



Special Board Meeting
08/17/2021 05:00 PM
District Office Board Room
435 6th Street
Woodland, CA 95695

Meeting Minutes
Printed : 9/3/2021 2:16 PM PT

Mission Statement

Woodland Joint Unified School District's mission is to prepare and empower all students for a future of endless possibilities.



Scan the above QR code with your phone to view this meeting agenda on your phone.

The meeting will be available for live stream viewing at <https://livestream.com/wjUSD> (click on the Board Meeting date).

[2021 Board Meetings Webpage](#)
[Board Meeting Packet Website](#)

Public Comment to the Board: Members of the public are encouraged to attend Board meetings and to address the Board concerning items on the Special Board Meeting agenda.

Additional options for public comment:

- 1. Voicemail Public Comments:* Public comments may be submitted by voicemail by 2:00 pm on the Board Meeting date, at 530-406-5800, and they will be played during the meeting if time permits. Please indicate the item's number and title in your message.
- 2. Written Public Comments Via Email:* Public comments may be submitted via email by 2:00 pm on the Board Meeting date to public.comment@wjUSD.org. Public comments submitted via email will be included in the meeting minutes, but will not be read during the meeting.

Attendees

Voting Members

Deborah Bautista Zavala, Clerk
Bibiana Garcia, Board Member
Kandice Richardson Fowler, Board Member
Noel Rodriguez, Board Member
Rogelio Villagrana, Vice President
Jake Whitaker, President

A. CALL TO ORDER IN OPEN SESSION - 5:00 P.M.

The Board President called the meeting to order in Open Session at 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Rogelio Villagrana led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA - ACTION

Motion was made to approve the agenda.

Motion made by: Rogelio Villagrana

Motion seconded by: Bibiana Garcia

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes

Noel Rodriguez - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

C. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON SPECIAL BOARD MEETING AGENDA (Please fill out the Public Participation Form) Members of the public are encouraged to attend Board meetings and to address the Board concerning any item on the Special Board Meeting Agenda. Individual speakers shall be allowed three minutes each to address the Board on Special Board Meeting Agenda items. The Board shall limit the total time for public input on each item to 20 minutes. This is a comment period only, and the law does not allow the Board of Trustees to take action on any item not explicitly posted on the agenda in advance. However, Board members may ask for clarification, briefly respond to questions, refer concerns to staff, and/or request that an item be placed on a future agenda.

The following individuals addressed the Board regarding their support for outdoor masking: Dr. Liza Grandia (via voicemail), Robert Newcom (via voicemail), Jennifer Owens (via voicemail), Laura Brubaker (via voicemail), and Leticia Villagrana. Additionally, four individuals expressed their support via voicemail.

The following individuals addressed the Board regarding their opposition to outdoor masking: Echoe Camacho, Garret Wright, Hunter Atteberry, Nick Waldren, and Chardonay Summerville, in addition to three students via voicemail.

D. GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

1. Information/Action: Adopting Outdoor Masking Requirements for WJUSD

Motion was made to adopt the universal masking policy implemented by the District in the spring of 2021. Additionally, the Board will advocate to the County to make a recommendation/requirement/mandate/regulation regarding face masks in schools countywide.

Motion made by: Jake Whitaker

Motion seconded by: Kandice Richardson Fowler

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes

Noel Rodriguez - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

E. ADJOURNMENT

The Board President adjourned the meeting at 5:59 p.m.

Public Comments Submitted Via Email

Dear WJUSD

I know the pressure is mounting to do what is best for our community regarding masks and COVID mitigation measures in the Health and Safety Plan. I'd like to remind you that you are not required to follow recommendations (not requirements, and not laws) from the CDC, an agency which has been notorious for putting out conflicting and even false information throughout the last 17 months, leaving our children emotionally, mentally, and physically harmed (I'd argue, much more so than from the virus itself). You did the best you could with the information you thought was correct. Let's now do better as we know better.

