO 20-58. As a teacher and especially as a parent, I have little to no faith that the area in which I live is ready to open up fully. The risks to our student and children are much too high, and the answers to all of our “what if...” questions are not there or are not satisfactory. With cases on the rise, there is absolutely no way to make the virus go away if students continue to share it amongst themselves. I’ve heard the “Kids aren’t at risk and can get over it easily” arguments many times, but that doesn’t account for the people those students can and will infect while they’re getting over it that WON’T get over it easily. As long as we’re encouraging students to show up to school in person, we’re negating all of the stay-at-home time we all put in over the spring. I believe governor Kelly has the right idea. At the very least, give us more time to plan for the inevitable disaster that an in-person school year will bring.
7/21/2020 15:55:42	Kim	Newell	Parent of K-12 students	Wamego	Please leave this decision up to each individual school district. The needs and challenges are not the same across the whole state. Teachers and educators have been planning for this all summer. They are ready to meet the needs of their individual community and families deserve the right to choose. Students are falling farther and farther behind while the whole world is using scare tactics for an illness that has proven more than a 95% survival rate. Kansans do not want Executive Orders! Kansans want freedom!
7/21/2020 15:55:43	Joseph	Fix	Self	Lawrence	I understand holding school until Labor Day. But extra-curricular work for sports should absolutely be allowed to continue. These are being run in full compliance with guidelines including masks, separation, etc. physical and mental exercise is critical for these kids - and they face less risk than older people. The governors blanket approach to everything is the “easy way to avoid criticism”. Keep the kids involved or you will lose them
7/21/2020 15:55:46	John	Riggs		Lansing	Due to the increasing number of cases of Covid-19, I believe it will be crucial to delay the opening of public school buildings. Teachers and staff will need as much time as possible to procure the necessary supplies and materials, and provide professional development and training to implement appropriate safety procedures. Delaying will also provide districts much needed time to prepare contingency plans and provide training for teachers should remote learning and/or hybrid learning become necessary.
7/21/2020 15:55:53	Jeannette	Bonjour	Olathe Northwest	Kansas City	As a teacher in the Olathe school district, I am urging you to support Governor Kelly’s executive order. I am a 27-year veteran educator, with a 60-year old husband and a son with moderate to severe asthma. While I am eager to meet my new class of seniors, I do not believe that it is safe for any of us to be in our building at this time. Please—PLEASE—do the right thing for all Kansas students, teachers, paraprofessionals, bus drivers, custodians, and their families. Follow the science, and support the governor’s plan to delay the start of the school year until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 15:56:07	Katrina	Duff	USD #466	Scott City	Please do not approve this order to delay school and sports to September 9th. Every district has had ample time to prepare for the school year how they deem necessary. I also ask that you please don’t require our children to wear masks. Let that be to our discretion.
7/21/2020 15:56:10	Jamie	Bezdek	Self	Lenexa	Please, I strongly urge you, consider letting each school district make the choice themselves regarding activities prior to Sept 9. The schools know best, one answer does not fit all of KS
7/21/2020 15:56:15	Scott	Kemme		Lawrence	School should be only re-opened for in-person contact when it doesn’t constitute a threat to life to students, their family members (who are subsequently exposed) or teachers and staff. Make online learning work.

7/21/2020 15:56:22	Carrie	Karns		Topeka	<p>Board members, I know that you are facing a very hard decision right now and a lot is at stake. Thank you for your service and dedication to the education of young Kansans. I am reaching out to you as an elementary teacher and a concerned Kansan. If school goes back to normal and begins in early August many people will be put in great danger. This is not a political issue. It is an issue of keeping people safe and healthy. I know that you are concerned about the well being of our children, I am too, but the danger that they will be in (plus every single school staff member) is not worth the risk. A delay in learning could keep a child from loosing a guardian to sickness, loosing a teacher to sickness, or abruptly having to switch to online learning. Personally, I am fearful to go back to my job due to the fact that I also have a lot on the line. I am a secondary caretaker for my father who suffers from Alzheimers. If I am required to go back to school when the risks is as high as it is I will loose precious time with my father who is suffering from a degenerative illness and will not be able to provide my mother, his full time caregiver, the relief that she needs. Taking the time to be careful will give me more time with my father. I do not tell you this with the hopes of receiving special treatment. I am sharing my story with you because I am certain that there are other teachers who are in similar situations of needing to take care of loved ones. I love my job and care greatly for my students but know that school as normal will likely not be the best for them or the teachers who will be asked to put their lives at risk. I've started my masters in curriculum and reading instruction this summer out of dedication to this profession. Through my studies I have studied the work of Nel Noddings who was an influential educational theorist. Noddings' work points out the fact that teachers have a very important role in caring for children and modeling how to take care of others so that children can learn to have compassion and care for others when they are developmentally ready to do so. In order for teachers to be able to care for their students they themselves have to feel cared for. I know several teachers in the area, including myself, who don't not feel cared in this unpredictable situation. If teachers do not feel cared for, if we feel that our health has been put on the back burner, how are we to care for and teach our students in this emotionally taxing time? Thank you for your time, Carrie Karns</p>
7/21/2020 15:56:22	Sara	Hasty	1957, school physical th	Sabetha	<p>mentally I am ready to start school on the 21 of aug, but if there is not a plan in place to protect teachers and students then let's start after labor day. I want a better experience for the students, parents and staff. We need to be organized and not flying by the seat of our pants. My rep is Deena Hurst.</p>

7/21/2020 15:56:26	Kevin	Neenan		Roeland Park	<p>I am a parent, coach, and business owner. I have 4 children between the ages of 9 and 15. Two are in a private high school and two are in a private grade school. I am NOT in favor of the proposed order by Gov. Kelly. The data does not show that this is the right thing to do for the kids. Interrupted learning and socialization is proven to be less healthy for these kids. We know who the vulnerable are and it is not these kids. The data backs this up. As a parent, I have seen the difference in my kids from when they were locked down to when they could go back out and participate in sports and activities. One of them in particular really struggled and was depressed. It went away when activities began again. I can also tell you as a coach and league administrator for youth football that other parents feel the same way. We have 200 plus kids signed up for fall football. If they were concerned, they wouldn't have signed up. We have not had a big outbreak with all the baseball going on. I see the same kids and parents at tournaments every weekend. Teams have not had to drop out of leagues or cancel games because of a big spread of Covid19. I just don't see the point in taking away activities tied to schools when other activities will continue.</p> <p>I also don't think it's right to put every school district or school in the same category. I know our schools have spent months preparing for the school year and have a good plan in place. We should focus on the schools and school districts that aren't ready or have the resources available and help them get there. I'm sorry but an extra 3 weeks is unacceptable at this point. There has been plenty of time and I'll bet you'll find that most schools are ready because they have had several months to figure it out. I think the schools that pass the second part of the order, the guidelines and protocols, should be able to be open on time. I understand the pandemic and realize there are some areas of the country that have full hospitals; but the fact is that we don't have that here in Kansas. The biggest reason for locking stuff down is to not overwhelm the hospitals. I would understand this order if we were in that situation. Please look at the overall picture and the risk/reward. Please allow school districts to make the decision based on their plans in place in accordance with your guidelines. I truly believe if this order passes, it will open the door to keep them out of school all year.</p>
7/21/2020 15:56:27	Jamie	Junker	Usd259	Andover	I support delaying the start of 20-21 school year. This gives us time to adequately prep our buildings and appropriately train staff for new safety measures.
7/21/2020 15:56:28	Laura	Petersma	Christ Preparatory Acad	Lenexa	I fully support delaying the start of the 20-21 school year until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 15:56:29	Bella	Garcha	Lawrence public school	Lawrence	I am in favor! This is a big deal and kids are experiencing trauma and they can not learn while being stressed out
7/21/2020 15:56:38	Bradford	Elsten	Family USD 497	Lawrence	The sports teams have demonstrated strong oversight and controls during summer conditioning. I feel that it is important to allow the sports teams to continue to practice for the mental well being of the high school kids. There are certainly more oversight and controls at the high school facilities then there will be if the athletes are all left on there own.
7/21/2020 15:56:40	Shara	Tracy	Usd 259	Wichita	I think we should delay school until safety measures can be put into place, and our local cases of COVID 19 are down
7/21/2020 15:56:42	Ceridwen	Goulter	Lawrence Public School	Lawrence	Our teachers, our parents, and our students deserve a safe return to school. It's that simple.
7/21/2020 15:56:44	Alli	Patton	Usd466	Scott City, ks	Start school on time with sports
7/21/2020 15:56:54	LeAnn	Kruckenber	USD 266	Wichita	I support the Governor's order to delay the opening of school. It is not safe for children & adults to be with large numbers of other people. Too many positive cases of COVID-19 in Sedgwick County! Safety should come first.

7/21/2020 15:57:01	Jake	Reinert		Colby	I understand the unprecedented challenges bestowed upon the educational system at this time. I trust that the board leadership will continue to have the best interest of our children in mind when deciding what steps to take now, and into the foreseeable future. Not only is the health and Safety of our teachers and students at risk from this contagion, but also the community's Working class infrastructure is at risk with a blended learning or no school environment. As a healthcare worker we have learned how to adjust very quickly and at times we have been exposed to known hazards unwillingly. But that is what our profession calls us to do no matter the circumstances. We have been 'holding the line' so to speak during this pandemic and it is my opinion that the school systems need to act more like an essential function so that our community can continue to grow and flourish like we all want it to. My specific concern as a parent is the incredible gap that the education system will face the longer we withhold some form of traditional learning from our youth. This will only bring the system down if we are not prepared. Thank you for sending this survey out. I hope you receive good feedback. The window of opportunity seems narrow but I understand the incredible time pressures you face. Ultimately I believe in the board and will support its decisions either way. Thank you for your service.
7/21/2020 15:57:04	Ashley	Peterson		Baldwin City	Please allow sports to continue with practice and games.
7/21/2020 15:57:06	Tina	Busenitz		Wichita	Please delay Schools opening until after Labor Day. This gives our cities and counties a chance to lower the number of Covid cases.
7/21/2020 15:57:07	Sabrina	Fink		Salina	Please make all districts the same - don't let districts decide, there is too much pressure from local politics. I am a teacher in one district and my kids attend a different district. If some delay and some don't it is going to put a HUGE strain on us!!! Also hybrid sucks for everyone, all in school or all virtual.
7/21/2020 15:57:20	Caitlyn	Barnes		Salina	Open schools up when they were supposed to be open! These kids have gone long enough without any sort of normalcy, they NEED to be back in school. Parents are not going to be able to teach their kids while working a full time job, and it's not the daycare providers job to teach them, while watching other children.
7/21/2020 15:57:31	Terri	Hatch	Blue Valley Schools	OLATHE	I am very much in favor of delaying the opening of school until our cases have decreased and we are no longer seeing spikes. I would prefer the start of school to happen online for the safety of our teachers, janitors, office personnel and of course children. There are so many things to consider and the list is never ending. I know masks and temperatures being taken to enter the building are required. A concern I have is that more entrances to the buildings are going to have to be open. How are those entrances going to be controlled with active shooter measures put into place as well. I know that kids are going to be behind but they are all going to be behind together. Keep our teachers safe and alive so that when we can safely return they can get our kids back up to speed. I realize that there are some students who need to get back to the classroom. Their home lives do not bode well to online school, they have IEP's, mental issues, depression, etc. Get those kids back in the classrooms. Give them the space and let the kids who are going to do just fine online do so with the guidance of online teachers. I believe that by opening the schools we are delaying the end of this pandemic. I will not be sending my kids back to the Blue Valley School District until it is safe to do so. While my middle school son would learn better in person I will not risk our families safety by sending him. Please let's flatten our curve and get our cases down first and then worry about getting back into the brick and mortar buildings. If these kids return in person, school is going to be so different that it will be more of a distraction than anything. Also, I know that families already do not follow the health guidelines during a normal flu season. Those same families will not follow them now. Thank you for your time!
7/21/2020 15:57:33	Bill	Baker		Olathe	If we closed in March to be safe and now cases are going up how do we in good conscious go back to a normal day? While kids may not get as sick please think about the teachers. Without them there will be no school. We want to be back. But i want to be safe
7/21/2020 15:57:38	Jessika	Koons		Scott City	As a nurse, cross contamination of masks will hinder our health much more than not wearing masks. Temperature checks, only done accurately, will help, but masks will not help spread contamination with young students.
7/21/2020 15:57:43	Chase	Stamatis	Christ Prep Academy	Overland Park	Start school on time. Delaying school will do nothing but hurt the kids.

7/21/2020 15:57:53	Jaelyn	Stowell	Mother and teacher in O	Lenexa	There is no way to safely open schools yet. Please put the safety of teachers and families above needing somewhere for children to go so parents can work. Teachers are not babysitters. As a teacher, I accept that I might have to sacrifice myself if a gunman enters the classroom. But we are not ready to bring Covid back to our own families. Even if .02% of children that get it die, the teacher ratio is MUCH higher. Please do not have in person learning until it is safe to do so. And if you just can't help yourself from opening it, please make masks MANDATORY and not recommended.
7/21/2020 15:57:53	Stacy	Neumann	USD 501	Topeka	This is not a political issue. Decisions need to be made on facts. We have an increase in cases in Kansas. We can only predict what will happen when we have 400 students, K-5, and 60 staff members in a poorly ventilated building but it doesn't look good. The excuse that children don't get it is false. They do get it and spread it to adults that are teachers and paras. Then we take it home and they take it home. It goes on and on. Save lives. Teach online.
7/21/2020 15:57:56	Kara	billings	myself and my son	ft scott	I would really prefer that my son be in school. He has an IEP and needs extra help and I believe the longer he is out the harder it will be for him when he does go back.
7/21/2020 15:58:02	Margaret	Shadid	N/A	Lenexa	First of all, thank you for your service to the students of Kansas. You have a monumental task ahead of you- preparing for a school year full of unknowns. I would highly encourage the board to approve Executive Order 20-58. I can appreciate that not all schools in Kansas will need the extra time to prepare for the school year, but for school districts in my area, this gift of time will be imperative. My hope is that the majority of the 2020-2021 school year can be face-to-face, but this can only be accomplished if the proper precautions are taken on the front end. Ideally, smaller districts would be able to open earlier if they feel as though they are ready, but approving this EO would give all districts the time they may need to prepare for the upcoming school year. Again, thank you for your service to the great state of Kansas.
7/21/2020 15:58:29	Jennifer	Wilson	MCA	Overland Park	I believe opening school on time and utilizing reasonable pre cautions is the most responsible decision to both care for our students educational and mental health well-being.
7/21/2020 15:58:30	Jill	Schulz	Holton USD 336	Topeka	I strongly believe in delaying the start of school, as mandated by Gov Kelly.
7/21/2020 15:58:34	Amber	Johnson		Olathe	I can't understand how we come to decisions to delay school with unproven scientific theories to back it up compared to real time science. If current studies show that barely any kids are affected by this virus and that the flu is more deadly to kids then this virus then why in the world would we delay school? Non of this makes sense except this being political and benefiting only those who make this decision. On top of that making kids wear masks is ludicrous also with no science to back that either. The consequences of delaying school and keeping them home are more catastrophic then them contracting a virus that is almost harmless to them. What is going on with this decision making?
7/21/2020 15:58:37	Heather	Edverson		Overland Park	Please affirm the order to delay the start of school. There are no good options for this school year. But a delay will allow both time for communities to reduce community transmission of COVID-19 and for schools to more adequately prepare for schooling whether that be in-person or virtual.
7/21/2020 15:58:55	Jaime	Keltner	USD 500	Overland Park	Please uphold Governor Kelly's Executive Order, no school until after labor Day!!!
7/21/2020 15:59:00	Danielle	Smedley	Parents	Blue Springs, MO	Why are we all of the sudden concerned about people, such as teachers, having to work when thousands of "essential employees" have been working this whole time?! School needs to open business as usual and teachers need to go back to work. Students need education. It's not any less important now than it set has been.
7/21/2020 15:59:11	Jenessa	Elling		Colby	I think it is important for our children to get back into to school on time(August). These kids have already missed out on so much learning when school was dismissed during spring break. Some parents are not equipped to teach their children and the kids will fall behind if school continues to be postponed. A high percentage of families have both parents who work full time, multiple children in school, unpredictable work schedules, etc., simply need school to start because there are daycare shortages. It is for the safety of our children, the development of our children, and the future of our children. This virus isn't going to disappear because we post pone school, so we need to get our kids back to into learning.
7/21/2020 15:59:15	Jill	Reyes	Usd259	Wichita	I teach middle school students and I believe all secondary students should be doing online education and not return to school because COVID seems worse now than it was when we originally closed. Teachers will be putting our lives at risk and there are not enough subs to even cover for us when we get COVID as well. There is no way to avoid passing it around to one another if we return to school.

7/21/2020 15:59:24	Paula	Naughtin	myself	Lawrence, KS	I urge caution when asking teachers, children, and staff to come back physically to school this fall. We are seeing an increase in cases and no vaccine is available. As the parent of a now grown daughter whose heart was devastated by a virus, I know that what seems innocuous can be deadly. She has had two heart transplants and has life-limiting heart issues. I don't want another child to suffer what she has gone through. I don't want our teachers to do so.
7/21/2020 15:59:25	Jennifer	Tavernaro	Blue Valley Schools	Overland Park	Please do not send us back until after Labor Day so a safe, solid plan may be developed. Right now, there isn't one that I feel will make me feel comfortable. If the NFL players are balking about safety (and everyone is listening) then why shouldn't people listen to teachers?
7/21/2020 15:59:33	Lindsay	Wilson	McPherson High School	McPherson	Time to get the kids back in school
7/21/2020 15:59:38	Mrs.	Heim	SELF	Leavenworth	Please keep the many older teachers at the forefront of your decision making. The thought of potentially losing many mentors is very difficult to process. Many districts have a large number of "experienced" educators who will literally risk their lives for the good of their class. Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:00:04	joseph	schuier	Olathe school distric	Olathe	I live within two blocks of four schools and preschools. I have many co morbidity issues. also , opening and closing schools repeatedly with every new fever or positive test result is very expensive. That sounds like more property taxes needed to pay the increased costs.
7/21/2020 16:00:07	David	Becker	Myself	Lawrence	Let them practice and play
7/21/2020 16:00:08	Paula	Jaeckel	None	Wichita	Kids need to be in school! Not 5 days a week 6 hours a day! Use some common sense. Ask the teacher that is IN the classroom, not an administrator
7/21/2020 16:00:14	Suzanne	Long		Clearwater	Please consider that there is no "one size fits all" solution to this situation. What works for the large districts in the state won't necessarily work for the small districts. I'm not sure that delaying by three weeks will make much difference, I'm more concerned about all the other guidelines that don't make sense for ALL districts statewide.
7/21/2020 16:00:15	Anel	Cox	Cox powerLine LLC	Pratt kansas	I feel kids need to go to school wear the proper mask and social distances. They need to interact with teachers and peers.
7/21/2020 16:00:19	Amanda	Anderson		Wichita	Please uphold the order
7/21/2020 16:00:29	Melanie	Wehrman		Cheney KS	I would like to see authority to decide the school start date and other decisions about how to have school this year given to individual school districts. There is a big difference in what is happening with Covid-19 in different parts of the state, in different size cities and towns, and even within counties.
7/21/2020 16:00:39	Lori	Harding	USD 259	Wichita	I'm concerned about schools opening without it being safe for all adults and students to be in the buildings. I am in the age group that is seeing the highest growth of positive cases right now. Many teachers are above the age of 50. I want to be in the classroom with my students when it's time. Right now cases continue to rise and people need to wear masks to stop the spread. There is still so much to be done to prepare for a safe start to the school year. I'm also concerned as a primary teacher regarding the justification for young students to wear masks safely and properly and the struggle to social distance especially in a small classroom. Our classrooms should be half full to allow for social distancing. It's going to be hard going back to students without hugging and interacting with them and allowing them to touch one another also. Students need to be in school but school cannot be the same as they remember and it will take time to adjust for everyone. Please allow time for schools, administration and teachers to be ready for a safe start to the school year.
7/21/2020 16:00:45	Amy	Blake	Self/parent	Colby	As a parent of an incoming kindergartmer, I cant begin to tell how frustrated I am that she will have to wear a mask. I'm totally ok with my 7th grader wearing a mask but anyone k-3 will not tolerate it. They will bot keep them on and it will greatly effect their learning. My 5 year old is also autistic and this will effect her. Since she hasn't been in contact with many people since this started, she will have enough social problems going into school as it is. All kids are going to have enough trouble after being out this long.
7/21/2020 16:00:46	Amy	Calhoun	Parents and educators	Salina	For the safety of our kids and educators, please keep schools closed until September. 9 and allow for the virus to trend down. Then allow all students to return to school in full classes for normal daily instruction and learning!



7/21/2020 16:00:52	Concerned 10 yr	Olsen		Wichita	Do you want to kill teachers? Do you want to kill students? Do you want to get sued for deaths? Well if you do send them back to school and be guilty for killing and hurting teachers and students. Children will not be able to keep masks on . They will drop them and sneeze and cough and they will just not wear them. How are we going to keep children six feet apart ? Some students like to hug their teachers and if we find out the teacher or the student has it the whole class should quarantine. How often will the teachers and students be able to wash hands ? That will take away from class time. Will the Teachers still get payed in the time that they quarantine? What if teachers don't have enough room in their classroom to spread the desks six feet apart? Some younger students pick their nose and stick their fingers in their mouths and some stick stuff in there mouths such as pencils and erasers then they touch other stuff and spread germs. Some student's parents let them go to school if they are still ill. Students and teachers might not be able to breathe through their masks. Some students don't use soap when they wash their hands and they won't all wash for 20 seconds. And who knows where the teachers and the students have been. So in conclusion please don't make the students and teachers suffer and get sick at school and let them teach and learn from home so we can save lives. Nate Olsen
7/21/2020 16:00:57	Lauren	Braun		Manhattan	Please don't open the schools early unless everyone in the country starts following CDC guidelines immediately. Let's get on top of this virus together so schools can open safely. Until then, everyone should stay safe at home.
7/21/2020 16:01:00	Paige	Boyer		Merriam	There are schools in Kansas poised to open under EO20-59 and/or virtually. The governor's order that ALL schools (public and private) to include ALL instruction (even virtual) and activities not begin until after Labor Day robs those ready schools of an opportunity to return a sense of normalcy for a large number of students in our state. There are existing virtual schools, schools who found a strong virtual option in the spring, small schools with the ability to implement all mitigation measures, schools with a model that lends itself well to current circumstances (ie - university model, hybrid model)... ALL ready to begin a new school year and continue a strong academic experience for their students "on time". One size does not fit all and the EO20-58 does not take these schools, their capabilities, and the opportunity they bring to many Kansas students, families, and communities into consideration. If a school is able to follow the EO20-59 mandates then they are creating an environment safer than what's being followed out in public by the rest of the community and should be allowed to offer that to their families. If "in person" school needs to wait, then schools able to provide a virtual program to their students should be allowed to do so according to their school calendar; there is no reason to delay ALL schools and ALL instruction. Please consider that, while a delay for in-person classes or even virtual classes might be needed for some school districts to give them time to prepare... there are schools who do not need that time because they are ready now.
7/21/2020 16:01:04	L.	B.	Educators	Wichita	I am anxious to return to school and understand frustrations voiced by those opposed to delaying our return any longer. My concern is the recent rise in positive numbers here in Sedgwick County. People in our area have not been following social distancing, mask guidelines. A delay until Labor Day makes sense, it will give communities time to prepare. Teachers could return, to plan (Which would be great considering the challenges we will face in the coming academic year.), and help with preparations for the return of students. Please comply with the order, it really isn't a great deal of time. Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:01:08	Sarah	Newberry	Self	Attica	I do not believe that delaying school is necessary. Most families have masks and hand sanitizer already. The parents should be responsible for supplying that for their children. If that is not a possibility, it is amazing how communities can come together to help. The reason for the delay is to help the schools prepare? Everyone has been preparing, all summer. The kids need to be able to start school sports. Many kids, Seniors, are banking on their grades/sports to get college scholarships. Scholarships that turn out to be the make or break for many of them to further their education, their future. Many will not see the delay as a, "Big deal", but for those that live for sports, it is heartbreaking. By no means do I take COVID-19 lightly. My family would tell you I go overboard with precautions. Please find my plea to be that of a scared, heartbroken, anxious, overcautious, and desperate mother/aunt/friend/neighbor. Whatever is decided, it is what it is and we will all move on. Nothing these days seems to go how any of us had ever imagined. Have a good meeting.
7/21/2020 16:01:12	Amy	Lunde	USD 500 teacher	Olathe	Delaying the start of the school year will allow teachers to prepare for whatever type of learning occurs. Whether it is in person, blended or online. We need this time to be informed of all risks involved with in person learning. Please protect everyone's health and make the right decision for our state and delay the start of school.

7/21/2020 16:01:21	Heather	Shire		Lawrence	For their fitness and mental health, I would love if the student athletes could continue with conditioning as they have been, in a safe manner, even if school is not in session. Thanks for hearing my input.
7/21/2020 16:01:28	Doug	Miller	Self	Hiawatha	I think we should open prudently. The health and safety of students, teachers, and staff plus all the contacts outside of school they have offer a very large footprint of possible exposures. If it becomes prudent to delay school starts because of spikes of infection, then needed precautions should be taken.  Our actions regardless of the circumstances will provide a learning opportunity for our students about decision making under crisis.
7/21/2020 16:01:31	Kathleen	Breuer	Free State High School	Lawrence	Three things: 1) schools should only restart as brick and mortar when our cities daily positive cases start tapering off, or no new positive cases in a 14- day period of time. Until then, online learning should be the only clear option here. 2) High school sports should take extreme caution for continuing workouts, practices and games. Sweat, spit and other bodily fluids are hard to control when on the football field, volleyball/basketball court, etc. 3) This might be the perfect time for the Kansas school system to recreate and reorganize the school year. Maybe the 10- month school year should run mid-February through mid-November. With break being during the winter months. Spring break would actually be considered summer break the week of fourth of July.
7/21/2020 16:01:32	Jami	Lane		Lenexa	Our kids need school. They haven't been able to adequately learn or socialize in 6 MONTHS! The long term affects that this will have on our children, could be irreversible. They're already behind, losing a whole 9 weeks last year. Please, do the right thing, and let our kids go to school!!!
7/21/2020 16:01:48	Briana	Stephenson	My family and work for	Sharon,Ks	Please leave this decision up to the districts. There is not and never has been a "one-size fits all" solution. It is unfair to rural counties and districts that have had little to no cases in the past 5 months to follow the same strict mandates as heavier populated areas. We have been preparing and are ready to take extra precautions to start school and sports on time and face to face. The kids so badly need to have social interaction for their well being and development.
7/21/2020 16:01:49	Ryan	Hickel	District 233	Olathe	My oldest son attends Meadow Lane elementary. I have some concerns that I would like you to know. Please do not support the governors request to delay schools. Both my wife and I are considered essential workers and have full-time positions. Having to extend care for my child when we already pay taxes to support him going to school is a financial burden...I guess my question to you is will the state offer a tax relief for the additional costs working parents will have making these arrangements? If nurses are essential and still expected to go to work to take care of Covid patients, then our teachers are essential to teach and educate are healthy children. I respect the fact that the district has given us an option for the in-person and the at- home or the hybrid option but please let us have that option and don't delay school for my child. My fear is that this delay will continue. Brooks gets so much more than just education. His emotional and his social health depend on that interaction that he has with his teachers and his friends. He'll be in 2nd grade and is ready to accelerate his learning, not delay it. As your constituent please DO NOT SUPPORT THE GOVERNOR's request to delay schools. I respect your position, I hope you respect my stance.
7/21/2020 16:02:08	Kerri	Burr		BEL AIRE	I believe schools should only be open for children who literally have no other option or who do not have a safe environment, food, or resources to school at home. Or face to face schooling should be delayed until January, and online only this fall.

7/21/2020 16:02:09	Kendra	Robinson		Colby	I do not like the situation this world is in. Unfortunately COVID does not care about my opinion! Delaying the school year breaks my heart, but again it isnt about a full time working single mom scrambling to figure out places for kids. If the Board of Education feels this is what is best for the safety of the Educators and children then I support that decision whether or not I agree 100%. I think COVID is here and a reality we have to face. While my workplace remains shut down to visitors I can see the damage it has caused many elderly people and I hope and pray holding off on school is not going to have the same effect on the children. The children already faced challenges they were not prepared for the end of last school year. With that being said, I also think expecting children to wear a mask all day at school is not going to work. It's one more thing to distract them, for them to get scolded for and it's going to put way more stress on the educators causing a quick burn out rate. COVID has made everything a "double edge sword" so to speak, so as a parent it is my job to support whatever the Board of Education see best.
7/21/2020 16:02:10	Christin	Nunnery		Hays	Our kids need to be back in school. Statistics prove this is no longer a pandemic and our kids are the least vulnerable! Let them get back to school and back to sports! My son struggled greatly with online, while my daughter thrived! It's time to get our kids back to school for their mental health
7/21/2020 16:02:12	Brett	Reichert	USD308	Hutchinson	All for the safety of the children and staff
7/21/2020 16:02:19	Jeremy	Peterson		Olathe	I think we need to open schools. I am a teacher and we need kids to be in school and things to get as close to normal as possible. If masks work at stopping the spread, why wouldn't we open things up? If they don't, why are we wearing them?
7/21/2020 16:02:20	Kathy	Terhune	Self	Rural Carbondale	All 4 of my grandsons live north of Topeka and attend Seaman school district. Last school year two attended elementary school and two younger ones the learning center, old Lyman. I have seen a significant change in their behavior because of the isolation and it's not on a positive way. I know this virus is horrible and I get the fear. But we have to push forward. Masks only prevent the spread, we deal with flu and the risk everyday when we get in the car! How many children die in car accidents a school season? More than flu and this age group is not the one at most risk. These is more risk to their mental and emotional health by isolation. These numbers are blown out of proportion in some States, therefore, increasing the fear in parents. We need to open, the only way we can beat this is with herd immunity. Please use caution but don't force our children to abide by a law that is unreasonable. They are having problems processing everything. Let's give them something to look forward to. I have lost a brother in law age 70 and 2 very dear friends 80 and 82. These people did everything right, they were locked down but because they had health issues to treat this horrendous virus took their life. I'm just not going to live my life in fear and I don't want that same fear to affect my grandchildren. Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/21/2020 16:02:23	Julie	Uebelein		Olathe	There was a time we used to value education in this state. Now it is nothing but a political object and it is absolute neglect to not have our children in school. It is foolish to believe that lower income children and single parent homes are not falling further behind with each missed school day. Show some courage and open the schools. Iowa is opening their schools. People crossed the plains of Kansas enduring great hardship in covered wagons not too long ago. Open the schools. People enter stores, coffee shops, gas stations, Targets, Walmart's and restaurants on a daily basis and our children cannot go to school. If teachers are afraid, let's find teachers that have courage to teach in a troubled time. The doctors, nurses, and hospital staff does it every day. Our military goes off and fights wars and yet our teachers cannot teach the most vulnerable in our state. It is sad how our state is dealing with this. Finally, I love the Chiefs. I do. But it is seems wrong they get to start back up. They will travel across the country playing football sweating and breathing on one another and our children in Kansas cannot attend school. NFL football families will live their lives and not be in quarantine but our kids cannot be in school. Makes no sense at all. Sincerely.
7/21/2020 16:02:26	Rhonda	Winchel	Olathe	Olathe	I would prefer my high school student start at normal time.Kids are losing out on essential skills and interactions. What happens to the kids that rely on socializing with friends because they don't have Internet or phones people are becoming isolated and an increase in mental health issues by isolating people.

7/21/2020 16:02:30	Jennifer	Appelhanz		Topeka	Please do not let Governor Kelly dictate our kids. She has already created enough trauma by shutting down schools unnecessarily. Please do the right thing and open our schools as normally scheduled. School is a VERY important time for development for our kids that is getting squashed by our Governor. It will already take along time to recover what has been lost. Let's not make it worse by prolonging it.
7/21/2020 16:02:31	marian	riekenberg	usd443	Dodge city	In a big district I feel we could benefit from a later start but feel like smaller districts can start as scheduled .
7/21/2020 16:02:36	Ashley	Stone	Parent	Derby	School needs to be reopened on the scheduled start date of August 12th. Parents are NOT trained educators and children are already behind from missing the last two months of school last year. The "online zoom education" implemented for April and May was a joke. Twice a week, 20 minute meetings for our 8 year olds to jump around and say hello to friends is NOT an educational tool. School is where children gain valuable social skills and where many learning disabilities are found and fixed. For many parents who have to continue to work, or who cannot afford an at home internet connection, homeschooling is not a viable option. Closing, postponing or forced homeschooling is denying our students the privilege of a decent education and there is no call for that.
7/21/2020 16:02:37	Megan	Law		Hutchinson	Yes! Please delay the start of Kansas schools to keep teachers and students safe! Infection numbers are at an all time high in Kansas. Now is not the time to go back!
7/21/2020 16:02:38	Nicholas	Myers	Self	Lawrence	I understand the need to proceed with caution when it comes to large schools with hundreds of students. However, there are schools in this state that have far fewer students that have the ability to operate. Should the Board decide to uphold the order, I would like to see an exemption for schools under a certain enrollment. Kansas is currently allowing athletic camps to go on with groups of 25. If a school has the ability to safely teach small groups of students, that school should be allowed to open. There should NOT be a blanket order for ALL schools. The number of students should be taken into consideration.
7/21/2020 16:02:42	Danielle	Dillard	JC Harmon High School	Overland Park, KS	Please do not reopen our schools too early! This community needs to keep its students, teachers, faculty, and family members safe.
7/21/2020 16:02:44	Jessica	Carlisle	Lakin USD 215 parent	Lakin	We need not forget those of us that live in a rural settings in which social distancing can be done more easily within the classroom. I believe my child's largest class size was 13 while others were 5. Also, school is a safe haven for some students from physical, verbal and sexual abuse and the only meal some children will have for the day. Why wait to start after another holiday weekend. It doesn't change what's going on. As an RN who has worked frontline believe we should get school going ASAP.
7/21/2020 16:02:45	Madeleine	Lowe	Wichita public schools	Wichita	Please delay the start of the school year. This virus is not under control. As an educator and a parent I feel that safety should be top priority and NO lives should be lost from attending school in the middle of a pandemic hotspot!
7/21/2020 16:02:47	Robyn	Fields	Family	Leawood	This school debate is not based on science. Have school in person. Stop interfering. Kids don't transfer this, adults do, and kids are not at risk. Teachers can be protected with masks.
7/21/2020 16:02:49	Christina	Kunz	Kansas School Nurses	Gardner	Good afternoon!! I have been a public school nurse in Johnson County for the last 10 years. It is my utmost priority to do anything possible to protect the safety of students and staff. With positive COVID cases trending to their highest yet in the state of Kansas while still on "summer break" from school, I am alarmingly concerned as to how these numbers will look when we put groups of hundreds to thousands of people of all ages in one building for 8 hours a day x 5 days a week. Our average elementary classroom normally has 19-26 students, with a lead teacher and often other support staff such as paras and aides present. I support the guidelines set forth by Governor Kelly as a starting point of interventions to make attempts in returning to school. In order to make this feasible, we need time to plan, order supplies, rearrange rooms, create new spaces of isolation away from others for those exhibiting signs of COVID, and make sure all of these new processes are in place BEFORE we open school buildings. Therefore, I respectful request that the state of Kansas accept the opportunity outlined by Governor Kelly to push back the start of any in-person schooling until after Labor Day. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter!
7/21/2020 16:02:49	Dana	Ford	parent	SHAWNEE	I would encourage districts to decide what is best for individual districts instead of the state as a whole. If schools are not ready to open safely at this time, I would encourage them to open virtually and hopefully work towards in person classes. There is no reason to delay the start of school. Private schools are not delaying and had actual classes last spring. Students in the public school system are already behind those in private schools.

