

# Public Comments for Virtual School Board Meetings #134

My public comments are related to: \* Continuity of Learning 4.0

Topic \* Virtual Plus+ Learning Model

Name \* Marcelle Yeager

What is your relationship to ACPS? \* Parent/Guardian of an ACPS Student

**To include your comments as part of the Public Comments agenda item at weekly Special Called School Board Meetings, enter your comments here:**

Based on our experience in spring and summer learning, I wanted to share some insights we've learned from families in other districts that may help create a more engaging virtual model and better meet the needs of students.

I'm the parent of a rising ACPS second and fourth grader who both attend MVCS, and I'd like to share an insight we heard from other parents of elementary-aged students in other school districts. These students were on Zoom calls in groups with a teacher and 6-8 students. The teachers were able to communicate and engage directly with each student, not only regarding the material but also socio-emotionally. They would ask the students questions about a creative project they may have done at home or what they did the day before, and then asked follow up questions and engaged the other students in the conversation to comment and share their own experiences. This allowed each student to talk where that's difficult in a large virtual Zoom setting.

We learned that some teachers with a larger group presented a project or assignment and then created break out groups on Zoom to allow students to collaborate with only a few other students. This enabled for a greater depth of learning, problem solving, and engagement with peers which is something students are craving right now.

Thank you for your consideration of enabling smaller gatherings over Zoom to enhance socio-emotional and learning engagement and outcomes.