I wanted to reiterate the information gathered from Friday's eye-opening senate hearing. It was confirmed that school boards are responsible for making the decisions regarding masking students, hosting school covid testing, or hosting school vaccine clinics. There is NO federal mandate for masks or testing or covid vaccines, only recommendations.

Legislators like Chairman Scott Martin in Friday's hearing pointed out that, not only are there no consequences for schools who do not follow recommendations, but they actually do NOT have any statutory or constitutional authority to institute mitigation requirements without a disaster declaration.

Also worth noting is the fact that not following CDC recommendations DOES NOT pose an increased liability risk for schools. Meaning - a school is now just as likely, if not more likely, to be sued for damages CAUSED BY MASKS (and there is already evidence of this) as they would be for any harm perceived to be caused by lack of mitigation protocols (which is MUCH harder to prove!). That said, I'd like to share with you some additional points to consider:

*Schools should never take part in marketing or pushing any pharmaceutical product to minors, especially experimental products.

*Parents send children to school for an education, not for unsolicited medical advice.

*Soliciting minors at school to get vaccinated circumvents parental authority and creates an atmosphere of inappropriate peer-pressure.

*Minors should be discussing pharmaceutical products with their parents and their health care providers who know their medical history and risk factors, not with their teacher or school staff.

*Vaccine clinics do not belong in our tax-funded schools. Minors have enough peer pressure without having their teachers and peers pressuring and coercing them to get vaccinated prior to and during clinic days.

*Minors should only be tested with a parent present and in a medical facility. Keep EUA (emergency use authorized) invasive COVID-19 testing in the doctor's office, where it belongs, and out of our schools.

*The Tennessee Health Department just made the decision to cancel all school vaccine clinics and vaccine marketing and solicitation aimed at minors after the state legislators reprimanded them for appearing to be soliciting minors. PA children and families deserve that same respect.

Thank you for taking the time to hear our concerns. And if you do one thing today, please watch (or re-watch) that video of the doctor speaking to the school board in Ms. Cooper's email to you all.

Here it is again:

<https://rumble.com/vkwthx-dr.-dan-stock-testifies-at-mt...>

I would love a response back addressing what I have sent you.

Respectfully,

Micaela Breckenridge

2

Masks are not one size fits all, masking children should be a decision made by their guardian. We can sit inside restaurants without a mask, why not children at their desks? Outside masking is not backed by science and should not be enforced by schools. Masking should be a choice not a requirement! The longer these infringements on parental rights go on the more enrollment in public schools will decline. Choice should be available to EVERYONE not just the side that agrees with the mandates. There are uprisings all of the country from parents who are tired of being told they are not capable of making the best decisions for THEIR children! We are not a small group and we demand our right to choice!

Thank you,

A parent on the verge of removing their child from the district...

David Amy

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Good Afternoon,

After looking at the special board meeting agenda set to take place tomorrow regarding adopting outdoor mask wearing, I have to send this email vehemently opposing this action. There is no sound evidence or data that supports this type of dis-service to our student and staff population. This is not following the science! Are you even considering all of the negative effects that can come with this, or the potential long term ramifications? Call me crazy but I am a fan of breathing and freedom! This should be a choice! What about those with asthma, over-exertion that comes with possible fainting from long term wear, the carbon dioxide intake, the simple ability to listen and learn through a continual face mask, the bacteria and visible irritation one can have by wearing a mask all day long..... I hope you have put as much mitigation efforts into these ailments as you are putting into covid. How did we all survive and live life with viruses before covid..... You can not eliminate the inherent risks that just come from living life. Please think outside of your own "feelings" and look at the facts. Look at all subject matters and content areas and how this will affect them. Specifically to PE, the lack of rigor that this would impose on what we would be able to implement would not be beneficial to the overall students health and well being, AND would take away the emphasis of the importance of being healthy in order to have a strong immune system to ward off viruses. There is no consistency or common sense if this is adopted and sports are allowed to commence in competition without athletes wearing face masks.