7/21/2020 16:03:00	Allen	Childers	Paraprofessional at USI	Pittsburg	I feel that the delay will allow our school districts adequate time to prepare and train our teaching & staff for the safety measures needed to hold a school session. While I feel an in school session is woefully ignorant to the science surrounding this pandemic. We all know that the school environment with safety measures needed to insure the health of both staff and students is not conducive to learning. Thank you for listening.
7/21/2020 16:03:08	Kari	Moore Larson	parent of private school	Lenexa	I am a parent of several school age children. Please do not pass a sweeping resolution to delay reopening of all Kansas K-12 schools. I think we can all agree that schools need to open as soon as is safely possible. I whole-heartedly agree that schools should have a plan and supplies in order to accomplish this before opening. However, a "one size fits all" approach is not needed. For instance- schools conducting online classes, small private schools, and districts where the number of COVID cases are low may be able to start sooner and still abide by the same safety guidelines as larger districts (who may need more time to get started). School administrators should have the freedom to start when it is safe for them to do so. Pass all the guidelines and benchmarks a school must reach in order to start that you want, but let them start when they have reached these. To make a sweeping resolution that affects all Kansas students is to deprive some of them of up to 2-3 weeks of school that they could safely attend. Please do not pass this executive order. Sincerely, Kari Moore Larson
7/21/2020 16:03:09	Clarie	Holland	Myself	Bonner Springs	Please start school on time. Kids need to be learning. Do not hold our kids out of school to fit some bogus agenda that they cannot understand. On line is really not a substitute for in person instruction nor is it viable for all students. Kansas students have missed so much already please let them back in school on time without a bunch of ridiculous restrictions.
7/21/2020 16:03:14	Jean	Janner	Myself	Olathe	I urge you to vote AGAINST delaying the start of school. 3 weeks' delay may not sound like much, but having a target start date on the calendar and honoring it feels like a victory. Schools have been preparing for months. Give administrators/teachers/parents credit in their ability to plan wisely and responsibly.
7/21/2020 16:03:19	Lawna	Kurtyka		Wichita	I am a teacher and I approve the delay of school until September 9, but beyond that, I'm ready to return to my classroom.
7/21/2020 16:03:26	Baylee	Crahan		Pleasanton	Normally postponing school until after labor day I feel would be no big deal, but these kids have already had an extended summer and are already in jeopardy of losing a lot of the information they learned last year. I am 100% for opening the schools as originally planned and with only the ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY precautions. To me that means NO MASK unless in a common hallway with a bunch of kids. That means eating lunch with your classmates and having recess. Please do not punish our kids because the majority of the state did not abide by the governors mask mandate.
7/21/2020 16:03:54	Emily	Hill	Kansas City Christian sc	Kansas City	I believe it is best for the children's academic, physical, and emotional, and social health and development to return to school in August.
7/21/2020 16:04:06	Cindy	Riddell		Shawnee	I would like for my child to attend school IN PERSON. They need to open schools and get these children back in touch with teachers and peers. With the proper safety mandates this should be done. Children are allowed to attend daycare and summer camps without major outbreaks. They should then be allowed to happen in the schools as well. Children's Mercy Hospital is also advocating that it is in children's best interest to be in school. <a href="https://www.kctv5.com/school_authority/children-s-mercy-hospital-experts-say-getting-local-kids-back-to-school-in-person-is/article_0074b1a2-caf3-11ea-8aed-abd021eb49ad.html">https://www.kctv5.com/school_authority/children-s-mercy-hospital-experts-say-getting-local-kids-back-to-school-in-person-is/article_0074b1a2-caf3-11ea-8aed-abd021eb49ad.html</a> These children need to get back to some normalcy and should be allowed to return to the classroom. Our tax dollars pay for these schools and teachers and they need to provide our children with a quality education. Please allow schools to open in person.

					<p>I believe schools need to open with precautions. Teachers, individual schools, and parents need the autonomy to think outside the box to solve safety measure challenges. (Sack lunches only [if on school lunch program-schools gives cold lunch only] no bus route, limit days, extend hours [to help with drop off/pick up] increased outside time, tape on the gym floor, created workbooks instead of paperback books to share, ect).</p> <p>If offices are opening, outpatient elective medical care is being provided, and restaurants are open, there is no reason schools shouldn't be open as well. There can't be different rules for people all living in the same home-that doesn't make sense. If parents can go to work, kids can go to school.</p> <p>As a medical professional I understand the challenges. I have worked this entire pandemic as an RN. But there are always risks-it's about managing the risks to the best of our ability.</p> <p>We all know the risks of opening schools. But we haven't seen discussions about the risks of not.</p> <p>Risks to not opening schools:  -neglected social/emotional needs  -childcare/dangerous isolation for elementary aged children? Essential working families have to do something with kids during the daytime. It's a lose lose situation.  -parents as teachers. Are children learning what they should and how does common core play in? Parents were not taught the same way. The sad truth is some parents won't teach in home.  -increased screen time. A HUGE problem.  -children have no practice or instruction of how to "do" independent learning. It can be difficult for adults, online classes-but we make it a sudden requirement for children?</p> <p>Transparency and common sense will be essential.</p>
7/21/2020 16:04:13	Emily	Rudnitsky	Personal Family	Olathe	School needs to open-with smart health precautions.
7/21/2020 16:04:16	Regan	Rieder		Overland Park	We want the schools opening in August, not a delayed start.
7/21/2020 16:04:16	Amber	Stevens	Schools	Junction City	Waiting till after Labor Day is a much better idea. Furthermore the amount of seat time for the year should be lessened.
7/21/2020 16:04:20	Elizabeth	Astrab	Myself	Lawrence	Please follow the guidelines set by Governor Kelly in regards to delaying the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 16:04:21	Tresa	McAlhaney	MHED Substitute teacher	Lawrence, KS	I am very worried about our staff supply collapsing under Covid-19 outbreaks. Schools across the state struggled to staff adequately, and this will only add to the strain. It is important to protect the staff and families of people who work in our schools. Any precautions we can take, we should. Please support the governor's late start and safety precaution mandates.

					<p>As an HVAC engineer, I have been working with all my colleagues inside my company, equipment manufacturers, and professional engineering societies such as ASHRAE to come up with the best solutions we can. We are doing what we can from an industry perspective to improve safety. There are good measures which can be taken to improve safety within schools. We can improve air change rates through ventilation. We can improve filtration effectiveness. We can incorporate technologies such as electrostatic filtration, bi-polar ionization, UV treatment, particulate acceleration control technology, photo catalytic oxidation, and more technologies which are in expedited development. While there is evidence that COVID-19 can be transmitted through the air, this is only one means of transmission - and likely not the primary means of transmission. There are studies being performed to validate the impact that some technologies may have on surface disinfection, though this data is very preliminary and generally not vetted by 3rd parties.</p> <p>Hopefully many schools have been able to upgrade their filter media, increase spacing in classrooms &amp; cafeterias, upgrade to automatic doors &amp; touchless restroom fixtures, and train staff for administrative/behavioral controls to limit transmission. Some of the more impactful technologies are expensive and will take time to validate and implement. I am concerned that 3 weeks may not be enough time to have an impact in this regard.</p> <p>While it would no doubt be safer if schools could prepare for a semester of remote teaching, I understand how even 3 weeks may be politically challenging. One clear benefit I see in delaying the start date for another few weeks is that it may at least allow for cooler outdoor temperatures that may enable air handling units to run with higher % of outside air and maybe even allow teachers to open windows in their classrooms. This should be encouraged where feasible.</p>
7/21/2020 16:04:22	John	Randtke	I represent only myself,	Eudora	<p><del>we cannot in good conscience reopen schools until we have adequate resources to make every school safe for teachers and students. It is still too dangerous, and we do not yet have the resources or space to make it safe. Reopening schools would put students and teachers in danger, as well as their families, the community, and our state.</del></p>
7/21/2020 16:04:26	Susan	Woodbury		Prairie Village	<p>Pediatricians advise that children should only be allowed to return to school if measures to keep students safe have been put in place. With recent news of several cases of healthy children with no preexisting conditions becoming very ill from COVID 19, some with possible long term heart and lung and other conditions, it is clear that children are vulnerable to COVID 19.</p> <p>Many recent outbreaks in our community have involved teenagers, that then led to others in the community becoming ill.</p> <p>At a Montessori daycare/school where my nephew attends, 3 teachers who had been practicing social distancing became ill with COVID 19, which led to the school closing for two weeks while others were tested. Imagine that occurring times every school in the school district and state.</p> <p>Many local school districts don't have the necessary resources or capacity for even very basic preventive measures of physical distancing and limiting contact between students.</p> <p>Other countries have been able to reopen schools because their governments invested in personal protective equipment, health and safety measures for schools, as well as adequate nationwide testing for COVID 19. Our country has yet to expend the resources to do that to the degree necessary to reopen.</p> <p>With regard to remote learning, it has to be done in a way that is equitable to all students. Again, financial resources have to be made available in order to achieve it, but that seems more feasible at this time than reopening underprepared schools.</p>
7/21/2020 16:04:51	Olga	Silverman	Concerned educator and	Salina	<p>Please follow the governor's proposal to postpone the opening of schools. As an educator, we need time to figure out what is the best approach to keep everyone safe.</p>

7/21/2020 16:04:55	Jeasica	Kistler	Colby public schools	Colby	I would like to see school start in September so teachers have a chance to prepare for what is to come.
7/21/2020 16:04:57	Wendy	Lunsford-Baruth	Parent/Instructional Coa	Topeka	To Whom It May Concern: I am writing to ask for you to vote yes to following Gov. Kelly's mandate to delay school until after Labor Day. While I understand that some are not in favor of this, as a parent and an instructional coach at an elementary school, I truly believe this is the best choice for our students, staff, and families. Covid is a virus that we know spreads easily, and schools tend to struggle already with colds and influenza spreading. I cannot imagine what Covid will be like in schools. I worry about my own children, my school kids, my colleagues, and all of our families as our numbers continue to rise. While it seems many will be okay if they get Covid, we do not know the long-term effects of this virus. Sitting in committee meetings, via Zoom, I have read our plan. It includes forming a crisis plan for if and when a student, teacher, or family members passes from Covid. This is heart-wrenching, and honestly scary. I do not want to live in fear. I miss schools, the hustle and bustle and excitement of a new year. But this year, we need to be more calculated and smart. This year, we need time to gather supplies to keep everyone safe. I appreciate your time and consideration, as do my children, husband, students, school community and colleagues.
7/21/2020 16:05:11	Lauren	Siegel		Lenexa	I support the delayed reopening of schools. It will allow districts to better plan their safety measures, obtain supplies, train staff, and formulate a plan when positive cases appear in the school.
7/21/2020 16:05:12	Amanda	Ruth	Scott City Schools	Scott City	No delay for school start. No need of all precautions stay the same.
7/21/2020 16:05:16	Nick	Helton		Cimarron	Unfortunately this needs to be addressed in a timely manner. The mental well being of our children needs to be as large of a concern as their physical well-being. It's either time to get our children back in a school session or not at all so we can begin educating our own children. Masks are most likely going to be distraction in the public school setting more than they will be protection. Remembering this virus has a 99.98% survival rate. I do know that school back in session will put some children with underlying conditions at risk. There should be plans put into place to protect those children. They do matter. Children have more or less been out of school since March 2020. Pushing the return to school past Labor Day puts these children without formal education for six months. Yes we did have to educate our children at home for the remainder of the spring 2020 session. I'm all for our kids being safe in the re-entry into the fall 2020 school year. Mask or no mask it's time to get the ball rolling.
7/21/2020 16:05:16	Kristen	Lettow	My family	Leawood	Please open up schools. Our children need to learn and interact with others. All online is not a healthy mental option for children. We have risks of getting sick every day in various ways. It's not your job to mitigate every risk. We need to live our lives and stop being fearful!
7/21/2020 16:05:16	Abigail	Rieder		Overland Park	We want schools to open in August, not a delayed start.
7/21/2020 16:05:24	Julie	Hoag	none	arkansas city	I think school should not open until end of September.
7/21/2020 16:05:28	Courtney	Nichols		Ottawa	As a teacher and as a parent, I urge you to vote in favor of Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-58.  Each school district needs time to implement the Navigating Change document. If you truly care about the health, safety, and well-being of students then you will support Gov. Kelly and approve this executive order.  Teachers everywhere are scared to return to school. We will be exposed to this virus hundreds of times for 8 hours each day. This is about keeping our students, staff, families, and communities safe, no matter where in the state they teach.  There is simply too much we don't know about how this will affect children in large groups. The amount of misinformation out there is incredible--please listen to state medical officials and health officers.
7/21/2020 16:05:31	Rebecca	Cumberland	Christ Prep Academy	Spring Hill	We need this time to prepare for what is coming. One life lost due to rushing school is one life too many.  Please delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 16:05:33	Chris	Riddell		Shawnee	I want my daughter back in school. There is no evidence that children are at such great risk that they should not be in school and receiving a quality education. My tax dollars pay for the public schools and I want my daughter back in school.



7/21/2020 16:05:41	Vicki	Thornton		Cottonwood Falls	Please make science and safety for school personnel and students the basis for decisions, remembering that our schools are built for social interaction rather than distancing. I know economic issues must be considered but they must not take precedence. Teachers work hard and this can only make it more complicated. Don't leave it on their shoulders, please.
7/21/2020 16:05:42	Dayna	Richardson	Learning Forward Kansas	Hutchinson	<p>I'm writing to ask for your SUPPORT of Gov Kelly's Executive Order of delaying the beginning of school until AFTER Labor Day. I had not thought of this option until she made the announcement last week. WOW...a great solution for everyone! I heard a sigh of relief across our state.</p> <p>Instead of each district having to struggle with the decision of when to open school, the governor's executive order gives district leaders the TIME and ENERGY to actually be prepared to open their schools: shared leadership (collective efficacy) and collaboration with district educators, parents, and the community. Yes, districts can now plan for a safe reopening during this "gift of time," plus ordering required resources, etc.</p> <p>We know that change is a PROCESS. The upcoming weeks/months is a process, not an event, and we know that it takes TIME and SKILLS to implement any change, especially one of this magnitude.</p> <p>The journey (including professional learning) of change is best done together, allowing for planning and implementing of the changes for whatever model each district selects. #StrongerTogether! Pretty Prairie and Pittsburg will be different. Medicine Lodge and McPherson will be different. Wichita and WaKeeney will be different. Liberal and Lawrence will be different. (Context) Each journey will be unique, always focusing on student success.</p> <p>Again, I'm hoping you will support our districts and educators with this GIFT of TIME.</p>
7/21/2020 16:05:44	Nancy	Nettles	Maranatha Christian Academy	Overland Park, Kansas	We are in favor of schools opening in August-not a delayed start.
7/21/2020 16:05:51	Virginia	Darling	Public-a grandmother	Pittsburg	I definitely support delaying the school year and having online school only for the first few months as long as Covid numbers are increasing or constant. I would support students going a half day as long as social distancing and masks / or shields were required by All children. I understand children need to be together but doing it gradually instead of all at once might be a safer option. I basically support Gov. Kelly's plan but I would include social distancing as much as possible. Elementary can wear masks/shields too. In parts of Kansas where there are no Covid cases they could go on as normal-just not for those areas who do. Overall, I think there will need to be many adjustments and changes in our normal schedule and school business this year. Think out of the box. Be as accommodating as possible to everyone even if they are on opposite ends of the spectrum. Both sides have good points. Don't put the security and safety of our teachers and children on the political spectrum. There is some panic on both sides. Do your best to ease the situation. Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:06:07	Jackie	Rieder		Overland Park	We want schools to open in August, not a delayed start.
7/21/2020 16:06:14	Margie	Busenitz		Newton, KS	Please reopen schools on time without masks
7/21/2020 16:06:24	Mikeshia	Bradner	Educators	Kansas City	I think delaying the opening of schools ,until after Labor Day, is a good idea. It will allow districts to build a more robust plan for learning in ways other than face to face. That time will also give districts the opportunity to really chart a course of action to keep students AND staff healthy and safe during this time. Being in a field that looks at test scores to guide instruction, we cannot ignore the data being presented around COVID-19. We have to use that data to guide our reopening plans. We need time to plan for SAFE, in person learning. If 6 feet and mask wearing is needed for the public, the that shouldn't be ignored when talking about students and staff returning to in person instruction. Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:06:49	Heather	Grann		Spring Hill	I think schools should open with no mask requirements.

7/21/2020 16:06:52	Laura	Wilson		Spring Hill	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I currently work in the Kansas Public Schools. I am writing to ask you to vote "Yes" to approve the Governor's order to delay school. Schools need the additional time to gather supplies, get a finalized plan in place, train staff, and give staff adequate time to make lesson plans for the method of teaching they may be asked to provide. In addition, with Kansas's numbers steadily increasing, our communities need time to flatten the curve again and get control of the rising COVID cases so that students and staff can attend school safely. Approximately a month ago, I filled out my district survey preference for teaching in-person. However, a lot has changed in a month, and the safety of the students and staff is of greater concern to me now due to the upward trajectory of cases. Please allow for the additional time to make sure that the proper precautions are in place and to provide more time to see if we are able to decrease the numbers to more safely return to school. Thank you for your consideration in this manner.</p>
7/21/2020 16:07:00	Laura	Tubbert	parent and teacher	Westwood	I am in favor of extending the start of the school year so that the time is used to prepare for the necessary changes that need to be implemented to keep everyone safe. With cases in our county on the rise I would hope that this time also allows for our numbers to begin to fall.
7/21/2020 16:07:01	Kenan	Stamatis	We the people	Overland park	There is no need to delay schools as the virus is isn't deadly to most students.
7/21/2020 16:07:06	Shannon	Graham	My children	Lawrence	<p>Please delay the opening of schools until after Labor Day. We need to give schools the chance to have a solid plan in place, and teachers the time to prepare for all of the extra responsibilities that will be imposed on them to keep our kids, themselves and the rest of our community safe.</p> <p>to the KBOE teachersmp,</p>
7/21/2020 16:07:09	Tom	Herzog	Parent - Blue Valley Hig	Stilwell	<p>First and foremost, our thanks for the roles you serve to ensure the best for our students and community. For me, Public Education is where equality, equity and inclusivity must happen. If we are going to address the challenges in our country today, we must ensure its viability.</p> <p>Public Education is a necessity for a thriving community to function; one of the reasons why so many of us advocate and support, through collaboration we can find safe and pragmatic solutions which adapt as needs arise.</p> <p>While I support a start date of September 8th, I believe it to be draconian to cancel all activities through that date. Based on what we know and current data these activities can continue and start as a means of phasing in a back to school model - providing valuable insight into practices and results. Schools have already been doing this for the last several weeks, showing that it can work, providing valuable insight as well.</p> <p>What is most important is that the KBOE, KSHAA, and Local School Districts work together to identify the best path forward for each specific region. Local leadership provides essential perspective to help shape the path to address both challenge and opportunity. I believe the Governor means well, agreeing with the first mandate around safety protocols for schools, but to shutter everything until the 7th is unnecessary at this point in time.</p> <p>We are left with no choice but to appeal for a NO VOTE for the Governors Executive Order for this start date, we do implore for a collaborative approach to find a solution that both adapts and aligns in a phased approach.</p> <p>Other examples for us to learn and model from include:</p> <p>Iowa: <a href="https://www.iahsaa.org/covid-19/">https://www.iahsaa.org/covid-19/</a></p> <p>Nebraska: <a href="https://nsaahome.org/nsaa-fall-sports-announcement/">https://nsaahome.org/nsaa-fall-sports-announcement/</a></p>
7/21/2020 16:07:18	Jaime	Vanasse	Walnut Grove Elementa	Overland Park, Kansas	We need remote learning options. Delaying start date is a great idea.

7/21/2020 16:07:20	S	H	Usd 109	Belleville	Please delay school. I work at the school and do not feel safe. No one takes the virus seriously here. I can't bring Covid home to my husband who has other health problems and I don't want young teachers bringing it home to their children. What about pregnant teachers? Children are resilient and will be fine. There are still too many unknowns to open schools and risk lives.
7/21/2020 16:07:22	Stacie	Carroll		Geary	I feel like this is wrong. What happened to creating herd immunity? That seems to be forgotten. I believe Dr. Mark McDonald, a psychologist specializing in children and at-risk youth, summed it up best. "The problem is adults are afraid. That fear is not good for anyone, especially our children. As parents, we will face many moments of anxiety, first day of kindergarten, first day of camp, the first day of college. We may want to protect them from the world, which indeed can be a frightening place. But let's be clear, when we do that, we are not really protecting our children. We are only attempting to manage our own anxiety, and we do that at the their expense. We are acting as negligent parents and educators. We are actually harming and failing them. We must agree to make decisions in the best interest of the children. If we do not - if paralyzed by fear, we continue to act purely out of self-interest - we will ensure an entire generation of traumatized young adults, consigned to perpetual adolescence and residing in their parents' garages, unable to move through life with independence, courage, and confidence. They deserve better - we owe it to them." Think about it, we do not close the schools down for the flu. Our past experience with remote learning was a disaster. Engagement was difficult and instruction time limited. Our kids need to be back in the classroom with peers. Please reconsider. Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:07:23	Diana	Wieland		Colby	With the amount of operational procedures, professional learning to include remote delivery and collaborative planning that all teachers need to be an active part, I believe that the start date after Labor Day would be beneficial for staff as well as improve the delivery and rigor for our students. Thanks for tackling this hard decision.
7/21/2020 16:07:28	Leah	Youngren	Lawrence Public School	Lawrence	I support the executive order, Governor Kelly
7/21/2020 16:07:30	Kelly	richardson	Patent and teachers	pratt	Please allow our communities to take their own precautions to this virus for our area and let our children get back to the classroom!!
7/21/2020 16:07:31	John	Mullen		Overland Park	They need to go back to school. Please consider the guidance from the American Academy of Pediatrics.  "the AAP strongly advocates that all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present in school. The importance of in-person learning is well-documented, and there is already evidence of the negative impacts on children because of school closures in the spring of 2020." <a href="https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/">https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/</a>  I can understand parents and educators who have health concerns starting back up but what is really going to be the difference of a couple weeks. I understood there was a distance learning option that could be selected for these individuals. I can go to restaurants, stores and bars but kids can't go back to school? We have had 4 months to figure this out and the solution is let's just wait 1 more month?
7/21/2020 16:07:50	Nathan	Graham	SMSD	Prairie Village	Consider active shooter scenarios. What are teachers and students supposed to do? One protocol instructs teachers and students to close doors and windows, and huddle together, sometimes even in closets. The threat of COVID-19 means we have doors and windows open, with 6' between all of us. So which is it? What are we to choose in those cases? How are we supposed to prepare our children at home? And are teachers receiving hazard pay throughout all of this?

7/21/2020 16:07:59	Anne	Ogle-Puckett	Parent in USD 315	Colby	Parents should be the ones to decide what's best for their own children, not the Governor. The Governor should not be able to mandate a "one size fits all" solution for all schools across the State of KS. This should be left up to each individual school district in how they see fit to handle this situation. School needs to start on time. It was detrimental to the kid's learning & social well being, shutting down the schools like she did back in March. Daycare's have not closed down during all of this and have we heard of any issues with any daycare's in the State? No! I also believe that the proposed mask policy that you, as the Board of Education, came up with should be implemented b/c making young children wear masks all day long will not be healthy for them and will be a huge distraction in the classroom. Honestly, it should be left up to the child or the child's parents if they were a mask. And this should go for teacher's, staff & visitors as well. I am trusting that you, as the Board of Education, will make the right decision and not allow the Governor to dictate how things will go for the whole State of KS. Thank you for your time, Anne Ogle-Puckett
7/21/2020 16:08:01	Mariana	Hughes		Wichita	We should please delay the start of school year. We need students and teachers alike to be fully healthy! I also wish to have online schooling through the districts. I work in the school and I don't want myself or my child to bring back the virus to our families. The way school will have to be handled to be safe is no way for a child to learn. If school is going to be different, at least let the kids be home and comfortable.
7/21/2020 16:08:06	Marley Kay	Lowe	K-State Social Justice A	Kansas City/Manhattan	Hi there. As a college student who attends school in a different county than I reside in, I am especially concerned about transmission of the virus. Further, we know social behaviors (especially for the younger demographic) can exacerbate the already rising rates. With the opening of schools for face to face learning I am petrified for myself, my family members, my staff, and coaches who are being forced to take on a risk that could be eliminated by staying at home. I also have a little sister who attends public high school and I am very worried about her safety. While I completely understand the want/need to teach in person for the best education, however we have to recognize the risk we are asking teachers, staff, students, families, and communities at large to take on (some whom may not be able to). I am strongly in favor of the current executive order and hope it goes even further to include college students safety. And to those who say it is a violation of their "freedom", I ask where was this energy when pervious governors suppressed voting rights? Further, your right to freedom can not infringe upon others rights to life. I'd rather follow orders so we can live to exercise our right to freedom another day than have myself or my sister die because we were trying to get an education. The number of deaths we should accept is zero. Thank you Governor Kelly for your commitment to our safety.
7/21/2020 16:08:20	Dusty	Snethen	Parent	Topeka Kansas	The delay is the only way to be sure schools are equipped and trained to deal with the logistics of running classes, schools, in a way that provides quality learning. I don't want my child to bring home COVID because the board felt the need to rush back to school. I also don't want remote learning taking place in a haphazard fashion that wastes my child's time. Give them time to get things prepared.
7/21/2020 16:08:37	Angie	Turnbow	Shawnee Heights Footba	Shawnee County	We have been safely weight lifting and practicing all summer and would prefer to be allowed to continue especially when recreational sports are all being allowed to continue.
7/21/2020 16:08:51	Jessica	Barrow		Shawnee	I believe schools should be opened on time and that children 10 and under should not be required to wear masks. Furthermore, private schools should not be under this executive order as they are prepared to safely open on time and usually do not have many students per classroom. Please do not uphold this order for our schools.

7/21/2020 16:08:53	Austin	Weiner	Student	Gardner	As a student in the Gardener Edgerton school district I am very concerned about my education that will happen if we do not start school in the building on time. I have worked really hard to ensure that my academics are on point and have stayed up many hours in the night studying so I could get good grades that will help me get into college. Last year I was in Chemistry and Algebra II. Having to go online with voluntary school did not help me prepare for college or standardized testing. The curriculum was horrible and we learned no new content. I am scheduled to take College Algebra this year and feel behind. Online or a late start will only make it worse. I have a very high anxiety now about how college will go for me and if I will be able to get the necessary scores to get into my dream school. I am starting to feel hopeless and that all my hard work and sacrifice throughout high school is going down the drain. I have severe dyslexia and have had to work very hard to be a successful student. I have earned a college scholarship for football and now do not know if I can graduate early because school may start late. I have taken two years of dimmer school, skipped social gatherings and made tremendous personal sacrifices to get to where I am. It now all looks hopeless because after 5.5 months we may start school late and on top of it have no sports. I realize academics come first but three of my friends literally only pass classes so they can participate in extra curricular activities. Their home life is horrible and they have zero support system. They have the ability to get an athletic scholarship and this will change the trajectory of their lives. Our futures are not at stake because of COVID. They are at stake because of lack of opportunity and working toward positive goals that will help is become contributing citizens some day. Please send us back to school. We are ready to take life by the horns and get on with it. Please give us some hope and get us back to accomplishing our goals and dreams
7/21/2020 16:08:58	Diana	Vega	Free State High School /	Lawrence	The children should be going back to school during the normal time. Mortality rate among students is nil. Daycares and camps, including boys and girls club have remained open, virtually the entire time with no fatalities!!! First, school closures are creating “virtual dropouts.” Even those with access to computers who do check in are not learning in the same way. This will increase our country’s education gap and exacerbate racial and social inequalities — with impacts that will persist for years. Second, school closures impact kids’ health both with sedentary behavior and psychological repercussions. Third, a disproportionate burden of working from home is falling on women. I am a single mother for all intents and purpose, as my husband works/lives in another state. Kids are at lower risk from complications of covid-19, and basic risk-reduction control measures are working. We need to create a culture of health and safety, including wearing masks, hand washing, social distancing, staying home when sick, and clean indoor air environment. OUR SCHOOLS SHOULD REMAIN OPEN!!!!
7/21/2020 16:09:16	Susan	Panter	USD 237	Athol	School needs to start on time and be in person. Students have already lost valuable education time with the online classes the last 9 weeks of school.
7/21/2020 16:09:24	Chuck	Dehner		Prairie Village	I think Elizabeth Warren said it best,  “Forcing schools to reopen without providing them with the resources they need to do so safely is reckless, dangerous, and the last thing we should do.”

					<p>I am a concerned Kansas resident and a parent of a Blue Valley School district student in Overland Park, KS. I am frustrated upon learning about Governor Kelly's executive decision to delay school for the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>Many medical doctors, including Dr. Fauci and advisors from the American Academy of Pediatrics are saying it's okay for our students to go back to school. The Coronavirus has a 99.96% survival rate in the world according to the Centers for Disease Control and prevention. Taking proper safety precautions will help us get through the school year successfully.</p> <p>I hope that the Kansas state Board of Education will consider challenging this school delay executive decision order. This school delay will have kept students out of school for 6 months, including the summer. It is especially difficult for elementary students that thrive and grow from "in the classroom" learning environments. In addition, many students are missing out on music, arts, athletics and other extracurricular activities that are done in person.</p> <p>Moreover, I am a single parent who works 2 jobs and is a part-time caretaker for my aging mother. Adding another role as a homeschool teacher is very stressful. Although I enjoy helping my daughter with her school work, I am unable to teach her all of the academic subjects effectively.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to hear my concerns and thoughts regarding another school delay.</p> <p>Best regards, Stacy Johnson</p>
7/21/2020 16:09:28	Stacy	Johnson	Blue Valley School distr	OVERLAND PARK	
7/21/2020 16:09:34	Joel	Krum	Education	Olathe	Follow our elected governor's executive order to delay the start of schools and keep Kansan's safe!
7/21/2020 16:09:46	Kylie	Helmer	Holy Trinity School	Lenexa	I worry that the delay is going to postpone the school year. Also, there's already a chance that schools will go online after Thanksgiving through the flu season, so starting late will be detrimental. In my humble opinion, there is no higher risk by starting August 20 than there is September 9!
7/21/2020 16:09:48	Jess	Sholin	USD 383	Manhattan	I support Governor Kelly's executive order. Opening right now is not safe for our students or staff. We have to put our kids first. Pushing back the opening will allow staff additional time to train and be fully prepared to implement an online or hybrid platform as necessary.
7/21/2020 16:09:50	Alyson	Stewart	Educator	Topeka	Please consider voting in favor of Governor Kelly's orders to add a layer of protection for the children of Kansas. They are our future.
7/21/2020 16:10:01	Garrison	Stamatis	CPA Football	Overland Park	I just want whatever is best for all the students.
7/21/2020 16:10:05	Michelle	DeWeese		Topek	School should be able to start on time to those who want to attend, but sports should also be starting and should not be delayed if school gets delayed. My kids have played competitively all summer long, every single weekend and there have been no outbreaks. Kids are not the problem and they are the ones losing out on things they only get to do a few years in their lifetime and that is put on that school uniform and represent their school in a sport they love. Do not take that away from them because of the fear of this virus....let the kids play the sports they love!!!! They don't get this time back so don't be the reason they won't get that chance to be proud of what they do! We as parents are begging you to keep these kids active and doing what they love not only for the physical activity part of it but also for their mental well being!!!!
7/21/2020 16:10:08	Dallas	Froome		Salina	I am teacher. I am fine with school being delayed. I do not think schools and teachers are prepared and this allows time for preparation. Either way, school needs to be held in person for many different reasons. Myself and many others are itching to get back to work. The constant changing puts us on edge and causes stress. We need a sure plan so we can prepare accordingly.

7/21/2020 16:10:16	Lisa	Stallbaumer	Everything Grows With	Seneca	As a group home provider in Nemaha County, this decision makes little sense for our county. The number of cases is not a one size fits all. In Addition, we have been operating our daycare with 14 children and two adult care providers and two high school volunteers present every day since March. We were given little to no direction and have had to manage to continue to care for our children. It seems to me that schools should have been able to make some preparations for this and not need to have schools in all areas delayed. Thank you for making this difficult decision as I understand that there is plenty of opinions on the matter.
7/21/2020 16:10:21	Harry	Hester		Cherryvale	As a lifelong Kansan and registered Republican, I urge you to vote with the governor. This will allow time to sort things out and have a plan when and if this gets worse. This situation changes day to day as we gain more knowledge.  Also, as we face a shortage of workers from certified to classified in education, I know that anything less than a safe environment will add to this at all levels and across all job titles.  This crisis has been begging for leadership from the top of our government down and I believe Governor Kelly has provided just that. Please stand on the side of common sense and not succumb to politics.
7/21/2020 16:10:22	Asher	Weiner	Student	Gardner	As a student in the Gardener Edgerton school district I am very concerned about my education that will happen if we do not start school in the building on time. I have worked really hard to ensure that my academics are on point and have stayed up many hours in the night studying so I could get good grades that will help me get into college. If We do not start school on time I am concerned it will affect me on standardized testing and cause me not to do as well as kids from other states that will start school on time. If we go online I'm not sure that would help much either it is very hard to focus and asking questions directly to a teacher helps me as a student a lot. We have had since March to be prepared for school in August! Surely 5 months is an adequate amount of time. Our online school was a joke. It was not school and learning was not at a high level. Most of my friends didn't even login because it was voluntary. We are sad and discouraged. I need social interaction and goals to work toward. Many of my friends are becoming depressed and lazy. They don't even do anything all day. Our age group is more at risk for depression then COVID. Please give us some hope and get us back to accomplishing things and working at being successful citizens
7/21/2020 16:10:30	Elizabeth	OConnor	USD 260	Derby	I am a High School Teacher at USD 260. I do understand that children benefit from interacting with each other and that in-person classes generally are better for instruction. However, this pandemic is unprecedented and uncertain. Kansas and the country need leaders who will advocate for the health of all Kansans. That means supporting Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the opening of schools.  Allowing school to start in September will allow teachers to fully prepare for the challenges we face as educators. We need time to ensure our classroom our safe, that curriculum can be done at a safe distance and to collaborate with team members. Health and safety should be priority.  Kansas has been declared a red zone, Covid numbers are not decreasing, they're only increasing. Another reason to delay the school start date. Please stand with students and teachers and support Governor Kelly's EO.
7/21/2020 16:10:47	Kelli	Koberlein	Raintree Montessori Sch	Lawrence	Please allow private schools the opportunity to decide independently if we should delay the beginning of our school year with public schools. Since June 1st, we have operated successfully our elementary camp and childcare center with our health and safety protocols in place. We are ready and our parents are ready for students to get back to school. Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:10:49	Ronda	Langley	My kids	Rolla	I do not agree with Kelly's order. I don't have an issue with the delay start at all. My BIG issue is with the hitler protocols she has put in place. Masks, social distancing, hand sanitizer EVERY HOUR! Insane!!!! Please, please do not uphold this. Please. This is NOT a healthy environment for anyone. Kids or adults. It's conditioning. It's about compliance. That's it. Not a virus. The kids will be living normal outside of school anyway. This is not necessary and is overreach. Please strongly consider not enforcing this ridiculous order
7/21/2020 16:10:53	Jason	Marski	CPA	Overland Park	We need to start school on time

7/21/2020 16:10:54	Stephanie	Crittenden		Lenexa (Olathe School I	<p>We are not ready to resume in-person classes in August. Covid19 cases are increasing because we rushed to reopen Kansas and did it unsafely. Masks should have been mandatory earlier. Our best option is to start the school year with distance learning when the schools have a plan in place.</p> <p>We don't have accurate death rates, but if the rate is .05% for school age children and we have 490,000 students in Kansas, we would lose 24,500 students to Covid19 this year. The children would also pass the infection to their teachers, school staff, and older family members. How many people have to die before this is taken seriously?</p>
7/21/2020 16:10:58	Jodi	Gillespie		Quinter	<p>I am completely against my children wearing masks at school. If this will be required, we will be homeschooling our 6 school age children. I am way more concerned about the emotional ramifications on my children than I am about them getting Covid. I am also way more concerned about the effects of wearing a mask all day on their immune system. We have never worn masks, and I cannot even imagine breathing in your own germs and your own hot air for eight hours throughout the day. We will all eventually get exposed to Covid, we will either get or not, survive or not, it is up to God what the end result will be. Please, let's stop running, hit this head on and move on with our lives. Weakening our children's immune system's by wearing a mask is not going to help them one bit. Please let them go to school without any restrictions and be normal kids. Our children have been with other children all summer long at gatherings, at the pool, at each other's houses, I see nothing different about them going to school and being all together in a classroom, and I have absolutely no fear of them getting sick. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 16:11:14	Mackenzie	Spears		Hutchinson	<p>Please delay the start of school. As a band director I need more time to figure out how to best keep my students and self safe as we navigate this crazy year.</p>
7/21/2020 16:11:21	Jessica	Davenport		ToPeka	<p>Start school normal on august 13th. Back to normal No masks Kids have been thru enough they neex normalcy</p>
7/21/2020 16:11:24	Annie	Baldwin		Goddard	<p>This decision should be made at the local level...as should the mask mandate. Please vote down the late start order and let each district decide.</p>
7/21/2020 16:11:34	Duany	Ramos		Olathe	<p>I want the school to be delayed</p>



					<p>My name is Mark Skoglund. I live in Olathe, Kansas and am an assistant speech and debate coach at Olathe Northwest High School. My wife is a teacher, my brother is a teacher, and many of my friends are teachers. I grew up in Kansas schools and hope my newborn daughter will as well. I am writing to you today to urge you to uphold Governor Kelly's executive order, which would delay the start of schools in Kansas until at least Labor Day.</p> <p>I am sure that some people are writing to encourage you otherwise, citing "local control." I am often a proponent of local control, but this scenario poses the exact reason state government exists: without a consistent statewide policy, local control on health issues is meaningless. If Olathe closes and Blue Valley does not, Johnson County will continue to see a serious increase in cases, despite Olathe's attempt to protect the health and safety of its students, teachers, staff, and parents.</p> <p>Additionally, this issue has been problematically politicized. Health and safety decisions should be made considering only what is best for the health and safety of the impacted population – it absolutely should not be made with concern about political pressure. At the local level, political pressure is far more likely to decide this issue rather than simply making the right health and safety decision. The State Board of Education obviously does face political pressure at times, but you are far more protected from this pressure than local politicians, and you have the opportunity today to simply make the right decision.</p> <p>Cases continue to rise dramatically, and reopening schools too early would certainly cause increased spread. The CDC published an extensive study that indicated that children aged 10-18 spread COVID-19 just as easily as adults, even if they are presymptomatic or asymptomatic. (<a href="https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/10/20-1315_article">https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/10/20-1315_article</a>) Florida has 17,000 children who have tested positive for COVID-19. (<a href="https://couriernewsroom.com/2020/07/01/more-than-7000-children-in-florida-have-tested-positive-for-covid-19/">https://couriernewsroom.com/2020/07/01/more-than-7000-children-in-florida-have-tested-positive-for-covid-19/</a>). Each of those children lives with family who could be exposed. If schools were open, each of those children would regularly be around teachers, custodians, administrators, staff, bus drivers, and other students that they could easily spread the disease to.</p>
7/21/2020 16:11:35	Mark	Skoglund	n/a	Olathe	Some people argue that children are less likely to suffer severe complications or die as a result of a COVID-19
7/21/2020 16:11:46	Cami	Golden		Topeka	I am a single mom who works as a nurse and I'm wondering what I'm supposed to do with my kids when I work and my youngest is going to start kindergarten so I would have no daycare and now I am in a position where I need to find full-time daycare for not only one but two kids and also someone to tutor them. This is all just absurd that we are keeping kids out of schools when my youngest has been in daycare and my oldest has been at camp all summer and there have been no issues with Covid. Kids need social interaction and it's simply not okay to do this to them and also expect parents to home school or stay home when many don't have the financial means to do that! Please consider all the ways this is going to impact parents and kids, it's not just about a virus, we need to be exposed to the environment to keep our immune systems intact and this will have even worse consequences than the virus I'm afraid if we keep kids out of school.
7/21/2020 16:11:51	Sarah	Gabel	Heartland Christian Sch	Colby	I feel like a blanket statement for no one to start school in person in the state is inappropriate. For some individuals and areas, it may be best not to have school in person. In northwest Kansas our kids will be harmed more by not having school at school than by the risks to the kids and community of COVID. Please allow decisions to be made by local authorities. Offer virtual school separately in the state for those who are high risk or feel uncomfortable, and let the others go!
7/21/2020 16:11:57	Stephanie	Braden	Myself as a teacher	Overland Park	Please consider upholding Laura Kelly's executive order. Please rise above politics and know that teachers need this time to plan quality instruction. Nobody wins when we are trying to build the airplane as we fly it.
7/21/2020 16:11:57	Mike	Gehrer	1221 N. Webb Road	Wichita	School should start as soon as possible.
7/21/2020 16:11:59	Sammie	King		Galva	The school year should start as planned, waiting extra time will not solve anything.
7/21/2020 16:12:01	Kay	Burtzloff	Liberal Area Coalition f	Liberal	I support the Governor's action in delayinh the opening of schools. They need the time to get practices and procedures in place for the safety of the students, teachers and staff.
7/21/2020 16:12:02	Liz	Quinn	USD 259	Wichita	Please vote to close schools thru Sept 8th. I am an SLP in USD 259 & I worry the funding for PPE is not present. I also work PRN in the hospitals & I have seen the effects of COVID19 firsthand. Please take this seriously & vote "yes" to protect some of Kansas' finest professionals & children. Thank you for your work & service to education!

