

I am writing to ask you to please support the SB 235- Back to School Act. As a mom of 3 elementary age boys in the Blue Valley School District, my children have suffered greatly, as well proven and documented by counselor visits and test scores, over the past year's time because of the closure of Blue Valley schools. My boys are 5th grade, 4th grade, and 1st grade. My 5th and 4th graders are on IEP's due to dyslexia and severe ADHD and when they are not in-person, at school, full-time- they are grossly underserved by our school district. To put it simply, they are unable to learn in a remote or hybrid setting. The same goes for my 6 year old, although he is a typical child, his reading has been delayed by at least a year and we are now looking into private tutors at our own expense to catch him up. He receives reading support at school but it is simply not enough after the setbacks we have seen this year. I and many other parents have emailed and spoken many times to our school board to beg them to get our kids back in school full time and it has fallen on deaf ears. I have very real concerns that this will continue into next school year and beyond should another strain or illness come along. I am worried sick for my soon to be middle schooler because I know he cannot learn in a hybrid or remote situation and I know from the experience of this year that there is no one in administration of our district or the school board who is going to stand up and advocate for him and other students. Please be the leadership our students so desperately need and pass this bill to ensure they aren't hurt anymore by these school closures and vote to support this bill.

Thank you for your time and I am free to talk about our experiences any time if you would like to contact me.

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