Do not inflict this type of tyranny on our wjUSD family. Make this a choice. It should be the parents choice for their own child! Please do the right thing and not mandate this motion!

Amanda Lopez

Woodland High School

Athletic Director

Physical Education Teacher

4

Good afternoon,

In order to protect students and staff, masks should be required for all students and staff, regardless of vaccination status, when they are indoors.

COVID vaccination should be required for all students and staff over 12, and for the younger students when the vaccine is authorized for their ages.

This policy is supported by science, which should guide this decision.

Thank you.

Christine Casey

5

With a child going into kindergarten, I know setting an expectation for masks can be difficult. But, I think it is appropriate. Please do not bend on this.

Charles Smith

6

I have two kids enrolled who are too young for vaccines, I feel it's incredibly irresponsible to not mandate masks with the delta variant ravaging on. Please masks need to be enforced until everyone is able to be vaccinated.

Alexa Hyatt

7

No To children having to wear their mask outdoors.

Olivia Gonzales

8

I am in support of masking while on campus. My children are attending the Springlake campus this year and do not fall within the age group that can be vaccinated at this time. I am assuming most, if not all children attending the elementary school fall into this category as well. Concerning data about the Delta variant causing more severe infections in children and younger individuals should give those individuals protesting mask mandates pause.

For what it is worth, I am the technical coordinator for the laboratory at Sutter Davis Hospital. Without getting into patient specifics, we are starting to see more COVID positive patients. Until vaccinations are available for the youngest of our population, I feel that the expanded masking guidelines may be beneficial, but should be reviewed again at a later date when cases subside.

Joseph Quello MLS (ASCP)

9

Please do the right thing and continue to enforce the use of masks indoors at our schools. There are districts throughout the country closing down again because of the resistance to public health precautions taking place on school campuses. My children are too young to be vaccinated and I would like the adults in charge to think of them and what is at stake when considering and providing a forum to the loudest and most ill-informed among us. My children (and all children) deserve to learn in person safely.

Thank you.

Kelsey McGie

10

Hi,

I'm a new parent in WJUSD. My daughters will go to spring lake elementary. Please keep masking required for students inside and outside. The science has proven wearing a mask reduces the likelihood of transmission.

Thank you,

Lindsay Demary

Woodland resident, SLE parent

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Hello, My name is Gabi Roca and I have two sons in WJUSD. I have seen first hand how much this pandemic has affected my kids and it has been anything but positive. These kids (not just my own) have endured all of the rules and regulations that have been implemented throughout the last year and half and have done so without understanding fully the reason for it all. I understand the Yolo Health Department and School District have a responsibility to maintain a safe environment for students and teachers alike but enough is enough. The possible outdoor mask mandate is unnecessary and unhealthy. Anyone who wishes to wear a mask outdoors is obviously welcome to do so but going as far as forcing our children to wear mask indoors as well as outdoors while playing/exercising etc. is ridiculous! This choice should be left up to the parents to decide for their own children.

Thank you

Gabi Roca

12

Hi,

I'm just voicing my support for mask wearing both inside and outside during school.

Thanks,

Cody Howard

Spring Lake

13

I would like to voice my strong support to require mask wearing in all environments at schools both indoors and outside. There should be no exceptions for any reasons. Families that want to be exempt should be doing the distance learning and home school routes.