7/21/2020 16:12:19	Kayla	North	Teacher at Holy Family	Hays	I am a kindergarten teacher at a school where we don't have any additional procedures or guidelines in place yet. We need the extra time to revamp curriculum and make sure we have procedures in place to keep our students AND teachers safe and healthy. I do NOT feel comfortable going back to school right now. I am scared for my own safety!!! Please put political differences aside and push back the start of school.
7/21/2020 16:12:20	Mona	Enna	St. James Academy	Merriam	Our children need to be going to school on time. They need to be learning in a proper class room setting and having interaction with others. I don not want my children to get behind because this. 6 ft distancing and masks are all great precautions in order to keep them safe.
7/21/2020 16:12:28	Erika	Caudillo	My children attend Olathe	Olathe	Please resume the school year as originally scheduled. The data does not support postponing until after Labor Day. Fewer children have died from COVID-19 this year (30) than from influenza last year (190). While every death is tragic, it is not possible to reduce the risk from any illness to zero. We do not close schools on a mass scale for influenza. Our children need to get back to school not only for their education, but also for their mental and physical health. Provide an online option for those too fearful to return, those with underlying health conditions or those residing in multigenerational households.
7/21/2020 16:12:30	Shannon	Bisel	Parent	Olathe	My kids have been out of school since March - the lack of routine is wrecking them. They deserve to go back to school and receive a quality education...one that I cannot give them at home, as I'm a working parent. We are a double income family, and rely on both of them to survive. Neither my husband nor I can quit our jobs, and because we're both essential, we cannot work from home. My job involves working with children all day, and I know there are other entities out there doing the same (daycares, summer camps, etc). They have all remained open, serving a large number of children for long periods of time, with no reported outbreaks in KS. I think the re-opening plan needs to happen, on time, with safety mandates in place. Virtual-only learning will kill the economy and hurt tons more children who rely on school for safety and food, in addition to their education. Thanks for your time and consideration.
7/21/2020 16:12:37	McKenzi	Mispagel		Olathe	Please consider voting to keep Governor Kelly's executive order in place. This will give districts the time they need to prepare for the upcoming school year.
7/21/2020 16:12:38	A	Smith	SMSD	Merriam	I shouldn't have to die so students can have a social life.
7/21/2020 16:12:43	Jill	Ellner	Parent	Manhattan	I support the delay in opening schools so they have adequate time to obtain supplies, such as hand sanitizer and masks, that will help keep everyone safe. The extra time will allow teachers to better prepare for possible online classes and any changes for this new school year. The extra time will also allow for definitive answers needed regarding new protocols for COVID safety.
7/21/2020 16:12:49	Josh	Meraz		Topeka	I feel it's too soon to open schools. If you guys are having zoom meetings still why risk kids being in classrooms when you guys wont even meet in person..
7/21/2020 16:12:50	Shannon	Jones		Salina	As both a parent and an educator, I am in favor of delaying the start of school. This gives teachers extra time to learn all the safety procedures well, to make learning in person as safe as possible. Kansas is seeing a sharp increase in cases currently, and social distancing is difficult in any classroom.
7/21/2020 16:12:59	Melissa	Abernathy	Marantha Christian Aca	Overland Park	This is my sons senior year. He needs to be ready to compete nationally and internationally for college and the future of our great country. We need schools opened, opened safely. Delaying education further is a huge disservice to our children and the future of America. This school is ready to open and open under the guidelines released to KS. Please let it open! Respectfully yours, Melissa Abernathy
7/21/2020 16:13:06	Kristin	Scarborough	Concerned grandparent	Lenexa	Please follow governor's mandate
7/21/2020 16:13:17	Angela	Johnson	USD 232	Shawnee KS	Please give the educators and administration more time to prepare for this unprecedented year.
7/21/2020 16:13:20	Justine	Unruh		McPherson	I am in full support of gov. Kelly's executive order.
7/21/2020 16:13:26	Bud	Valerius	South Central High Sch	Coldwater	We believe these decisions are best left to the local authorities. A one size fit all approach does not work in this instance.
7/21/2020 16:13:29	Carrie	Allton		Lawrence	I fully support Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of the school year. With Covid cases rising across the state, school districts need more time to develop plans for keeping our children, teachers, and staff safe when they return to the buildings. And local health departments need more time to determine whether/when it will be safe to do so.

7/21/2020 16:13:31	Romanda	Hines		712 Shelburn Pl	I want school to be delayed to increase the probability of the COVID-19 numbers in Kansas to reduce dramatically. I want my child to be safe from getting sick with the coronavirus.
7/21/2020 16:13:33	Megan	Novellano	SMSD	Olathe	Thank you for putting everyone's safety and health first by delaying the start of the school year in the hopes we might be able to slow the spread of COVID-19. This also gives us the chance to possibly safely implement a hybrid model of teach so students can receive in person learning while everyone's safety is considered.
7/21/2020 16:13:40	Christina	Witten	My family	Derby	Please delay school until after Labor Day. I have a 4th and 5th grader and am very concerned about starting school in a couple of weeks. We need time to insure schools have the supplies needed to keep our kids safe. We also need time to get COVID-19 cases down.
7/21/2020 16:13:44	Lana	Stites	Maranatha Academy	Olathe	Please open the schools on time with no delay. Schools have precautionary measures in place to ensure the best possible safety of each child. The delay will hurt children with learning disabilities, low income families and single parents. Maybe there can be an online option for those who choose it? Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:13:45	Jennifer	Cox	Hesston HS	Heaston	I would like to see our school start as originally planned on the August 13th date.
7/21/2020 16:13:48	Kim	Ryden	Christ Prep Private Scho	Kansas City	I believe that the start of school should not be delayed because of Covid-19. If a school needs more time to prepare for online school or wishes to wait a while before they return the the classroom, that should be up to the school district or private school to make that decision. Thanks You.
7/21/2020 16:14:01	Nicole	Trendel	Parent of Student	Olathe	I am good with the governor's orders because there are a lot of lives on the line. Even those that survive COVID have long-term impacts that could impact attendance and employment for teachers and staff. I would ask that all kids have to wear masks to protect those that absolutely must be medically exempt. I am EXTREMELY anxious since I am high risk and have a high risk toddler to whom my child in school can bring COVID home to. I wish I was being offered a hybrid (mix of in person and online) for my kindergartener or even half days. Please consider that!
7/21/2020 16:14:01	Genie	Baylor		Columbus	I'm against it. I have seen several options for classroom. Foggers from a company in Joplin. Plexiglass dividers
7/21/2020 16:14:07	Caroline	Hastings		Topeka	Please support postponing the start of school until after Labor Day. The steep rise in Covid cases in Kansas is frightening, and I want my son in the safest environment possible. The extra time will allow for planning and a larger cushion to obtain needed safety equipment. Thank you for keeping kids, teachers, and Kansas families safer.
7/21/2020 16:14:09	Stacy	Lasswell	Usd 336	Holton	Teachers need time to prepare a safe environment and learning options. Please delay the start of school.
7/21/2020 16:14:09	Mariann	Jaksa	None	Overland Park	Having worked in a high school I can tell you that following protocol to keep everyone safe will be near to impossible. Classrooms and school buildings are not large enough to distance and schools cannot afford to hire more teachers - if they can even be found. Older teachers are worried and may quit or retire as they feel they have no other option to control their safety. Good teachers will be lost. Parents don't make their children wear masks now when playing with friends. Teachers will be spending their time dealing with safety protocol or in quarantine because of exposure. Especially at the high school level.
7/21/2020 16:14:10	Maria	Sender	None	Manhattan	Wait until the the number of new cases declines to have in person school. You can't social distance children, even if you separate them in classrooms, there is still school bus rides and lunch rooms. Many children are watched now by a close circle of grandparents and neighbors, bringing the virus into these close groups will destroy communities.
7/21/2020 16:14:13	Meredith	Warren		Overland Park	If the schools can present a safe environment for staff, teachers and students...my child is ready to go back.
7/21/2020 16:14:13	Mr	Anderson		Olathe	Please veto Governor Kelly's executive order and start school for our children
7/21/2020 16:14:17	Allison	Apaza		Bel Aire	Keep the schools closed till labor day, or at least until a more creative solution can be drafted. Outdoor classes, enrollment limited to essential workers /high risk families, optional attendance, community visits from social workers, and drop in food services are all viable options that need to be explored.
7/21/2020 16:14:19	Jayme	Hayes	Parent and teacher	Wichita	Please accept this order as it will ensure teachers have enough time to be trained, prepare, create, organize, learn, so that they can teach our children to the best of their abilities and not be rushed into a hybrid, remote, or unsafe situation. Please accept this order because of the current state our state is in. We need our numbers to go down, or at least stabilize. This is large than just school.
7/21/2020 16:14:20	Julie	Kice	Classical School of Wic	Wichita	Please allow small private schools that do not have the same issues with busses and lots of facilities to determine when they are ready to start. This is an overstep to dictate to small private schools that have sreFu made ready their plans, supplies and buildings for re entry .

7/21/2020 16:14:20	Matt	Meade	Parent of incoming High	Overland Park	<p>I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.</p> <p>I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan</li> <li>•No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.</li> </ul> <p>In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.</p> <p>This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.</p> <p>Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.</p> <p>I am one of the over 6,200 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay.</p> <p>We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know you have our support.</p>
7/21/2020 16:14:27	Sheri	Heath	my family	Bonner Springs	<p>Please PLEASE consider first the safety of our children and teachers when you determine how to go forward with the school year! It's important that the school districts have plenty of time to ascertain how best to educate our children while keeping them safe. Contrary to what some may think, they have not had all summer to plan this as the situation has been continuously evolving and has only recently gotten much worse. Plus, these people are for the most part not paid for 12-month contracts and truly deserved a break after the frantic switchover at the end of the last school year! There are so many possible permutations of delivery methods by age, school, district, and student characteristics that it's really important to think through all the options available. I ask that you please back up the Governor's executive order and in fact authorize districts to take even more time than allowed by the EO to plan their year if warranted in their circumstances.</p>
7/21/2020 16:14:31	Jill	Harrel	Parent of 3 K-12 student	Coldwater	<p>We need normalcy &amp; something reliable for our children! They don't want to wear masks, it'll cause more disruption in the classroom than before. Who will provide masks for them? Will there be a biohazard bin to dispose them everyday? What if a child needs a second mask in the day, who provides that? Parents should have a safe, non judgement option of choosing remote learning vs classroom for the school year.</p>
7/21/2020 16:14:50	Stephanie	Ryan		Haven	<p>Please delay until after Labor Day. Will give teachers more time to plan for all the safety precautions and have a room that's functional with those constraints.</p>
7/21/2020 16:15:03	Robin	Allen	Myself	COLDWATER	<p>Please open schools, sans the mask... Let each district decide their own rules, rural kansas is much different than cities... This is here to stay, like colds, flu, lice, chickenpox, flu a and b....we do not shut down a country for any of those. Kids need school... parents need school,!!</p>
7/21/2020 16:15:24	Kristen	McBride	Holy Trinity Catholic Sc	Olathe	<p>Please up hold the executive order. As a teacher and a mom, I hope that our state board is looming out for the teachers along with the students. We need more time to prepare.</p>

7/21/2020 16:15:25	Shan	Grey		Shawnee Mission	I feel it would be in everyone's best interest to hold off on opening schools until after Labor Day. To expect everything to be ready to go when it comes to all the changes in a matter of weeks isn't fair to the staff, parents and most importantly the kids. If it is decided to wait until September that will allow all parties to prepare for the changes.
7/21/2020 16:15:40	Gina	Lamberger	Clearwater USD 264	Wichita	I am working with the reopening committee. We really need the extra time to plan, gather supplies, install equipment and train staff in order to provide a safe in person school environment.
7/21/2020 16:15:49	Angella	Curran	0330008730	Pittsburg	I teach in Bourbon County, where that have chosen to opt out of wearing masks. My son goes to school at USD 250, and our cases here have not seemed to go down yet. I will probably be choosing to keep my son home until there are no new cases in our county for at least two weeks in a row. As a teacher, I think it is extremely important that we follow the governor's mandate to wait to bring kids back in person until September 9. This gives our districts time to order PPE, plan a schedule that will reduce the number of students in the same room, allow for teachers to build lessons that will accomodate both in person and online students and will allow for greater safety. I work in a high school. I am immunocompromised. I am at high risk of getting COVID, but I also can't afford to quit my job. I think it is completely disrespectful of the profession to expect teachers to return to an environment where there is a potential for a hospitalized illness (or even death) without allowing for workman's comp or extra days off. I work in a school that is majority free and reduced lunch. These students'parents can't afford to contract the virus either. Not only is it a safety risk, it is a huge financial risk. Many of our high school students are wards of their grandparents or live in multi-generational homes. The likelihood of a family member contracting the virus and leaving the student without a guardian is high. I understand the need to make sure that students have the social contact with their peers and their teachers, who love them and miss them. However, the emotional damage done by losing a loved one or dealing with the ongoing care of a loved one might be far greater, then the damage done by online schooling and/or waiting until September to start. I do not believe that individual superintendents and school boards should be making this decision, because they can easily be swayed by a community who does not appreciate the value of safety for students. Teachers love their jobs and want to be back just as much as students do, if not more, to a normal situation, But even returning in person right now would not be a normal school day. We need the time to plan. If you haven't read the news lately, just today several districts have decided that students will not return to school in person in August due to increasing covid cases. I believe in our governor, and I believe that we should follow the guidance of the surgeon general who stated students are in danger if they return to school now.
7/21/2020 16:15:50	Lana	Stites	Maranatha Academy	Olathe	Please open the schools on time with no delay. Schools have precautionary measures in place to ensure the best possible safety of each child. The delay will hurt children with learning disabilities, low income families and single parents. Maybe there can be an online option for those who choose it? Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:16:17	Erich	Barta		Merriam	I don't think it is morally responsible to start school while the COVID19 rates are so high and continue to set records for spreading. Teachers need time and equipment to keep themselves safe and by extension their students. Public health officials recommendations are consistently claiming we are not ready. Please don't make teachers into babysitters.
7/21/2020 16:16:27	Kristina	Endicott	High School teacher	Wichita	I support the governor's decision to delay the start of schools. Hopefully by then the number of cases will go down and we can safely open schools and hold in person classes.
7/21/2020 16:16:28	Tawnia	Bange	Usd 315	Colby	Start school in August

7/21/2020 16:16:28	Susan	Schultz		Arkansas City	As a mom and high school interrelated classroom teacher, I am pleading for the state board to please vote in favor of pushing back the start of the school year. With the recommendations for reopening only being released last week, there is not enough time for districts to get everything needed in order to be ready to go by early August. My biggest worry is that my son or I will bring home COVID-19 and pass it on to my husband or my mother-in-law who watches my son when we both are at work. The schools need every chance possible to be completely prepared if any form of in-person learning is going to occur. I personally would like to see the year start off as remote learning as cases are still surging in Kansas, but even the extra three weeks gives people in Kansas the chance to wear a mask and practice other safety precautions so maybe the trend can start going down. Even one student, teacher, or staff death should not happen and we still do not know the extent of the long term effects COVID-19 has on people. Yes, I do want to be back in school but I want it to be safely and I do not believe we are ready. So, again, please support the governor's mandate. Thank you for your time and consideration.
7/21/2020 16:16:28	Melanie	Thompson	High school music teach	Coldwater	As a Kansas educator, I implore you to delay the school start date until after Labor Day. Teachers and administrators are JUST NOW getting information and making plans for what the school year will look like. We need those extra couple of weeks to plan, prepare, gather supplies, and do our best to make sure we are ready for those kids when they come to our classrooms. Without that extra time, I expect a great deal of chaos would be added to an already unstable situation. And, especially in our small communities with limited healthcare resources, we cannot afford to be reactive; we must be proactive in protecting each other. I know kids and parents are ready to get back, but a couple weeks is a small price to pay when we consider the potential gains versus disastrous losses. I once again ask that you make the hard, but right, decision to delay the school start date. Because we Kansans CAN do hard things. We come from good stock. Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:16:31	Jennifer	Ortolani	parent	Pittsburg	School should absolutely be delayed, I am thankful our governor is making the tough decisions to keep us safe. There is no way schools can start as normal This will give more time to get a plan together. I think there is no way to safely open school buildings, Too many people inside older buildings, not enough desks, cleaning supplies, and schools are already underfunded. We need to have online school for months until the cases come down to protect our students and teachers. Opening schools now would create a giant spike in cases and possible serious illness to many. We are short on substitute teachers already, it would be a nightmare if students and teachers started coming down with it. Would 60 kids have to stay home for 14 days, all get tested, All teachers who were in contact with those kids or teacher, would they have to stay home for 14 days?? Where are the substitute teachers going to come from to cover all of these classes?? Keep the school buildings closed!!
7/21/2020 16:16:46	Molly	Kaup		Lawrence	I am a paraeducator in USD497. I'm confident that delaying the start of school would allow for greater safety procedures to be established prior to the start of the new school year. If schools are to open at all, teachers NEED this extra time to prepare. Please respect the health and safety of school staff, students, and families by voting in support of this executive order.
7/21/2020 16:16:48	Amy	Lafferty		Olathe	I have two children in Kansas schools, and I am very concerned about the fall semester. Of course, I want my children to attend school in person. They love school. And up until a few weeks ago, I was all set to send them. And then the cases in our county and the state started skyrocketing. I personally have a friend who passed away from COVID-19 at the beginning of the pandemic, and I worry about the unknown long-term effects of the virus. I WANT my children in school, but I want them to be safe while there.  I believe the schools should be required to work with the health departments to use science to make data-based decisions for the safety of our kids, teachers and staff. I do not want decisions based on politics or what people not trained in infectious disease and public health "want". We all "want" our kids back in school. The doctors and public health officials are the ones that have the expertise to determine when we can return them all "safely".  Approve Governor Kelly's executive orders and require schools to use science and medicine to determine what is in the best interest of our children's health and safety.
7/21/2020 16:16:52	Carri	Ball		Wichita	Let the kids go back to school in August!
7/21/2020 16:17:19	Austin	Case		Manhattan	I support the delay of schools opening. As a parent, I just want to keep my child safe, and it is not safe to open schools at the normal time.

7/21/2020 16:17:29	Tom	Balsbaugh	Parent	Overland Park	Please vote to overturn Governor Kelly's executive order. Please allow each district to make their own choice when to start school.
					<p>Kansas Board of Education,</p> <p>I am a VERY concerned parent commenting on Executive Order 20-58. This order is not needed. The schools and parents have ONE FULL MONTH to prepare for the 20-21 school year. This should be plenty of time to prepare both the cleanliness of Kansas schools and ordering the needed supplies.</p> <p>The fact that most private schools has such small classes means this order should not apply.</p> <p>One other item is that the case number does not make sense. The case number that the Governor is using that is listed on the Kansas Department of Health and Environment web site (23,334) is inflated. "A quote from this order is "WHEREAS, as of this date, in Kansas there have been 23,334 reported positive cases of COVID-19 spread among 102 counties, including 307 deaths;" According to the quote below, from their site, the case numbers include presumptive cases OR epi-linked cases. I thought the case number would ONLY be CONFIRMED CASES! Science does not include assumptions BUT FACTS.</p> <p>"As of May 7, 2020, confirmed and probable cases are included in the case totals. A confirmed case is defined as a person who tested positive by molecular testing for the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2), which causes Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). A probable case if defined as a person with: a) presumptive lab evidence (serology) with COVID-19 symptoms or epi-linked to a confirmed case, or b) no lab testing with COVID-19 symptoms and epi-linked to a confirmed case."</p> <p><a href="https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/160/COVID-19-in-Kansas">https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/160/COVID-19-in-Kansas</a></p> <p>The CDC defines epi-linked as:</p> <p>Epidemiologically linked case: a case in which the patient has/had contact with one or more persons who have/had the disease, and transmission of the agent by the usual modes of transmission is plausible. A case may be considered epidemiologically linked to a laboratory-confirmed case if at least one case in the chain of transmission is laboratory confirmed.</p> <p><a href="https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00025629.htm">https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00025629.htm</a></p> <p>In conclusion; the governor is using her power to delay the opening of Kansas schools bases on "confirmed and probable cases, serology, epi-linked or people that have had no testing. This is a deceitful way of inflating the case number so it looks like we have more cases then we have factual cases based on individual positive tests.</p>
7/21/2020 16:17:30	Jonathan	Broeker		Shawnee	Jonathan Broeker
7/21/2020 16:17:42	Dan	Simon		Lawrence	The governor and science should drive this decision. The disjointed and horrific federal response has demonstrated that a thoughtful leader such as our governor is the best person to make this decision. The rest of the ideologues and extremist politicians need to get out of the way and let informed science and our governor lead.
7/21/2020 16:17:44	Mickie	Mason		Mulvane	Let each district decide.
7/21/2020 16:17:51	Kathleen	Myers		Overland Park	I agree with waiting to start school until after Labor Day to give the districts more time to get their plans together for school starting.
7/21/2020 16:17:57	Lindsey	Welsch	Parent	Lenexa	Please delay school. Please.
7/21/2020 16:18:00	Jim	Forsyth	self	Anthony	All steps possible should be taken to protect everyone in the schools. A three week delay seems to be an appropriate measure at this time. I am a Reagan Republican but this should NOT be a political issue but one of public health. Please comply with the Governor's orders.
7/21/2020 16:18:07	Tiffany	Mullen		Overland Park	Elementary kids need to go back to school with an in person option as soon as possible.
7/21/2020 16:18:10	Brianne	HILLMAN	Parent	Olathe/Spring Hill	Start school
7/21/2020 16:18:11	Kylee	Sperber		Johnson	Delay the opening of school. Schools need time to plan and prepare to make returning safe for everyone. My husband is a teacher and we just had a baby last week. We don't want to send him to an unsafe environment everyday to risk his health or the health of our newborn and two other toddlers.
7/21/2020 16:18:16	Cindy	Bracker		Lawrence	I support the plans to delay school openings and enforce safety measures in the schools as laid out in Governor Kelly's executive order. While there are some parts of Kansas that have not been affected, we need to stand unified behind this policy as an entire state to eradicate (or at least control the spread of) this dangerous virus.
7/21/2020 16:18:29	Laura	Riffel	Behavior Doctor SEmin	Overland Park	I do not want school to open early. I fear for the safety of the teachers and students. I have attended a funeral of a student who died at school- I don't want anyone else to have to do that. I have also attended the funeral of staff members who died. I can't imagine how many we will have if we return too early.

7/21/2020 16:18:30	Felicia	Unruh		Walton /Goessel school	Our kids need the socialization and someone that went to school to teach!
7/21/2020 16:18:32	Andrew	Ortolani	College student	Pittsburg	100% support the delay, and keeping a close eye on any spikes/rises in cases to decide what to safely do next. Considering there are folk pushing to open schools back up yet refusing to hold the meetings in person tells you something about how they truly feel on a safety-standpoint. My brother will be returning to high school for his senior year and I'm incredibly concerned for his safety. Until there is a solid and coherent plan to safely conduct classes and other functions, there is 0 reason to be putting children and young adults at risk at this time. As a biology major, I understand the importance of allowing scientists to do what they do best: experiment and work towards a solution while also educating the public on their findings and goals. It is disappointing to say the least, that many do not trust our most intelligent minds in this country, and instead write off their many MANY warnings for political reasons or citing the revitalization of the economy. This is not a political issue. This is life and death for some.
7/21/2020 16:18:35	Katie	Cronin		Leawood	I am a parent of two elementary age children living in Leawood, KS. I am in support of the governor's order to delay the start of school until 9/7 to give teachers and administrators additional time to plan for high-quality virtual learning. Even if some in-person learning is available at the beginning of the year, distance learning seems likely once we hit cold and flu season. I want our teachers to have as many tools at their disposal as necessary to ensure distance-based learning is effective. In the alternative, to the extent that in-person school options are made available, I think this time will be necessary to ensure that PPE can be secured and critical safety protocols put into place. I would like to see an in-person option, but only for our most vulnerable children and children of essential workers, and only to be taught by young teachers who are not immunocompromised and who have volunteered to do so - see <a href="https://medium.com/@shaylargriffin/some-students-should-go-to-school-most-should-stay-home-8a57894b8487">https://medium.com/@shaylargriffin/some-students-should-go-to-school-most-should-stay-home-8a57894b8487</a> . Whether in-person or distance, teachers deserve to have the chance to prepare a single set of lesson plans, as we know from the spring that in-person curriculum often does not transfer effectively to in-person, and I'm sure the reverse is true as well. Thank you for your work on the Board and your thoughtful consideration during a very challenging time where there are only challenging options available.
7/21/2020 16:18:51	Michelle	Green		Junction City	I think delaying the start of school is ridiculous. Covid-19 isn't going to just go away. So what's the point of making our children start later?? It won't do anything.
7/21/2020 16:18:51	Melissa	Wenzl	Parent of BV high school	Overland Park	Please school board members speak for your own districts and don't let the governor dictate and mandate for the entire state. We're all suffering in different ways and different things will work and be feasible for each area of Kansas. Please say NO to executive orders...don't let politics interfere with the welfare of Kansas students. Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:18:57	Gabby	Asher	Holy Cross Catholic School	Overland Park	Please consider following Governor Kelly's orders to start after Labor Day, us teachers really really need this time to prepare and get our classrooms in order and ready. We would be under so much pressure and not set up in our best if school started at the Normal time. Please consider the healthy and safety of our students and parents and faculty. Thank you
7/21/2020 16:19:09	Gabby	Asher	Holy Cross Catholic School	Overland Park	Please consider following Governor Kelly's orders to start after Labor Day, us teachers really really need this time to prepare and get our classrooms in order and ready. We would be under so much pressure and not set up in our best if school started at the Normal time. Please consider the healthy and safety of our students and parents and faculty. Thank you
7/21/2020 16:19:16	Rebecca	Brown	myself, a teacher in KC	Overland Park	We are not ready for school to begin in August. We are in the middle of a Covid-19 surge, so putting 23,000 students and almost 10,000 staff together in buildings with inadequate ventilation and no way of truly practicing social distancing (just think about making 900 students go to the bathroom while following the 6' apart recommendation. Our school has 10 restrooms 5 for girls, 5 for boys. And do you honestly think students will keep their mask on during the bathroombreak?) Even if we eat lunch in our classrooms, we will have to take our masks off for at least 15 minutes. These are just a few issues with the CDC Guidelines. Instead, I would like that time to collaborate with my fellow teachers to develop learning opportunities that we can use when we have to do remote learning.
7/21/2020 16:19:20	Jennifer	Mackley	USD 315- Colby Public	Colby, Ks	Please do not open schools until it is SAFE!
7/21/2020 16:19:24	Maribel	Gallegos		Olathe	If children come first, then schools need to be virtual. Children have the right to remain healthy and not spread Covid-19 to their family and community. Please follow the science and not politics.



7/21/2020 16:19:33	Diane	Grubb	My family which includ	Wichita	I would prefer to postpone until December 1.  Now or even Sept 9 is too soon!  We will not sacrifice our little one
7/21/2020 16:19:34	Tari	Slaight	Leonardville nursing ho	Clay center	I believe it will not be a good idea for students to return to school until covid is at an end point. I already have the chances of bringing it home to my kids in my line of work. I do not want them to bring it home to me. I could possibly infect my coworkers or the people I care for.
7/21/2020 16:19:35	Veeva	Bratton	Self	Topeka	I think that it is a very bad idea to start school back at all right now.. think about all the kids that go to school do you really think that the small children are really going to keep their masks on.. what about when they eat lunch ad have to take their masks off.. what about gym and showering.. there is still not enough known about this disease to say that the younger generation won't get it who wants to take a chance on their lives or the lives of their parents or grandparents that they're coming home to that may get it..
7/21/2020 16:19:42	Ruth Ann	Gourley		Shawnee	It is vital to the academic and mental health of students that KS schools start on schedule in the fall, 2020. There are children in desperate need of education that only a classroom can give them. Remember the slogan "No Child Left Behind"? Well, this proposed continual shutdown has and will continue to leave many children behind. Not all parents are suited for homeschooling their children, let's say, it's not their gift. This will put those children even farther behind. For many children, school is their only place to learn. School is, in many cases, where children eat their only well-balanced meal each day. How can we go from having award winning programs to ensure that EVERY child gets chance, only to take it all away? Seems like this is all going backward to me and the better option is to return children to school on schedule in August 2020.
7/21/2020 16:19:45	Wendy	Nagel	Self	Olathe	Delaying school is absolutely necessary to make sure that the schools have time to prepare for the safety of students and staff members. There has to be a plan for how to handle the substitute situation when staff members have to quarantine for 14 days. They absolutely cannot put classrooms together if they don't get substitute coverage! What is the plan for that? What is the plan when a student is part of a family that has positive cases at home? Their whole class and teacher need to now quarantine? Lots of unanswered questions and numbers are definitely on the rise! We should not be taking these kinds of risks with our children and educators.
7/21/2020 16:19:50	Tally	Fleming	USD#362 La Cygne Ele	La Cygne	I would appreciate the delay being approved so the we have time to go through the recommendations provided to us in the Navigating Change document. We need time to run through procedures and logistics of having students in schools. Please approve the Governor's executive order. Thank you!
7/21/2020 16:20:03	Martha	Masinton	My family.	Lawrence	I support Governor Kelly's order to delay school opening until after Labor Day. The order is intended to safeguard students, teachers, and their families in the context of a poorly understood and rampant virus. I cannot see who would benefit from a rejection of this order.
7/21/2020 16:20:07	Jenny	Setser		Wichita, KS	In person school should start as scheduled. If parents are worried about sending their kids to school, they have the option to enroll in online public education. Parents have the right to send their kids to school.....in person school!
7/21/2020 16:20:07	Geneva	Grogan		Shawnee, KS	I am supportive of the delay of the start of schools. I have heard a lot about local control but when local control has been given, cities and counties have ignored the suggestions and have increased the number of cases in the state of Kansas. I also wonder, if every district is supposed to make their own decisions, why do we have a state BOE? Shouldn't each district get to choose what their students learn? Counties want to say that they don't have any cases or a low number of cases. What are they going to do if their cases spike? They can take this additional time and create plans. If they never need them, great but at least they have them should it get worse. Please force schools to take the time to do this right and protect the safety of our kids and teachers. This isn't political, it's about lives. Why wouldn't we do what's best and make schools do what is right according to the Department of Health in the state of Kansas.

7/21/2020 16:20:08	Brigette	Hahn	Public teacher and paren	Lenexa	<p>I am very interested in getting children back in school. I am concerned about their emotional, academic, and social well being. I know COVID is real, but I also see statistics where severe illnesses and deaths are not happening (or rarely happening) in children. As of today, there have not been any pediatric deaths in Johnson County. A news story today cited Pediatric Infectious Disease Experts from Children's Mercy Hospital as saying, "schools need to reopen because not being in school is riskier for most kids than the coronavirus." On Monday, the American Academy of Pediatrics stated that the benefits of school (with safety plans in place) greatly outweigh the risks of COVID."</p> <p>I'm a teacher in Olathe. We have a great school with amazing families and students. I fully support parents that want to choose online school, and am pleased to see that many districts are offering choices to families. However, as a teacher I am proud to say I want to be back in the classroom. Of course it will be a new challenge, but I believe those kids need us. Anyone that has a job (teacher or otherwise), or goes into the community, is at risk of catching COVID. I am confident that my district will do everything in their power to keep me (and my school aged children) safe. Please consider getting these students back in school as soon as possible. I greatly appreciate your time and consideration. Thank you!</p>
7/21/2020 16:20:26	Sarah	Watkins	Teacher at Wichita Publ	Wichita	<p>I am proud to teach the future of Kansas each and every day in my fourth grade classroom. However, I fear school districts' ability to protect students and staff when our communities have continued to have rising numbers of Coronavirus infection rates. While I understand some of you are fearful of making the decision for the whole state, I strongly urge you to step up and support Governor Kelly's mandate to delay the start of the year. While I respect the role of local school boards in making decisions for their own community, this is a state-wide crisis and local systems might be pressured to open in an unsafe manner without wise state-wide leadership.</p>
7/21/2020 16:20:28	Amy	Leiker		De Soto	<p>School should not resume until it is safe for students and teachers. They need to do online. Thank you</p>
7/21/2020 16:20:43	Heather	Owens		IOLA	<p>I'm not sure how in the areas with low numbers the youth benefit from starting school late. Children thrive in continuity and schedule, not starting school at least virtually does not help kids get back into the routine that they have been out of for so long.</p>
7/21/2020 16:20:43	Courtney	Albin	Special Education Teach	MANHATTAN	<p>I would like the board members to know that I support Governor Kelly's decision to have Kansas schools delay their start date until after Labor Day weekend and ask that the Kansas Board of Educators support the Governor's decision. As a mother of a grade school-aged child, I appreciate the extra time to be able to get the recent spike in Covid-19 cases in my community under control before sending my child to school. As an early childhood special education teacher, I appreciate the extra time to be able to prepare for the difficult year ahead in order to best serve my students. I know that it means my students will be missing out on special education services that they greatly need, but I feel the benefits of extra preparation time greatly outweigh the loss of a couple of weeks of services in the long run.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely, Courtney Albin</p>

					<p>How can an individual who ran on their support for public education, was elected to represent public education and to lead and support the education of our children vote to delay the opening of schools?</p> <p>You can't and continue to expect to have any credibility or respect from your constituents.</p> <p>How can you have the words, "Our students come first in every Board decision", posted in your boardroom, a mission statement that says, "KSBE is to prepare students for lifelong success through rigorous, quality academic instruction, career training and character development according to each student's gifts and talents," and a Kansans CAN vision statement that says, "Lead the World in the Success of Each Student" and vote to delay the opening of schools?</p> <p>You can't and continue to expect to have any credibility or respect from your constituents.</p> <p>How can you support and pass with a 9-0 vote of the state board, a document that was constructed by KSDE along with 1000 volunteers, that included parents, educators, medical professionals and many others that provides guidance to schools supporting the decisions of local districts to determine what is best in reopening their schools and doesn't support mandates on the districts and then turn around and vote to support the Governor's EO as she places a blanket order on districts wanting to diminish the ability for local control?</p> <p>You can't and continue to expect to have any credibility or respect with your constituents.</p> <p>I understand districts have ultimate control on when they open but I rely on you to do what's best for ALL children and you didn't do that for my grandchildren if you supported the closure of schools in the spring and you aren't doing that if you vote yes on the Governor's EO. Especially for my grandson who is a special education student.</p>
7/21/2020 16:20:53	Penny	Rice	Self	Topeka	
7/21/2020 16:21:00	Tiffany	Couvillion	USD 385	Andover	<p>I would prefer to start after Labor Day to give myself and other teachers adequate time to prepare the best lessons possible for our students. Many of us are dealing with anxiety because we still don't know what the start of the year will look like. We need time to prepare thought-provoking and meaningful lessons for our students. Yes, we did this the last quarter but we are now starting at a new point in the year. Almost all teachers will need time and collaboration with other teachers to make sure our students are still getting a great education.</p>
7/21/2020 16:21:07	Annette	Alexander	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	<p>Maranatha is a small private school with small numbers in classrooms. I believe we can open the doors and address all the safety concerns and thrive in the midst of these challenging times. Not one parent I've spoken with who has children enrolled here has raised a concern that MCA would not be able to open safely. I would not want to put my children in harms way if I felt it was not safe and I believe that we need to get back to some normalcy. If this calls for wearing masks, and washing our hands, we will do it but let's get these kids back in school with their friends, socializing, learning, praying together, not sitting at home, learning nothing, doing nothing and without parental supervision. Let us show you we can do this and do it right.</p> <p>May God Bless you in making the decisions before you.</p> <p>The Alexanders ( A part of the Maranatha family for 12+ years)</p>
7/21/2020 16:21:07	Alexander	Barrioz		Kansas City KS	I will like school to open after Labor Day
7/21/2020 16:21:09	Becky	Calhoun	Christ Preparatory Acad	Lenexa	I feel that the governor's mandates should not apply to private schools, especially small ones like our school. The parents are paying for tuition so are able to choose another school if they are not satisfied with the safety precautions our administration has in place.
7/21/2020 16:21:20	Jo	DeYoung	USD 315 COLBY	Colby KS	Thanks for making tough decisions for our kids. We wish you the best in your endeavors!
7/21/2020 16:21:23	Christine	Lynch		Kansas city	Half home half at school. Ks high schools - each grade goes 2 days a wk.

