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1) Knowing what we do today about the COVID-19 pandemic, should Falls Church City schools have returned to in-person learning sooner?

NO. There is no substitute to in-person learning. However, we have to weigh the benefit of in-person learning against the health risks on the community. Over two weeks in 2020, the summer daycare sent home five students with fevers and two teachers contracted COVID-19. After the elementary schools reopened, sporadic outbreaks forced them to close around Thanksgiving. Staff, not yet vaccinated, voiced concerns over returning in person and possibly bringing COVID-19 home to their families. Falls Church City followed guidance from the State, Centers for Disease Control, and local health advisors. For these and other reasons, returning to in-person learning sooner was not feasible.

2) Do you support the mandate that all students wear masks at school for the Fall semester?

YES. Masks are one of several effective mitigations that reduce COVID-19-related risks to the community.

3) Should transgender students be allowed to use the bathroom or lockers rooms of the gender with which they identify?

YES. Allowing transgender students to use restrooms and locker rooms of their gender identity and referring to them by their chosen pronouns are minimum steps to creating a supportive environment. These actions are consistent with the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Code of Virginia, and the Virginia Department of Education's Model Transgender Policy. We should seek to do more to help and support all LGBTQIA+ students.

4) Should the Board increase educational opportunities, including career and technical, for non-IB diploma high school students?

YES. I am committed to helping all children attending the Falls Church City Public Schools develop the skills to achieve their dreams and contribute to society. To the degree that achieving this goal requires additional opportunities for non-IB diploma high school students, I will work with my colleagues to identify them and oversee their implementation.

5) Do you support school faculty entering into collective bargaining agreements with the City?

YES. I believe that all workers have a right to join to negotiate on their collective behalf.

6) Should there be school resource officers in Falls Church City schools?

NO. While I appreciate the service of law enforcement officers in our community, there is no need for their constant presence in our schools to keep our schools safe and secure. The Falls Church City Public Schools have various safety and security measures in place, including security cameras, locked

doors, strict visitor protocols, the ability to lock-down hallways, and background checks for volunteers.

7) Should Falls Church City curriculum include information on systemic racism in the United States?

YES. The United States has a complex history that includes systematic efforts to divide us according to race and promote the interests of White Americans over others. Our children should learn this history. Additionally, consistent with our International Baccalaureate principles, we embrace diversity and seek to be a leader in promoting equity and inclusiveness. Learning about the history of systemic racism and its continued effects today helps prepare our children to build and support a more just Nation.

8) Should all FCCPS teachers and administrators take annual diversity, equity, and inclusion training?

YES. Falls Church City has made a commitment to promoting a diverse and inclusive community. One action in support of this goal is providing diversity, equity and inclusion training to FCCPS teachers and administrators. I would support further efforts to identify and address directly the causes of unequal outcomes among our students. Taking these steps is consistent with the International Baccalaureate principles that we embrace and supportive of all our students.

9) Should Falls Church City school curriculum include climate change, resiliency, and environmental justice?

YES. We have witnessed a summer of “heat domes”, wildfires, and extreme weather due to human-caused climate change. These and other effects of climate change will persist. Teaching these topics to FCCPS students will help them adapt to the challenges that they are going to face.

10) Once the COVID-19 vaccine has full FDA approval, should it be mandated for all eligible students in order to attend school in-person?

YES. Vaccines have significantly reduced or eliminated adverse health effects from polio, smallpox, measles, chicken pox, and other diseases. Once a vaccine for COVID-19 is available to all students, I would support a vaccination requirement to protect our community, with reasonable exceptions.