Pandemic Paranoia and Proximity: A Transformation

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Pandemic Paranoia and Proximity: A Transformation

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A new school year

Grades  Classrooms
Teachers  Lessons
Challenges

Altered schedules
Textbooks sealed and shunned

Classrooms depersonalized

Insidious threats
From unseen aerosols

Unsocial atmosphere
Untraced contacts

Atypical behavior
Waves, not hugs

Voices commanding
“Keep Six Feet Apart”

Unnatural Separation
Clear viscous gel

For sanitizing
Protecting
Insulating
Assuring
An ominous environment

Pandemic  Paranoia
And

Proximity

School and society
Based in reality
Intense toil
Risks outweigh rewards
Social Distancing
No longer The practice
A young boy
And a young maiden
Must be mandated
To maintain
During middle school High school
Dances Proms
Study sessions Dates

Distancing now including
Classroom seating
Hallway travels
Greetings
Inquiry
Casual chatter
Heightened emotions
Attempted outreach
Disjointed Engagement
Dispirited outlook

Human touch Removed
High fives Shunned
Fist bumps Prohibited
Hugs On high alert
Robotic students
Masked
Gloved
Shielded
Separated
Shunned
Lockers  Off limits
Sealed tightly
    With firmness
and precision
Hallways transformed
    To highways
Divided
    Controlled
        Unidirectional

Lessons
    Hybrid
Virtual
    Internet Intervention
        Zoom
            Meet
        Google
    Chat Box
Electronic education
    Technological diversification
Classes condensed
    Constrained
        Compartmentalized
Separation
    Space Imposition
Sirens in homes
    Alluring distractions
        Minecraft
    Fortnite
        Pokemon
    Roblox
        Instagram
Snapchat
WhatsApp
Tik Tok  Tik Tok
Go Guardian
Register  Monitor
Trace  Track

Learners challenged
Procedures transformed
Redefined
Repurposed
Relied upon
Focus
Brevity
Clarity

Videos
Instructional
Investigational
Inspirational

Legislated  Separation
Devastation
Emotional  Incarceration
Uncharacteristic  Avoidance
Simplicity
Now complexity
Breathing regulations
Stress intensification
Unsolved enigmas

Daily challenges
To SEL
PBL
Group activity
After-school clubs
New lesson designs

Activities    Postponements
Cancellations  Expectations
  Of persistence
      Of continuance
          Procedures to adapt
      To follow
      To obey
Challenges to overcome
      Frustration to mount
Scapegoats to seek
      Searches conducted
          For targets
              Frustration
          Ventilation

Heroes reimagined
      From typical categories
Essential service
In classrooms
    Teachers    Aides
    Custodians  Administration
In districts
In homes    And communities
Bus Drivers  Students
Parents/Guardians
Methodical inversion
Of Disney    Maslow
            And more

Consequences
Constantly dire
Hope
Losing luster
Nature separated
From nurture
Uncommonality
Unfamiliarity
Compromise
Concession
Social Convulsion
Classrooms reflecting community
Lessons losing touch
With humanity
Society shunning
Sensitivity
Pandemic Paranoia
And
Proximity
School mirroring society
A transformation
Based
In reality