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to move this
research forward!
Prof. James B. Adams, PhD
(autism researcher and autism dad)



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By Craig M. Wax, D.O., Family Practice Physician | February 12, 2021

For The Health Of Students And Teachers Despite Covid-19

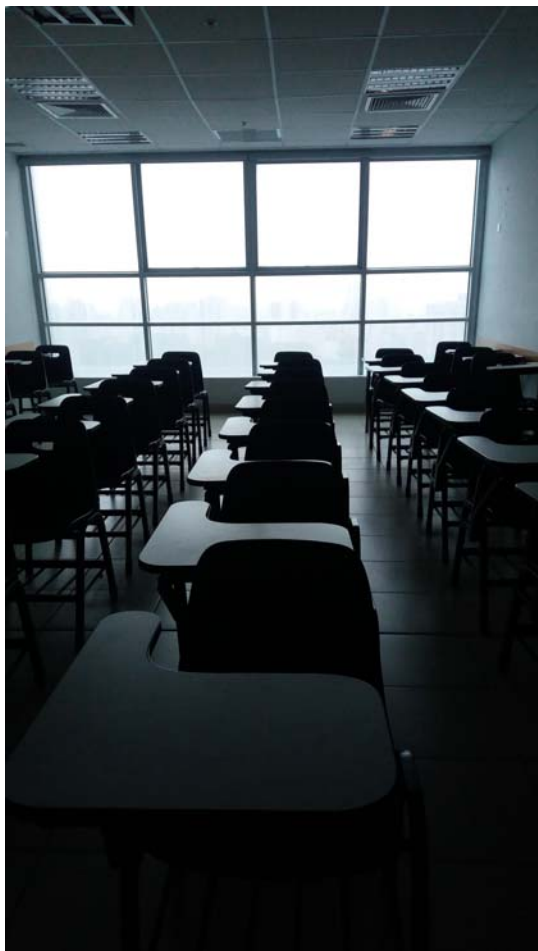
Back in March, 2020, federal and state governments decided to temporarily close schools. The concept was to prevent COVID-19 by theoretically interfering with SARS-CoV-2 transmission. This was sold to the public, largely through the mainstream media, as “two weeks to stem the spread,” or “two weeks to flatten the curve.” The general idea was to interrupt viral transmission by preventing school-age children en masse in school. As a father of school-age children, and as a school physician, I admit to erring on the side of caution. I called my superintendent’s office in March 2020 and asked for a research break in the children’s schooling. As primary and secondary education systems, and as their most trusted online mechanisms, both teachers and students tried feverishly (no pun intended) to adapt. Parents made temporary child care arrangements to minimize their own already overwhelmed schedules.

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Now we stand in 2021 and in most states, we are up to 46 weeks, and still counting, of closed schools, “to stem the spread.” Not only did the initial two-week trial fail, but state teachers unions, and others have us repeating the failure, week after week, month after month. Wave after wave of absenteeism, failing grades, social isolation and child/teen all a painful lesson. Why aren’t all schools open, even now, almost a year later?



Who was it that said, “insanity is doing the same thing, day after day, and expecting a different result?” Hindsight is 20/20, but just why are we crushing a generation of our children with isolation and impaired learning? And, why would we create havoc with parents’ ability to work and provide for their families?

Critical hard questions must be asked, but, “cancel culture” will verbally assault and label (and libel) you if you do so publicly. Ask the questions anyway: If masks work, why are businesses and most of society closed? If masks work, why does the virus still spread rapidly throughout all communities, despite mandatory masking? If children in school weren’t there major school outbreaks locally, nationally or worldwide. If teachers are at risk in school, why haven’t there been a plethora of cases, spread in this fashion? If we aren’t schools and all elements of society reopened as high-risk segments of the population are vaccinated? Both data and experience show that children and teachers are safe in their personal lives.

Teachers also benefit from in-person school teaching. They benefit from more effective teaching, direct attention and interaction, immediate feedback and non-verbal communication, job satisfaction and security, and a host of other benefits. In our region, Southern NJ, both teachers and children who were symptomatic with COVID-19 were usually traced back to their personal lives and family activities. We saw this especially with children’s sleepovers and adult shore-house weekends. Most other activities were relatively safe like shopping, brief general socializing and eating outdoors at restaurants.



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Any pediatrician or family physician will tell you that children, in general, are of hearty stock. They resist disease and tend to minimally manifest infectious illness. Because of health, youthful immune system exuberance, and minimal symptomatology, they are not the "super-spreaders" of 2020 political mythology. How dare our elected governors' kids about lovingly interacting with their grandparents?! They literally threatened that kids might kill their parents and grandparents! These were the same governors who sent infectious patients to nursing homes and long-term facilities, against facility guidelines from CDC and against facility resistance, only to kill tens of thousands of senior patients nationwide, spreading disease across their regions. This is medical, social, familial, ethical and societal government leadership fraud and outright heresy. Caution and prudence but to each his own, within each families' experience, ideology and risk tolerance.

The bottom line? We cannot allow school closures to further damage our children and the fabric of society. Contact your school superintendent, local school board, state education administration and state governor to ACT NOW on this urgent issue. #OpenSchoolsNow

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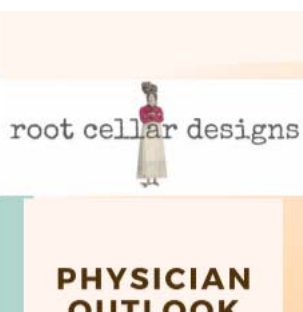
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