7/21/2020 16:21:36	Angie	Gustin		Olathe	I support Governor Kelly's Executive Order to delay the opening of Kansas schools until after Labor Day. Delaying the start of school gives communities time to decrease covid cases. I live in the county with the most cases in the state. Schools need to order necessary supplies and implement rigorous cleaning procedures to protect the health and safety of students and staff. Many routine school supplies requested from families, such as cleaning wipes and hand sanitizer, are still unavailable or limited.
7/21/2020 16:21:39	Charles	Johnston		Hutchinson	A small delay in starting schools if it means a safer school year seems like a small sacrifice. Delaying the start of school is the right thing to do.
7/21/2020 16:21:57	Dena	Short	Parent	Pittsburg	I support Governor Kelly in delaying the start of school. Yes, it is important to be in school. But it is also important to keep teacher, staff, and families safe as well. I live in Crawford County Kansas and here alone we are seeing a large increase in cases, and that number is only getting higher quickly. So I ask you to support Governor Kelly in delaying the start of school until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 16:22:05	Jenny	Weaver	Parents of school age ch	Osawatomie, Kansas	To keep all staff and children safe with constant routine, I ask that School be held in home based form on line with zoom classes for the first nine weeks. Reevaluate for the next nine weeks. Focus on core classes only. With children and staff testing positive still I would hate to start school and infect more and more children and other staff members. To illuminate some of the exposure children should stay home for at least the first nine weeks of school.
7/21/2020 16:22:06	Gary	Gourley		Shawnee	It is vital to the academic and mental health of students that KS schools start on schedule in the fall, 2020. There are children in desperate need of education that only a classroom can give them. Remember the slogan "No Child Left Behind"? Well, this proposed continual shutdown has and will continue to leave many children behind. This is going backward and the only option is to return children to school in August 2020.
7/21/2020 16:22:06	Kris	Schneider	Holy Trinity Catholic Sc	Olathe	Please consider the option of letting our kids meet virtually and get ready to learn for the upcoming school year. These little minds need the interaction and the learning PERIOD! The EO is an overreach of the Governor. We cannot let this stand. My child lost his father at 6 years old. We choose to send him to a private school for the curriculum and community. He is 10 now and finished the fourth grade online during crisis school. This child and Kansas child deserve more. We must do better and protect the mental health of our children.  Sincerely, Concerned Parent Kris Schneider
7/21/2020 16:22:38	Kirsten	Blankenship	Pratt USD 382	Pratt	I support delaying the start of school to September 9th. As an elementary school principal we need time to receive the safety items for school and to work with staff for a safe return.
7/21/2020 16:22:42	David	Bertoch	Self	Shawnee	Our daughter's school (Maranatha) has planned well and will be ready to start on schedule in August. Please let private schools proceed on their schedules. Thank you for your leadership.
7/21/2020 16:22:43	Matt	Gazaway	Christ Preparatory Acade	Lenexa	It's very important that students return to school for their academic, mental, and social health. I can attest as a parent and coach that all these 3 areas are already suffering and that remote learning is not a suitable replacement. There is a strong argument that keeping students away from school is more harm to society both short & long term than having them physically at school in this time. We have learned a lot from the spring and from other schools across the globe. Let's carefully but immediately get our students back to full time in person learning! And thank you for your hard work in this very challenging time!
7/21/2020 16:22:44	Monique	Holmes		Hays	Please open schools with the original calendar. Delaying the opening only creates more chaos. The schools have known what they needed when the CDC and AAP came out with their guidelines a month ago. They do not need three more weeks. Kids do not need more time home alone on electronics with no social interaction or academics.

7/21/2020 16:22:45	Shannon	Schwarz	Parents USD 437	Topeka	<p>I have children in elementary, Middle School and high school. I am also in the medical field providing anesthesia. I have read many reports and studies regarding schools being opened. According to the data and the reports of other schools that have remained open, I feel extremely comfortable in sending my kids to school without any restrictions besides the increasing in cleaning, which would help in any situation. Also, I feel they should be able to play all sports as they have been for the past 6-8 weeks indoors and outdoors without restrictions. According to the data we have currently, our children are more at risk from drowning than dying from coVID. Also, they are higher risk of dying in a car wreck on the way to school than dying from coVID. Also there are studies and reports stating that children rarely have symptoms when they get coVID. They also have been proven to not be vectors of transmission to adults due to their less viral load. With all the false positives throughout the country and people receiving phone calls that they are positive for COVID and not even been tested, there is significant error on the data regarding the positive rate increase. We need to look at the data and decide accordingly not base our decisions on opinions and or media outlets that sensationalize the data. When they say that the hospitals are full, they are not separating the elective surgeries, regular maintenance admissions, and or emergent admissions due to not maintaining their illnesses. With that if who is actually admitted for coVID itself. There is a huge difference between someone that was admitted for a heart attack and thrown test positive and someone that is actually having symptoms of coVID and gets admitted. These need to be differentiated in what the cause of admission was. Real data makes a difference. My support is for schools opening without restrictions and sports and other activities to continue as they normally would.</p> <p>Thanks</p>
7/21/2020 16:22:49	Tammy	Simons	USD 467 Leoti-Wichita	Leoti	<p>As an elected member of the USD 467 Leoti School District, Board of Education, I urge you to vote against the E.O. #20-58. The school calendar and opening date should remain in our local control.</p> <p>Leoti/Wichita COUNTY, is not even in the same ballpark as Wichita the CITY/Sedwick county. WE HAVE HAD 1 case OF COVID-19. We have less than 5 people per square mile in the county—social distancing is our way of life way before this virus. 90 of our 7-12 graders (half the school population) have been in the weight room and practicing sports together since June. Still ZERO cases in that age group and the adult supervisors.</p> <p>Our local school board/school administrators and our county health officials/commissioners are extremely dedicated and doing the best they can for protecting our public health. Please vote in a way that allows us to continue making our own decisions. We know our community best!</p>
7/21/2020 16:22:57	Caden	Pinter	Maranatha Christian Ac	Lenexa	I think that we should push the start date back. COVID rates are high and it is the best option to start later. We do not want to spread the virus more than it already is spreading.
7/21/2020 16:23:03	Rosemary	Robles		Kansas City KS	I will like school to open after Labor Day
7/21/2020 16:23:04	Mark	Taussig	My family	Manhattan	Please allow children to return to s school, their entire future may be riding on their current schooling needs.
7/21/2020 16:23:07	Jaime	Werner		Ozawkie	I believe we should go back at the normal time.

7/21/2020 16:23:10	Kim	Christopher		Basehor	<p>This is a partial response from a member of the State Board of Education that was responding to the many emails she received. I hope this encourages you to continue to make decisions based on facts and truth from our local community and not from Topeka. Thank you for the excessive amount of time and energy you have dedicated to this situation. We are DILIGENTLY praying over you and your family as you make these tough decisions. We are praying for wisdom and discernment as you continue to make these decisions for our children and community!</p> <p>The local boards of education are required by Kansas Statute to govern the schools in their district. By virtue of that statute, they are authorized and have the responsibility to make decisions for those schools. As you are aware, the members of local boards of education are elected by each district's electorate. The elections ensure there is local control of each school district. Local control guarantees that board of education decisions are crafted to fit the circumstances in that district for that specific district and that one district's decision doesn't impede on the need of the board of education in another district to make a decision which fits the circumstances in that district. Executive orders mean the entire state is treated the same whether or not it is inappropriate for say rural districts and urban districts to be treated alike.</p> <p>Some have implied that if I opposed the Governor it would only be because of politics...my view has absolutely nothing to do with politics, but with the long-standing state laws. I view the Governor's action as virtually a "take-over" of what has always been the responsibility of local school boards. [I would view the same action proposed by any governor in the same way regardless of their party.] It would have been respectful of local control for the Governor to have instead strongly suggested to each district where spikes in cases are occurring that they consider not opening school until after Labor Day instead of issuing an Executive Order that negatively affects school districts in communities that have no recent cases. My message is...a great leader does not make all the decisions, but instead she/he recognizes the value in allowing decision-making by those elected officials whose statutory job it is to make the decision you are tempted to find a way to make yourself. The Governor's place is to ensure county health officials and locally-elected officials have the latest data for their district, for the districts in close proximity to that district, and for the state as a whole, plus the Governor's recommendation, so they are making informed decisions. To enable members to make the best decision for their district, it important that each board of education has the ability to balance the data</p>
7/21/2020 16:23:14	CRAIG	MYERS	Colby High School	COLBY	I think that school should go on as normal and start in August. COVID-19 seems to be the same as bad flu season. It does not affect healthy young people as much. And kids need regular classroom time. They tend to fall through the cracks without school in session. Please restart school as normal.
7/21/2020 16:23:15	Alex	Kice	Csw	Wichita	Private schools need to be treated differently. Comply with KSHSAA requirements for sports, but leave academic decisions in hands of private schools! Or start giving private schools my tax\$!
7/21/2020 16:23:17	Dana	Friesen	None	Wichita	<p>I do not believe the governor has the right to mandate when schools start or how they start back up! How can she mandate what private Christian/Catholic/Parochial schools that don't receive government funding do? What is her reasoning for this? How can she put all school districts into the same "basket"?</p> <p>My husband is a Family Practice Physician here in Wichita. He agrees with the Academy of Pediatric Doctors that children must get back to school as soon as possible!! The Science says that children need to go back to school as soon as possible with no masks &amp; no spacing. No child has died of the virus, they don't get very sick, they don't spread it &amp; therefore, teachers are not in danger of getting it from kids!!! We are the only country of the Western civilized countries that has not gotten back to school!!!! Please overturn this unreasonable &amp; outlandish mandate &amp; let districts &amp; private schools open whenever they feel is best for their students - hopefully in mid-August!!! Our children's mental, physical &amp; academic health &amp; well-being is dependent on it!!! Thank you for doing the right thing for Kansas kids &amp; families!!!</p>
7/21/2020 16:23:20	Jessica	Shulda	USD 107	Mankato	Please just start school on time. We had already been making preparations to be safe and protect everyone. We are not going to delay the spread by keeping kids out for 3 weeks. I believe we will give them 3 more weeks to be at home, on vacations or out and about with high risk for getting COVID, verses being in school with safety precautions.
7/21/2020 16:23:23	Kaity	McAdams		Clay Center	School's should be delayed to allow teachers to plan properly for new procedures. Extra time would allow us to be more prepared and keep our students safe.

7/21/2020 16:23:25	Julia	Rose-Weston	Lawrence Community at	Lawrence, KS	Too much risk for teachers, school workers, students, parents, siblings and extended family. Staff and students should not be moving around to different classrooms and buildings. Delay school opening till after Labor Day and consider only online schools until there is 14 consecutive days of no new cases.
7/21/2020 16:23:26	Janelle	Samuel	Blue Valley School Dist	Leawood	Kids need structure and guidance during this time
7/21/2020 16:23:29	Heather	Johnskn	USD 233 teacher	Olathe	<p>I feel it is best for students to be in the classroom where there is structure and teachers can safely monitor social distancing. There are many kids who have horrible home lives and school is a safe place for them. Kids are getting together all over our community and aren't practicing social distancing.</p> <p>I am frustrated with all the teachers who are "too scared" to go back to work in fear of getting CoVid. However, these same individuals spend their weekends at sporting tournaments, at the lake, on vacations and allowing their self and family members to associate with multiple families/friends.</p> <p>Please do what is best for the social and emotional well being of the students-which is to return to in person classes.</p>
7/21/2020 16:23:34	Ryan	Harris	Parent	Dodge city	School boards and teachers need more time to come up with protocols that are achievable for children. New daily cases are still high and starting before we are ready will only increase these numbers exponentially. We saw what happened when businesses opened before they should have. We don't need a repeat.
7/21/2020 16:23:51	Tamara	Walters	Parent	Olathe	We have got to get activities going! I understand not wanting to crowd classrooms, we shouldn't have let class sizes rise as they have. Let the schools get some options out and see who wants to be on campus and who doesn't. And we most certainly should continue sports and activities such as band, kids need this now! We are hurting our students by continuing to fear and not prepare! Let's get schools open! And let's start addressing the crowding of our schools so this isn't an issue in the future!
7/21/2020 16:23:53	Anna	Fritz	Olathe	Olathe	<p>Please do not open schools for face-to-face instruction until we are seeing a consistent decrease in cases and hospitalizations in our state/county and/or until we can provide all staff and students effective PPE and follow guidance to avoid the spread of infectious diseases.</p> <p>While hospitals have been able to avoid transmission, schools have a wide range of additional variables to consider (students' ages and ability to social distance, classroom size and number of students in each class, ventilation systems, etc) and those should be factored into decisions about reopening.</p> <p>Our most vulnerable populations (young children, students with special needs, low income) should be a priority for face-to-face instruction and hybrid models should be included as options.</p>
7/21/2020 16:23:57	Michele	Bullins		Lenexa	I support delaying the start of the school year. Hopefully this delay will give the state an opportunity to move out of the "red zone" for COVID 19 and all schools the chance to train their teachers to deal with a very different teaching environment.
7/21/2020 16:24:02	Darrell	Surmeier	Colby Public School	Colby	We can NOT continue to keep our children away from peers and in-school structure. We cancelled the end of school abruptly last school year amidst a fear induced, miscalculated decision by our governor. Social isolation is severely detrimental to a rapidly forming, young mind. We did not have a single diagnosed case of COVID-19 in Thomas County throughout the entirety of (what would have been) our normal school year. Now, I'm not naive to think that because we did not have a confirmed case of COVID-19 in Thomas county, that it has not been around for the majority of 2020. Now we are doing contact tracing, thus the numbers infected are high, yet mostly asymptomatic. There is no science to think that any difference will be made by delaying the start of school by 2-3 weeks, rather it is another 'power grab' by our governor to only set her up for a series of further delays, indecision and ultimately another lost school year to unwarranted fear. In conclusion, many of the towns/cities in Kansas, including Colby, have colleges of all levels that are resuming in class schedules on time...college aged students from all over the state and country can meet in a classroom, but our local youth cannot?! Please stand firm, let's get our kids started back to consistency and normalcy!

					<p>I would encourage you to vote against the delay of opening schools this fall and for the return of students to the classroom. My children and I are comfortable with in-school learning without masks. I realize, for some, this COVID situation may be concerning. However, I believe in personal choice. It would be my choice to send my kids to school. Others, may be uncomfortable with this option. That is fine. They have the choice of home-schooling or on-line schooling. But please do not take the option of "normal/regular" school away from those of us who are fine with it for the voice of those who are not. In addition, my kids enjoy the personal interaction of peers and teachers. They strive on sports, extracurricular activities, clubs and community groups/activities. Sports practices, games, choir and band etc. should be included in these plans as well. Our kids need school for their emotional, social and academic well-being. There are too many children that the system will fail to teach properly if there are not loving teachers holding them accountable in a classroom setting. I do recognize that flare-ups and outbreaks of COVID may occur. But I do not feel we should ask everyone to drop out of life and live in the fear of the unknown forever. That is not healthy either. Recently, our community planned a 4th of July celebration in our city park and it was well attended. I believe our community is willing/ready to move on with life even considering the risks. There is hope in this situation, despite all the "doom and gloom" which is being portrayed.</p> <p>Thank you for reading,</p>
7/21/2020 16:24:06	Janice	Hawley	My personal family	Meade KS	Janice
7/21/2020 16:24:07	Don	Martin	USD 315	Colby	In my mind, the principal question is this: What is to be gained by delaying the start of the school year? Personally, I am not opposed to the Governor's order, and recognize that she has the safety of all as her foremost concern. I do not know the answer to the question above. If more time is needed to prepare schools to receive students, then, clearly, beginning after Labor Day is a good idea. However, are we simply delaying what we all know to be difficult and not without peril? In terms of the virus, will the situation have changed if we delay the opening of schools by three weeks? I think that these are questions to be discussed, and the answers to these questions may guide the decision as to the best course for all involved.
7/21/2020 16:24:11	Pat	Denning	none	Olathe	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day and possibly beyond and follow the Kansas Governor's recommendations. She is following the science and protecting our health.
7/21/2020 16:24:16	Kate	Welch		Lecompton	Delay opening; allow KSHSAA to stay on schedule
7/21/2020 16:24:23	Dianna	Brashier	Parent	El Dorado	I think we should delay opening schools
7/21/2020 16:24:24	David	Cleaves	none	Wichita	From what we read, it seems the flu is more serious to children than the covid virus, with more flu cases and deaths. Schools were not closed or delayed opening due to the flu. Children need to get back in school as many pediatricians have stated and parents can get back to work. The school districts have had ample time to work out plans and still have a month to go. It appears the teachers are the ones who are worried, yet they face more issues with the flu and nothing is said about that. I see no reason to delay the opening. Please do not delay opening schools.
7/21/2020 16:24:25	Kate	Welch		Lecompton	Delay opening; allow KSHSAA to stay on schedule
7/21/2020 16:24:27	Nancy	Minster		Overland Park	Please do all you can to ensure graduation can occur- spring semester more important than fall
7/21/2020 16:24:28	Ashley	Breese	Parent of student going t	Colby,ks	I think the school districts should be able to make the decision on whether we should be able to start school or wait and what the guidelines should be. This entire COVID-19 is not a one size fits all it's different for each county.
7/21/2020 16:24:38	Josh	Hahn		Lenexa	I am really hoping that we can open our schools on time. Schools offer a safe place for my kids to go to continue their education and it is an important part of our community.



7/21/2020 16:24:40	Jon	King	n/a	Lawrence	Briefly, as I am sure the Board is well versed in the issues involved, I would like the Board to consider NOT authorizing the Governor's Executive Order as written. School district's need to start education as regularly scheduled. Whether that is in-school, virtual or a combination, pushing back a start date that SHOULD have been planned for long before now simply kicks the can down the road with no plan at all on how to proceed. Watching our local USD497 board meeting on 7/20, it is clear they want an extension because they haven't prepared and are counting on CARES Act money. Neither are excuses for not being ready for educating our children. We shouldn't condone administrative lack of preparation by pushing school start date back. Further, there is no solid plan for further funding and hoping that it will appear by 9/8 is also not appropriate. Last, the exercise in virtual learning this past spring was a joke. The Board should make sure districts are prepared for virtual if that is required (though I much prefer a hybrid). Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:24:41	Lee Ann	Rahto	Blue Valley	Overland Park	Please allow our schools to open on time and allow children to participate in sports and activities.
7/21/2020 16:24:56	Nancy	Merrell		Girard	Open everything. Open that school.
7/21/2020 16:24:57	Alanna	Burris		Emporia	Teachers and administration need the delay so that they are able to thoroughly read the Navigating Change document, gather appropriate PPE, and get the school ready for students. START AFTER LABOR DAY.
7/21/2020 16:24:57	DeJuana	Parker	Clearwater elementary	Clearwater	I do not believe its beneficial for us to delay the start of school. The education lost is far more important than a virus that isnt near as deadly as the flu. Kids need education and we are delaying this with no real.plan in place to make up for it.
7/21/2020 16:24:59	Philip	Newkirk	parent	Neodesha	Please follow the recommendation of Dr. Lee Norman and Governor Laura Kelly and delay school start until after labor day. Furthermore, I support a MANDATE of wearing masks in school until the virus is more under control. Thank you!
7/21/2020 16:25:02	Calleen	Bretz	Lane county schools	Dighton	Our kids need to get bawk to normal school activites. Our kids need school especially to socialize and learn. I am a mother of three and work full time i do not have any extra time to teach school i mean after all i do not have teaching degree. As far as the masks go no i do not believe they need them, you try and keep a mask on a 5 and 4 year old its like trying to give a cat a bath. These are just a few of my opinions thank you for your time.
7/21/2020 16:25:06	Jessica	Salazar Collins		Roeland Park	Online only
7/21/2020 16:25:13	Robert	Allen		Olathe	To whom this may concern: Please open School on time, I am begging you
7/21/2020 16:25:15	Mike	Mason	Parent	Olathe	My children need this very much. Thank you for you time.
7/21/2020 16:25:17	Shane	Baalmann	Sacred Heart, Colby	Colby, KS	I do not feel school should be delayed. I don't see a dramatic change in statistics happening between when schools normally open and opening in September. If anything, I think it cuts in to the amount of time students will be in the classroom. If a second wave is coming this fall would it not be better to have a good month or so of education before the schools shut down again.
7/21/2020 16:25:28	Travis	Church	USD 479 School Board	Kincaid	I'd like to urge you to please leave school board decisions up to local control. Every school district's needs are very diverse and we cannot use a one size fits all approach across our state. Local decision makers know how to best serve our schools and meet their needs! Thank you!
7/21/2020 16:25:30	Lacey	Johnson		201 e 4th st scott city ks	There is no reason to delay opening schools back up in Kansas, schools should open in August not September. Mandating masks to be worn in school and at activites is overboard. Our kids deserve a normal upbringing and school experience and the past several months has been anything but normal. Please consider how this has and is still impacting not only our entire country but the youth. Please vote to open our schools and not mandate masks. Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:25:41	Becky	Clark		Hays	The delay makes sense given where we are in the spike in cases. We don't really know how this will affect kids yet because they have not been inside a school setting since March. Could that be the reason some are saying it doesn't hit kids as hard? They have not been in that setting so we really don't know how it will impact them.

7/21/2020 16:25:43	Christopher	Johnson	Lakin High School	Garden City	My wife is a new teacher in a community that has not been social distancing nor wearing masks. I'm worried about her asthma. Delaying the start, in order to see if the situation can improve is well worth the three weeks students might lose. The students and parents and administration need time to prepare, both with purchasing and planning new equipment to mitigate the virus, and to mentally prepare for a different kind of school day with its new procedures and rules. New teachers in small communities that think this isn't real yet will be difficult to train. The extra time to prepare will be very useful. Please don't play politics with this. Please support the people who are trying to make this more safe. The governor is not doing this for, nor will she see positives from this decision from many people, but she's choosing to risk her political standing to keep us safe, especially out here in an area in which people are not taking this seriously. We need hers and your protection. Please. Teachers are begging. Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:25:52	Natalie	Wintz	Usd259	Derby	Delay the start of school to keep students and staff healthy! We need more PPE and time to plan!
7/21/2020 16:25:57	Sinda	Nispel-Borboa		Wichita	Online until it is safe!
7/21/2020 16:26:02	Natalie	Skidmore		Lawrence	I support Governor Kelly's order, and believe that we should challenge ourselves to use the time provided by this delay to help districts develop plans that move our state closer to achieving the Kansans CAN vision for education. After weeks of research, I believe there is another option that has the potential to keep all individuals safe, allow parents to go back to work, provide services for students with IEP/504 plans, increase the quality of instruction, and actually save school districts money. If we stop fixating on school buildings and expand our reach, we can work to facilitate partnerships between school districts and their communities that can simultaneously increase academic success and help families recover from the effects of COVID-19.
7/21/2020 16:26:04	Andrew	Sher	Parent	Olathe	Kids need classroom learning. Educators have had plenty of time to prepare (since last March). There is no excuse for further delay. It is abundantly clear that Olathe schools do not know how to do virtual learning based on our experience last spring. The district provided nothing to keep the kids engaged and teachers basically got an extra two months added to their summer vacation. Kids education needs to be a priority. Wear masks, social distance when possible but resume school.
7/21/2020 16:26:04	Katie	McElroy	Responding as a parent	Wichita	Please vote YES for the delay. It is important that we keep everyone safe, and that we listen to our health professionals.
7/21/2020 16:26:06	George	Barta		Shawnee	Do not start school until after labor day. Public schools and their staff are not baby sitters, we don't need to go to school because parents want a baby sitter. School staff needs time to prepare for remote teaching as it will be necessary to go to an alternative when we must go to lock down, as the numbers keep rising. Children may not show the same signs as an adult for covid 19, but they are humans and can still carry and transmit the virus to all who come in close contact.
7/21/2020 16:26:16	Jessica	Padgett		Andover	Please keep schools closed until after Labor Day.
7/21/2020 16:26:18	Bruce	Yarbrough	De Soto High School	De Soto	Please do not send us back into school when you do not feel it is safe to have a meeting in person.
7/21/2020 16:26:30	Penny	Plamann	Self	Topeka	I believe that opening schools should wait until after the first of the year, if then. If online classes are the only option, then I believe a September 1st date could work. We don't know enough about how this virus is going to spread once the flu season hits the covid-19 virus in packed classrooms. Children will take it home, families will have to be quarantined and once there's one case in a classroom, every one in that class is exposed. Safe distancing and requiring masks won't work. Look at teenagers now. They're practically uncontrollable now without considering the virus. And how about the anti-maskers who already are fighting wearing masks. Does anybody really think they're going to just back off when their children are required to wear masks truly believe, even considering the problems it creates online classes are what districts should do.
7/21/2020 16:26:31	Amanda	Vrana	My children	Goddard	Comment removed due to profanity
7/21/2020 16:26:38	Tony	Lonard	Parent of high school stu	Lawrence	I support allowing student athletes to practice and compete even if school is not in session.
7/21/2020 16:26:41	Tanya	Ayotte	Parent	Maize	Please open schools and allow children to attend without masks.

7/21/2020 16:26:52	Katy	Reinecker		Inman	<p>Dear State Board of Education members,</p> <p>My name is Katy Reinecker and I am a resident and business owner in Inman, Kansas. I am also a member of our local board of education, USD 448, and the mother of two high school-aged boys. I feel it is necessary to write to you regarding the governor's mandates, and the vote you must make tomorrow.</p> <p>Local school boards are quite capable of deciding what is best for our individual districts. What works and is necessary for a district in Johnson County or Sedgwick County, is not going to be what is best for a district in Thomas County or even McPherson County. As a school board member myself, I realize how difficult it is to know what would be the best plan for the most people. This is why you must allow local boards to do their jobs. We have the ability to take into account all the factors in our individual communities, and devise a plan to fit the needs of the children in our area. There are areas in our state that have few or no outbreaks at all. There are other places where many people are effected. A "one-sized" approach will certainly not fit all.</p> <p>As a mother, I am concerned about many of the mandates that are designed to keep our students "safe." One of my sons has asthma, and finds it difficult to breathe (and therefore concentrate) with a mask on. In addition, he has had allergic reactions to the over-use of harsh disinfecting chemicals in the past. Our County of approximately 29,000 people has fewer than 15 active cases. My son stands a much higher risk of illness with a mask, than without one. How will the Kansas State Board of Education ensure that my son (and many others like him) will not be adversely affected by these mandates, should you decide to force districts to follow them?</p> <p>Please know that I don't envy your job. There are many difficult decisions to be made in the days ahead. All the more reason to allow each district to do what is right for their schools. We ran for school board because we wanted to make a difference in our communities. Patrons voted for us because they believed we could. Please allow us to do our jobs.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p> <p>Katy Reinecker Board of Education Member USD 448</p>
7/21/2020 16:26:52	Bill	Gibbs	Private citizen with high	Bonner Springs	<p>I support kids going back to a physical school building. Cases of Covid in school aged youth are negligible and the death rate for them is 0 in Kansas. It is irresponsible and foolish to keep them from normal social and physical activity. The cost of avoiding the disease is a much a greater evil than the risk of contracting it, especially for this age group.</p>
7/21/2020 16:26:55	Lisa	Vance		Scott City	<p>As a nurse, I realize the impact first hand that COVID-19 has had on our community from a medical stand point. I also have seen the large impact it has had on the mental health of our youth. Many children have little adult interaction for days on end. Our youth are missing the human interaction that is crucial to development. I urge to to please allow schools to reopen for in-person education with the option for virtual learning as families see fit or medical needs require.</p>
7/21/2020 16:26:57	Jaime	Corbett	Maranatha Christian Ac	Kansas City	<p>Please do not reopen the schools until Covid is under control. I have a 7 year old daughter that I worry about, not to mention the other children, faculty, and staff at her school. I am also imuuno-compromised myself, and worry for my safety as well. Schools were closed in March when cases were way lower than they are now. Reopening August 12th, as my daughter's school wants to do, would be irresponsible and foolish.</p>
7/21/2020 16:27:01	Amanda	Morris	N/A	Salina	<p>Please give our teachers and school staff the extra time to make school as safe as possible. Three extra weeks will allow everyone to feel more ready and secure. This isn't about politics, this is about the lives of our children, their teachers and our families. Please do what is right and follow the Governor Kelly's recommendation. Thank you.</p>
7/21/2020 16:27:05	Johnna	Shoemaker		Manhattan	<p>As a teacher I feel pushing the start date back for students would allow my district to come up with a solid plan to keep TEACHERS AND STUDENTS safe.</p>

					<p>Please remove the mandate to wear masks for those over 5 years of age. To be honest I do not feel that they are effective. Here's why they are not effective:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) They will not be worn correctly, kids will pull them down below their noses, and that just defeats the purpose of the mask.</li> <li>2) They will not be cleaned properly, kids wearing masks will have spit, mucus, food and dirt on them and they will not be taken home on a daily basis and cleaned properly. Most likely they will end up in the book bag until the next day when they put them on again. Masks need to be washed daily in order to be free of germs.</li> <li>3) Kids will trade masks with each other, because they like their friends better than their own.</li> <li>4) Masks will not fit properly because they are either intended for an adult, or the elastic ear piece is stretched out and no longer has a tight fit around the face.</li> <li>5) Kids will be constantly touching their masks. As an adult, I find myself touching my mask more than I would just my face, because I am constantly adjusting it so that it is covering my nose or isn't fogging up my glasses.</li> </ol> <p>Next, when it comes to clean hands, I think the directive needs to be changed from using hand sanitizer every hour to washing hands with soap and water every hour. For one thing soap and water is much cheaper than the gallons of hand sanitizer that each class room is going to use in a years time. Secondly, soap and water are much more effective in cleaning germs than hand sanitizer.</p> <p>Lastly, holding off until after a major holiday is not going to help reduce the spread of the virus. We may see declines between now and the start date, but once there are gatherings on Labor Day, you are going to see outbreaks again. So there is no purpose in delaying the opening of schools. Let's get these kids back to school, they need the socialization that the lost with such an abrupt ending to the 2019-20 school year. They also need the direction from actual teachers and not stand in parent teachers. Parents are just not as skilled to teach kids, if they were, then they'd be teachers themselves. We pay for in-class/ face to face education, so let's give it to them and help our state testing improve. Get them back to school now!</p>
7/21/2020 16:27:11	ANTHONY	LAGREE	Catholic Schools	Hays	
7/21/2020 16:27:22	Lane	Eisenbart		Lawrence	Please delay opening schools until *at least* after labor day. I support Gov Kelly's decision.
7/21/2020 16:27:44	Rebecca	Ward	Concerned Parent	Minneola	99.96 % which is under 1% that's how many kids in the US are contracting the virus!! Let the state open up its schools!! One size does not fit all in Kansas! Let the districts decide!!
7/21/2020 16:27:47	Kali	Clune	Nativity Parish School	Leawood	Please allow us to start school! We are more than prepared and want our students back in the classroom to learn! They can't virtually learn the way we learn in person! Please override Gov Kelly and support the opening of schools! Our fear is that she will continue to push back the start date. These kids need to get back to school!!
7/21/2020 16:27:49	Robin	Webb	USD234 teacher	Fort Scott, KS	Please allow school to begin with necessary precautions as scheduled before the governors mandate and children under 12 do not need to wear masks. Research shows they are harmful at that age.
7/21/2020 16:27:51	Erica	Slocum	Gardner Edgerton Schoc	Gardner	Go all virtual schooling!! Or delay school till after Christmas Break.
7/21/2020 16:27:54	Kim	Muckelbauer	Myself/Teacher	Paola	I believe that Both the school start date order and the order of requirements when schools start should be upheld and followed as created by Governor Kelly. Both orders are written to protect the health of the students and all who work with them throughout the day. The later start date helps to ensure that all Kansas school districts will have the time needed to gather supplies, organize their individual plans, and protect everyone better than they are prepared to do so currently. It is better to open a few weeks later with a well laid out plan than to open on time unprepared and risk the health and possibly lives of all involved.
7/21/2020 16:27:55	Ron	Lawlor		Olathe	While I am unequivocally opposed to closing schools and going to a totally virtual environment (the research regarding children simply does not seem to support such a move), I do not find the delay to be overly onerous when viewed as a means of support for what will hopefully be a full year of in-person education. We cannot, however, hold schools hostage when far more likely hot spots go unfettered.
7/21/2020 16:27:56	Carrie	Allton		Lawrence	I fully support Governor Kelly's executive order delaying the start of the school year. With Covid cases rising across the state, school districts need more time to develop plans for keeping our children, teachers, and staff safe when they return to the buildings. And local health departments need more time to determine whether/when it will be safe to do so.

