

## GROUP TEMPLATE

To All Representatives of the State of New Jersey including Governor Murphy

I am writing to you on behalf of almost 29,000 families to date. Over this last year we have been continuously ignored. Ignored by our own Governor, Senators and Assemblypersons. We are tired of being constantly ignored while being told what works best for OUR children. All of you are only worried about what fits your own agenda and not what this state can do to help benefit many students, parents and staff in the State of New Jersey. There is NO value to only having an in-person education. There is value to creating a program for those who need something better. New Jersey Parents for Virtual Choice submitted a petition in September 2021 with just over 27,000 signatures requesting an option be adopted in the State of New Jersey. Our requests and calls are still ignored.

There is value to an actual Virtual Option like 38 other states. The type of Virtual education we are talking about is not detrimental to those who choose it. It can have tremendous positive impacts on many children. It is not what we were subjected to during 2020 and the current situations plaguing our education system.

Everyone talks about mental health issues amongst our children. Has anyone ever thought that a great portion of this coincides with the destructiveness of in person learning? In 2019 our country saw record high suicide rates amongst school age children. In 2020 those rates went down much to your surprise, astonishment and the exact opposite of what everyone is being told by you. This is just one reason why we need Virtual. Covid, Home Instruction, children with IEP'S, 504'S with health issues and the list continues to grow as we get pushed aside. You have no idea what it is like to be a parent of a broken, one-sided education system. All our reasons are valid and have been shared but no one is listening. We are encouraging you to please listen to the parents, students and many educators of New Jersey. What we learned during 2020 was that some of our kids do better virtually. Some of our children need this different environment. There is nothing wrong with this, not all children learn better in person. Not all children need to be in person and the quicker everyone realizes this the better off our state education system will be. Why deny children who need this type of education their right to achieve and have? They thrived, they should no longer be penalized with in person learning, knowing what they are capable of through a Virtual Education.

We are asking yet again for you to meet with those who represent us. New Jersey Parents for Virtual Choice need to be heard. They have asked repeatedly since February 2021 and now it is 2022 and no one has stood up and even acknowledged the needs of our families. You are supposed to listen to your constituents, not ignore them. With the extreme rise in covid rates amongst students, teachers, staff, and significant busing shortages now would be the appropriate time to pull providers in to give students this opportunity, Not the opportunity that only serves your own pocket but an opportunity for students who need this

to thrive. If given the opportunity, we can show you that our children matter too. A traditional in person learning environment is only detrimental to those who learn differently. Why force them to continue in an environment that sets them back? The Benefits of a virtual environment like 38 other states can make a world of difference and can allow for any student to achieve the dreams they wish. Not all children learn the same and this is why we have Individualized Education Plans because NOT ALL CHILDREN ARE ALIKE NOR DO THEY LEARN THE SAME If you cannot think outside the box and adopt a program that is sustainable you might as well forget our children and even get rid of IEP's because you are continuing to deny our children an education that suits their needs and are denying them the future.

Sincerely

[#NJparentsforvirtualchoice](#)

[#whyweneedavirtualchoice](#)

[Home | New Jersey Parents for Virtual Choice \(njparentsforvirtualchoice.com\)](#)

[New Jersey Parents for Virtual Choice | Facebook](#)

Email: [commissioner@doe.nj.gov](mailto:commissioner@doe.nj.gov)

Explain the following.

1. Who you've emailed and their response (they need to know this hasn't been your only email and thus your case can't be solved at the local level)
  2. Your success with virtual (grades increased participation any positive teacher comments etc)
  3. Problems it may have accidentally solved. (bullying, focus issues etc)
  4. Special medical issues related to the situation (Masks, Health concerns etc)
- They are actively tallying the email input with respect to how/why virtual works.

## **PERSONAL TEMPLATE (Be sure to include your information)**

- Hi I'm writing as a Parent of a child in grade / or children in grades

- I strongly believe my child has a constitutional right to choose what kind of education works for them.

- I strongly believe my child deserves to have a Virtual Option available to them so that they can have an equal opportunity to education that their peers will have in-person

- I urge you to immediately mandate that all schools offer a Virtual Option

Thank you for your time,

## **Contact List Email /Phone**

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