

From: [Deidre Blanton](#)
To: [SPCSA Public Comment](#)
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT - SPCSA Board Meeting August 14th
Date: Friday, August 14, 2020 8:22:24 AM

We are a founding family at DANN with students who are thriving and have benefitted so much from their school and we desperately want to be back in school on the safe plan our amazing leaders have spent countless hours researching and creating. The SPCSA's recommendation that "reopening our school buildings for in-person instruction should be a top priority" is spot on has been met by our school's leadership which has prepared a safe, detailed, and comprehensive hybrid reopening plan that was written with the advice from Northern Nevada's only pediatric hospital, Renown. DANN's plan encompasses every effort to protect the health and safety of our school while also meeting the need instilled in our children to be back in school physically.

One of the main core values we love at DANN is the whole-child approach which encompasses social-emotional wellness of our children, which cannot be ignored when considering the health of our reopening plan. Our children need to be back in school with their teachers and peers to fulfil this inherent need and it can be done safely.

Our Governor has given each district ownership of their reopening plan and the SPCSA's guidance recommendation strips us of this autonomy. Our charter school should not be discriminated against and we should have the same option to reopen under the plan created by the leaders who know our school community's needs the best. Washoe County School District has opted for school to return full-time in-person learning. If the SPCSA approves this recommendation we will have no choice but to return via distant learning which will force many families to leave the school they love and return to their zoned schools due to the inability to afford full-time tutors, nannies, etc. We have already lost 15% of our students due to our plants to not return full-time; if we are forced to return to full distant learning this will hurt not only our children, but our school in many ways especially financially.

Our youngest generation has sacrificed so much during this pandemic and the toll this is taking on our children cannot be ignored! Please allow our children their right to a safe, in-person, whole-child education that they so desperately need. Our school's personal leadership team knows the needs of our school community and has prepared a thorough plan to fit those needs. Please trust them in this decision.

Sincerely,

Deidre Blanton
Parent/Founding Family DANN