Sincerely

John Buzolich

14

To whom it may concern, regarding Item D1 to be discussed in the special meeting of the Woodland Joint Unified School District on August 17th, 2021, which is whether WJUSD should adopt a mandate for all students and staff (as well as any parent/adult entering the school grounds) to wear masks outside at all times while on school grounds. I am a concerned grandparent of two students who attend elementary school in WJUSD. It is a fact that, while outdoors during the school day, there will be many instances when students will be in close proximity to each other and also to potentially unvaccinated adults such as crossing guards, any staff member who might be acting as playground attendant, PE teachers, food services employees and the parents of other students (while arriving and leaving campus), etc. With safety being priority for all students and staff, I believe it would be prudent to require all students and staff to wear masks outside as well as inside of buildings while arriving and leaving campus, during school hours, and for extra curricular activities that take place on school grounds outside of school hours, for the 2021/2022 school year. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Marcia Cardoza

15

Hello, I have two children that will be attending Douglass this year. I believe masks should be worn by teachers, staff and students while on campus. I also believe this should be a decision based on science and data and not people's personal views on masks. So regardless of the outcome my children will be wearing their masks. I personally believe it is selfish to stand on the other side of this argument and people who do have no regard for anyone's health but their own.

Thanks for hearing my two cents,

Danielle Caster

16

Hello,

My name is Celina and I am an elementary school parent emailing to address the masking requirements in the WJUSD's Reopening Plan and Covid 19 Impacts. On the Covid 19 Student Health and Safety Protocols under Recess and Breaks it states, "Students will wear masks while outdoors during passing periods, recesses, and lunch breaks with the exception of eating." Per the The California Department of Public Health website, "Masks are optional outdoors for all K-12 school settings." Besides masks not being 'required' outdoors, masks are not proven to prevent the spread of Covid 19. The negative effects of masks are physical, social, and emotional when data shows children's risk is less than other respiratory viruses like influenza. Masks should be optional for everyone at school. Children have the right be able to breathe, socialize, and learn in a healthy

environment and masks do not promote that. We're told the children must wear masks to slow the spread of COVID-19, but numerous studies show that schools without mask requirements for children had case rates just as low as schools which did have mask requirements- currently only 10 states require masks at school. It's our job as parents to work with the district and to make masks a choice and not mandatory for our kids to promote a healthy in person learning environment.

Celina Freitas

17

I am writing today to comment on the discussion of masks being required on school campuses when outside. I am listing facts that should help you see how we need not look to serve ANYONE other than the children of any/all communities when making such decisions. Yes, I'm speaking directly in regard to teacher's unions and how we should care less about what they want. School officials are elected to serve the children and communities in which they represent, NOT labor unions, PERIOD.

American Institute of Economic Research <https://www.aier.org/article/masking-children-tragic-unscientific-and-damaging/>

"One of the most starkly revealing and troubling observations come from Dr. Margarite Griesz-Brisson MD, PhD, who is one of Europe's leading neurologists and neurophysiologists focused on neurotoxicology, environmental medicine, neuro-regeneration and neuroplasticity. She has gone on record stating: The rebreathing of our exhaled air will without a doubt create oxygen deficiency and a flooding of carbon dioxide. We know that the human brain is very sensitive to oxygen deprivation."

This same article quotes how once a mask or face covering of ANY kind becomes saturated with moisture, it's basically useless and it can then only push water droplets out, the very thing we're told to be afraid of. They only work as long as they're dry. All humans breathe at different rates, with different rates of moisture content, also making it impossible to tell when student A needs to swap a mask compared to student B. Which of course would be different than Adult A's needs in comparison.

CDC encourages you to get out and exercise where they also list doing so without a mask is not a bad thing.

Remember, even Dr. Fauci told us in 2020 that masks are not needed and not effective as you may think it is (March 2020 with Jon LaPook, 60 Minutes) source: same as above article from aier.org In a nutshell, kids playing outside breathe harder than at rest, common knowledge. This also would mean that much faster would any/all face coverings be deemed null/void of its intended usage, since they will become saturated much quicker. So what is the point of even having them wear them?

Other than to rebreath their own carbon dioxide, bacteria, and other things the body is trying to PUSH OUT AND AWAY.

Bottom line, this will NOT help children stay safe. This is something that will make someone "feel" safe at the time, but can actually do children harm in the long run in terms of respiratory health.

I encourage the board to re-read your own commitments as you state everyone online and at meetings, which by the way is pretty sad the LAST commitment is: Being Youth-centered. I encourage you to consider moving that up to the top....

