Public Comments for Virtual School Board Meetings #176

I would like to provide: *	Written Public Comments
Select the meeting date:* *	
My public comments are related to:	Virtual+ Plus Learning
Topic *	Return to School
Full Name *	Rebecca Anderson
What is your relationship to ACPS? *	Parent/Guardian of an ACPS Student
Enter your comments here OR upload below:	Dear School Board, I am asking you to consider opening schools as soon as possible, starting with the elementary schools. Studies from around the world and our country are showing that children are not driving transmission, especially in the school setting (see article in NY Times from Oct. 23, 2020–Schoolchildren Seem Unlikely to Fuel Coronavirus Surges, Scientists Say). Loudon County K–2 children are returning half–time this week. Fairfax County Kindergarteners are returning half–time on Nov. 16th and 1st and 2nd graders on Nov. 30th. In Arlington County, pre–k and kindergarteners return half time on Nov. 12th, 1–2nd graders on Dec. 1st and 3–5th graders by early January. Our children need the social, emotional and academic environment that online learning does not provide. We have to prioritize our children over everything else. Why are our restaurants, bars, bowling alleys, malls open and not our schools? Sincerely, Rebecca Anderson Mother of 3 ACPS children, and teacher.