

Subject: Comment for June 16th Board Meeting

Date: Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 9:39:56 AM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Nicole Tauscher <ntauscher@mac.com>

To: info@smcoe.org <info@smcoe.org>

Good Evening,

I appreciate your time and the opportunity to speak.

I feel compelled to speak out regarding the tortuous action of continuing to require children/youth to wear “masks” while at school. As a mother of 2, and a former preschool teacher of over 20 years, it is my sworn duty to advocate for, and protect, not only my children, but the children of the world as well. That being said, I cannot sit back and watch the traumatic manipulation being forced on our children, under the guise of “public health safety”.

More and more scientific evidence is mounting that COVID-19 protocols are causing extreme emotional, psychological and physical harm — particularly in younger children who are vulnerable and going through important developmental changes. The mandatory mouth mask in schools is a major threat to a child’s development. It ignores the essential needs of a growing child. The well-being of children and young people is highly dependent on the emotional connection with others. Masks create a threatening and unsafe environment, where emotional connection becomes difficult (Source: <https://www.world-today-news.com/70-doctors-in-open-letter-to-ben-weyts-abolish-mandatory-mouth-mask-at-school-belgium/>)

While children/youth can be incredibly resilient, the past 15 months have exposed humanity to unprecedented situations. Stressful life changes, such as, extended school closures, social isolation, forced masking, and fear based information. A new study from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows mental health-related visits to emergency rooms between April and October of 2020 increased 31% among teens and 24% among elementary-aged school children compared to 2019 (Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6945a3.htm>). Also according to the CDC, Children’s mental health during public health emergencies can have both short- and long-term consequences to their overall health and well-being. Many school districts and local health departments are basing their face mask policies on this CDC guidance. But the CDC has flip-flopped on its position several times since March of 2020, leaving many confused. Now the CDC is recommending that children wear masks all day long in schools, despite the fact that these practices are not evidence-based and there are no long-term safety data on such practices.

Masks are ineffective and in many ways they harm. All parties mandating the use of facemasks are not only willfully ignoring established science but are engaging in what amounts to a whole school clinical experimental trial. This conclusion is reached by the fact that facemask use and COVID-19 incidence are being reported in scientific *opinion* pieces promoted by the CDC and others. The fact is **after reviewing ALL of the studies worldwide, the CDC found “no reduction in viral transmission with the use of face masks.”**

Additionally, Children have been repeatedly shown not to be drivers of this contagion. It is well-accepted that children have a statistically zero chance of dying from COVID. The CDC shows the K-12 mortality rate from or with COVID is .00003 (Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schoolschildcare/k-12-testing.html>). Any intervention, especially one that is prophylactic, must cause **fewer** harms to the recipient than the infection. Since children have the lowest death rate from COVID infection, the cost-benefit of requiring children to wear an investigational face-covering with emerging safety issues is especially difficult to justify. Anthony Fauci was very clear that asymptomatic transmission was not a threat. He stated, “in all the history of respiratory-borne viruses of any type, asymptomatic transmission has never been the driver of outbreaks. The driver of outbreaks is always a symptomatic person.” (Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X1orSO094uY>)

Requiring children to wear a mask sets the stage for contracting any infection, including COVID-19, and

making the consequences of that infection much graver. In essence, a mask may very well put children at an increased risk of infection, and if so, having a far worse outcome (Source: Russell Blaylock, Id. (quoting Shehade H et al. Cutting edge: Hypoxia-Inducible Factor-1 negatively regulates Th1 function. J Immunol 2015;195:1372-1376. See also: Westendorf AM et al. Hypoxia enhances immunosuppression by inhibiting CD4+ effector T cell function and promoting Treg activity. Cell Physiol Biochem 2017;41:1271-84. See further: Sceneay J et al. Hypoxia-driven immunosuppression contributes to the pre-metastatic niche. Oncoimmunology 2013;2:1 e22355.).

The fact that mask wearing presents a severe risk of harm to the wearer should – standing alone – not be required for children, particularly given that these children are not ill and have done nothing wrong that would warrant an infringement of their constitutional rights and bodily autonomy. Promoting use of a non-FDA approved, Emergency Use Authorized mask, is unwarranted and illegal. This mandate is in direct conflict with Section 360bbb-3€(1)(A)(ii)(I-III), which requires the wearer to be informed of the option to refuse the wearing of such “device.” **Misrepresenting the use of a mask as being intended for antimicrobial or antiviral protection, and/or misrepresenting masks for use as infection prevention or reduction is a deceptive practice under the FTC.**

Please put parents back in the driver’s seat for their children’s health by returning our school to normal: no masks, no social distancing, no temperature checks, no plexiglass dividers and no contract tracing. Return to regular class sizes and reinstate all extracurricular activities. I implore you to act independently from the State recommendations.

Warmly,
Nicole Tauscher

Manuela Seitz-Hipkins

Manu.hipkins@gmail.com

Comment for Board meeting 06/16/2021

Dear Board Members- I am commenting on the mask mandate in our schools in SM County.

There are no efficacy standards on child-sized masks and respirators under OSHA, but there are proven microbial challenges as well as breathing difficulties that are created and exacerbated by masking children.

Requiring children to wear a mask sets the stage for contracting any infection, including COVID-19, and making the consequences of that infection much graver. In essence, a mask may very well put children at an increased risk of infection, and if so, having potentially a worse outcome.

Children have been repeatedly shown not to be drivers of this contagion. It is well-accepted that children have a statistically zero chance of dying from COVID. The CDC shows the K-12 mortality rate from or with COVID is .00003. Any intervention, especially one that is prophylactic, must cause fewer harms to the recipient than the infection.