Your fourth point of commitment is finding common ground. For those who want masks, you already have the mandate to wear them inside. The science/numbers/documents, whatever you'd like to call them also don't support that decision, yet here we are. Now find that common ground, and give the kids the chance to breathe fresh air outside at least. Each "side" now wins. Give and take.

Not many will leave ANY decision made feeling 100% OK with the outcome. At least an attempt can be made to do the right thing.

The re-instating of the mask requirement for the county does not include outside. NO reason to overstretch already overdone measures.

All of this discussed has not even taken into consideration the greater concern, the future mental health of ALL these children effected by mask wearing. Look up mental health case increases in minors, and that alone will make you sick with worry. Anxiety, depression, oxygen deprivation, all these things are listed within those cases.

Thank you from a father of a sixth grader, who already gets robbed of experiences this year (redwoods alliance trip among other things) and who simply wants to go back to school to learn, see his friends, and feel “normal” again. He even told me “I’ll wear the stupid mask inside if it gets me back to school” and went looking for one. He’s not impressed how he can’t wear a gaiter, but then again, NONE of this makes sense, so why should face covering mandates either.
Sean Lowrey

18

Dear WJUSD School Board,

I streamed the August 12th school board meeting and was left very concerned about the school board’s current plans regarding COVID-19. We are seeing a surge in our community due to the Delta variant with case numbers at levels not seen since January 2021 when schools were still doing distance learning. I feel we need to follow a proactive model rather than a “wait and see” model in regards to keeping our children safe. Whenever we ease up on restrictions we then see a responsive surge in cases. We have a few more months until vaccines are readily available for our elementary-age kids and I believe we should remain diligent in our response until then.

I urge the school board to maintain all measures followed in the spring but applied to a full day schedule: masking at all times on campus, physical distancing as much as possible, class cohorts, symptom checks by staff before entering campus, notifying all parents when a positive case is reported within the class so parents can monitor for symptoms and have students tested, frequent testing available on campuses, and frequent hand washing and hand sanitizer use (especially before and after lunch). The CDC recommends masking even when outdoors for unvaccinated individuals when distancing of 6 feet cannot be maintained between individuals of different households (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/outdoor-activities.html>).

I know we all want to get back to normal for our kids, but the best way to do that is to be proactive now. What we are facing in COVID-19 requires community responsibility and action. My 4th grade daughter will be wearing her mask all day regardless of being indoors/outdoors but masking protects those around you, so for her to be safe others near her need to be masked too. I have two autistic children that are medically unable to wear masks so their safety relies on the actions of others. I’m asking the school board to please keep them safe and all the other children in our community. This virus can only be defeated with community action and diligence.

Thank you,
Linda Donnelly

19

Dear neighbors,

I'm writing to express my support for mandating mask-wearing in schools whenever possible. We need to protect the most vulnerable among us who cannot be vaccinated (like our children). Some may find it challenging (I'm an educator and I find it challenging to communicate through a mask myself) but we must protect each other. Even when it is hard.

Thanks to the school board for working to protect our children, our teachers, and the many staff who support them.

Take care,
Trish Serviss

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Hello, we are Dan and Denise Cueva, parents of 4 in our school district.

First off, thank you for your service to this school board. We can’t imagine any of these decisions you’re tasked with are easy given the element of uncertainty and political climate we have manifested in just about every facet of life these days.

We are opposed to an outdoor masking mandate for our children. This isn’t influenced by politics, but rather a bit of science, some common sense, and just a general feel for what is being considered and how it will affect our children. Here are a few of our thoughts:

- First off, outdoor spread of Covid is unlikely. The outdoor airflow and atmosphere allows for respiratory droplets to disperse and dilute, unlike an indoor setting.

