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
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