7/21/2020 16:27:57	Jason	Grider	Halstead USD 440 Teac	Halstead	I'm the president of the local teachers union at usd 440 Halstead. I'm asking that you repeal the governors order and let us get back to work and get the kids back in school. It's to objectively look at the data and what pediatricians are saying and get these kids back in the classroom as soon as possible.
7/21/2020 16:27:58	Bridget	Stegman		Topeka	If schools are going to start with distance/remote learning, it does not make sense to delay the start of school. It is only going to put students further behind.
7/21/2020 16:28:04	richard	spencer	Christ Prep academy	shawnee	Please open the schools on regular schedule.
7/21/2020 16:28:09	Mark	Williamson	The Williamson Family	Wichita	There are many organizations such as the CDC citing scientific evidence that masks prevent the spread of COVID, this while many states like California who have had mask mandates for over a month continue to have an increasing number of new cases. In a recent peer reviewed study with a control group comparing medical masks to cloth masks ( <a href="https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/5/4/e006577">https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/5/4/e006577</a> ) it was discovered that the cloth masks had a higher incidence of influenza like illnesses than the control group or medical mask group. It's also not safe to have children breathe all over masks, restricting their CO2 exhalation. Social distancing, and hand washing can suffice for teachers and administrators. Children have almost no incidence of illness or mortality from COVID. If forced to wear masks, in an open ended mandate that has no expiration while we have only tens of new cases per day in all of Sedgwick county, does nothing to stop COVID and is damaging to my children. I will find another option for school if the mask mandate is adopted.
7/21/2020 16:28:09	Shelly	Powell	Kindergarten	Goddard	I don't think that prolonging of opening schools will have an effect on the virus. Masks should not be mandatory. Let kids be kids, let them learn the way they should learn. Are we going to shut down schools every time a new flu or virus shuts down? NO!
7/21/2020 16:28:10	Linda	Normile		Ottawa, KS	I appreciate the incredibly difficult position of this board. I am concerned about both unilateral decision making AND political pressure (to open) overriding other sound decisions.  I am generally in favor of local control, though sometimes, as I'm sure you are experiencing, it is not politically expedient. As a parent I am completely uncertain of how to proceed. I want my child to be back at school, but I am aware that if most of us do so then transmission will be higher and more will be at risk, even though it's not likely to be my daughter. The truth is, even though the governor issued mask orders long ago, our commission saddled the middle ground by not overriding but also overtly not enforcing. As a result, there were minimal behavioral changes. As cases continued to rise, more businesses began filling the slack that the government wouldn't. Once they began requiring masks to enter, we have finally seen much higher levels of compliance. We have yet to see the results, that will take at least two weeks.  However, as a school employee charged with helping to craft a reopening plan, I believe we need more time. Running three models of school choice per the navigating document is exceedingly challenging and time intensive. I promise, we are doing our best. But "normal operations" are not in play. We have become front line workers. We are asking for time.  Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:28:14	Caleigh	Schneider		Wichita KS	vote yes to support gov Kelly's order
7/21/2020 16:28:15	Rick	Friesen	West Wichita family phy	Wichita	No medical indication to keep children out of school. Adjustments can be made for the higher risk students and teachers.
7/21/2020 16:28:23	Chris	Donelan	My kids	Colby	Open on time and not a fan of masks if your are going to force masks you need to force vaccinations
7/21/2020 16:28:35	Marsha	Korber	none	Seneca	Let the schools be responsible for the decision with strong guidance from you. Not all areas of the state are hot spots so let the kids get back to a little bit of normalcy in those areas. I feel we really need to question rather there should be any sports and other extra after school activities. It is more difficult to control social distance and exposure in those activities.
7/21/2020 16:28:42	Ryan	Barta		Shawnee	Please do not start school until after Labor Day. Listen to the health officials.

7/21/2020 16:28:45	Heather	Dunton		Berryton	I am a preschool teacher in Topeka, KS. I ask that you support Gov. Kelly's executive order to delay school until September. If districts are pushed to start school sooner than this, they will not be able to prepare for what is needed to be done ahead of time. Realistically, it takes more than a couple of weeks to get things together for a normal year, much less an exceptionally different year. Every year there are new teachers joining the building and adding this on to them would be unfair to start the school year without delay. It is already the end of July. Teachers need more than one and a half weeks to train, and prepare for what will inevitably be another challenging year. What doesn't need to happen is teachers being thrust into the front lines unprepared, by politicians, and having parent frustration be aimed at teachers. If teachers are given time to train for this, we will do great things. Without the delay, we will not be able to do everything that can make in-person, hybrid, or online learning what is best for our students and their families.
7/21/2020 16:28:47	Shalan	Field		Sedgwick	There is no need to quarantine or mask healthy adults or children. Children should not be responsible for wearing a mask 8 hours a day when they are not experiencing any symptoms! Children cannot be responsible for ensuring that they are wearing a mask correctly or identifying when it has been contaminated? Will 259 be supplying my child a new mask every time they touch it with their hands? How will you enforce this rule to children...send them to the principles office or detention if they are not wearing correctly? Please let the kids be kids! I feel like we live in another country with all these masks around for a virus that has a 98% chance of survival rate! Plus I have not heard of any covid outbreaks in daycare facilities, summer camps or 259 summer latchkey program?
7/21/2020 16:28:55	Bryan	Burdette	Maranatha Christian Ac	Shawnee	We would like to have school. It seems like there is more to loose by not having school. The education of kids is essential and nothing is better than face to face teaching. The kids have already missed so much. The longer they miss, it will be much, much harder to get things going correctly again.
7/21/2020 16:29:02	Shiloh	Harlan	Usd#231	Gardner	I am in favor of starting after Labor Day if this gives time for adequate PPE to be in place and schools can make plans to teach students. Having students stay in a square all day in the same room with no extra support, no pull out services, it seems very unrealistic to expect that of young students. I don't know how we can truly meet their needs in the building with these crazy restrictions.  Give me PPE so I can teach and kids can move about.
7/21/2020 16:29:05	Anita	Horinek	Sacred Heart School	Colby	Please let the individual school boards regulate school start and masks, etc. I beg you to consider how kids need to be back in school especially if they have two working parents, a single parent or special needs. Again, I beg you to let the local boards determine what's best for their staff and children and NOT make a one size fits all plan. Thank you.
7/21/2020 16:29:24	Bridget	Keesling	Myself and my family	Clearwater	Send the kids back to school. It does no good to continue to keep them out, as the numbers will continue to rise because of the testing. The numbers are skewed anyway. These kids need to learn! And masks are ridiculous, they're just going to mess with them all day long and they aren't protecting them. Open up sports!!

7/21/2020 16:29:27	Mark	Farr	Kansas NEA	Topeka	<p>To: Members of the Kansas State Board of Education  From: Mark Farr, President, Kansas NEA  Date: 7/22/2020  RE: Governor Kelly's Executive Order delaying the start of school</p> <p>Kansas NEA strongly supports Governor Kelly's Executive Order delaying the start of the school year until after Labor Day.</p> <p>We believe that local control over reopening is actually enhanced with the additional time. This gives school districts more power of local control over opening in that they will have the time to thoroughly plan their reopening and to involve more constituency groups in that planning including teachers, support personnel, parents, community members and business leaders.</p> <p>For those who oppose this on the grounds that it is a mandate, when the health of Kansans is at risk, the Legislature routinely enacts mandates to protect the people. Consider the indoor smoking ban as the best example. But we can add to that speed limits, seat belts, controls on the sale and consumption of alcohol, and many more.</p> <p>Sadly the growth of COVID cases in Kansas is out of control. And the terrible truth is that COVID-19 attacks children and some of them are dying. This reality means that it can, and if we are not careful, will spread to our teachers and other school employees. More and more young adults and children are contracting the virus. Some are bringing the virus to their friends and relatives. As if to prove that the virus does not discriminate based on age, one community in Texas has now found 85 infants with the virus.</p> <p>We know that there are four things we must do if we hope to get COVID under control. We must wear masks in public. We must social distance. We must practice good hygiene, especially washing hands. We must avoid large gatherings.</p>
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					<p>Kansas Board of Education:</p> <p>Closing and delaying schools is an enormous decision with far-reaching consequences. In order to best serve the public at large, children in the school system, and faculty and staff in the schools themselves, this decision must be considered carefully and made with the best interest of the community in mind. It would be most helpful to have good data that would lend indication on how you should decide.</p> <p>There was a recent study of contact tracing of COVID cases in Korea done from Jan-March 2020 that was released early by the CDC this week in the journal of Emerging Infectious Diseases. In this study, it was noted the highest COVID-19 rate for household contacts of school-aged children, with the lowest for household contacts of children 0–9 years in the middle of school closure. It was also found that household transmission of SARS-CoV-2 was high if the index patient was 10–19 years of age, which means children 10+ spread the illness at at least the same rate as adults. Another study from Shenzhen, China, showed that the proportion of infected children increased during the outbreak from 2% to 13%, suggesting the importance of school closure (<a href="https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/10/20-1315_article">https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/10/20-1315_article</a>)</p> <p>There seems to be an abundance of focus on the mortality rate of COVID-19. There is a preponderance of new data regarding morbidity of COVID-19 that has been observed. Besides the pulmonary damage of ARDS and pneumonia; hematologic, gastrointestinal, renal, hepatobiliary, endocrine, neurologic, and dermatologic long-term effects have been noted. Including a severe inflammatory shock that had features similar to those of atypical Kawasaki disease or toxic-shock syndrome that, if untreated, Kawasaki disease can result in coronary aneurysms in 25% of patients. (<a href="https://www.nature.com/articles/s41591-020-0968-3">https://www.nature.com/articles/s41591-020-0968-3</a>).</p>
7/21/2020 16:29:43	Austin	Armstrong		Wichita	Austin Armstrong
7/21/2020 16:29:46	Anai	Razo	Parent of a student	Dodge city	Do not delay fall school year. Delaying fall session WILL NOT prevent other children and staff from contracting the Corona Virus. Also, face masks will only distract kids. They will not prevent others from contracting the virus if they will be taken off at any point during the day, even if it's for a limited duration of time.
7/21/2020 16:29:47	Michelle	Folsom	Christ Prep school	Lenexa	I would like my child's school to start before Labor Day. I would also like my child to have school in a classroom .
7/21/2020 16:29:56	Shanna	Page	Public	Winfield	As a parent and elementary teacher I am thankful for Governor Kelly's leadership since March. No one has an answer but I appreciate someone looking out for my children's safety as well as my own. As far as delaying the reopening of schools until after Labor Day, the teachers really need that extra time to process the guidelines and recommendations the board only passed last week. My district, and many others, are still putting together the plan for our buildings. Teachers have no idea what the fall looks like yet. Yes, I am worried about going back in person and getting sick. Elementary kids are notorious for spreading germs and illness. Getting sick sucks regardless of the severity of it. However, I am more worried about not being prepared. I chose education as my career because I wanted to make a difference in kids' lives. I don't want to go into another semester of not being prepared and flying by the seat of my pants. It was hard on students, parents, and teachers. We need time to process our district plan so we can be safe and ready to plan for our new normal. If you ask me, the possibility of our local health commissioner recommending we close a building or all of them when we have an outbreak over and over is harder in a child than online learning. Uncertainty and an unstable routine is so much more detrimental than social impacts. If Kansas doesn't get things under control we will ALL feel the impact: unpaid sick leave, high medical expenses, tragedy. I can't shop and line your pockets if I'm paying medical bills. Please do the right thing and give educators more time to plan.
7/21/2020 16:29:56	Abigail	Compton		Hiawatha ks	Keeping the children out of school for another 2 weeks is only delaying the inevitable. The children should be in school. It IS essential. Teachers ARE essential
7/21/2020 16:29:58	Lindsay	Newton		Manhattan	Delay school openings



7/21/2020 16:30:01	Cassandra	Rhymer	Parent/teacher	Colby	I feel it is not necessary to extend the start of school. I don't see what it will really improve. As I have middle school and grade school children I also don't feel it is realistic to require masks. I would ask that our KBOE use common sense and think as parents and ask to have realistic measures to get our children back to school as normal as possible!
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I am extremely troubled by the Governor's executive order to delay the start of school for many reasons, and I think it would do more harm than good. All of our districts had plans to open or were close to having such plans she appears to want to overrule them. Adding a month does nothing for those plans as they are for the most part ready, as we often say where I work "the work always grows to the time allotted". Schools have had 4 months already to plan and from what any of us can tell have done a great job of doing so. So extending that an extra month does nothing to enable schools to get ready for students or to make it safer, but rather hampers their ability to learn. If schools need more time, let them individually ask for it. And I am fine with schools providing a virtual option, not all parents feel comfortable and not all teachers feel comfortable, but to not allow any schools in the state to open does our communities a disservice.

Kansas, like most states, has a diverse sets of needs throughout its various school systems. We live in the Blue Valley School system and that could not be more different than the 1A school systems throughout the state, most of which are in rural Kansas. I grew up in a town of 900 people, so I realize that my school that housed K-12 in one building has different needs and capabilities now from the schools my daughters go to now. The parents in these smaller communities have much different needs. My experience is that people who live in rural communities have much less ability to "work from home" so by forcing schools to remain closed you are hindering the ability of many with younger kids to earn a living, which is increased in rural communities. And for those that can work from home, you are hindering their ability to work efficiently and grow the Kansas economy.

By going virtual for an extra month, you are extending the loss of education across the state even further. Those who are less affluent often don't have access to a lap top and/or high speed internet, so you are putting them even further behind. Virtual learning for elementary and even middle schoolers is also much less effective, so those kids are going to suffer a lot, even from one more month of virtual learning. As you get into high school, it can be more effective to have some level of virtual learning so perhaps some adjustments can be made to how they operate. But again, let the school systems figure that out, don't send commands from Topeka for them.

Then there is the risk that students and teachers are in. As has been shown by the CDC stats several times over, the risk of death below the age of 15 is a fraction (1/5-1/15) of what the risk of death from the regular flu is. So for those students this year they will likely be safer because there is significantly more cleanliness that will be occurring. For high schoolers its probably slightly less dangerous than the flu (<https://freopp.org/the-chances-of-dying-from-covid-19-90cd5b885b52> does a good job of aggregating the cdc data and comparing it to risk of other ailments), again with various measures taken at most risk is on par of a regular year, if not safer. As for teachers, if they are below the retirement age it appears to be 2-4x times the risk of the flu, and less risky than a gambit of things we do every day. Again, with safety protocols, this risk will be even lower, so marginally more than a regular year. Some will site "other long term effects" rather than mortality, but those appear to be rare and again can happen with any ailment. This also ignores the fact that we are also using a month of summer which isn't flu season. The American Association of pediatrics and almost the entire medical community appears to think we should get back to school as soon as possible, Governor Kelly appears to have less faith in our schools than the rest of us do. I am not asking you to force students into schools, again there may be reasons parents feel more comfortable keeping them at home, but they should have the option.

As an additional reference here in Johnson County we have some pretty good stats on its Covid tracker. While we have an uptick in cases, below the age of 60 we have 2 deaths. TWO. Out of about 500,000 people that are that age. All deaths are unfortunate, but assuming that older teachers are given more leniency, there does not appear to be almost any risk here to them, we have the resources to deal with this. As far as the state as a whole I would guess you will find similar things, we definitely should protect the elderly but we are doing them no service by closing down the schools, all you are doing is hindering their grandkids' learning. We have covid deaths that are less than an average flu year. There are many potential reasons that we are doing better and better against this virus, maybe the virus is weakening as many do, maybe there is some level of herd immunity, the treatments are certainly improved from 4 months ago – but regardless our state is doing extremely well against this virus – something that just looking at case counts doesn't tell you.

If there is a major outbreak in a school, sure take a break at that school. Daycares have been doing this the entire time, we send our youngest to one where they have many protocols and haven't had an outbreak, probably largely because of all of those protocols. But if they do have an outbreak, we will deal with it then, and not shut everything down forever in the worry that something bad might happen.

I won't even get into the mental health, physical abuse, or other aspects that not allowing kids to come back. While the KSHAA appears to be pushing forward, I fear the next step will be to remove athletic and extra curricular events from our children's lives. KSHAA has been posting stats about youth happiness and based on my children I can attest to their mental state being much more depressed.

And again, if a school has an issue that school can deal with it, but doing so from Topeka for the entire state is wrong and we as Kansans shouldn't stand for it. We have school districts for a reason, not to have one plan forced on us by our governor, but so communities can utilize information and educate our children as each community sees fit. I suggest you let us do that and vote against the Governor's executive order.

Michael Huebner

Overland Park, KS

Dear Kansas State Board of Education:

As a Kansas teacher, I want to offer my thanks and support for the executive order to delay opening school until Labor Day. We can't afford to get the decision about how to re-open schools wrong. The health and lives of our students, teachers, staff, and their families are not worth risking opening in a way that is not safe.

In the few days since Gov. Kelly made her statement, many disturbing facts have been reported:

1. An unpublished document prepared for the White House coronavirus task force recommends that 18 states in the coronavirus "red zone" for cases should roll back reopening measures amid surging cases. Kansas is one of the 18 states listed.
2. Nearly one-third of every person under 18 years old tested for the coronavirus in Florida are positive for the virus. Palm Beach County's health department director, Dr. Alina Alonso, warned county commissioners Tuesday about the potential long-term health consequences for children who catch COVID-19. She said the virus could cause lifelong damage, even for children with mild illnesses. "They are seeing there is damage to the lungs in these asymptomatic children. ... We don't know how that is going to manifest a year from now or two years from now," Alonso said, according to the Sun-Sentinel. "Is that child going to have chronic pulmonary problems or not?" Florida had tested 54,022 Florida residents under the age of 18, according to the state's COVID-19 pediatric report on July 10. Of those tests, 16,797, or just over 31 percent, have come back positive. Meanwhile, the positivity rate for Florida's entire population stands at roughly 11 percent.
3. A popular Missouri summer camp reported 82 cases of coronavirus, the Stone County Health Department (SCHD) announced Monday. Organizers of the Christian Kanakuk Kamp in Lampe, Mo., in the state's southwest region near the Arkansas border decided to shut down last week after a number of suspected cases were detected. On July 2, health officials reported that at least 41 campers and staff had tested positive. By Monday, that number doubled to 82.
4. Researchers in South Korea have found that children between the ages of 10 and 19 can transmit Covid-19 within a household just as much as adults, according to new research published in the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention journal Emerging Infectious Diseases. Researchers also found that children ages 9 and younger transmitted the virus within their household at rates that were a lot lower.

(Most of the above items were found on CNN.com and thehill.com. The Florida data was found on the website of a local Florida FOX affiliate TV station.)

So much is still unknown about how COVID-19 is transmitted and who is most at risk that caution is warranted. I appreciate the thorough work that was done by the State Board of Education to set up such detailed guidance as to how we can better educate in each of the three situations. I saw a report on KCTV-5 in Kansas City that indicated the guidance within the report is as follows:

Cases declining – On-site learning.

Cases flat – Hybrid learning.

Cases inclining – remote learning.

Kansas is considered in the Red Zone right now, with increasing cases in the state. Rather than making the three learning models guidance, please make them mandates. If we open too soon without the proper safety measures in place, chances are that many will needlessly become infected. If that happens, we will be forced to prolong remote learning and perhaps lose a lot more on-site time during the school year. However, if we apply the proper level of precaution now, it will be sooner in the long run that the whole state can become safer and then businesses as well as schools can return to more safe activity and stay open. If the mandates are connected to the data of cases and whether they are rising, flat, or declining, it takes the onus off of local school boards and connects the decision to science.

I know there is pressure from both sides of this issue. Please make the health of the children, their extended families, and adults who are involved in education your highest consideration.

Thank you.

Jon Copeland

**From:** [Frank J. Harwood](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Cc:** [cory.gibson@usd262.net](mailto:cory.gibson@usd262.net); [Shannon Ralph](#); [Ashley D Goss \[KDHE\]](#)  
**Subject:** Comments from Taskforce Leads  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 9:58:41 AM

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Chairperson Busch and members of the State Board of Education,

We would like to thank you again for the opportunity to present the outstanding work of a thousand Kansans who are all trying to provide the best educational opportunities for all Kansas students. It was an honor for each of us to be their representatives.

The development of the *Navigating Change 2020* document has been in progress for months. Although we have been involved in this process and have done everything we can to be ready to start school on time, the Governor's announcement to delay the start of school lifted a great weight off our shoulders. We have been aware of the contents of *Navigating Change* for several weeks as we were participating in its development. However, there were certain decisions that could not be made until after it was accepted by the Kansas State Board of Education.

One example of such a decision centered around the ability to provide families a remote learning environment option. We could not finalize our plans until we were sure of the parameters under which a student who is attending school remotely could be counted as attending school. Between your approval of these parameters and the day that teachers return, we must determine which families and students will choose a remote option. Once we have that information, we will need to reschedule students and reassign staff across the entire district. In addition, we will need time to train staff who will now be teaching remotely full-time.

Another area of planning that may become problematic for districts is the strong recommendation (and now requirement) for students and staff to wear masks. Although reusable barrier masks may be available before school starts, other personal protective equipment recommended in *Navigating Change* may not be available on short notice. Some districts are still waiting on items that were ordered months ago. The extra time afforded by the Governor's Executive Order will help every district be more prepared for bringing students and staff safely back on campus.

Like you, we have been hearing from many people about the pros and cons of delaying the start of the school year. One group that should receive strong consideration is our school staff. Although there are data that suggest that our younger students are less susceptible to severe cases of COVID-19, this is not necessarily true for our staff. In fact, there are many individuals who have health conditions which would put them at much higher risk for severe complications. With the current rise in positive cases in Kansas at this time, a delayed school start may be the best way to avoid wider restrictions in our communities.

Given the complexity of all of these issues, and the scope of the work that we have to do, we fear that districts may find it difficult to implement the guidance that is recommended in an appropriate time frame. Although it may be unpopular with some people, delaying the start of school will give all districts the ability to carefully plan for the 2020-21 school year and provide the best hope of maximizing student time On-Site, while also helping to reduce the alarming increase in COVID-19 cases across Kansas.

Again, thank you for allowing us to present the work of an outstanding group of Kansans. This shows once again that Kansans Can!

Sincerely,

Cory Gibson  
Superintendent  
USD 262  
Valley Center

Shannon Ralph  
Science Teacher  
USD 231  
Gardner-Edgerton

Ashley Goss  
Deputy Secretary  
for Public Health  
KDHE

Frank Harwood  
Superintendent  
USD 232  
De Soto

**From:** [Kari Reeves](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Schools reopening  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 9:28:23 AM

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I fully support Governor Kelly's order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. As Covid-19 cases rise across the state, I feel this is the only choice that makes sense.

I write this as a parent of a school age child in the Shawnee Mission School District.

Thank you,

Kari Reeves  
Fairway, KS

**From:** [CONNIE RIDDLE](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** masks in elementary school  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 9:22:06 AM

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Please over rule the mandate for masks to be worn all day in public elementary schools. I think this is ridiculous! The kids will not do well with this nor do I think it is healthy. They need to go back to school and learn, not be afraid and let this virus ruin their education. If the kids that don't have a good immune system need to wear a mask then let them. Mandating all kids wear a mask is not the answer!!

Thank you,  
Connie Riddle APRN, BC

**From:** [Paula Wewer](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School delay  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 8:57:40 AM

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I am a first grade teacher. I have been giving the delaying of schools much thought as we are getting ready to move into some unknown areas. COVID is a very scary virus but when you take into account the higher number of tests being done (I know 2 people this week being tested due to elective surgeries on Thursday) I believe that adds to our numbers.

Our children have been out of school since March 5. If we continue to keep them out of school by not reopening in August as planned that is 3 more weeks of regression. I see the neighbor kids out playing together and it's not only with their own families. (they do not have masks on) Overall I see families now going about everyday business but have a mask now on at indoors places.

I would like you to seriously consider opening the schools as planned. My friend has been given information from 3 pediatricians from Children's Mercy that indicate it would be safe to open our schools. She feels safe sending her children to school even though they do have underlying health issues.

I do worry about the children that live in families where there can be neglect and abuse as well as very little food. This is a very hard time for them. At this time we have a 21 year old living with us who had been in the foster system for years and the abuse he had when he was younger is very scary.

Please consider having the schools open so our children can get back to some type of normal in their lives.

Paula Wewer

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Nicole Conner](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Kansas Schools Fall 2020  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 8:38:27 AM

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Dear Board Members,

I write today to implore you to stand by Governor Kelly's proposal to postpone the start of school and/or implement virtual learning. Teachers and children are counting on you to do what you can reasonably do to keep them safe.

As Kansas City is currently a “hot-spot”, it simply doesn’t seem prudent or reasonable to open our schools in-person right now. Hopefully, the addition of the mask order will help get our numbers under control. Until that time, I support a delayed start and/or virtual learning. In my opinion, we either start virtual or push back the start of school until the requirements for phase three are reached in our locale under the federal guidelines. We must rely on facts and take care to prioritize safety over inconvenienced parents.

On a more personal note, my daughter Adison will be entering Kindergarten at Clear Creek this fall. We moved to this neighborhood expressly *because* the schools are so wonderful. I mourn that her introduction to public school will be “strange” no matter what happens. While I was initially concerned about what learning virtually would mean for her social skills, it occurred to me last night to consider what attending in person would mean for her social skills. What will the long-term effects be of having to stay at least 6 feet away from everyone around you on a 5 or 6-year-old? Of washing your hands every hour? What will the effects on their speech development and emotional/nonverbal queuing be when they can’t see the full expressions and formation of words on their peer or teacher faces due to masks? What would it be like to explain to my Kindergartner that a peer or teacher is seriously ill or, God forbid, dies? As I consider these points, it just seems irresponsible to send children back in person at this time.

I don't envy your position as a board member, and I certainly appreciate your willingness to listen. Please vote to act prudently and follow Governor Kelly's mandates as she presents them. At the very least, please provide virtual options so that those who share my concerns have appropriate alternatives.

Thank you again for all you do,

Nicole Conner, USD232 Parent  
21714 W. 53rd Ter.,  
Shawnee, KS 66226  
(308)367-7059

**From:** [nancy davis](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Kansas school schedule  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 8:16:37 AM

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I see nothing unreasonable about delaying school until until September 8 after Labor Day. But I do think for the students social, mental and educational stability it should not be delayed any longer than that.

However I do think it's unreasonable and unrealistic to expect students and staff to wear masks and etc.

FYI: I grew up in Iowa and we never started school before Labor Day. School was also dismissed before Memorial Day. Winter break in Iowa is also shorter than here and school was never cancelled everytime a snowflake fell! I've never understood why Kansas resumes school in the middle of summer and has such a long winter break!!!

Nancy Davis  
Linn Valley, KS 66040

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Phil McPherson](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School Opening And Operation  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 8:13:45 AM

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Please Allow Children BACK TO SCHOOL AT THE USUAL TIMES, With Little Disruption To Their LEARNING And SPORTS Activities That They Are Accustomed To ...

If Teachers and Faculty find this decision is Not in their Own Best Interest, please Reassign them or accept their Early Retirement or Resignation...

The federal and state governments who say it is safe for children to return to school are working off the latest evidence. Here are five reasons we know it's safe.

## 1. Kids get infected with coronavirus at much lower rates than adults

This is the case in [Australia](#) and [throughout the world](#). There are no clear explanations for this yet, but it is a consistent finding across the pandemic.

Although SARS-CoV-2 can cause COVID-19 in school-aged children, it rarely does and children with the disease have mild symptoms.

Fewer than 150 children below 15 years [have been infected](#) with SARS-COV-2 in Australia since the pandemic began. This is compared to the [6,695 confirmed cases](#) of COVID-19 in Australia at 25 April, 2020.

## 2. Children rarely get severely ill from COVID-19

Data from [around the world](#) and Australia have confirmed children very rarely require hospitalization, and generally only experience [mild symptoms](#), when infected with SARS-CoV-2.

Deaths in children due to COVID-19 are [incredibly rare](#). Very few [children globally](#) have been confirmed to have died from the virus (around 20 by our calculations), in [comparison to more than 200,000 overall deaths](#).

Many parents have worried their kids' friends could be infected with the virus without showing symptoms. But this doesn't seem to be the case. A study in Iceland [showed children without symptoms](#) were not detected to have COVID-19. No child below ten years of age without symptoms was

found to be infected with SARS-CoV-2 in this study.

### 3. Children don't spread COVID-19 disease like adults

During the yearly flu season, children spread the flu to friends and grandparents alike. But COVID-19 behaves differently. In household clusters in China, Singapore, South Korea, Japan and Iran, [fewer than 10% of children](#) were the primary spreader – meaning the virus goes from adult to adult much more effectively than from children to other children, or even children to adults. The same has been found in new studies in [The Netherlands](#).

We still don't know why this is. It takes us all by surprise as kids with snotty noses are always blamed (and probably responsible) for driving the annual round of winter coughs and colds.

### 4. School children in Australia with COVID-19 haven't spread it to others

Schools where cases have been diagnosed in Australia [have not seen](#) any evidence of secondary spread.

This means even with kids sitting right next to each other in the classroom, they are very unlikely to infect their friends.

### 5. There is no evidence closing schools will control transmission

Modelling shows [only a small incremental](#) public health benefit to closing schools in the case of usual respiratory viruses such as influenza. But COVID-19 is quite different to flu, so any of the benefits seen for influenza [are likely to be even less](#) in the case of COVID-19.

During the 2003 SARS outbreak, school transmission was [not found to be a significant contributor](#) to the outbreak and school closures did not influence the control of transmission.

**From:** [piperlw@aol.com](mailto:piperlw@aol.com)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School Opening  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 8:13:37 AM

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Please Vote NO to delaying school opening.

Thanks

L Piper  
Overland Park Ks

**From:** [Joyce Ashmore](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** masks at school  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 7:49:06 AM

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strongly suggest middle school age and up wear masks, believe this was your original plan. Agree we need to be safe but concern for the smaller children. Yes as a grandparent we see the need for the students to return to school instruction. thank you

**From:** [Shannon Cooper](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Reopening school from a teacher  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 7:16:52 AM

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I am a 20 year Kansas teacher veteran and I'd like to encourage you as a board to approve the governor's executive order to delay the opening of schools.

Having the extra time to gather materials, train staff, and to monitor numbers of cases will allow schools to be prepared for the thousands of students to be safe in class.

Our district would only have around 8 hrs of time to prepare if our school were to start on our regular scheduled start date.

I'm asking you as an educator, but also as a mother of three school age children. Please put politics aside, and go with your gut instinct. Please approve the order.

-Shannon Cooper, 3rd grade  
Marion, KS

**From:** [Becky Purvis](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** 20-21 school year  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 7:06:21 AM

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We are Stan and Becky Purvis of Goodland, Kansas.

Parents of Jr High and High School kids. It makes me sad for the delay of school. Our kids need to be back in school for the structure and for being around friends. We do not want our kids wearing masks. We would sign something to make that happen. I think the masks will cause problems later on down the line.

Thanks, Becky



**From:** [Cherie Davis](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mask Mandate for Schools  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:01:00 AM

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To Whom it May Concern,

I'm completely appalled that the governor is requiring mask in schools. I am an RN and I do not see how we can expect children to wear mask all day or to don and doff appropriately. We can't even get adults in public to wear them appropriately. I feel we are placing children in a position that will cause undue stress and anxiety on them during a time they are already having many negative changes in their life. Teachers will not be able to be responsible for monitoring mask. If the public can enter a restaurant and remove their mask once seated then children should be able to remove mask once seated in their classroom. Children are only about 2% of all Covid cases.

Per the CDC June 28....

Based on available evidence, children do not appear to be at higher risk for COVID-19 than adults. While some children and infants have been sick with COVID-19, adults make up most of the known cases to date.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/children/protect-children.html>

Please allow children back in school without mask. We are looking at long term damage if our children can not learn. Parents must work and many are not home to help with online schooling. Children need to have the social interaction of school. Suicides rates are increasing as is abuse. Please stand for our children and do not vote for mask and definitely not all day wear.

Cherie Davis RN  
15000 E Balsam Ct  
Wichita, KS 67230

**From:** [russplute13@yahoo.com](mailto:russplute13@yahoo.com)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Delaying school  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 4:26:31 AM

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*Sent from my LG Mobile as a para in the Kansas schools I'm asking and begging you to delay school. I also have grandchildren in Kansas schools. In the county I live in covid 19 cases have risen over the weekend. How can a child be expected to wear a mask all day and be restricted to one room all day. I just don't think it's a good idea. Please keep our kids home till after Labor Day!!!*

**From:** [SchoolTheWorld NENE](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Covid-19 & Public School  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:50:59 AM

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#### BE A VOICE 4 THE VOICELESS

These are vulnerable little innocent lives you are speaking for. Until a vaccine or cure is founded there should be no kids gathering in public schools. They can be home schooled. I think we have a moral obligation to our children that can be easily summarized: number one, protect them from harm.

#NotMyKid

( I'm not political, I'm practical )

NO SCHOOL until there are other options besides 6 ft rule/masks OR permanent damage/death. DO THE RIGHT THING..I WAS SO PROUD OF GIV KELLY WHEN SHE SHUT DOWN THE SCHOOLS IN MARCH !!!

Lynn Crystal



childcare worsening poverty and neglect, abuse of children (which will be underreported), lack of support for children with special needs, anxiety, depression and lack of physical activity and peer relationships in children. The list goes on and on. But I want this post to focus more on the science of the disease so it can inform our public policy decisions.

6. I hope the above data are reassuring. The more we know, the better we can tackle and live with this disease.

Edit: Now that this post has been shared hundreds, scratch that, thousands of times (never imagined this), I want to say first of all, that I in no way am intending to detract from the seriousness of COVID-19. It is imperative our country get this disease under control -by social distancing, closing indoor businesses which are not essential, wearing masks, etc, but the above data at least suggest to me that children are not driving the pandemic; adults are. And I also want to say that a lot of what I shared above was recently discussed in the UCSF combined Medicine and Pediatric Grand Rounds lecture (an inspiration for me to write this to get this scientific info to the public). I encourage anyone interested in the above data to watch this recording of the Grand Rounds : [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yh9gmca6o\\_A&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2HH3myAdjOBmebb23iI2DWPSkdYrEp2niYa\\_KRiwWStxqrN5f6JNxXPD4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yh9gmca6o_A&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2HH3myAdjOBmebb23iI2DWPSkdYrEp2niYa_KRiwWStxqrN5f6JNxXPD4)

And this article about the above UCSF physicians' stances on reopening schools and transmission in children: [https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url? a=https%3a%2f%2fmissionlocal.org%2f2020%2f05%2fucsf-medical-grand-rounds-the-doctor-is-ready-to-send-children-back-to-school-with-care%2f&c=E,1.BP\\_iVi09RqX7Sh1luEAqwfMbjvKYwhYXEJCGLebo1KairClacZxKtecBrMr789QPu8uJB82jLmm0tgLxvQ\\_wUDfD67gknICyQW4Oc4kppjT2cp9CD145sAi&typo=1](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url? a=https%3a%2f%2fmissionlocal.org%2f2020%2f05%2fucsf-medical-grand-rounds-the-doctor-is-ready-to-send-children-back-to-school-with-care%2f&c=E,1.BP_iVi09RqX7Sh1luEAqwfMbjvKYwhYXEJCGLebo1KairClacZxKtecBrMr789QPu8uJB82jLmm0tgLxvQ_wUDfD67gknICyQW4Oc4kppjT2cp9CD145sAi&typo=1)

I welcome any data or questions you have. The science about COVID in pediatrics is evolving and we don't have all the answers (far from it), but I hope people can use the above data to help them make informed decisions about children's activities and school openings.

Now in my OPINION- elementary school is an essential service of a country. All other first world countries seem to realize that you can not open the economy until kids have somewhere to go (and preferably learn and be familiar and comfortable with the place!). When one considers the number of couples or single parents who are essential workers, or now working again in the US, with kids too young to watch themselves - I ask you- where will they go if not to school? And will the alternative be better? Since children of working parents do need to go somewhere and watched by someone (this is why many day cares and summer schools have been open up to this point). We as a society need to decide together, based on the science, where the best place for these children is (school vs. day care vs. being left alone vs parents quitting their jobs) and who should take on the risks of caring for them/teaching them (teachers vs. day care workers vs. school proctors (as they are doing in Arizona), etc). We also need to consider in this calculation what the short and long term risks are of kids NOT being in school (loss of learning, inability to report abuse, neglect, loss of school meals, exercise, social interaction, inability to escape poverty, loss of individualized education plans for children with special needs). It is our job together as American people to figure out what is in the best interest of all our children (regardless of socioeconomic status) - they are truly the future of our country and figuring how to open schools safely is infinitely more important than reopening Disney World (WHY is this open?). I hope we can use the above data and strategies of other countries (as well as our own YMCA daycares!) that have successfully managed this pandemic to guide us. Having NO plan for how to most safely open our elementary schools is not an acceptable modus operandi for our country.

\*\*\*\*\*

Edit to add new data:

7/16: In Germany, a study of over 2,000 children: "Scientists from Dresden Technical University said they believe children may act as a "brake" on chains of infection." <https://news.yahoo.com/german-study-finds-no-evidence-164704005.html>

7/16: Study performed by the Swedish and Finish Ministries of Health "closure or not of schools had no measurable direct impact on the number of laboratory confirmed cases in school-aged children in Finland or Sweden. The negative effects of closing schools must be weighed against the positive indirect effects it might have on the mitigation of the covid-19 pandemic." <https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.folkhalsomyndigheten.se%2fcontentassets%2fc1b78bfbfde4a7899eb0d8ffdb57b09%2fcovid-19-school-aged-children.pdf&c=E,1,hAyoieqG-vjQcIKnTyu7txiBRdpV7ITzSuohWR0KYZO7-zZDCmUPJzM07JVpokYMKc-k6znw1LQyMi48D9KhlX7rb8nclZIS2Dzg1HqQ,,&typo=1>

\*\*\*\*\*

7/19

Per the CDC as of 7/15 for time period 2/1/2020 - 7/11/2020  
# of COVID deaths ages 1-14 is 22  
# of influenza deaths ages 1-14 is 87

In newborns 0-1 the numbers are much closer: 9 for COVID vs 14 for influenza.

An important thing to point out is we are missing the denominator for these calculations. It will be a challenge to determine the death rate of COVID until we know how many total cases there are and with many ages 1-14 suspected of being asymptomatic, this will be a challenge, and the true death rate for this population will probably need to come from a country that has done EXTENSIVE population-based testing which is not based on symptoms. Keep in mind that unless hospitals are completely full that disease prevalence in a country should not affect mortality rate.