- Ordering our children, even the older middle and high-schoolers, to wear a mask for 6 straight hours is obscene. For our younger elementary school-age children, this almost seems impossible.
- They need reasonable breaks during the school day to not wear a mask if we are enforcing them in the classroom. Let them breathe outside, this is natural, especially if playing.
- Give them some normalcy at school and in our public school system. For our middle-schoolers, in person, they've only known or seen their peers in masks.
- We can rationalize, regardless of belief, the indoor classroom mask mandates given the Science and risk of transfer of the Delta variant. We also understand that as a public school district, these indoor masking mandates may not be your decision, and are influenced or mandated by a higher governing body with the interest of controlling the spread of what is considered a public health emergency.
- Given the availability of proven vaccines for those that choose to protect themselves, and fall under what we consider the at-risk population, we as a district shouldn't punish our children with what we as parents feel is an ill-advised and burdensome outdoor mask mandate.
- In conclusion, the hardship and burden of outdoor masking on our children outweigh any sort of public benefit in mitigating the spread of Covid. Furthermore, for young people, the social and emotional benefits of taking masks off outdoors greatly outweigh the personal and public-health advantages of keeping them on.

We hope this board ultimately dismisses this idea and possible action of outdoor masking for our children.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dan and Denise Cueva

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Dear WJUSD trustees,

I am a mother of four in the WJUSD and I am urging that you do not mandate our kids to have to wear a mask outdoors. It is bad enough that they are required to wear them while indoors in a classroom but to have them wear them outside is asinine and abusive. Our state does not even require the mask mandate outdoors so why on earth would you even consider it?

It has been proven that mask are not all that effective. Our children have lost a substantial amount of leaning time since this pandemic began. distant learning did not work for most kids. WJUSD saw a substantial uprise in children failing so why don't you/we focus on learning and the social aspect that school provides? Teachers need to teach and not be a mask mandator and constantly reminding the kids to pull it up or put it on. Teachers need to be able to read the lips of the kids and vice versa. The mask issue should be left at the discretion of the parent. We are responsible for the well-being of our child and since when does the school board get to make medical decisions for our children? Please stop making this political and stand up and do what is best. WJUSD needs a backbone.

Many districts are leaving it up to the parents as so should you.

Another issue I have is kids need a break, they should not be required to wear them outside. Let them be free and to breathe freely without moist dirty air that is trapped within their mask. Afterall, many kids may feel comfortable wearing them outside but do not make it for all.

My last concern is your option for those who cannot comply will be placed on independent study. I am sorry but some kids have a big problem with masks. They increase their anxiety and you if read a box, they do not provide personal protection, so why?

Every child has the right to adequate education so do just that. Provide our kids with an education that they can be proud of and leave the mask issue alone. All this is doing is those kids who can follow the rules get the education and those who cannot are being punished.

Trustees, I ask that you reconsider the mask issue all together or at the very least leave mask alone when it comes to our kids outside. They need a break after a long day. I would hope that you do not require the kids to wear them during Physical education especially when outdoors.

Your enrollment numbers have dropped, and they will continue if you do not work for us like you were voted in to do.

Thank you,

Melissa Comstock

22

Good afternoon

I would like to voice my strong objection to forcing our students to mask outdoors. While we all want to remain safe, there is wide agreement in the medical community that the risk of transmission for COVID is much lower while outdoors, negating the need for masks while outside. The guidance provided from CDPH also does not recommend masking outdoors. Forcing our students to mask while outside will make it very difficult for them to enjoy their time and engage in any kind of physical activity. This effect will be compounded if our teachers have to chase students down to put their masks on while they play, especially for our younger children. There will be little point to going outside if they can't enjoy their time there. Our children deserve a respite so they can get through their school day without it feeling like torture. In particular, my child has a disability and already struggles keeping his mask on for an extended period of time. Allowing him a break while outside will let him complete his school day without issues. I would ask that this board do right by our children, do the sensible thing, and allow them to be children and enjoy their time outside

Respectfully
Al Villa

23

Dear Members of the School Board and WJUSD,

Thank you for all of your hard work in bringing our kids back to school safely for this school year. I appreciate everything that is being done to keep our kids as safe as possible as they return to in-person learning.