Anthony Fauci was very clear that asymptomatic transmission was not a threat. He stated, “in all the history of respiratory-borne viruses of any type, asymptomatic transmission has never been the driver of outbreaks. The driver of outbreaks is always a symptomatic person.

CALIFORNIA EDUCATION CODE §49005.8 PROHIBITS PHYSICAL RESTRAINT TECHNIQUES THAT OBSTRUCTS A PUPIL’S RESPIRATORY AIRWAY OR IMPAIRS THE PUPIL’S BREATHING OR RESPIRATORY CAPACITY

It is stated:

(a) An educational provider shall not do any of the following:

...

(3) Use a physical restraint technique that obstructs a pupil’s respiratory airway or impairs the pupil’s breathing or respiratory capacity, including techniques in which a staff member places pressure on a pupil’s back or places his or her body weight against the pupil’s torso or back.

(4) Use a behavioral restraint technique that restricts breathing, including, but not limited to, using a pillow, blanket, carpet, mat, or other item to cover a pupil’s face.

Masks are thus clearly a restraint technique that restrict breathing and respiratory capacity.

Furthermore:

MASK MANDATES HAVE BEEN HELD TO BE UNCONSTITUTIONAL IN CALIFORNIA AS UNCONSTITUTIONAL VIOLATIONS OF THE FIRST AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS.

In 1923, California enacted Penal Code Section 650a, which was reenacted and codified in 1953

The District (Cabrillo Unified) intends to mandate the opposite: the compulsory use of masks for the broad stated goal of public health and specifically prevention of transmission of COVID-19. If prohibitions on masks are unconstitutional, what makes the District believe that compulsory masking of students would be constitutional?

It is time to learn to BREATHE again. It is time for us to start making calm, rational decisions for our children based on science, and free of fear.

Pandemic panic, social isolation, remote learning, academic loss, and re-entry anxiety have all dramatically worsened most children's mental health. Early life stress has a significant impact on children's long-term development along with their physical and mental health.

This pandemic is set to be an Adverse Childhood Event (ACE) for many of our children, and ACEs are correlated with virtually every chronic disease in adulthood. What will the long-term emotional and physical effects of the pandemic be for our children? Only time will tell.

Please put parents back in the driver's seat for their children's health by returning our school to normal: Please remove all restrictions: Remove masks and social distancing requirements, remove temperature checks and COVID testing (i.e. sports), remove plexiglass dividers, and the need for so called "health apps" with their inherent data privacy risks. Return to regular class sizes and reinstate all extracurricular activities.

Please let me know how you plan to proceed for the upcoming school year so that I can assess my options. Thank you for your time and leadership during this time of change and challenge.

If you would like to discuss this issue further, please let me know a good time to do so.

Sincerely,

Manuela Seitz-Hipkins

6/16/2021 2:45pm

Dear Board Members- I am commenting on the mask mandate in our schools in SM County

As you know, children are being forced to stay masked for hours on end to be able to attend school. More and more scientific evidence is mounting that COVID-19 protocols are causing extreme emotional, psychological and physical harm — particularly in younger children who are vulnerable and going through important developmental changes.

It's time to learn to BREATHE again. It's time for us to start making calm, rational decisions for our children based on science, and free of fear. Pandemic panic, social isolation, remote learning, academic loss, and re-entry anxiety have all dramatically worsened most children's mental health. Early life stress has a significant impact on children's long-term development along with their physical and mental health.

Please put parents back in the driver's seat for their children's health by returning our school to normal: no masks, no social distancing, no temperature checks, no plexiglass dividers and no contract tracing. Return to regular class sizes and reinstate all extracurricular activities

Face masks: "In our systematic review, we identified 10 RCTs that reported estimates of the effectiveness of face masks in reducing laboratory-confirmed influenza virus infections in the community from literature published during 1946–July 27, 2018. In pooled analysis, **we found no significant reduction in influenza transmission with the use of face masks**" Source: Article, Non Pharmaceutical Measures for Pandemic Influenza in Non Healthcare Settings—Personal Protective and Environmental Measures | **From the Center for Disease Control Website**

Please take some time to look over these articles published by government health agencies:

Here is an article:

<https://swprs.org/face-masks-evidence/>

Science Says Healthy People Should Not Wear Masks:

- Masks reduce intake of oxygen, leading to carbon dioxide toxicity
- Germs are trapped near your mouth and nose, increasing risk of infection
- Wearing a mask causes you to touch your face more frequently
- There is no scientific evidence that supports healthy people wearing masks
- Masks obscure your facial features and impede normal social interaction
- Masks make it hard for hearing-impaired people to understand you
- Masks symbolize suppression of speech

CAL-OSHA Regulations:

"Cloth face coverings do not protect against COVID -19"

<https://dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/COVID-19-Infection-Prevention-in-Logistics.pdf>

"Face coverings may increase risk if users reduce their use of strong defenses."

"There is limited evidence to suggest that use of cloth face coverings by the public during a pandemic could help reduce disease transmission."

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Face-Coverings-Guidance.aspx>

According to CA Civil Code 51, no one can be forced to wear a mask:

CA CIVIL CODE 51

California Civil Code

Sec. 51 (b)

All persons within the jurisdiction of this state are free and equal, and no matter what their sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sexual orientation, citizenship, primary language, or immigration status are entitled to the full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges, or services in all business establishments of every kind whatsoever.

Stress is a major contributor to disease manifestation since it is known to lower the immune system. "When we're stressed, the immune system's ability to fight off antigens is reduced. That is why we are more susceptible to infections. The stress hormone corticosteroid can suppress the effectiveness of the immune system (e.g. lowers the number of lymphocytes)." Source: Stress, Illness and the Immune System | Simply Psychology Website Study pdf link: Physiologic and other effects and compliance with long-term respirator use among medical intensive care unit nurses.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7132714/>

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Hannah Costa