[https://data.cdc.gov/NCHS/Provisional-COVID-19-Death-Counts-by-Sex-Age-and-S9b9g-hcku?fbclid=IwAR0fgYc4Y1-BJt3h9-OhMK-XqbJL\\_WL2sh10WstEJfLPNpEVOCKbaunBaGpg](https://data.cdc.gov/NCHS/Provisional-COVID-19-Death-Counts-by-Sex-Age-and-S9b9g-hcku?fbclid=IwAR0fgYc4Y1-BJt3h9-OhMK-XqbJL_WL2sh10WstEJfLPNpEVOCKbaunBaGpg)

This study from France ([https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.medrxiv.org%2fcontent%2f10.1101%2f2020.06.25.20140178v2.full.pdf&c=E,1,ioomDbrNi46znSi\\_6GJ9dW-DG2rz6CbHlazu-vAG31yu2QeXyV33Gtm3LAb3or-TAMEZ4evdc-pZUwM7UEb1zplUEHsUFplazhQUxzM6lPlrPAYRY1Dj1WacIj6&typo=1](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.medrxiv.org%2fcontent%2f10.1101%2f2020.06.25.20140178v2.full.pdf&c=E,1,ioomDbrNi46znSi_6GJ9dW-DG2rz6CbHlazu-vAG31yu2QeXyV33Gtm3LAb3or-TAMEZ4evdc-pZUwM7UEb1zplUEHsUFplazhQUxzM6lPlrPAYRY1Dj1WacIj6&typo=1)) looked at 3 students in primary school with COVID-19 while in school and they did extensive contact tracing and found these students went on to pass the disease to 0/1047 pupils and 0/51 teachers.

I also want to touch on the South Korean study that was mentioned in the New York times ([https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/18/health/coronavirus-children-schools.html?smid=fb-share&fbclid=IwAR2W6LE4j0rxBtE-rLCs8oLoU-7WGRK1K8\\_6ngbUPaBByOxhyeu8ouTLe0](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/18/health/coronavirus-children-schools.html?smid=fb-share&fbclid=IwAR2W6LE4j0rxBtE-rLCs8oLoU-7WGRK1K8_6ngbUPaBByOxhyeu8ouTLe0)). This was a nice, large study which found in the 10 and younger age group the following amounts of transmission: 1% for non-household contacts  
5% for household contacts  
This age group also made up only 6% of the total cases in the population.

However, the important caveat with the study ([https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/10/20-1315\\_article](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/10/20-1315_article)) is they state "we could not determine the direction of transmission" (meaning they could not determine if it was the child who transmitted to the adult or vice versa). So instead of more rigorous contact tracing, as in the French study above, they did the following: "Because we could not determine direction of transmission, we calculated the proportion of detected cases by the equation [number of detected cases/number of contacts traced] x 100, excluding the index patient".

Using a calculation such as this as a substitute more rigorous contact tracing could result in an overestimate of the number of transmissions from the youngest group if this group truly had few to no actual transmissions. So, this South Korean study, while large, does need to be looked at with this limitation in mind and in the context of the other studies that have been done in this age group. The South Korean study does reaffirm what has already sadly been found in previous studies, which is high school age children likely transmit the disease as effectively as adults.

Now FINALLY, thanks to everyone for keeping me up to date with the latest studies. And thank you for all of the personal messages. This post is still far from comprehensive and definitely not perfect. I would love to turn this into a peer reviewed article with other authors and reviewers helping me see beyond my own biases (we all have biases and that is why both team work and the peer review process are SO IMPORTANT in science; right now this is nothing more than a Facebook post and I am the first to admit it). If anyone is interested in working with the data here and anything else we can find for possible publication, please reach out.

-Dawn Myers  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Angie Miller](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School delay reopen discussion 20-58  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:29:40 AM

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1st...

Why would the school need to wait 4 more weeks to open school? The reason was so they can prep and get things ready for safety protocols.

How do they not have enough time right now, when they still have 3 weeks or so, to do just that!?

What is really the situation that is making a month delay to open school?

2nd question...

All the comments that school age kids aren't vulnerable to covid... How do we really know how susceptible they are, as we had school closures to prevent exposure?

3rd...

What about the organ inflammatory illness that kids are getting, will that be a concern and are there different safety measures for that?

Thank you!

**From:** [Karen Elliott](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** In person High Schools for 2020-21 school year  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 11:17:52 PM

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## SEND OUR TEENAGERS BACK TO IN PERSON SCHOOLS!!!

Most importantly, high school and college students need to be present and amongst each other. This time in life needs exposure and immediate feedback from fellow classmates. In person with their teachers allows for direct assessments and the ability to “notice” each student in person where a computer zoom call or alike cannot capture what’s truly going on. Also, there needs to be statewide documents about the rules for safety & COVID. For example, Colorado has the same fliers on everyone of its businesses doors of entry including outdoor places. The communication is precise & consistent. Plus they are required to enforce no mask, no entry or business. Walking around people wore their masks outside of public places as well. Our schools should have the same expectations for the staff and students. Our teenagers need to be all in at school with masks & frequent hand washing times required. We need to face this mess straight on. Put our teenagers in the classroom face to face where they will best benefit not on a computer screen where there is ways to hide your struggles and lose site of direction and understanding. These are the years specifically to educate but even more intense is the need to prepare them for their college/post high school plans. You cannot achieve this without a well formed student done so through all the personal relationships, direct connections and academic fortitude one gets in the social environment in HS. The staff gets to know their students in many ways by the students present in their classrooms not virtual where everyone has a varying environment in which to learn. Be CONSISTENT Kansas with expectations and make the message clear and if not followed, fine the entity not following the guidelines and send the person away unable to enter due to not following the orders from the State.

Believe!  
Karen

**From:** [Heather Kolb](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Delaying schools to Labor Day  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 10:30:42 PM

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Hello,

My name is Heather Kolb. This fall I will begin my first year of teaching as an elementary art teacher. This spring I was student teaching and had to anxiously watch as schools closed and activities were canceled due to a mountain of unknowns. So many art projects have sat in an empty classroom for months now. Children have been home, many without much structure for the past several months. I understand the need for extra caution back in March when many had only heard the word COVID once or twice. It has since been a word many have heard dozens of times a day.

There are still plenty of unknowns as we continue to battle our way through this pandemic, but there are also many clarities. For one, children crave structure, especially children who may have learning disabilities or other difficulties. For another, children are extremely unlikely to contract this disease and spread it to others, teachers, etc. Summer already presents itself as a time for 'backsliding,' but to keep students out of school for even longer than the extended period they have already experienced could warp their pace of development and cause for difficulty in learning socially as well.

As a teacher, I am ready to get into the classroom. I would ask you not to delay the start of the school year.

Thank you  
-Heather Kolb



**From:** [Jamie Ferraro](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Start of school year  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 10:25:16 PM

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Please respect Gov. Kelly's order to start school after Labor Day. Covid cases are on the rise. Schools need more time and money to make schools safe. Waiting a couple more weeks to achieve this is worth it.

**From:** [Barb Gack](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Go to school ON TIME!!  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 10:24:32 PM

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I'm deeply concerned by the closure of schools mandated on the state level, and I implore the State Board of Education to overturn the governor's action. School closure decisions should be left to the county and local school boards.

We have risks every time we wake up. Motor vehicle accidents, death by narcotics, depression, suicide many of which are worse since this social isolation has begun.

The risk to those under 50 without medical conditions is on par with contracting influenza or driving a car, risks that most readily accept on a daily basis.

Closing schools statewide now, when many students, teachers, and communities in general might be healthy, is unnecessarily shortening the school year further.

The governor wrongly assumes that local school officials have been sitting on their laurels doing nothing to prepare to start school. That is completely wrong where I am from. They have spent countless hours preparing to open mid August.

Local counties and school boards are fully capable of making these decisions for themselves. There are still multiple counties with no active cases, low population density, and small class sizes, and they should not be treated with the same broad brush as Johnson and Shawnee counties. People who don't live here should not be making these decisions for us.

Local counties on school boards are also capable of deciding about masks and when they think it is appropriate. We can all read and understand guidelines. We also understand that the virus will permeate anything except for an N95 mask. And unless you have a hood, protective clothing, and N95 mask on at all times so the virus can't get on mucous membranes of nasal passages as well as eyes, we will be exposed. This research based evidence does not support children wearing masks. I won't even start about adults and masks.

We most likely are all going to get this virus at some point. Our best course of action is to try and keep people's immune system's robust and a part of that means keeping mental health status stable.

**LET US DECIDE WHEN WE CAN RETURN TO SCHOOL. OVERTURN THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER!!**

Thanks!!

Barb Gack  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [madeline.prelogar](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Support Delay to open  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 10:22:47 PM

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Please support Governor Kelly and delay the opening of schools until September! Please keep staff and students safe!!!!

Madeline Prelogar

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Christina Henke](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on School Opening  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 10:12:24 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this email to encourage the State School Board/members to support the executive order that Governor Laura Kelly issued today, July 20. The number of Covid-19 cases continue to increase in Kansas, and even in smaller Mitchell County where I teach, the numbers are starting to increase as well. Likely this is happening, or is going to happen, in many communities in Kansas as things are opening back up. I am hoping that the mandatory mask order will slow down and decrease numbers in the coming weeks.

Her order is also going to give our school time to come up with the necessary protocols to follow and supplies, like PPE, to safely open the school. We will also have more time to connect with teachers about what the kids from the previous year missed and create a plan to teach them the things they may not have learned or need to revisit so they can begin the curriculum in their new grade. Lastly it will also give teachers three more weeks to come up with plans for learning that will follow socially distant rules and plan for any time that we might have to be out of school because of exposure to Covid-19, personally, or because of a school shutdown. Schools just received the KSDE plan last week, and I feel like things are going to be so rushed if we were to start on time now.

I want to be in school and I know my kids need to be in school, but we need to make sure we have a plan in place so that everyone can come back and feel safe. I have talked to many coworkers and friends in education who have said they are worried about coming back too soon or not having enough safety measures in place to start school. In my opinion, I feel that we just do not have enough time from now to when school was set to start to come up with adequate enough plans, especially with all the plans we will need to have in place, as teachers, in case we were to quickly change to online learning again.

I feel that this later start will make more people (staff, students, and parents) feel a little more ready and confident for starting a safe and successful school year. Thank you very much for all you do for public education.

Christina Henke  
1st Grade Teacher

**From:** [Wayne Krause](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Please Vote NO on School Delay Mandate  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 9:53:40 PM

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Dear Kansas Board of Education Members:

First, I am writing to you to recognize your leadership and support you in this unprecedented situation. I am thankful for you and know your heart is to do what is best for the people of Kansas.

Second, I am writing to you in preparation for the Kansas School Board of Education Vote the mandate to delay school opening.

I respectfully request that we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:

- Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan
- No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.

In response to the Mandate delaying School opening statewide, Please vote the mandate down and allow the individual districts to make their own decisions.

This will allow each district to make the decision that is best for its community. The situations vary widely across the state and a one size fits all approach does not make sense.

Based upon the information available, I believe we are able to send them safely back to school and activities now. I also believe we do more harm than good if we delay starting school and activities on time.

I am one of the over 6,200 people who have signed the [#HelpThemPlayKansas](#) petition supporting all [#Kansas](#) High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay.

We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know that you have our support.

To view the petition: <http://chnng.it/7LG6GzBjqM>

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Wayne Krause  
913.242.1927

**From:** [Michael Bauer](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Open the schools without delay  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 9:51:14 PM

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Thank you for letting me voice my opinion

Students need to go back to school now. No delay. There are districts that have had very little covid. So why does Governor Kelly want to keep our schools close when she claims she is the education governor. Educate our students is what we need to do

Let's not wait. Experts say mental health problems, abuse of children etc.

Lind Bauer

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Nancy Marie Rundel](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Delay of school  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 9:42:42 PM

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I feel that it is important to give districts the time to adequately prepare for a variety of learning scenarios and to return to school safely. In my district, staff will have exactly three days to adapt to the recommendations document adopted by the State Board if we follow our regular calendar. Let alone create a structure to follow in the variety of scenarios that may arise. I live in a community, where the desire to play sports overrules the common sense approach to providing a safe and well planned educational year. In my district, staff has been left out of any conversations about the upcoming year and that has only led to anxiety and distrust of the process needed to ensure the safety of all stakeholders.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Michelle Fischer](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Executive Order 20-58(Delaying the 20-21 K-12 School Year) Public Comment Survey  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 9:24:05 PM

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Kansas Department of Education members;

Good Evening. I want to see schools that can safely reopen, be allowed to do so. Our children need to get back to school. I can't understand why students and staff can't return to school, but they have been able to participate in summer sports activities. It seems to me that if it was safe to be around one another then, it ought to be safe to go to school. I understand that some areas of the state have a large number of cases, and in those instances, delaying the start of school may be wise. However, most of the state doesn't have high rates of COVID-19.

I am afraid that further delaying school and learning, our students will suffer longtime deficiencies in their learning. It is a fact that students who have a high rate of absences fall behind in their education and I am afraid that this will be the case now, if students can't get back to school.

It is also a case of necessity for those vulnerable students who find that school is their only safe place during the day. Unfortunately, not all of our students have the support that they need at home and rely on the safety net of school staff to provide that support.

Please considering stopping the governor's executive order to delay school.

Sincerely,  
Michelle Fischer  
St. John



**From:** [kellyrm77@gmail.com](mailto:kellyrm77@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Postponing school  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 9:11:22 PM

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Please postpone school until our children and teachers are not at risk. The numbers are continuing to rise. Please do your part to keep our families safe.

Kelly Meyer  
SMSD 512  
Overland Park KS

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Hollie Rice](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Please keep our safety in mind  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 8:34:06 PM

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Dear KSDE,

Please keep students and teachers safe by delaying the start of school and supporting remote learning. I have been a teacher for over 20 years. I love my job, but in the current pandemic, it is not safe for school to resume. Please delay the start of school and uphold the governor's plan. Remote learning is the optimal way to have school this fall so that teachers and students can return to a safe learning environment. It is unsafe and unfair to send students and teachers into buildings and environments that will only amplify our current pandemic situation. The citizens of Kansas need you to do the right thing and delay The start of school until the virus does not have such a strong foothold in our community. Together we can overcome the challenges we face and make our schools stronger and safer. Thank you.

Hollie Rice

**From:** [Jason Hibbs](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Copy of comments made to Public Comment Form  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 8:24:56 PM

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Copy of comments to KSDE "public comments" document

Re: Executive Order 20-58

20 July 2020

I am commenting as a parent of three elementary-aged children (one with health challenges), and as a teacher. Please accept and follow through with Governor Kelly's executive order to delay school start dates until Labor Day. This EO follows CDC guidelines of low community transmission being a necessity before opening schools fully. It includes safety guidelines that will be necessary in keeping both staff and students as safe as possible in these dangerous times.

My health, my wife's health (she teaches also), my children's health, my students' health, and the health of scores of co-workers and family members depends on us following the CDC guidelines. Look at the recent outbreaks at camps in Texas, Illinois, Georgia, and Missouri for a peek at what our schools could become, especially given that 40 states are showing increases of infection cases. Just today I saw a student death and a teacher death, both in Florida.

I ask that you put aside the political pressures and act in the best interest of the lives and safety of Kansans in general. More than the lives of students and teachers is at stake, as each person in a school has family at home, friends at church, and other contacts outside the school. The risks of opening schools too early without ensuring safety are immeasurable, and the disruptions (like in March of 2020) that could occur if we start unprepared but then have to close schools would be equally devastating. Given several weeks of preparation time, including a chance for the increases to flatten out, will allow local school boards to craft policies and procedures that will work for their communities, as well as procure PPE for employees and students. Plus, there's a small benefit to transfer students if we all start on the same schedule.

Local boards and communities can still have a vigorous debate about whether their schools should offer only distance learning, or have limited or traditional in-person learning, or something in between, a delay now (during a recognized increase in cases) will at least give school leaders time to put proper safety precautions in place.

Jason Hibbs  
Parent, Teacher, Taxpayer, Voter  
Winfield, KS 67156  
620.262.7002

**From:** [JC](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School decisions 2020  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 8:14:39 PM

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This decision needs to be based on health care, resources and science, not politics and economics. Please vote accordingly.

Thank You  
Jerrri Christensen  
Overland Park



**From:** [Marianne Carter](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Executive Order 20-59 Public Comment Survey  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 7:54:23 PM

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Good Evening,

I was wondering if the meeting scheduled for WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA will also include the topic of Executive Order 20-59 Requiring COVID-19 mitigation procedures in K-12 schools? Also will there be a public comment survey for Executive Order 20-59 to submit public comments to the Kansas State Board of Education?

Thank you,  
Marianne Carter

**From:** [Elizabeth Lara](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Delaying schools  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 7:49:35 PM

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I think we should delay opening schools until the situation gets better.  
Thanks,  
Elizabeth  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [pam eils](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Schools opening for 20-21  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 7:32:20 PM

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Please open the schools for these future adults. Children need to be in school. Thus us ridiculous to keep our children from learning in a school setting.

I am a taxpayer and am sending my opinion and vote

Thank you.

Pamela EilsHayek  
816-547-8120

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Kayleen Lewis](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Reopening school  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 7:13:38 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

Kids need to be back in school on the regular schedule not delayed. There is plenty of science out there to support that it is safe for the state to do so. Stand up to the governor.

Kayleen Lewis  
Aunt of a second grader

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [ALLISON HUFF](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Executive Order 20-59 masks in schools  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 6:19:35 PM

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This is a horrible idea.

1. How are children supposed to learn when they can not see their teachers' faces? Sometimes it's hard to understand if you can not see someone's mouth to make out what they are saying or see if they are happy or being stern. They need to see whole facial expressions to learn proper communication skills.

2. How will teachers know when their students are struggling, upset, happy, or sad? Eyes don't show everything.

3. How will teachers catch speech and language issues when they can not see the child speaking, forming words, etc.

4. Some children are terrified of the masks, and have trouble reading the intentions of others who are wearing masks.

5. If a student is harmed by someone in school, it will make it more difficult for them to identify their assailant.

6. Many people, especially children, have sensitive skin. Hand sanitizer every hour is going to cause health issues and discomfort. Just one more thing distracting from the learning environment.

7. Younger children will never quit touching masks. One of the main fundamentals of PPE is not to not touch or adjust your mask....it is considered dirty. So they will just be collecting germs all day then touching and spreading them more than if they weren't wearing the mask in the first place.

Also, masks are supposed to be replaced when soiled.....are we going to require someone provide a new mask every hour or so once a student sneezes or gets it wet somehow? If they take it off, where are they going to put it? It needs to be stored properly so as not to spread germs even more.

These are but a few of my main issues with everyone wearing a mask at all times. There are many emotional and mental health issues that need to take precedence as well as safety and infection control issues that just mandating everyone to wear a mask doesn't cover. My youngest child always thinks people in stores are glaring at him, and even once thought someone spoke to him meanly just because their voice was rough sounding. He couldn't see them smiling...he totally misinterpreted the context of what they said.

I feel bad for those who spent so much time coming up with recommendations after weighing out the the concerns and opinions only to have their time wasted by a one size fits all mandate that is only going to cause more issues and less education....just what our youth in Kansas does not need.

Kids go to daycare, go swimming, play at friend's houses everyday....we don't have any major issues in our area....we shouldn't be mandated to follow the same rules as everyone else. Other states aren't following suit either....we might actually loose good families who would prefer to move than deal with this kind of force. Many might turn to homeschool and not actually have the support they need to be successful. This is a very sad day in my opinion. I'm not sure my husband will continue to let our children go to public school anymore.

I beg that this order be reconsidered.

Thank you for your time.

Allison Huff

**From:** [will.farm](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** No to Kelly  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 6:03:09 PM

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Absolutely no to both EO's,,2 no's, Greg and Joy Will, newton...  
Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

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**From:** [Kristi Clarkson](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School 2020-2021  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 5:55:03 PM

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Please delay the start. Cases are rising! It's also not just about the kids. It's about staff, too. Thank you for your time.

Sent from my iPhone

5212 West 70th Street  
Prairie Village, Kansas 66208

July 16, 2020

The Honorable Laura Kelly  
Governor of the State of Kansas  
300 SW 10th Avenue, Suite 241S  
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1590

Re: Teachers/Covid19

Dear Governor Kelly:

Please know I greatly respect the policies and orders regarding Covid-19 that you have brought to the people of Kansas. I fully support your efforts.

Please consider this regarding our public school teachers and higher education educators:

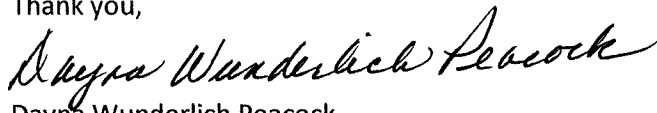
My daughter teaches in the middle school in Atchison, Kansas (minimum of 100 students). Her husband teaches at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas (minimum of 200 students). My third grade granddaughter (19 classmates). Each day they teach or attend school, they will be bringing home exposure to over 300 people. That is daily.

Should one of them develop Covid-19 symptoms or become ill the household will quarantine. If they fall ill one after the other, quarantine could last for weeks with the best case scenario. This would greatly impact the fluidity and consistency of the educational process. What happens if the general cold/influenza, etc. infects them? How many times will they go through testing?

- Please consider virtual learning for the majority of students to last through at least March 2021 if not the entire school year of 2020/2021.
- Please consider allowing certain special education students to have in-school services on a limited basis.
- Please consider allowing at-risk for abuse students to return to school on a limited basis. The teachers know who they are.
- Please make hotspots available throughout Kansas for rural and non-internet zones
- Please continue providing lunches to those in need

Governor Kelly, you are handling a very tough situation in a very gracious, honest and direct way.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dayna Wunderlich Peacock". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dayna Wunderlich Peacock

cc Dr. Randy Watson ✓

Dr. Barbara Bollier

Ms. Renee Scott

Dr. Michael Fulton

Mr. Stephen Minnis

Dear Kansas State Board of Education,

07/21/2020

Our 5 year old child will be attending, Kindergarten at a Kansas USD 259 Magnet School this Fall. My husband and I are gravely concerned about a proposed delay of the 2020- 2021 school year. We are advocating for all Kansas School Districts to begin classes on time, starting in August 2020; and not to be pushed back (as Governor Kelly has ordered). We are asking the Kansas State Board of Education to follow thousands of Parent requests to re-open schools on their originally planned 2020- 2021 school schedule. We pray you will make an informed decision, and Vote in accordance with the majority of Pediatricians and Parents nationwide, who want Schools to Reopen on time.

I currently hold the seat of our local Head Start Policy Council Chairwoman, within the Sedgwick, Harper and Butler County areas. I have 2 children enrolled in the Child Start program, and I assist in overseeing and leading monthly meetings regarding policies for Head Start in this tri-county area. So, I am well aware of the possible COVID-19 infection risks children may encounter, as they attend in-person classes. Our communities cannot live in fear of contracting (any) sickness, while sacrificing our children's education. Not attending school has more long-term detrimental effects on children's mental and social well being, and far outweighs any possible infection rates. We agree a common-sense approach should be taken while children attend classes; such as Temperature Checks upon arrival, frequent Hand Washing and Social Distancing in most settings.

I'd like to make it known, my husband and I are fully against the mandated order which requires our Elementary School-aged children to wear face coverings/ masks while attending school. Published scientific research on the benefits of face coverings stopping or slowing the transmission of disease are mixed. There is, however, evidence that supports long-term (non-medical grade) mask wearing actually increases infection rates, and spreads viruses and bacteria more readily. This is noted in the following study and attached link <https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/5/4/e006577> . Since there is no conclusive evidence of face coverings/ masks stopping rates of COVID-19 infection, I am opposed to this practice. Enforcement of such an order is a clear violation of our inherent personal rights, civil liberties, and person freedoms.

Thank you for taking time to read this letter!

Best Regards,

Daria Nelsen  
316-618-3640  
dm.scriven@gmail.com



**From:** [Nancy Tompkins](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** COVID public comment  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:19:27 PM

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Dear KDHE officials:

Please do NOT send kids and teachers back to school in buildings for several more months.

This is a PANDEMIC — Covid is a dangerous, highly contagious disease. Local school boards need to take good medical advice for a medical problem, and not leave it up to parents and public who find it easy to not listen to their local health official because they are tired of this long inconvenient situation and they wrongly believe there isn't much danger anymore. That is totally wrong!

If you put kids and teachers together for hours indoors in enclosed rooms, all it takes is one infected person with no symptoms to start it spreading and it will spread faster and faster like wildfire.

A NY Times story this morning says 40 percent of infected people show no symptoms, and that towns and localities with Covid victims have 2 to 13 percent more infected people than health officials know about because some sick people can't afford to go to hospital and some have very mild cases without any symptoms but can pass on virus to many others.

Doctors also say exposed children are excellent silent carriers because they will bring virus home to other family members and may continue going to school spreading virus while not appearing to be very ill at all.

A story in NY Times Sunday said children from age 10 to 19 can pass on the virus as much and as easily as adults do.

Please stop everyone statewide from going to school. The cases in Kansas are still increasing. This is the wrong time to open schools and expose children and loved ones to a lethal disease. It can kill children and adults or leave them with lasting multi-organ damage and longterm suffering.

It is too dangerous to start up school this soon.

I have a son who is a teacher and two grandsons in school and I feel very worried.

Thank you,

Nancy Tompkins

5225 SW West Dr, Apt F

Topeka, KS.

785-213-7853

**From:** [Kreisman, Rebecca G](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Dombrosky](#)  
**Cc:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Delay of 2020-2021 School Year - VOTE DOWN MANDATE  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:08:32 PM

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In response to the Governor's proposed order delaying school reopening statewide, I implore you to **vote the mandate down and allow each school district to make its own decisions for safely reopening schools**. Individual school districts are best suited to make educational decisions for the benefit of the students and families in the community including how to safely return to the classroom, and when. Delaying the start of the school year and sports/extra-curricular activities until after Labor Day across the board for all Kansas schools is not necessary and does not take into account various factors and circumstances in each individual district and community. My sons— incoming 10<sup>th</sup> grader at Blue Valley Northwest and incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Oxford Middle School—are desperate to return to class and activities as soon as possible. Distance learning did not go well for us and I worry that a delayed start to the school year and/or continuation of distance learning will be detrimental to their education and that of other students who need in-person interaction with teachers and peers.

Understandably some families are concerned with returning to in-person classes and are more comfortable with virtual classes. For those families, distance learning is the right option for them. But many other students—my children included—need to return to in-person classes as soon as possible. I firmly believe we are able to safely send students back to school and activities now with appropriate PPE, sanitation protocols and social distancing. I recognize the seriousness of the virus and the need to protect the teachers, students and community; however, the long term, detrimental impact to our children cannot be overlooked or diminished. Students are struggling. They need live instruction, interaction with peers, extra-curricular activities and a return to some semblance of normalcy. Parents are struggling. We are returning to the work place and need to know our children are safely in school and receiving appropriate instruction.

Please vote down the Governor's delayed start mandate and allow the school districts to determine how best to safely resume classes.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Rebecca G. Kreisman**  
Senior Counsel

**Midland Loan Services, a PNC Real Estate business**  
10851 Mastin, Suite 700, Building 82  
Overland Park, KS 66210  
(p) 913-253-9041 (f) 913-253-9709  
[rkreisman@pnc.com](mailto:rkreisman@pnc.com)

**From:** [Heather L. Smith \[LSH\]](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:03:33 PM

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Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day.  
Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** [firefighterfam5@att.net](mailto:firefighterfam5@att.net)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Opening KS schools  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 11:53:27 AM

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Thank you to all that have spent hours and days working on this situation.

Let us go forth with those that we work for in mind~ families that build our schools, fund our programs, and loan us their kids during the day to teach. It's a humbling thing when you think of it.

Essential workers: healthcare providers, firemen, grocery store clerks, trash service, and many more have done their job through this. We can too and do it in the buildings. We can and will follow guidelines. There will be cases. It will happen. That is happening. Just as the rest of the world is dealing with it, so will we.

Kids are at amusement parks, playing in ball tournaments, swimming at the lake, playing with their friends in their neighborhoods, going to church, skating at the roller rink... and then school won't be open? That doesn't match up. Sports are also a huge part of many students' lives- the physical and mental well being benefits are numerous, immunity boosting at its best.

Our special needs children, students living in poverty, children that live in trauma and crisis ~ they are most drastically affected by school being closed. I do live in a metro area that has more virus activity and know that we may have different guidelines than those in far southeast or northwest Kansas. Please let local areas address their needs and go forth with plans that serve their communities best.

Suzy Hartley

**From:** [Kara Ronnebaum](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Schools reopening  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 11:49:33 AM

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I am from rural Kansas. My children attend a 1A school in Nemaha County. We have very few active cases in our county at the present time. I am against the Governor's order to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. My children have been participating in summer weight programs all summer long. A group of around 50 individuals have been meeting 3 days a week for just over an hour in the mornings. When the Mask Mandate was placed into order – which our county rescinded – our school took steps and provided masks to all the children and coaches to wear when they are not able to be 6 feet apart, and moved most of the activities outside. Even though our county doesn't require them, our school took the extra steps on their own to make sure they all continue to stay safe and help with the spread of COVID. Our community and school has had 0 cases. The Governor's reasoning to delay school opening for schools to prepare better I feel is an inaccurate statement. I feel MOST schools have already taken measures to do their part to help prevent the spread of COVID 19. The schools in our county have already put into place measures to take temperatures. Our kids have been doing it all summer long. They are not allowed into weights until their temperature is taken. If they have one, they are sent home. If they are working in the school, they must have their mask. If they don't, they are sent home. Our schools have had since March, to work on what they feel they need to do on their end to provide a safe learning environment for the kids. When talking to school leaders in our district, they have deep cleaned the school, they already have hand sanitizing stations throughout the school. They have their own measures put into place before any recommendations were made public from the KSBOE and the Governor. Just like all essential businesses that have remained open and were able to adjust quickly to new cleaning measures, etc, the schools too jumped on board and started to gather supplies. If essential businesses can continue to operate, there is no need for schools to remain closed. Allowing them 3 more weeks to plan and stock pile cleaning supplies, masks, hand sanitizer, etc, is just plain bogus. Schools have already done their part. They want the kids back and they have gone through extreme measures to make sure they are prepared for the kids to return in August. The Governor's Executive Order to delay the opening of school is only hurting our children's education. And if the cases don't start to drop again, will she delay the opening even further? At that point will they then go to online learning only? As a family with two parents who are essential workers who work full time and have 5 children in school, we have already made the decision one of us will have to either go to working part time or quitting all together to teach our children as trying to work full time and teach 5 children in the evenings did not work and our children most definitely were the ones who ended up with the raw end of the deal. They are the ones that got hurt the most because we all failed to provide them the education that they need. As a parent we didn't have access to see what our children actually did during the day, what was turned in, if it was acceptable work or of poor quality. We had teachers who were great to work with and went above and beyond to make sure us parents understood how to navigate various websites that our district used. If we go back to online learning and we have to cut working hours, that means we then struggle with the idea of providing for our kids, paying bills and keeping the lights on. Just because one city, town, county, etc may have an increase in cases, does not mean you can just shut down all schools across Kansas. I also encourage you to look at the number of active cases compared to the total number of cases. Yes, Kansas may have 23,000+ cases, but out of that, how many are truly active cases. In our

county, we have 35 cases, but only 5 active cases. All of those cases are in older individuals and not associated with the school.

Also throughout the summer our kids have participated in summer ball. Through the entire season fans, players and coaches have all taken necessary precautions and were able to go through the season without any cases of COVID 19. We have kids who play travel ball and those as well have also went to various parts of the state and taken all necessary precautions and again, no reported cases of COVID 19.

Your job as being a member of the KSBOE is to ensure our kids are getting the education they need to be successful in life. Delaying the opening of schools is not what is best for our kids. They miss school, they miss their classmates, friends, teachers and are eager to get back to learning. They need the structure for their wellbeing. By allowing schools to let parents decide which form of education is best for them – online only, classroom, or mixture of the two – I see no need to delay schooling. Parents can decide as to which form of learning is best for them and their children. DO NOT let all children down because of what the Governor thinks is best. You are the ones who have had meetings with all schools and know what is best for Kansas. Do your part to sure our kids get the education they deserve.

Thank you.

**From:** [Peggy Patch](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 11:47:37 AM

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For those of us who teach, please consider time for a safe reopening where both students and teachers can enter a classroom without fear. We are at war with a stealthy and silent enemy. Beginning school unprepared with a faculty that is afraid to return to the classroom, benefits no one.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Linda Mitchell](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Postponing school  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 11:32:26 AM

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I hope and pray all of you on the Kansas State Board of Education will please consider postponing school.

Please support Gov. Kelly's executive order 20-58

Thank you

Linda Mitchell

Circleville, Ks.



July 20, 2020

Kansas State Board of Education:

The Kansas Association of Education Service Agencies (KAESA) exists to serve the needs of all Kansas Schools. As the state's largest provider of professional learning and support for Kansas teachers, administrators, and classified staff, KAESA is committed to helping every school, every educator, and every student succeed.

A core value of KAESA is the belief that every student and every staff member should be able to teach and learn in a safe, orderly, and caring environment. The governor's executive order delaying the start of school until September 9 supports this belief in three key ways:

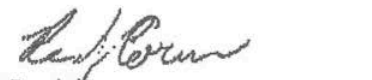
- It affords schools the time needed to secure the necessary safety equipment and implement the necessary safety measures as outlined in the KSDE guidance released to schools on July 16.
- It allows teachers and administrators the time necessary to fully implement and receive sufficient training for on-site, remote, and blended learning environments as outlined in the KSDE guidance released to schools on July 16.
- It allows Kansas residents, through guidance from state and county health officials to take necessary measures to lower the rate of COVID-19 spread across the state to a level that would better ensure a safe learning environment for every student and every school employee.

It is for these reasons that KAESA is in support of the governor's executive order delaying the start of the school year to September 9, 2020.


Respectfully,

  
Dr. Mike Cook  
Executive Director  
ESSDACK

  
Chris Modellmog  
Executive Director  
Smoky Hill Education Service Center

  
Randy Corns  
Executive Director  
Greenbush Education Service Center

  
Dr. Brad Pepper  
Executive Director  
Orion Education and Training

  
Doug Anderson  
Executive Director  
Keystone Learning Services

  
Kim Mauk  
Executive Director  
Southwest Plains Regional Service Center

  
Dan Thornton  
Executive Director  
Northwest Kansas Education Service Center

7/20/20

To the Kansas State Board of Education-

I'm writing to voice my input on Gov. Kelly's executive order on the delayed opening of Kansas schools. I am a band director in McPherson. As a teacher, I have strong emotions and honestly, I have conflicting wishes for the start of the 20-21 school year. While I would love more than anything to go back to "normal" and see my students in school, direct a marching band normally, and teach music like normal—I also believe it's ignorant and naïve to ignore the very real truths that are staring us in the face. *This is not a normal time.* As much as I, along with many strong voices in my community, want to minimize inconvenience and deviation from regular schedules, the medical and scientific realities are pretty clear. *This is not a normal time.* Possibly if we had done a better job of acknowledging and embracing this fact months ago in our state—taking proper precautions, mitigating risks with masks—there is a chance we may have been closer to returning to normal. But in reality, until a vaccine arrives, we will be living in an unusual time, much like that of the Spanish Flu of 1918. If we can accept that this is a historically difficult time, it becomes clearer that we should adopt measures like Gov. Kelly's to keep our children and communities as safe and healthy as possible, knowing that in a number of months, a vaccine will be the key to returning to actual normalcy.

Given the nature of this virus and the effects we see it has had across the globe, I suspect this is not the last difficult decision that will face our local, state, and national leaders. I view this executive order as an act of *moderation* by Gov. Kelly—it buys precious time for our state to assess the current spike of cases and adjust plans accordingly. It gives communities who have not taken collective action to mitigate risk of virus spread a little more time to correct course.

I also view this as a *moderate* course of action because I can imagine that more extreme measures may have been considered—like reverting to full virtual education across the state. In fact, as an adult responsible for large numbers of children under my instruction in McPherson, I am very concerned about the realities of returning to on-campus instruction—whether on time, after Labor Day, or through December. I think protective measures like distancing and masks are the bare minimum of precautions we must take, but my concern is that in highly populated campuses like schools, even those precautions are not enough to keep students and staff safe. With that in mind, it's clear to me that Gov. Kelly's order is necessary, but perhaps not the final measure that will be needed to keep our citizens safe, depending on how the virus spread progresses in the coming weeks and months.

I want to also make clear that I appreciate the pressure and scrutiny you are under, and that there are many who will be voicing their opposition to the executive order. I'm well aware of those opinions, and have friends and family who feel strongly that way. So many of the arguments I've heard from their side, though, rely on faulty logic or outright falsehoods. I believe the coronavirus is real, and that medical science and medical professionals are all the proof we need that this is no "hoax." Many are downplaying the ability of children to spread the virus—there is some evidence that older children may, in fact, spread the virus at similar

rates as adults. In no way whatsoever do I believe that full virtual education matches the effectiveness of normal in-person classes. But given the extreme measures likely required to make in-person classes safe enough, I'm doubtful that the quality of education we're all longing for will truly be present right now anyways.