As a healthcare provider and parent of a second grader, I would like to weigh in on agenda item D1 that will be discussed at the 8/17/21 board meeting. I strongly support the recommendation that our kids mask outdoors as well as indoors. In order to keep our kids as safe as possible and reduce their risks of spreading or contracting COVID, evidence suggests that the best way to prevent transmission of COVID-19 is universal masking (outside of vaccination, which all of our under 12yo kids aren't yet eligible for, and a significant number of our 12+ year olds haven't gotten yet). With the ancestral strain of COVID there was strong evidence that being outdoors and unmasked posed an extremely small risk of transmission IF people maintained adequate social distancing. However, we know that the delta variant is much more transmissible, and that viral loads are much higher in individuals with this strain. It is reasonable, then, to postulate that delta variant may be more easily transmitted outdoors especially in a situation where people are unmasked, and closer than 6ft apart.

It is unreasonable to expect that elementary school kids maintain a 6ft distance while playing outdoors. Yes, wearing a mask is inconvenient, and perhaps uncomfortable for many people, but anything we can do to keep our kids safer until they have access to vaccines is worth it.

We have the tools (universal masking, social distancing, testing, vaccination when available) to prevent the spread of COVID among our kids and in our schools, and in our community. We should absolutely use all of these tools to keep our kids and our community as safe as possible. Please enforce an outdoor masking policy for our kids.

During these very hot days of late summer, we should also make sure they have access to ample shade and water while outdoors playing.

Thank you,
Kim Sterner

24

Hi,

I'm just voicing my support for mask wearing both inside and outside during school.

Thanks,
Diana Howard
Spring Lake

25

This pandemic has been brutal on these kids. They lost contact with all of their friends for a majority

of the year then had to go back to a portion of their peers. Now, they have to come back to school, with a whole bunch of new rules and restrictions. Now, they can't play OUTSIDE without masks even though it's been proven that this virus has not been transmitted outside. Please make it about the kids and make these sucky days a little easier for them. ;)

Sifi Spaiids Murillo

26

Information/Action: Adopting Outdoor Masking Requirements for WJUSD

If a Board action is considered for the above item, I would favor the adoption of outdoor masking in concert with the County Health Officer's recommendation. It is important to keep our children safe as well as our schools open. Outdoor masking may provide additional protection to children and staff regardless of vaccination status to avoid an increase in transmission as well as unexpected school closures. This incremental step can help ensure consistency and stability for the upcoming school year.

The rule should be considered as one of a number of preventative measures undertaken to control spread of the virus; one that is adaptable as the pandemic changes and designed to encourage compliance amongst all age groups without strict enforcement or unnecessary consequences. During these difficult times, we all want our children to learn and play in a safe and positive environment. We can best achieve this with a rule that is flexible and guides students to wear masks as best as they can.

Thank you.

Michael Zelazo

27

I urge you to NOT use feelings but FACTS!

Statistics like the CDC does.

28 kids between the ages of 4-17 have died while having the virus since the beginning of the pandemic in California. That's 28 out of over 2 million kids and not even knowing if they died from having underlying health conditions.

Every year 14 children in California die of the regular flu in California. Where does this end? Do you think these kids aren't playing sports and hanging out now without masks?

Requiring them to wear masks outside is not only dumb but it's just becoming politics now.

Ideologies waving their power with zero science to back it up.

Why aren't we wearing masks all the time if 14 kids die every year from the flu?

Facts not feelings or your ideologies with our kids please. Make sense

Joshua Thompson

28

This is to register my strong opposition to the proposed outdoor mask mandate for staff and students. Please do not show tunnel vision. The science does not warrant outdoor masking, and constant wearing of a mask has both physical and psychological ill effects, a fact which tends to be swept aside. Please let parents decide for their children.

