



Statement of No Confidence

Dear Fellow Members:

The EBoard met yesterday and discussed the poll results. After discussion, we unanimously decided to move forward with the Statement of No Confidence. Over 80% of our members participated in the poll, with 80% of members supporting the Statement of No Confidence, which is a clear majority of our members. Today, I contacted the MTA and am working with them on a press release and a summary comment to be presented at the next school committee meeting on Monday, December 7, 2020.

Side Note - If you got a second email/reminder to take the poll, it was because you did not open your first MailChimp email. The poll was still anonymous. However, perhaps you opened it from an email forwarded from a colleague? Either way, thank you again for participating!

In regards to safety in our buildings, we are working on a couple of things. First, we are coordinating reaching out to the Boards Of Health (BOH) in all five towns to address the safety concerns of many members currently working in close proximity to students. There are credible concerns and we are looking for resources to know whether we are in compliance or not in compliance with best practices around preventing transmission of COVID. Second, there is a petition being drafted to garner support for the members in buildings to support remedies being sought through a class action grievance. The remedies are:



- **Immediately implementing all environmental and structural improvements designed to mitigate the transmission of COVID, such as but not limited to: providing cleaning and sanitizing protocols to all staff; air purifiers with the highest MERV rating possible for proper operation of each unit for all spaces in which staff are working with students; and operation of the ventilation systems for one hour before and after school hours (See pg. 21 of the Transition to Hybrid Learning Guide).**
- **Immediately providing access to routine surveillance COVID testing at least twice weekly provided by the WRSD for all staff members working in person with students which is necessary to mitigate the spread of the virus and to remain open for high needs students.**
- **Immediate provision of all promised developmentally appropriate training for the safety protocols related to COVID by medical professionals through direct instruction and/or embedded content in lessons and activities for students receiving in person instruction (See pg. 27 of the WRSD Reopening Guidelines).**
- **Immediately and consistently enforcing the Wachusett Regional School District's Protocols for Responding to COVID-19 scenarios in schools, on the bus, or in community settings.**
- **Immediate provision of additional staffing including, but not limited to, janitorial staff, paraprofessionals, and substitutes to ensure the safety, health, and mental well being of students and staff working in buildings.**
- **Immediate provision of evidence that all of the WRSD's Reopening Guidelines have been implemented and adhered to.**

The EBoard and I are committed to the equity of safety between buildings. There is a wide range of inconsistent protocols and procedures being implemented in each building and this is not small undertaking. High standards around PPE, how to handle symptomatic individuals, and air quality should be the minimum for the safety of all our members. Please reach out with all concerns or if you would like to assist in this goal.

In Unity,



Mary Shepherd

President WREA