On a personal level, I hope that the concerns of educational professionals are taken very seriously. After all, it is our lives, livelihoods, and the health of our families at home that are at stake. Many educators are in at-risk categories themselves, and many of us like myself have young families or at-risk members at home, whose wellbeing shouldn't be held hostage by a public that is rabidly demanding to send their kids back to school.

Gov. Kelly's executive order will not be a perfect cure for our predicament. Nor will it probably be the last measure or modification that will be necessary this year. But, this is a necessary *moderate* step at this time to give our communities the best chance to be safe and healthy, while giving students the best educational experience possible this semester. It has been clear at times in recent months where a lack of leadership has hurt nations, states, and communities. There will be no unanimously popular solutions, but the best measures will be the ones that—though likely not universally supported—will at least save lives. I believe Gov. Kelly is exhibiting leadership, and my hope is that you will see the merit of her order and take a brave stance in support of our communities' health and education.

Respectfully,

Kyle Unruh  
Director of Bands  
McPherson High School

**From:** [Debora May](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Delay of school start date  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 10:23:34 AM

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I would encourage the board to leave this decision up to the local schools.

Debora May  
USD 382

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Pamela Charapata](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Delaying schools  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 10:58:02 AM

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Please do NOT delay opening schools. It is vital for the kids to continue live learning. If people don't want to send their kids to school, they can elect to keep them home. Working parents cannot keep their jobs and provide for their children if they have to stay home without pay to do the job teachers have been educated for and hired to do. If teachers are. It live teaching. There should be a large reduction or ceasing of their income.

Sent from my iPhone

## Executive Order 20-58 comments

How well prepared are the schools districts? From what I can tell not much. If additional time is required to get it right then it is a good idea to delay the start.

Considering airborne transmission of COVID 19, the possible number of asystematic students and that it is something like 10X more contagious then the common Flu it is imperative that all precautions are considered since it is impossible to reduce the risks to zero.

The experts believe the virus is transmitted by small particles versus droplets which makes it spread when people talk and can hang in the air for hours. Ventilation systems can exasperate the situation because it can spread the virus over an entire room quickly. Masks and limiting the number of children per room might be required.

While the instructions are fairly general what about special needs teachers like SLPs (Speech Language Pathologists) ? They require being able to see students mouths inside and out and to be closer then 6 FT. Shields and Plexiglas walls might be required. Special needs teachers usually have smaller offices/rooms in some cases which make the risks higher. How often will small rooms be sanitized?

While it is impossible to wear masks while eating I remember grade school lunch rooms as being noisy and children talking louder and or shouting which makes transmission all that more easier. What extra precautions are being taken?

Also in consideration choirs, bands, orchestras practices need to be evaluated since singing, woodwind and brass instruments spray saliva and can easily spread the virus to everyone in the ensemble.

Taking students temperature is a good idea but if standing in groups to enter school is a bad idea. Staggering times might be required. Trying to keep children distant is like impossible.

The difficult part that school boards have no control over is multi-generational family's or parents that are high risk. Its one thing to protect students at school but it extends much farther. In some cases it is imperative that students on food programs to go back to school since in some cases that is all the food they get in a day.

There are some difficult decisions to make in the next few weeks and many are on a district and school by school basis. Getting it right is necessary since as we have seen it does not take much to see cases explode. Herd immunity is not going to happen so prevention is the best method in my humble opinion.

Good luck,

Michael Kraus  
Concerned Citizen  
Rose Hill

**From:** [Amanda Balzer](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** open schools, no masks  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 10:07:53 AM

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School must begin in August as originally planned. This virus is here - so are we really supposed to quit our lives forever now? Nothing is going to get better. How did we go from wanting to slow the spread to have NO spread. This is ridiculous and everyone is being treated like pawns.

Kids must be back in school and masks should be optional or at least left to local districts' decision.

Governor Kelly has overstepped her boundaries too many times and someone has to stand up to her and remind her this is not a dictatorship.

Private schools have the right to make their own decisions on wearing masks or beginning school. How does she have the power to tell private schools what to do? Tuition is paid by the individual and we receive no state funding. She needs to leave private schools alone. If the private school is of a religious connection, this could be considered an infringement on church and state.

As a collective school leader's organization, we support the Governor's Executive Order. Upon having conversations with our associations, many questions remain unanswered and/or unresolved, but all agree there is nothing more important than the safety of our Kansas students and educators. We trust the Executive Order is a decision based on the statistics compiled and analyzed by trusted Kansas health experts and not a decision driven by individual thought and rhetoric.

Students need to return to school and our associations understand the social and emotional challenges each student is facing, but that cannot be the sole reason we risk the health of students and staff returning to reopen schools. We strongly believe in local control and equity for all students and staff. When the two meet at a crossroads, we need state leaders to step in and make a decision.

Unfortunately, with rising numbers of COVID-19 cases, the looming question remains the same. Is this the best time to bring large gatherings of students and adults back together? Would schools be less susceptible to spreading the virus if we wait to open schools and allow the number of new cases to decline?

By supporting the Executive Order, USA-Kansas believes this will provide additional time to prepare for the critical reopening of our schools and will allow for school districts to:

1. better train and prepare teachers/staff for a competency-based learning model or a possible return to remote learning;
2. gather community input for the successful integration back to school for all students;
3. make sure schools have all the required PPE equipment needed to begin the school year;
4. hire the additional staff needed to support transportation, cleaning, health services, and the daily operations of our schools; and
5. delay putting our most important resources back (our students) into large indoor meeting locations as the large parts of the state works to reduce the rampant spread of COVID-19.

USA-Kansas represents

Kansas Association of School Superintendents  
Kansas Principals Association  
Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators  
Kansas Association of School Personnel Administrators  
Kansas Association of School Business Officials  
Kansas School Public Relations Association  
Kansas Leaders of Career and Technical Educators





Members of the Kansas State Board of Education,

In a typical year, Kansas schools would be making final preparations to reopen their doors over the course of the next three to five weeks, and even this year, we believe most schools will be ready to greet students back to begin the new fall semester. This is not a typical fall semester. With the recent release of the Navigating Change document, school districts are comparing notes and preparing for the known and unknown. Instructional teams are reviewing new learning options, creating unique schedules, and preparing teachers for a more robust remote learning model.

Unfortunately, with rising numbers of COVID-19 cases, the looming question remains the same. Is this the best time to bring large gatherings of students and adults back together? Would schools be less susceptible to spreading the virus if we wait to open schools and allow the number of new cases to decline?

The Kansas School Superintendents Association (KSSA) supports the Governor's Executive Order to delay the start of school. Our schools can be ready to reopen, but at the same, we trust the Executive Order is a decision based on the statistics compiled and analyzed by trusted Kansas Health experts and not a decision driven by individual thought and rhetoric.

By supporting the Executive Order, KSSA believes this will provide additional time to prepare for the critical reopening of our schools and will allow for school districts to:

1. better train and prepare teachers/staff for a competency-based learning model or a possible return to remote learning;
2. gather community input for the successful integration back to school for all students;
3. make sure schools have all the required PPE equipment needed to begin the school year;
4. hire the additional staff needed to support transportation, cleaning, health services, and the daily operations of our schools; and
5. delay putting our most important resources back(our students) into large indoor meeting locations as the large parts of the state works to reduce the rampant spread of COVID-19.

G.A. Buie  
Executive Director  
Kansas Association of School Superintendents

Dear Board of Education,

My name is Harlee Tilley. I'm an 8<sup>th</sup> grader from Bucklin, ks. That's in Ford County. Ford County USED to have the ~~most~~ most coronavirus cases in the state. Not anymore. In fact our numbers are trending down. We stayed open. Think about that. Bucklin is a small town. We have a little over 800 people and have only had 5 cases since March. I don't think that masks are mandatory in small schools and I also don't think that pushing back school is very smart either. Now, I am just an 8<sup>th</sup> grade girl but I think my opinion matters too. Also, I don't think I learned jack squat during online learning. And I'm a 4.0 student. Anyway breathing in your own  $CO_2$  can't be much worse than the big C in some cases anyway. I know it's serious but if we don't get things back to normal soon we are gonnd have much worse problems on our hands.

Sincerely,

Harlee Tilley

**From:** Stephanie Kuhlmann <stephkuhlmann17@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 16, 2020 11:14 PM  
**To:** Kathy Busch <kbusch@ksde.org>  
**Subject:** Physician Support for Governor Kelly's EO

Chairman Busch,

I would like to encourage you to vote in support of Governor Kelly's executive order for delayed start to school. I am a local pediatrician (pediatric hospitalist) with KU Wichita Pediatrics and the Pediatric medical director at Wesley Children's Hospital. I have also initiated and am facilitating a regional collaborative group of physicians, school district nurses, and counselors/psychologists. Our group, Kansas COVID Workgroup for Kids, is a non political ad hoc collaboration with the mission to identify and address the needs of children and youth in our state as a result of the pandemic. We have offered school reopening guidance to KDSE and have been working with and advising many school administrators in Sedgwick County and other counties in the state as they work on their reopening plans.

As a Pediatrician and a mother of two daughters in the Andover district, I recognize the importance of school and its educational, mental, and social impacts for our children and youth. It is very important that we get our students back into the school setting as soon as we can. However, it is even more important that our students return to school in the safest manner and environment as possible. We must prioritize the safety of our students, the safety of our teachers and staff, and the safety of our families over any financial or political pressures. As there will certainly be challenges and many unknowns in the upcoming academic year, we must assure that our schools are prepared and equipped to be as successful as possible in the upcoming year.

My team has been meeting with school districts, reopening taskforces, and superintendents over the last couple of weeks. As I have been engaged in those meetings and conversations, it is evident that many schools are on a trajectory that will not allow them to be adequately prepared for reopening by a mid August start date. As schools have just received the 1000+ page Navigating Change document this week, that leaves only 4 to 5 weeks for many schools to create, adjust, and implement their reopening plans. It also leaves only a few weeks for training staff adequately, for obtaining the appropriate supplies and resources needed for risk mitigating processes and procedures, and for educators to build their onsite and remote lesson plans. We also do not have a robust community plan in place for the increased testing capacity that will be needed once schools open. Simply put, schools need a few more weeks to adequately prepare.

I am also very concerned in regards to the community spread within our own Sedgwick County. We have seen a rapid raise in the number of COVID cases and our percent positivity of testing in SC is now over 11%. This should correlate with a high risk zone within the education realm meaning that only remote education should be considered. In addition, our hospitalization rates for COVID have more than tripled since July 1<sup>st</sup>. If we continue on this trajectory without community changes to mitigate and reduce spread, we will likely exceed our capacity and resources within the hospital in the next couple of weeks. Our peak numbers would then likely coincide with the start of the academic year. While we are in agreement that young children do not seem to transmit and spread the SARS-coV-2 virus at the rate of adults, older children and teens are shown to transmit the virus. The increase burden and spread among students, faculty and staff, and families would likely overwhelm the system forcing us to use our scarce resource

plan where are physicians are forced to make decisions regarding who receives treatment and therapies and who is left to die.

Although I advocate for school reopening and getting children back into schools, I do agree with the decision that Governor Kelly has made to delay the start of schools. Our schools need more time to prepare to maximize their success and to ensure the safety our students, teachers, and staff. In addition, our community needs to see a steady decline rather than a sharp increase in the number of cases as we are seeing now. Regardless of your political views, please remember a medical pandemic is a public health issue and we must prioritize the health and safety of our students, teachers, and staff. I ask that you would please vote in favor of the executive order for delayed start to school.

Thank you for your time,

Stephanie Kuhlmann, DO, FAAP  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics  
Hospitalist Division Director  
KU Wichita Pediatrics  
Medical Director  
Wesley Children's Hospital  
550 N Hillside  
Wichita, KS 67214

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



***As a pediatrician and the parent of children in Wichita Public Schools, I support the decision to delay the reopening of Kansas schools and make the KSDE guidance mandatory for school reopening. Please work to approve Governor Kelly's executive order.***

*On-site learning is vital for academic achievement and the social and emotional wellbeing of children. In order to successfully return to on-site learning, we must work together to decrease viral transmission in our communities as well as set up safety measures to mitigate transmission within schools. Delaying school reopening until after Labor Day will allow public health officials to have a better understanding of the viral transmission in our state and also give schools time to prepare and implement measures that will improve student and staff safety.*

*The success of schools reopening will directly depend on the community prevalence of SARS-CoV-2. Currently, our state is experiencing increased cases, case rates and percent of positive tests for COVID-19. Opening schools at this time would be unwise. We are in the midst of a serious pandemic and the primary focus should be the safety and health of all students and staff. Furthermore, it is difficult to predict how the prevalence of COVID will change over the next few weeks. Our state is at a crucial time where we must work together to reduce the transmission of SARS-CoV-2. This means that all Kansans must limit non-essential public activities, wear masks in public places and practice good physical distancing and hand hygiene. Although these efforts have reduced viral prevalence in other communities, there has not been a consistent public effort to execute these recommendations in our state. It is likely that Kansas will continue to see increasing rates of COVID-19 in our communities.*

*So, in the midst of the rising cases and uncertainty about the trajectory of COVID-19 in our state, schools must develop and prepare for on-site learning while also developing hybrid and remote learning programs. They must maintain a focus on academic achievement while also supporting our state's students in other domains such as social and emotional wellbeing, essential therapies and mental health. The "Navigating Change: Kansas Guide to Learning and School Safety Operations" document released by the Kansas State Department of Education outlined important academic guidance and safety measures. **Parents, students, teachers and staff must feel protected and safe upon school reopening. The KSDE guidance should be mandatory to make school as safe as possible.** Schools have only recently received this guidance and will need extra time to obtain supplies and prepare for the start of the school year in order to implement these recommended operations effectively.*

*Kansas needs strong leadership that prioritizes safety during this ongoing public health emergency. Your collective decision will have a large impact on the health of our state. Delaying school reopening by just a few weeks will give us a much better understanding of our community burden and give schools more time to prepare. Making the KSDE guidance mandatory will greatly improve the safety of our schools. These decisions will help protect the health and lives of many Kansans.*

*Thank you for considering my recommendation. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions.*

*Paul Teran, MD  
Department of Pediatrics  
KU School of Medicine-Wichita  
pteran@kumc.edu  
316-204-3168 (cell)*



July 21, 2020

State Board of Education  
Kansas State Department of Education  
900 SW Jackson Street  
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear State Board Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on Kansas Governor Laura Kelly's proposed executive order to delay the start of the 2020 – 2021 school year.

The Kansas Chamber is a statewide organization that advocates on behalf of the Kansas business community. Its members are small, medium, and large employers located across the state and from all industry sectors.

The Chamber has heard from many chamber members concerned about this delay for multiple and valid reasons. Chief among their concerns are the negative impact keeping students out of the classroom for another three to four weeks will have on their education as well as the governor attempting to override the local control of school districts.

The Kansas State Department of Education and the state's school districts have spent the last several months working with staff, parents and local health officials on reopening plans that prioritize the safety and well-being of its students and staff as well as the students' educational needs.

Without a statewide order, local school districts still have the ability to make their own decisions on opening dates and methods of instruction. With the health impact of COVID-19 contrasting greatly across Kansas, it is clear one size does not fit all.

The Kansas Chamber and its members are confident the State School Board and local school districts are well prepared to decide when and how to safely begin the new school year. We ask you to act to keep oversight and control of our schools in the hands of the state's local school districts.

All the best,

Alan Cobb  
Kansas Chamber  
President & CEO

**From:** [Anthony Douglas](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School Opening  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 10:47:37 AM

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I am a parent and a teacher.

As a parent of a special needs child, she needs school. The material sent via online or hybrid has been very weak and she has taken steps back socially. The routine of a school and the rigor is what she needs. Even with two educators at home, it is not the same.

As a teacher, we need to go back to school. The line between the haves and have nots is only going to grow wider if we do not open the doors. Not everyone has a parent at home to help with education needs and most have to work. Not to mention meals, social and emotional needs to be met.

Please open our schools back up.

Anthony Douglas

**From:** [Pamela Charapata](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Delaying schools  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 10:58:02 AM

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Please do NOT delay opening schools. It is vital for the kids to continue live learning. If people don't want to send their kids to school, they can elect to keep them home. Working parents cannot keep their jobs and provide for their children if they have to stay home without pay to do the job teachers have been educated for and hired to do. If teachers are. It live teaching. There should be a large reduction or ceasing of their income.

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Kreisman, Rebecca G](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Dombrosky](#)  
**Cc:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Delay of 2020-2021 School Year - VOTE DOWN MANDATE  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:08:32 PM

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In response to the Governor's proposed order delaying school reopening statewide, I implore you to **vote the mandate down and allow each school district to make its own decisions for safely reopening schools**. Individual school districts are best suited to make educational decisions for the benefit of the students and families in the community including how to safely return to the classroom, and when. Delaying the start of the school year and sports/extra-curricular activities until after Labor Day across the board for all Kansas schools is not necessary and does not take into account various factors and circumstances in each individual district and community. My sons— incoming 10<sup>th</sup> grader at Blue Valley Northwest and incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Oxford Middle School—are desperate to return to class and activities as soon as possible. Distance learning did not go well for us and I worry that a delayed start to the school year and/or continuation of distance learning will be detrimental to their education and that of other students who need in-person interaction with teachers and peers.

Understandably some families are concerned with returning to in-person classes and are more comfortable with virtual classes. For those families, distance learning is the right option for them. But many other students—my children included—need to return to in-person classes as soon as possible. I firmly believe we are able to safely send students back to school and activities now with appropriate PPE, sanitation protocols and social distancing. I recognize the seriousness of the virus and the need to protect the teachers, students and community; however, the long term, detrimental impact to our children cannot be overlooked or diminished. Students are struggling. They need live instruction, interaction with peers, extra-curricular activities and a return to some semblance of normalcy. Parents are struggling. We are returning to the work place and need to know our children are safely in school and receiving appropriate instruction.

Please vote down the Governor's delayed start mandate and allow the school districts to determine how best to safely resume classes.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Rebecca G. Kreisman**  
Senior Counsel

**Midland Loan Services, a PNC Real Estate business**  
10851 Mastin, Suite 700, Building 82  
Overland Park, KS 66210  
(p) 913-253-9041 (f) 913-253-9709  
[rkreisman@pnc.com](mailto:rkreisman@pnc.com)

**From:** [Heather L. Smith \[LSH\]](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:03:33 PM

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Please delay the start of school until after Labor Day.  
Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** [firefighterfam5@att.net](mailto:firefighterfam5@att.net)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Opening KS schools  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 11:53:27 AM

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Thank you to all that have spent hours and days working on this situation.

Let us go forth with those that we work for in mind~ families that build our schools, fund our programs, and loan us their kids during the day to teach. It's a humbling thing when you think of it.

Essential workers: healthcare providers, firemen, grocery store clerks, trash service, and many more have done their job through this. We can too and do it in the buildings. We can and will follow guidelines. There will be cases. It will happen. That is happening. Just as the rest of the world is dealing with it, so will we.

Kids are at amusement parks, playing in ball tournaments, swimming at the lake, playing with their friends in their neighborhoods, going to church, skating at the roller rink... and then school won't be open? That doesn't match up. Sports are also a huge part of many students' lives- the physical and mental well being benefits are numerous, immunity boosting at its best.

Our special needs children, students living in poverty, children that live in trauma and crisis ~ they are most drastically affected by school being closed. I do live in a metro area that has more virus activity and know that we may have different guidelines than those in far southeast or northwest Kansas. Please let local areas address their needs and go forth with plans that serve their communities best.

Suzy Hartley

**From:** [Peggy Patch](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 11:47:37 AM

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For those of us who teach, please consider time for a safe reopening where both students and teachers can enter a classroom without fear. We are at war with a stealthy and silent enemy. Beginning school unprepared with a faculty that is afraid to return to the classroom, benefits no one.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Julia Sanders](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 11:46:47 AM

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Hello,

My name is Julia Sanders and I will be a first year teacher at Shawnee Heights Middle School this year. I am more than excited to be in an 8th grade ELA classroom and to begin my dream career of being a teacher. To provide you with some background about myself, I graduated with highest honors from Baker University this last May with a double major in History and Secondary Education as well as a minor in Psychology.

I understand that this Spring and Summer has made educators, administrators, parents, and students alike grapple with a more than challenging set of situations. Both my husband and I ended our senior year of college without a graduation or a celebration with our families. These set of circumstances aren't unique, however, I do not want to see them being the norm. I am a high-risk individual as I was born with only one of my lungs, thus making the possibility of contracting the virus extra problematic. However, I do not believe in living in fear and I am wanting to get into the classroom and teach kids in the most effective manner. I believe that continually postponing school is problematic for the students' social and emotional health, is hard on families, and keeps some students stuck in unsafe/unstable home environments. As I learned in my plethora of college classes, social and emotional health is incredibly important to adolescent development and that, as teachers, we are trained to work on their academic lives in addition to their social and emotional health. By using best pedagogical practices, we are able to conglomerate academic skills with social and emotional skills to provide a balanced learning environment for our students. By delaying school, though, students are not able to work on those ever-so-important social and emotional skills. Moreover, families need students back in school so that they are able to maintain their professional jobs. Many employers were extra gracious with the situation they were presented with last March, however, many parents are needing to return to work. Furthermore, parents are not classically trained teachers. Although many have the intense desire to help facilitate their children's learning, students learn best in an environment where a teacher is able to help them at every step of the way. Continually asking parents to step in and perform an educators job, is not an effective way for students to learn the content. Lastly, and most importantly, continually cancelling school could have detrimental effects on the students who are in challenging home situations. As educators, we all know that some of our students are in bad situations at home. Whether that be a food shortage, neglectful parents, or even abusive situations, not all students come from great households. As teachers, we recognize that every day in the traditional classroom. We form relationships with our kids to help them learn, be their advocate, and provide them with consistent structure. We continually take note of students who might be needing extra help- in whatever facet that may be- and we provide that for them. However, during the online portion of last year, I felt that many students were not getting the attention or advocacy they needed. Now, as we are faced with a delayment of school yet again, I feel that these students are again not getting the voice they deserve.

Please recognize that I am not intending to devalue the virus. I have a healthy respect for the impact it has had on Kansans as a whole, and my community as well. However, I do not believe that students effectively learn at home. I saw it at the end of my student teaching last semester, with only approximately 5-10 of my more than 100 students regularly completing

work and turning it in. Although I know educators were forced to pivot fast to a shocking set of circumstances, I do not believe that all students were granted an effective education in the last quarter of the 2019-2020 school year. It is our duty as educators, to provide Kansas kids with a competent education at the start of this year. Kids deserve advocates. Kids deserve teachers who will voice that they want to be with them in the classroom and will work to achieve that.

I understand that returning to school poses risks. Again, I am not undermining that. However, I feel that we can safely return to school with a set plan that all students and staff will follow. If you feel that returning to school right now poses too many risks, I will respect that. But, I do not feel that continually delaying school will be an effective solution to this seemingly ongoing problem.

Sincerely,  
Julia Sanders

**From:** [Linda Mitchell](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Postponing school  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 11:32:26 AM

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I hope and pray all of you on the Kansas State Board of Education will please consider postponing school.

Please support Gov. Kelly's executive order 20-58

Thank you

Linda Mitchell

Circleville, Ks.

Kansas State Board of Education  
900 SW Jackson St.  
Topeka, KS 66612

July 21, 2020

Greetings KSDE,

I understand that these times are full of anxiety and uncertainty for many Kansas families. Kansans want to get back to work and they need schools to be open to provide adequate childcare for their children. However, I find Covid-19 to be a far bigger threat to human life than unemployment or loss of childcare.

Research suggests that Covid is highly contagious and spread mainly through respiratory droplets produced from coughing, sneezing, or talking.<sup>1</sup> Recent evidence supports the possibility of transmission from persons who are asymptomatic.<sup>2</sup> On top of that, infected individuals can create microscopic aerosol droplets that remain airborne longer than normal droplets because of their small size (<5  $\mu\text{m}$ ).<sup>3</sup>

How do we, as educators, prevent the spread of a virus that is so highly contagious from individuals with little or no signs of being infected? The truth is that we can't. Opening up schools while this virus is still present in our communities exposes all teachers, staff, students, mothers, fathers, siblings, and other family members to infection.

I, like many other teachers, want to see my students again but only when it is safe for them, their families, and my family. Covid-19 has created a unique situation for us all and it will take diligence, sacrifices, and dedication from all Kansans to beat it. As an educator, I do not feel safe exposing myself or my students and their families to the risk of exposure to this deadly virus when we have the technology to continue their education remotely for a short time.

This school year will be different than all before it but I know that Kansans will adapt and continue to persevere through the difficulties. *Ad astra per aspera.*

Sincerely,

Katrina Martin  
Chemistry & Physics Teacher

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<sup>1</sup> Center for Disease Control and Prevention

<sup>2</sup> CDC Volume 26, Number 7-July 2020 ISSN: 1080-6059

<sup>3</sup> World Health Organization. Transmission of SARS-CoV-2: implications for infection prevention precautions



To whomever it may concern:

I am writing to share my concern with schools not opening on time this year. I am not a doctor, teacher, or scientist. However, I am a working mother, and a mother has a lot of titles. In my household my spouse and I both work full time. Where we live there are not many options for daycare, this provides a challenge when it comes to online learning for our kids or just delaying the start of school, as I am sure many other parents are faced with the same. Children need to start to school in August preferably in person. If they can not start face to face consideration for online education starting in August should be considered verses a delay.

School for many students is a safe haven. There are many children in our state and country that come from poor living conditions at home. School is where they get their only meals, where they are around adults that genuinely care for them and where they can just be a child. Not all children are blessed with a home where they receive good care and can be a child. Not all parents/care givers know how to teach when learning is done online at home. Have we truly weighed the pros and cons of not sending our children to school in August due to COVID? Have we thoroughly thought about the effects to the quality of their education if school is to be online? Yes, there are some parents who are comfortable with teaching their children through homeschooling or online programs, but it is not for everyone. The average American family cannot afford for one parent to take off work consistently or quit working to teach or help with online learning at home. Children deserve the best we can give them. When a child is in a classroom setting, they are learning more than reading and arithmetic, they are learning respect, self-control, social skills, organizational skills, and the list goes on. Interaction and socialization are important for everyone. If we are not to resume school in person till after Labor Day or later depending on the trend of cases what are we doing to our children? Is the virus as much of a threat to them as the consequences of not being in the classroom?

Are the numbers we are given related to COVID cases and deaths truthful and transparent? If they are is it really something that should cause us to change our way of living. Our bodies are created to pick up bacteria and viruses to help grow our immune systems. Is the "spike" in cases right now truly a bad thing? The process of herd immunity is not bullet proof and each person and their reactions to illness is different but it can't hurt. The natural flow of things will take place no matter what we do. We were made to get sick and our bodies to fight leading to the development of antibodies.

Masks should not be made mandatory as we the people should have the right to choose our health care for ourselves and our children. Vaccinations are not made mandatory and we have more proof that those work than wearing a mask. Yet we let people choose vaccinations whether it be for religious reasons or other personal beliefs. When you take away the right to choose one's form of health care measures you are leaning on a socialistic form of health care. We have many examples of socialism not working, Venezuela and Canada just to name a couple. This "pandemic" has similarities of others we have seen in the past and we made it through without shutting our schools and economy down. There will be people who get extremely ill and die but that to is the nature of life. As I write this letter and look at KDHE's COVID death count being 307 is that truly so concerning that we should not start school and harm our children's development in more ways than one? Not mention coming out with a blanket statement/plan is wrong. Not every district/county in Kansas faces the same issues. Some places have had extraordinarily little impact and case numbers have remained low.

Options and considerations should be thoroughly discussed before just making the decision to delay the start of school. If teachers are willing to teach face to face and parents are willing to allow their children to attend face to face why shouldn't you allow it? Could schools make an option of online

learning for those parents that do not wish for their children to attend face to face? As a full time, working mother who values the school system and my children's best interest I ask that you allow children to start school in August face to face. If you can not do that then at least let them begin their education online and on time. While making your decision please also keep in mind families that have custody agreements and people that can only take family vacations certain times of the year would be impacted if we had to make up the time on the tail end of the school year. Thank you for time and consideration.

Cassie Foster <liljomuss2010@gmail.com>

**Brenda M. Jordan**

**Michael Winter**

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July 21, 2020

Kansas Board of Education

900 SW Jackson Street

Topeka, KS 66612

Via email to publiccomment@ksde.org

RE: Kansas school children/education

Dear Board members:

I am writing to you as a parent of four (4) young adults who have been born and raised in the State of Kansas, which until recently, was a source of pride for all. Two of them are in colleges (K State and Wichita State) and one will be a senior and one an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, hopefully, attending the Riley County School District. All of our children are straight A and B students. In addition to raising these children on our farm near Riley Kansas, both my husband and I are sole proprietors, myself of my law office, my husband a construction business.

I provide the above glimpse of background in hopes you will understand, we are not who have to choose between work and care for our children. Our concern is the harm, loss of educational background and building that they are losing by not being in school, not socializing and not participating in activities. This is harming, not only our children, but children across the state educationally and mentally.

I am appalled at how the education of our children has been handled by the Governor of the State of Kansas. Yes, I am aware there is a virus spreading through the State and Country, but it is just that a virus. We have not closed the schools and harmed the education of our children in the past, for the cold virus, influenza, any other virus. And yes, the studies are showing that his virus is in line with those prior viruses.

I point that out, as I think it is ironic that the governor has suggested that the Board of Education, should put 'politics aside and make the best choice for the kids', when she is not doing that, she is making decisions based upon politics, and in some points, because she has been challenged.

There are significant studies, examples from other countries, showing that is rare for kids to transmit this virus. In countries were schools were opened, it did not, NOT, show the upswing that has been claimed will occur here. You can read the information about this factor at any of the following links to medical articles:

- [https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/07/200710100934.htm?fbclid=IwAR06YXD26CJMUDNuyLKBsy\\_vNljsU-Rilv35yNzhUeGOA0QaBuWGLMknWR0](https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/07/200710100934.htm?fbclid=IwAR06YXD26CJMUDNuyLKBsy_vNljsU-Rilv35yNzhUeGOA0QaBuWGLMknWR0)
- [https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-06-schools-evidence-kids-coronavirus.html?fbclid=IwAR2TfzsT0JCFiPHrPFF-U8U1zKek-A\\_e47hw9hcHtL24-75W\\_pyXFPrijU50](https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-06-schools-evidence-kids-coronavirus.html?fbclid=IwAR2TfzsT0JCFiPHrPFF-U8U1zKek-A_e47hw9hcHtL24-75W_pyXFPrijU50)

- [https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/covid-19-is-very-different-in-young-kids-versus-adults-67637?fbclid=IwAR29LI3AWI\\_tBb1aZ26ym6eA2Bm6ODYzofFnmAj8w3nLIGGuL\\_ovNvfU9qc](https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/covid-19-is-very-different-in-young-kids-versus-adults-67637?fbclid=IwAR29LI3AWI_tBb1aZ26ym6eA2Bm6ODYzofFnmAj8w3nLIGGuL_ovNvfU9qc)

If you don't want to consider the alternative countries, look at the reality here in Kansas. When the 'closure' of the state occurred, daycares remained open. Daycares, where you have very young children with little to no understanding of this virus and thus, ability to recognize for themselves that they need to distance, that they need to use hand sanitizer every hour, or whatever time frame you insert.

There has not been a report of any large number of children dying from the virus. Yes, there have been positive tests from children in the under 18 category; but we are not being bombarded with reports of 'clusters' from daycares. In fact, as of today, from the KDHE Coronavirus data, the number of children under 17 make up 8.5% of the cases, but none of the deaths are attributed to children. The closest age group is 25-34 years wherein there have been only 3 deaths, or 1.0%.

Ironically, Governor Kelly acknowledged that influence of co-morbidity on the death rate in her remarks on July 20, 2020. (Listen to the last 2 minutes of her press conference: 'The reason we don't see as many deaths among the young is that they don't have the co-morbidity situations, they do not have some underlying diseases that gets exacerbated by this.')

Yes, any death is too much, but when you start trying to assert the 'oh you want people to die' argument, you must look at comorbidity and concerns for accurate reporting of the cause of the death.

Thus, the science and information that has been compiled, when balanced against the needs of the children for education, socialization and activities, which all will aide them in their growth, physically and mentally, reopening the schools must occur.

Through the constitutional assignment of different roles to different entities, the people of Kansas have ensured that education of public school children is not entirely dependent upon political influence or the constant vigilance of voters. *Gannon v. State*, 298 Kan. 1107, 1108 (2014).

This comment by the Supreme Court seems very poignant as the parameters for doing so, that should be left to the local school officials. One size will not fit all of the school districts in the state. Mandating by the Governor of practical application of how kids are to be handled in school, is nothing but a political move; she was thwarted by most of the County Commissioners in the State on her mask mandate, so again, in a political posturing, she sets out the mandate of how schools are to handle the daily activities of the children.

There are just as many studies advising the harms of wearing masks by the healthy for prolonged periods of time. I find it ironic that none of the presentations ever consider those, or attempt to balance the two competing points of view. Forcing kids of any age, to wear a mask for 8 hours a day is ludicrous. There are reports of children collapsing and dying after being forced to wear a mask for an entire day. It is not health for a person to constantly be breathing in the expulsions from the body, which is what occurs when forced to wear a mask. And this does not even address the fact they are kids, they are going to be constantly touching them, after touching anything around them.

Additionally, it is counter productive as it depletes the ability to build a natural immunity. If you think there is not something to the point of allowing children (and adults) to build immunity, listen to the end of Governor Kelly's remarks at the press conference on July 20, 2020. Below is her exact statement before she promptly ended the conference and left:

'I can remember, very clearly, the first time I sent my kids to daycare, my husband and I spent years after that building immunity to all the stuff they brought home from school.'

She went on to assert that we do not know if there is immunity to this virus; but I would submit, immunity may be the very reason that the number of positives in kids is not higher in the other countries and studies. The reality of the situation, kids have been together, either in daycares, playing in their neighborhoods, or playing on the ball fields in areas that were reasonable enough to proceed with summer sports, swimming at local pools, and there have not been large spikes or designation of clusters. Thus, either young people are not as likely to catch and or transmit the virus, likely due to building an immunity.

The directive to close the schools, to harm the vast majority of kids in Kansas, is not to protect them, but once again a political ploy, power of the politicians, and to garner positive outlook for her by protecting others. This is not in the best interests of the children. Again, I am not proposing that we should be callous as to the others. However, each local school district can make arrangements and address the individual needs within their districts of students who may have underlying health issues, and or who have household members that do. The closure of the state allowed for redirection of processes, developed infrastructure for other means of learning; means have been identified and developed to allow for distance learning where it is necessary. It is not necessary for all, and the other harms- loss of socialization, loss of sports and activities, loss of in classroom learning, to the vast majority of students- does not justify the potential benefit to a few.

And that says nothing about the directive that they sanitize their hands at least once every hour. Wouldn't the more prudent directive be, 'if you are up from your desk, upon returning, you sanitize your hands.' Again, these type of minute details must be left to the local officials based upon the parameters that exist within their school district.

I am hopeful that you will look beyond the political rhetoric, look at all of the information, including the studies and information that supports the need for return to school, and allow the local school districts to implement the policies and protocols that are appropriate to their needs.

Sincerely,



Bar #16585

Attorney, mother and owner/operator of  
Triple Heartbreak Acres

**From:** [The Doel family](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School opening  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:48:53 PM

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The schools have had all summer to get ready and now want more time. They won't be any more ready after Labor day. No one is complaining about going to work as much as our teachers. We are hurting the children more by keeping them home especially underprivileged children.

I would vote to open up schools. Put the teachers in protective gear like a nurse and they should be as fine as everyone else that has to go to work. Thank you.

**From:** [lauriemartin@yahoo.com](mailto:lauriemartin@yahoo.com)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Delaying the start of public schools  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:30:52 PM

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Greetings,

Just wanted to add my voice on the issue of delaying the opening of public schools. I'm a retired teacher, but my four sisters and many of my friends are still teaching in public schools. I'm concerned about their safety and the safety of all their colleagues, and the safety of all the public school students.

Sometimes we have to make tough evidence-based decisions that go against what we want and wish, and maybe even go against what is popular in various counties in our state. Kansas is in the throes of a pandemic. We have to listen to the guidance and recommendations of experts in infectious disease. We turn to science and research. We learn from the leadership and experiences of other countries who have "flattened the curve" of Covid-19.

I urge you to step up to the moment and show true leadership.

Of course you should approve delaying the start of the school year.

Thank you for your work on the school board,

Sincerely,  
Laurie Martin-Frydman

**From:** [sfashcraft](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School delay  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 1:10:53 PM

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Please approve Govetnor Kelly's order. Labor day is soon enough to open schools.  
Give scools time to prepare.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S10, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone



**From:** [tjgoertzen@mtelco.net](mailto:tjgoertzen@mtelco.net)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** My opinion  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 1:07:22 PM

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I support Governor Kelly's plan to delay School opening until Labor Day. As a reasonable action.