Valerie Hetrick

29

Dear WJUSD Board of Trustees,

Thank you for taking the time and effort to outline the health and safety protocols for this upcoming school year. We can all agree that the COVID pandemic has caused a lot of people (myself included) to implement some additional preventative measures in our everyday lives that probably should have been put into place way before the pandemic. As a parent of a 3rd grader at Beamer Park Elementary School, I hope the added cleaning, sanitation and handwashing protocols,

etc. extend beyond this pandemic.

Although I can't say that I agree with 100% of all the health and safety protocols, I hope the preventative measures put into place provide some peace of mind for our students, parents and staff members.

I am not against masking nor am I for masking. There are risks that can come with not wearing a mask as well as risks that come with wearing a face mask for an extended period of time. I don't think an outdoor mask mandate for students and staff should be enforced by the school district especially when the rest of the County is not required to wear masks outdoors. There are County residents that choose to wear masks outdoors. This doesn't make them right or wrong. In my opinion, masking is a personal choice and I believe that it should be up to each parent to decide whether or not their student wears a mask at school.

Please consider personal choice when determining the outdoor face mask requirements for our students.

Thank you,
Kiyomi Morales

30

Hello,

My name is Nick Waldron, I have two children in the WJUSD. One is going into 7th grade at Lee and the other is beginning 1st grade at Plainfield. I am requesting and urging the board to consider the needless point of the outdoor masks for children in the school district.

As a parent, I feel strongly this is a unnecessary step and a hindrance to our children and their health. The outdoor time for students is very important part of their day, and the requirement to wear masks outdoors is a significant restriction on their ability to exercise and socialize outside of their classroom environment. The additional stress on our children is already enough with the classroom requirements and they need their time outside free from that stress. I also believe there is no significant scientific support for the requirement of the children to be wearing masks outdoors.

Thank you,
Nick Waldron, CPA

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Hi,

I would like to voice my opinion against the mandate to make the student, staff or parents wear a mask outdoors, since in Yolo county we are not required to wear masks outdoor in any other activity.

Thanks for hearing my opinion,
Vanessa

32

Members of the school board,

I'm a mother of 3 children who attend WJUSD schools. My family and I support requiring masks outdoors during school, as per CDC guidelines linked below. Yolo County has significant transmission of Covid-19 and our kids under 12 cannot be vaccinated as of yet. Regardless of your decision, I will have my children wear masks whenever possible to protect their classmates.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/outdoor-activities.html>

Thank you for your time.

Brooke Lopez

33

Good evening Superintendent Pritchard, President Whitaker, and Board of Trustees, I hope you're all doing well.

My comments tonight are in regard to item D.1 - Information/Action: Adopting Outdoor Masking for WJUSD. I am pleased the District is following the indoor mask orders by the Yolo County Health Department and guidelines for washing hands and physical distancing during the COVID pandemic. While children 12 and older and adults have the privilege of an available vaccine, protecting them

from severe illness due to COVID, children that are 11 and younger are still vulnerable until the vaccine is made available to them.

I would like to see outdoor mask mandates for WJUSD on campuses with student populations that are 11 and younger. A July 2, 2021 article on WebMD - Pfizer Wants Vax Approval for Ages 5-11 Years Old by Fall suggests that if all goes well with clinical trials we should expect to have school-aged children vaccinated by September or October. This is great news! But we must make sure we do our due diligence until that day comes, and wearing masks outside will be necessary until our young kids have access to a vaccine.

In addition, I'd like to acknowledge that wearing a mask outside in the middle of summer will be absolutely miserable without shade and access to water. We should provide shade structures on campuses that don't have trees or awnings and make sure children have access to their (filled) water bottles before & during recess or lunch breaks.

I appreciate the District and Board recognizing the importance of outdoor mask wearing for our students, and that full in-person learning during a pandemic requires additional precautions. Let's make sure our unvaccinated children are as safe as possible at school.

Thank you,
Brain Coward

Board President

Board Clerk