Public Comments for Virtual School Board Meetings #139

My public comments are related to: Continuity of Learning 4.0

Topic * Flexibility with 1st grade online time

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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:

Too much time online is not good (or feasible) for 1st graders. Please provide flexibility and options. Instead of trying to recreate a whole in–person education in a virtual environment for this age, the goal should be to provide parents with tools and options for helping their kids learn in fun ways, focusing the core necessary skills. Remember, the goal at this age is the foster a lifelong love of learning... and forcing them to stare at a screen 4 days a week for potentially a full school year may have the opposite effect. Something that will be hard to undo – easier to get a kid to like school right from the start than for them to dislike it and then try to get them to like it later. Rather than mandating a set 8–2:30 schedule, parents need options to be able to juggle work and multiple children of different ages. Many of those options should include creative OFF–screen time, and consideration should be given as to how they can get the socialization and small group work that is so necessary for this age.