

Date: January 10, 2021

To: McMinnville School District Board

From: Neal and Barbara Wyse

We have grandchildren attending McMinnville Schools. Two of them are in elementary school (kindergarten and third grade). During this school year we have been helping every day with distance learning. Currently, this puts us at a moderately increased risk of COVID-19 exposure though we do try to wear masks consistently.

I know that there have been several approaches considered in the past for reopening schools. One of them would be a hybrid approach where children have in person classes part of the time and the remainder of class time is distance learning. This would be the worst choice for our grandchildren and ourselves. We are mid-60's but just under 65 so would not be in line for a vaccine soon. If our grandchildren are attending in person class part of the time and distance learning part of the time, the chances that they could bring COVID-19 home increases. If we were to continue to assist with distance learning, our risk increases greatly to the point that we would not be able to assist with this. The ability for the kindergartener and third grader to effectively participate from home would be greatly impacted.

So, we would hope that if a hybrid approach is adopted that there would be an option to continue full time distance learning.

Handwritten signatures of Neal Wyse and Barbara Wyse in cursive script.

Neal and Barbara Wyse