

Hi, my name is Kaleena Whitfield, and I have

two students who are in elementary school in Elyria, Ohio.

I have a fourth grader and a little one who has entered kindergarten this year.

We chose virtual schooling for our children this academic year.

We felt like it would be what was best for our family

and for each of them individually going into it.

We knew that our school district was in a position

to do this in an excellent way, but we still had some concerns

on whether or not this would be what was best for our students.

What has made this an excellent experience for us, though, has been the level

to which our children's teachers have communicated with us,

whether it was about schoolwork, any changes in the schedule on the day,

any changes to maybe their AMP schedules, but also what

was really specifically important to us was that our teachers were communicating

with us about our child's individual classroom needs.

So for example, when our fourth grader

needs to be challenged a little bit more,

her teacher communicated with me through Class Dojo

that she would like to put her on a different level of vocabulary.

And for me, that let me know that even though we were doing

virtual schooling and it was through technology,

through computers, she had really taken the time

to get to know each of her students and assess their needs in a way

that would be similar to them being in the classroom.

I just feel like through this whole experience, I was able to communicate

well with our teachers and they were able to communicate with us,

which has made this process seem so much smoother.

And I think it's what's made our children so successful during this challenging time.

Thank you so much.