

# PRESS RELEASE

## JOINT STATEMENT FROM THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY TEACHERS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS

A recent survey sent to Livingston County teachers by Association leaders reveals little confidence in the Return to Learn Plans set forth by Livingston County School Boards. It is our belief that teachers, students, and the families they return to each day are going to be at increased risk for contracting COVID-19. Most of the schools in Livingston County are not enacting the strongest safeguards of the State of Michigan Return to School Roadmap, or the critical science-based strong recommendations issued by the CDC. Most of our students and employees will not be physically distanced six feet in their classrooms and not all students will be required to wear facial coverings.

On behalf of the professional educators of Livingston County, local Association presidents call upon our elected officials and state legislators to ensure that our County schools are reopened with the strongest safety recommendations in place. Avoidable Covid-19 infections can and will occur in Livingston County if the current plans are enacted. Increased infection rates, quarantines, and school closures are already happening in other states where reopening plans didn't include the strongest virus mitigation recommendations. Please act now to prevent Livingston County teachers and students from experiencing the same avoidable outcome of school communities in Georgia, where hundreds of students and teachers were sickened and quarantined in the first weeks of reopening.

With the understanding that teachers across the county want nothing more than to return to their classrooms with students, Association Leadership asks that the reopening of schools be implemented with only the highest recommendations of safety for the health of our Livingston County community.

Kristi Craig	Howell Education Association President
Carrie DeLuca	Fowlerville Education Association President
Barry Goode	Brighton Education Association President
Laura Moore	Hartland Education Association President
Vida Rugaro	Pinckney Education Association President
Zack Kasprzak	Livingston County 8-D Coordinating Council Chair
Martin Leftwich	MEA Board of Directors
Matt Dufon	MEA Board of Directors