Tim goertzen

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S8 Active, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

**From:** [Sue Wolf](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** It would be terribly unsafe to start schools before we have a deep slowdown of the virus  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:59:59 PM

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Sent from my iPhone

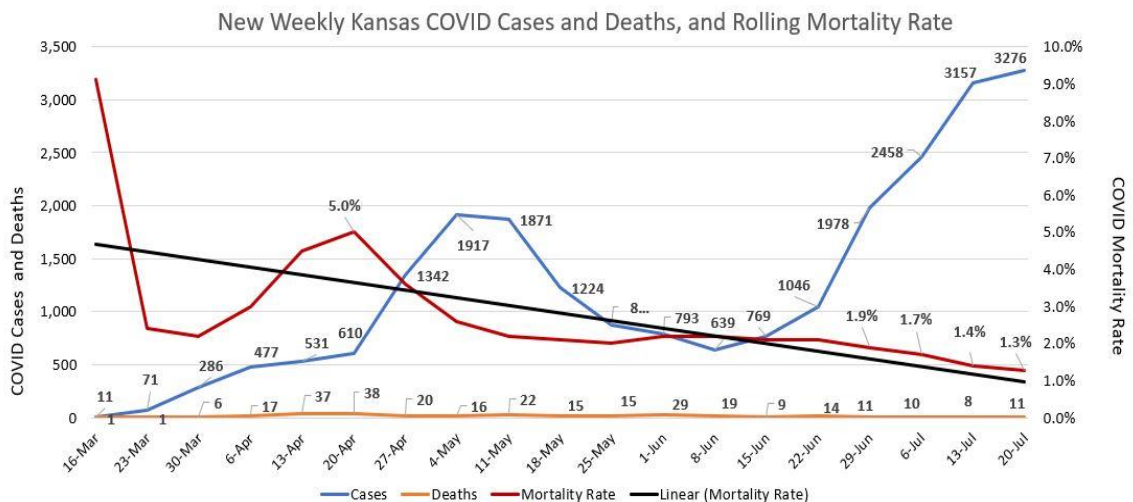
Public Comments on Consideration of Executive Order 20-58  
Dave Trabert, CEO  
July 21, 2020

Members of the Kansas State Board of Education,

We appreciate this opportunity to submit comments for your consideration of Executive Order 20-58, and there is ample evidence to justify your rejection of the order, including but limited to the following reasons:

1. The State Board of Education, not the governor, is constitutionally charged with the supervision of schools. While governors and their administrations do have a responsibility to protect public health, it's arguably an erosion of your constitutional authority for Governor Kelly to take the lead in ordering schools closed.
2. State Board members have often cited the importance of local control in the decision-making process, and affirming EO 20-58 runs contrary to your position on local control and the prerogatives of local boards of education.
3. EO 20-58 essentially moots the guidance provided from KSDE to local districts and undermines the steps already taken to ensure the health and safety of students, faculty, and state.
4. Governor Kelly's order says the Board must find that EO 20-58 is "in the best interests of the students in this state." How is it in students' best interest to be denied access to education? Students were already deprived of instruction time at the end of the Spring 2020 semester when Governor Kelly closed schools, and most districts offered less than a robust experience. A [report](#) from the Heritage Foundation says, "The Wichita, Kansas, school district is providing material that equates to about one hour of content per week to students in grades K-5, and about three hours per week for students in middle school."
5. The [Center for Reinventing Public Education](#) reports, "only one in three districts expect teachers to provide instruction, track student engagement, or monitor academic progress for all students, while schools were closed. A [national survey](#) of American parents found that 71 percent believed their children learned less than they would have had schools remained open. That survey also found that 40 percent of students had no individual interactions with teachers."
6. EO 20-58 is silent on whether the three weeks would be made up later in the year, and given Governor Kelly's history of shifting orders related to COVID, plus the uncertainty of the pandemic itself, it's possible that students may lose three more weeks of instruction if EO 20-58 is approved.
7. Multiple studies show students are at very low risk of contracting COVID and spreading it to adults.

- a. This [U.S. News & World Report article](#) cites a study of students in Germany, which found that students attending classes may not be much of a factor in spreading COVID. Germany began reopening schools in May, and the study by the University Hospital in Dresden analyzed blood samples from almost 1,500 children from 14 and 18 and 500 teachers from 13 schools in Dresden and the districts of Bautzen and Goerlitz in May and June. According to the story, “Of the almost 2,000 samples, only 12 had antibodies, said Reinhard Berner from the University Hospital of Dresden, adding the first results gave no evidence that school children play a role in spreading the virus particularly quickly.”
  - b. [National Public Radio](#) (NPR) reports that in an “unscientific survey of child care centers, Brown University economist Emily Oster found that, as of Tuesday afternoon, among 916 centers serving more than 20,000 children, just over 1% of staff and 0.16% of children were confirmed infected with the coronavirus.”
  - c. The [Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity](#) (FREOPP) says “children are at very low risk of serious illness or death from COVID-19. Indeed, children aged 5–14 are seven times more likely to die of influenza than of COVID-19. Children aged 1–4 are 20 times more likely to die of influenza.”
  - d. While the research shows students aren’t major spreaders, adults are able to protect themselves while working in schools, just as adults working in the private sector are doing.
8. Governor Kelly cites “a significant increase in (COVID) cases” in EO 20-58, which is true, but she neglects to tell you the good news – that that has not led to an increase in hospitalizations and deaths. The KDHE statewide COVID dashboard shows a total of 23,334 cases and 1,497 hospitalizations as of July 20, for a 6.4% hospitalization rate. That’s down from 7.3% as of July 6, and over the last two weeks, the hospitalization rate was 4.1% of new cases. There were almost 3,300 new cases reported last week by KDHE but only 11 new deaths; the mortality rate, of confirmed cases, continues to drop and is now at 1.3% overall. With nursing homes accounting for 59% of all death in Kansas but just 5% of the cases, the mortality of all other cases is at 0.6%.



Source: Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment

Twenty-two of the state's 105 counties reported no new cases last week. One county reported a decline in cases and 37 counties had five or fewer new cases.

### **Conclusion**

We encourage you to reject Executive Order 20-58 for the reasons stated herein, and thank you for your consideration.

**From:** [Karen Wiemers](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School opening  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:27:40 PM

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After speaking with my daughter I would like to support the opening of schools at their regular time. My grandchildren's is scheduled to open on August 13 And she states the school is prepared and ready to go.

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Heather Terranova](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Reject Governor Kelly's mandate  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 1:40:38 PM

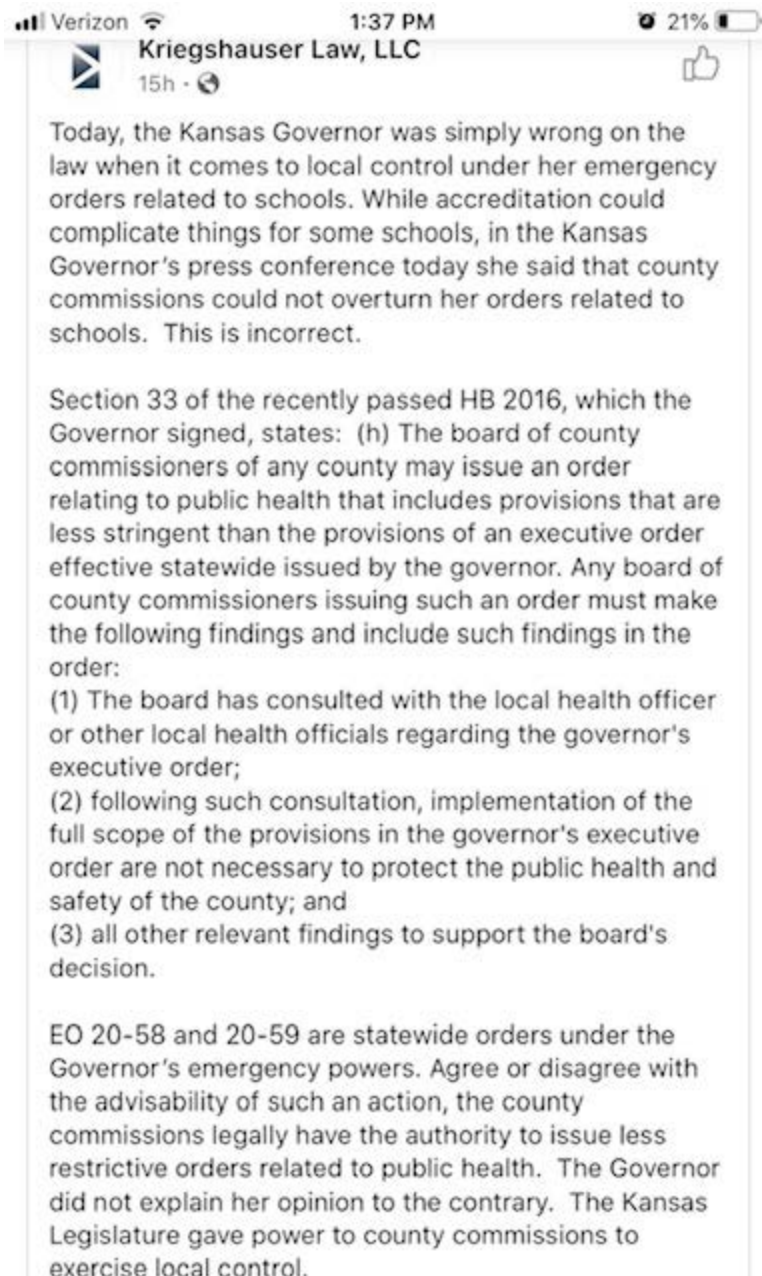
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Some more info to help you make the right decision for KS. Please reject Kelly's order!

Listen to the experts....

<https://www.facebook.com/116301515238863/posts/1485149238354077/?vh=e>

Or this one....



Heather  
Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 20, 2020, at 8:09 PM, Heather Terranova <[hterranova@kc.rr.com](mailto:hterranova@kc.rr.com)> wrote:

Dear Board Members,

Please do not let Governor Kelly dictate something she knows nothing about, our kids education. Kansas & our kids are NOT ONE SIZE FITS ALL! The Governor is making decisions based off her ego & flawed data. She is not taking into consideration what is in the best interests of our kids, their education, athletics & their mental health. She should NOT be dictating any of this, the Kansas Board of Education & the local counties should be. Please vote to reject her orders.

Our kids need in person instruction, especially those that have special needs like our daughter. Additionally, the Olathe School Districts virtual learning was an absolute joke this spring. There was little to no education or instruction involved. The teachers were not involved in either of my kids, aside from a once a week 30 min zoom call, which was a complete debacle. The kids were not held accountable in any way, so as a parent it was virtually impossible to enforce what the school could care less about. This is why it's critical that the teachers be required to actually teach, in person, because it's what best for the kids. Decisions need to be based off of valid data & no more of these fear driven decisions. Our youth depends on it & their mental health depends on it! They depend on you!

I respectfully request we work with you to ensure a safe school environment that accomplishes both of the following:

- Safe School opening following the Board of Education Return to School Plan
- No delay to student participation in school, athletics, and activities.

I am one of the over 6,000 people who have signed the #HelpThemPlayKansas petition supporting all #Kansas High School Students who voluntarily choose to engage in 2020 sports and activities this fall without delay. We all are thankful for the leadership you have provided in leading through the Covid-19 pandemic and know that you have our support.

<image1.jpeg>

<image2.png>

Thank you for your service & looking out for our kids,

Heather & Mark Terranova  
2 kids in Olathe SD



**From:** [Linda Lawrence](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School delay  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:22:58 PM

---

Please accept the governor's mandate to open schools after Labor Day.

Linda Lawrence  
Retired School psychologist

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jordan Wells](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Delay/possible cancellation of high school athletics  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:21:38 PM

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Please consider the extreme disappointment at which the decision of delaying or even canceling high school athletics would cause. High school athletics are a huge part of any high school experience, life time memories are created as well as strong friendships and bonds with coaches and other staff. Not only do athletics provide us with a more positive high school experience. For many minorities, such as myself they are the only reason we continue to attend high school.

Sincerely,  
Jordan Wells

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Linda Lawrence](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School delay  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:22:58 PM

---

Please accept the governor's mandate to open schools after Labor Day.

Linda Lawrence  
Retired School psychologist

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Blane Reeves](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School's Reopening  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:48:10 PM

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Dear Kansas School Board Members,

I am writing today as a parent of a Shawnee Mission School student. I wanted to express my support for Governor Kelly and her plan to delay school reopening until after Labor Day. My support for this plan is based on the current COVID-19 increase in our state and also the unknown consequences that opening our schools would have on our students and staff.

Thank you for work with this very important matter.

Blane Reeves  
Father of Shawnee Mission School Student.

**From:** [Ira Sehl-Anderson](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Requesting Approval of Executive Order #20-58 & #20-59  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:50:02 PM

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I am emailing to show support of the Executive Orders in the subject line. Ms. Clifford, you oversee our district and I see that your home is in Finney County. A county that has been greatly impacted by Covid-19. Our household resides in Ness County where we have had only 5 confirmed cases thus far and I say this hesitantly as our residents continue to gather and gear up for events in which outside counties who have seen a spike in cases will be welcomed to our town, all while having opted out of the mask mandate just before the 4th of July weekend. All it takes is one asymptomatic and or presymptomatic child or adult to unknowingly cause a major spread within the school and within our small community. Kansas has made national headlines; a Kansas farmer sending his last N95 mask to Governor Cuomo at the start of this pandemic and most recently a post requesting prays for Logan, Kansas just four months later because so many in our state refuse to push the pause button..2020 has been a year for the books and with it being half way over now is the time to gather the reins and bring this pandemic to a halt, but this will not and cannot happen if our counties or the KSBOE provide a loop hole to local school districts to make their own rules. That offer has been made and here we are as cases in our state continue to rise. It is time that those leading the way look at the elementary science involved, step down from their political high horse and do the right thing! Just before our last holiday weekend our Governor issued a mask mandate, in which counties like yours, Ford, Hodgemen, Ellis, and my own county elected to Opt Out. We now watch as our numbers increase across the state when a simple measure could have helped keep our fellow citizens safe and send our numbers trending downward. Scary enough, is the fact that some counties out East have postponed their celebrations and are expecting to hold them during the Labor Day Holiday, just before school is to resume! Just like the Governor said in her announcement on Monday a Kansas family will spend a great number of days fighting off viruses which are quickly and easily spread within the confounds of a school. This year has already been one for the books, and I can only imagine the amount of weight on your shoulders but believe that it is best to be proactive in our approach and cautions. I again respectfully request that you cast your vote of approval for Governor Kelly's Executive Orders by prolonging the start of school and enforcing use of mask for all those entering the school above the age of 5 to prevent further spread of Covid-19. It is obvious that some residents have zero desire to social distance and the parade must go on for them and with that comes the need to strictly re-enforce these orders to ensure that our school year, once started is not interrupted again. Please keep the following statements in mind when casting your vote tomorrow.

Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it ~ George Santayana.

The definition of insanity is doing to same thing over and over again, but expecting different results ~ Albert Einstein

Stay well and stay safe,

Ira Sehl-Anderson  
Ness County, Kansas

**From:** [Robin Crismas](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Opening  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:02:36 PM

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As an older teacher with asthma, I am concerned about opening too soon. I have had a lot of loss in my family lately and just concerned. I work with older teachers too and I have heard their concerns too. We are exposed to so many illnesses from children and please don't add this to our list.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Kathy](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Schools in Kansas  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:14:32 PM

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Having worked in a public school for many years, I have seen how illness can quickly spread throughout the building and sicken children, teachers, support staff and even volunteers. The health and safety of all involved is why I fully support waiting to start the school year until after Labor Day. Please, do the right thing.

Kathy Young  
1610 Culen  
Wichita, Ks 67201  
316-686-6263

**From:** [Jason](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:21:58 PM

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Kids do not need to be masked ! They need to go back to school as normal as they did last year!!

*Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE DROID*



**From:** [Lisa Sharpes](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Delay school.  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:33:36 PM

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I am sending this email to encourage you and others to uphold Governor Kelly's recommendations to delay the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

I am a parent who wants to see her children in school in person-but not at the risk of their safety or teachers and staff safety. At the point when our case numbers start trending downwards instead of steadily increasing is when we should be having discussions about opening schools. Not doing it because the calendar says it's time to start.

I am asking with much encouragement to help keep myself and my family safe by upholding Gov. Kelly's recommendation to delay school until after Labor Day.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Sharpes  
Overland Park, KS  
Blue Valley School District Parent

**From:** [Stramel Law Firm, P.A.](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Executive Order 20-58  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:28:14 PM

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I'm growing more and more frustrated with the rampant abuse of power exercised by our governor under the guise of an emergency. What's more frustrating is the lack of education our kids received during the fourth quarter of last school year (during the shutdown). It was an absolute joke. Now, we're looking at more of the same this fall? Please don't make our kids suffer. They need a good, in-person education. They need social interaction. They need sports and other activities. The lack thereof is hindering their development.

I want to offer one other thought from a legal perspective. I have a front row seat to what the shutdown is doing to our families. My office has been flooded with people wanting divorces. Kids are suffering physically. Abuse calls are skyrocketing. PLEASE open our schools. As for mask requirements, every school and community is different. Please allow them to do what's best for their local kids and local school.

Stramel Law Firm, P.A.  
Todd R. Stramel  
480 N. Franklin Ave.; P.O. Box 46  
Colby, KS 67701  
Phone: (785) 460-3222  
Fax: (785) 460-3221  
[stramel.law@gmail.com](mailto:stramel.law@gmail.com)

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**From:** [Ryan Kohlmeier](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** School Opening  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:26:12 PM

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To who it may concern,

My name is Dr. Ryan Kohlmeier. My wife, Tyla, and I live in Emporia, KS. We have 3 very active children, ages 18, 15 & 8. First, let me say we are very appreciative of all the time everyone is putting into the decisions concerning our children's educational futures. We have been praying for wisdom and discernment for everyone involved!

Our family has been wearing masks and using other common sense practices throughout this pandemic, and will continue to do so...as to do our part in reducing the spread. However, we do not feel keeping our children in a bubble or out of school is in their best health interest. We believe they need to have structure, accountability, peer & teacher interaction, and activities...which all give them a sense of purpose and motivation. These past few months have been very hard on everyone, but especially young people's lives. Our family, thankfully, is very stable, yet I still see mental health issues arising in my teenagers...I CANNOT imagine what it must be like for those living in less than desirable conditions. Not to mention, all the unhealthy things they are finding to do to fill their time when left unsupervised for hours everyday.

To keep this short enough that hopefully someone will take the time to read this, I won't go into any of the scientific detail, but please listen to all the doctors saying that the health risks for kids to be out of school actually far out weigh the risk of being in school. Scared voices seem to be the loudest right now.

Please allow our kids back in school!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Ryan & Tyla Kohlmeier

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Angela Piperidou](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 4:09:55 PM

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If you are going to delay the start of school, please exempt the small private schools like the Lawrence School of Love that has less than 10 students per class.  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Todd Horsch](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Leave health decisions to the local elected school boards  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:19:20 PM

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Every school district is facing a different situation. There are counties with little-to-no spread and no deaths over a five-month period. There is no reason for a state-wide mandate for very localized issues. Vote to ignore or reject the Kansas Governor's executive order to delay the start of school.

Todd Horsch  
Renwick USD267

**From:** [Andrea Blundell](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Executive Order 20-58 (Delaying the 20-21 K-12 School Year) Public Comment  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:47:36 PM

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We live in the Cheney school district (District 10 & 8), and we support delaying the start of the 20-21 school year. We are a smaller district, but most of the teachers we spoke to were relieved at the prospect of having more time to plan, and plan well, for the upcoming year.

Thank you for your time,  
Andrea Blundell  
Cheney, KS

**From:** [Amy Garland](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** get back to normal life in every aspect of life  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 1:29:15 PM

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This is just one video among many that gives a voice to the science against wearing masks. The actual scientific studies of which they are discussing can be accessed through the comments as they explain.

It seems that only "science" which is in line with mask wearing is given a voice in the public forum. It also seems to me that all of the "science" that recommends the use of masks has only come since the outbreak of Covid-19.

<https://youtu.be/C1ODBTdNiG0>

Hope those on the board will watch this and investigate true science

Thank you,  
Amy Garland

Jamie & Missy Amlong  
11887 US Hwy 36  
Norton, KS 67654

July 21, 2020

Dear Board of Education Members:

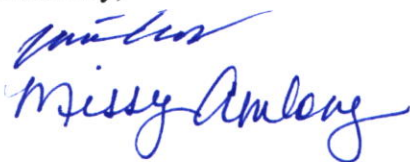
We are writing to you as concerned citizens, taxpayers, and parents regarding Governor Kelly's proposed mandates and executive orders, both regarding postponing the 20-21 school year and the requirement for all students to wear masks. It is our hope that you will not take the implications of removing these decisions from the individual districts lightly.

Kansas is diverse and has both large metro areas and sparsely populated rural communities. Personally, we have lived in both but currently reside in a smaller rural community. Our livelihood and day to day life is a far cry from that of someone that lives in a larger metro area in Kansas. Past decisions by Governor Kelly forced adherence to a one-size fits all mentality for months when there was little to no COVID-19 in our area. With these executive orders she is once again trying to place all locales on the same plane when that is so very far from reality.

Our children have already suffered greatly because of these past decisions and there appears to be no end in sight. We should have the right to allow our local districts to make decisions about what is best for the children in our area as opposed to someone sitting in the state capital or in a conference room hundreds of miles away that has no idea of what life is like in our district. Many of our classrooms rarely have more than 15 children in a room. These are not large classrooms like you would find at places like Wichita East. Under the proposed executive order it's possible students in our community would have to be in school into the month of June, which presents a hardship for many farm families. These are just some of the things that need to be taken into consideration in each district. Allowing the Governor to take away autonomy is setting a very dangerous precedence and makes it clear that local elected boards are not deemed intelligent enough to do what they were elected to do.

In addition, despite Governor Kelly's press conference saying that she has full control over the mask mandate we keep getting told by members of both the Kansas House of Representatives and the Kansas Senate that it is a decision by you, the members of the Kansas State Board of Education. Again, we beg of you to consider the risks involved with such a mandate and do what is necessary to allow local districts, along with local health authorities, to determine what is best for the members of our own districts. We thank you for your attention to this matter and feel confident you will not allow our children to continue to become political pawns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Missy Amlong". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jamie & Missy Amlong  
Concerned parents and taxpayers

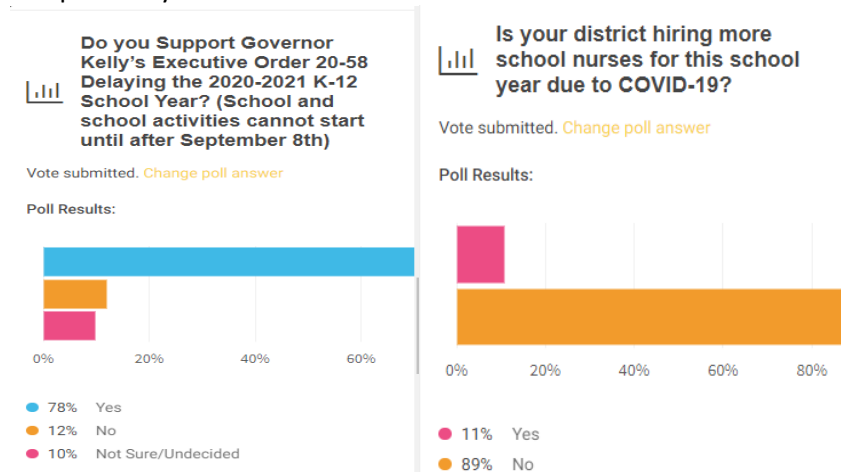


July 21, 2020

Dear Kansas State Board of Education Members:

**The Kansas School Nurses Organization supports the decision to delay reopening of Kansas schools and recommend that the Kansas State Board of Education approve Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-58 "Delaying the 2020-2021 K-12 School Year."**

We are currently in the middle of our annual Kansas School Nurse Conference. This year, the conference is being held virtually with 500 Kansas School Nurses in attendance. *As of our last state school nurse survey conducted in 2017-2018 school year, there were 822 RNs and 83 LPNs in Kansas schools.* During our opening keynote presentation this morning, we conducted a poll with two questions with an opportunity for all attendees to respond to. See below for the results of the poll questions as of 12:30pm today:



**Based on the responses above, Kansas School Nurses strongly support the order to delay the start of school in Kansas.**

Your leadership as the members of the Kansas Board of Education in voting on the delay of school opening this year could save or jeopardize the lives of many people. Please allow yourselves, school personnel, health officials, and citizens, the grace of an additional few weeks to enable schools to determine more clearly what decisions must be made, obtain necessary supplies and develop protocols for a healthy and safe return to school for students and staff.

As you know, not every school employs a school nurse. The second question on our poll indicates that the majority of school districts are not hiring additional nurses for this school year. As members of the Kansas School Nurses Organization, we strongly urge the State of Kansas to re-allocate funds for the position of a **"State School Nurse Consultant."** This position would serve as a source of medical expertise for school districts and other community organizations, to guide and assist them in decisions related to school health.

Thank you for your consideration of our recommendation to support Executive Order 20-58 "Delaying the 2020-2021 K-12 school year."

Sincerely, ~

Kimber Kasitz, BSN, RN, NCSN  
KSNO President



From: [Jim Washington](#)  
To: [Public Comment](#)  
Cc: [jwashington@ksde.com](#); [mramath@gmail.com](#); [Michelle.Dombrosky](#); [Ann.Maly](#); [Ajan.Cafford](#); [dcora@worklink.net](#); [Ben.Jones](#); [Kathy.Baich](#); [Jim.Porter](#); [rcorral@yahoo.com](#)  
Subject: [Open our Schools ON TIME](#)  
Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 4:22:27 PM

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Members of the State Board of Education:

It falls to you individually and as a constituted board which has the responsibility for K-12 Education in the State of Kansas to determine when and how schools in Kansas shall reopen. Because this is a geographically large state with a small population and that population is obviously not distributed evenly across our state – your job should be to provide resources and guidance to the school boards of each of the Unified School Districts so that they can make reopening and mitigation decisions based on the conditions in their individual local communities. In most cases that decision will be to reopen on the traditional dates with mitigation measures appropriate to the experience in that community.

We must reopen our schools because the effective loss of a second or third semester of education will put our schools nationally as well as in Kansas even lower against our World competition that they have already fallen to. A half century ago US schools were rated number one in the World. We have since fallen to 24<sup>th</sup> in Science and Reading and 39<sup>th</sup> in Mathematics as reported by Pew Research. (Not a right wing organization by any measure.) <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/02/15/u-s-students-internationally-math-science/>

Of the OECD countries rating above us ALL have reopened their primary and secondary schools – or in several cases never closed them to begin with. (Singapore, Sweden, Taiwan among several.)

In exploring the health risk to children all the data show that the risk of SARS-CoV-2 to healthy children is near non-existent. The risk is only slightly higher for uncompromised teachers and staff less than 60 years old. There have been a number of early studies indicating that the secondary impacts on children in being away from the routine and social interaction of schools does damage that will continue to manifest well beyond the immediate.

The argument for local decision making is strong particularly in my count. Leavenworth County Health Dept has continuously improved their COVID dashboard. Yesterday's report (3 days including the weekend) shows a total of 14 infections in people under the age of 18 during the entire 5 months. We don't know how those are spread among the 5 school districts but it certainly seems that reopening schools will not present a substantial increase in risk to the kids or community. <https://www.leavenworthcounty.gov/covid/default.asp>

The benefits of reopening on schedule both social and economic are enormous. The closure of schools so precipitously and the projected delay in their reopening are having huge individual economic impact on families because of the loss of second income for so many people. Families have had to find somehow to provide care for the kids who would have been in school.

The State School Board should turn this over to the USD boards with the recommendation that they work to open on time and as fully as possible while taking mitigation measures appropriate to their individual location and data.

I hesitate to include this last reference because it comes from the University of Washington whose faulty models drove overreaction to this pandemic but here is the compendium of what other countries have done to reopen their schools. <https://globalhealth.washington.edu/sites/default/files/COVID-19%20Schools%20Summary%20%282%29.pdf>  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/345678901/figure/fig1/figure-pdf/5e60721c1c141b82704011mTxdGw3Mk5nTnpmaUoyMG12UXwVW7B0E5GvjybhA5aStrbzj3MjUxanxamZlmllocmp5bXZVFBvQVHYUJlaTGx0BnpsMxm0EIXSVJqaDjzZ0RlUJBOvZ7ZSj9mkt\\_tokseyjpljltk3reESXWxI0RFF3TXvNecGslndQJlJbVNOTTYvSe0VzK1cHVBZVWqWnFGVmr1UEJx8Gdop01mTxdGw3Mk5nTnpmaUoyMG12UXwVW7B0E5GvjybhA5aStrbzj3MjUxanxamZlmllocmp5bXZVFBvQVHYUJlaTGx0BnpsMxm0EIXSVJqaDjzZ0RlUJBOvZ7ZSj9](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/345678901/figure/fig1/figure-pdf/5e60721c1c141b82704011mTxdGw3Mk5nTnpmaUoyMG12UXwVW7B0E5GvjybhA5aStrbzj3MjUxanxamZlmllocmp5bXZVFBvQVHYUJlaTGx0BnpsMxm0EIXSVJqaDjzZ0RlUJBOvZ7ZSj9mkt_tokseyjpljltk3reESXWxI0RFF3TXvNecGslndQJlJbVNOTTYvSe0VzK1cHVBZVWqWnFGVmr1UEJx8Gdop01mTxdGw3Mk5nTnpmaUoyMG12UXwVW7B0E5GvjybhA5aStrbzj3MjUxanxamZlmllocmp5bXZVFBvQVHYUJlaTGx0BnpsMxm0EIXSVJqaDjzZ0RlUJBOvZ7ZSj9)

Sincerely,

Jim Washington  
1901 160<sup>th</sup> Street  
Basehor, KS 66007  
913-620-2001

**Subject:** FW: Re-opening of Kansas Schools  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:29:53 PM

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**From:** Guerins <guerins5010@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:23 PM  
**To:** Peggy L. Hill <plhill@ksde.org>; roberts@ksde.org; Michelle Dombrosky <MDombrosky@ksde.org>  
**Subject:** Re-opening of Kansas Schools

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of KSDE. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

I understand that there is a meeting at 10 AM tomorrow July 23rd, to decide whether to keep school facilities closed until after Labor Day. I tried to download a form to submit a commit, but the form would not open. Please submit or bring my thoughts forward.

As a former teacher, I know how much we interact with the children. Especially in elementary schools, hugs and hand-holding occur, and it will be challenging to have a no-touch environment. Going back to school will put all students, teachers, administration, and their families at increase risk of spreading the COVID19 virus. I strongly support delaying the opening of schools for the 2020-2021 school year. When schools do open, please have virtual learning as an option. If all children could stay home and learn in an adult-supervised healthy environment, I would encourage all students to stay home. The reality that I sympathize with is that some parents have to work outside of the home, and need their children to have a safe learning environment. By allowing parents to keep their children home, there should be a smaller turn out in the classroom. This will allow for greater social distancing.

When schools open, I suggest that all classes are virtual for the first week to teach the importance of safety measures. Such as wearing masks and/or face shields and hand washing. To learn hand gestures that can signify physical gestures. Arms crisscrossed across the chest to represent the gesture of a hug, quiet signals, and general safety. Whatever can be taught virtual, even meeting their classmates virtually. Please have a supply of masks, gloves, and face shields available for all who enter our schools. (Students, Teachers, Administrators, Parents, and any other visitors)

Bottom-line, keep children home as much as possible. They will catch-up. One more school year of staying home would be best where possible, especially until there is a vaccine.

Thank you for your time

Best regards,  
Paula Guerin 7917 Halsey St. Lenexa, KS 66215  
Direct 816-260-1581

July 21, 2020

Dear School Board Members,

I am urging you to reconsider the mandate to keep schools closed until after Labor Day. Our students have suffered enough due to the draconian lockdowns, and it's time we use some common sense.

First, let's look at the science. Covid 19 has a death rate of .26%. This is on par with the flu, and we never closed schools due to the flu.

Second, children are not affected by Covid. Studies from around the world conclude that the majority of people who suffer complications from Covid are elderly people over 75 years of age with 2 or more comorbidities. There is also no evidence to back up the claim that children are spreaders of Covid 19. Here is a quote from the WHO:

"From the data we have, it still seems to be rare that an asymptomatic person actually transmits onward to a secondary individual," Dr. Maria Van Kerkhove, head of WHO's emerging diseases and zoonosis unit, said at a news briefing from the United Nations agency's Geneva headquarters. "It's very rare."

There have been zero deaths in KS in the school aged kids. The youngest death in KS was 29 years old.

If you want to mandate something to improve health, then mandate fresh fruits and veggies for lunch, and extra recess time for physical activity. You cannot go wrong with real food and exercise! Remove junk food from the vending machines and make sure teachers have adequate paid sick time so when they or a family member falls ill, they can stay home.

I also suggest we teach immunology in science classes. The narrative that we can hide from mother nature in our homes is nonsense and shows a clear lack of understanding of the body.

Perhaps it is also time to debate the Germ Theory and The Terrain Theory in our schools.

We already have a common sense procedure in place at schools: a child is not to come to school if he/she has a fever. Simple and logical.

The media keeps reporting that cases are increasing. Let's keep in mind that the death rates are NOT increasing, but holding steady or even decreasing, despite the pumped up numbers since doctors are told to label a death due to COVID, even in the absence of a test. If a person dies in a car crash, but had COVID, their death is marked as a COVID death.

Second, the inaccuracy of the tests is widespread. Over 100 COVID-19 diagnostic tests have received FDA emergency use authorization to fast-track them and bring them to market. That means ZERO COVID tests have gone through the full approval process to bring a test to market, which would normally take years. Under section 564 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act), the FDA Commissioner may allow unapproved medical products or unapproved uses of approved medical products to be used in an emergency to diagnose, treat, or prevent serious or life-threatening diseases or conditions caused by CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear) threat agents when there are no adequate, approved, and available alternatives.

The president of Tanzania, John Magufuli questioned the tests' accuracy. After receiving test kits, he sent in samples from a goat, a pawpaw fruit, and other non-human samples. Fake names were put on the samples, and all tests were returned **positive**.

As an educational institution, I urge you to seek out many voices in the scientific world when making decisions. We must all remember what happened when the entire world relied on modeling from Neil Ferguson from the Imperial College of London. He is the historically failed computer modeler, who threw darts at

a board, and launched a prediction of 500,000 COVID deaths in the UK and two million in the US, and thereby convinced both governments to opt for extreme lockdowns. He refused to share the code he used to obtain those results, until he resigned. Scientists from around the world have denounced his modeling as absurdity! The lesson we can learn is that listening to one voice is dangerous, and irresponsible when making decisions that impact thousands of families across the state of Kansas.

Kids have already missed so much school since they closed in March when Covid 19 was still a mystery. Now, however we know much more. We know it has a .26% death rate and does not adversely affect healthy children. Therefore, if we delay the opening of schools I will be asking the school board to provide the reasoning behind this. It is not acceptable for an educational institution to simply follow orders that are not based on science. I will also ask to be shown the "Model" that showed the reason for schools to be opened after Labor Day rather than in August.

I also urge you to thoroughly study the efficacy of masks. A recent meta-analysis of scientific literature, including 11 randomized, controlled trials and 10 observational studies, found that there was no clear clinical or laboratory-confirmed evidence that masks prevent infection.[2] <https://www.qeios.com/read/1SC5L4>

To the contrary, the study warned that facemasks "...may even increase transmission if they act as fomites [objects or materials that are likely to carry infection] or prompt other behaviours that transmit the virus such as face touching."

This echoes World Health Organization (WHO) guidance published on January 29, 2020 entitled, "Advice on the use of masks in the community, during home care and in healthcare settings in the context of the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak." [3] <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/330987>

In it, the WHO says, "Wearing medical masks when not indicated may cause unnecessary cost, procurement burden and create a false sense of security that can lead to neglecting other essential

measures such as hand hygiene practices.” Furthermore, the January 2020 WHO guidance stated that “Cloth (e.g., cotton or gauze) masks are not recommended under any circumstance.”

Cloth masks have been found to be particularly problematic.[4] A British Medical Journal (BMJ) study published in April 2020 cautions against the use of cloth masks, citing “Moisture retention, reuse of cloth masks and poor filtration may result in increased risk of infection.”[5] [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4420971/#\\_ffn\\_sectitle](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4420971/#_ffn_sectitle) The WHO affirms increased infection risk with cloth masks in its latest June 5, 2020 guidance.[6] [https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-\(2019-ncov\)-outbreak](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)-outbreak) It based its guidance on an earlier BMJ study that found the penetration of particles to be 97% in the cloth mask group, with significantly higher rates of infection and influenza-like illness.[7] [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4420971/#\\_ffn\\_sectitle](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4420971/#_ffn_sectitle)

A study on the CDC website that reviewed 10 different randomized clinical trials worldwide on highly infectious respiratory virus transmission found “no significant reduction” in “transmission with the use of face masks.”[8] [https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/5/19-0994\\_article](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/5/19-0994_article)

Thank you for your consideration,

Kathryn Andries