



MEETING MINUTES

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>
(<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com//SU/Sldfy7j7bmJDHslsh1loppluskdQ==>) (click on the Board Meeting date).

2022 Board Meetings Webpage (<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com//SU/sLTowlvMwAru0yi9zvUQrA==>)
Board Meeting Packet Website (<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com//SU/i3vylcXCZJnExwY84VUbOg==>)

Public Comment to the Board: Members of the public are encouraged to attend Board meetings and to address the Board concerning any item on the agenda or within the Board's jurisdiction.

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
Morgan Childers, Board Member
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.



B. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA - ACTION

Interim Superintendent Elodia Ortega-Lampkin tabled item K.3. Action: Approve Revised Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5131.2: Bullying. Motion was made to approve the agenda as modified at the meeting.

Motion made by: Jake Whitaker

Motion seconded by: Rogelio Villagrana

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Morgan Childers - 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 CLOSED SESSION 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 Closed Session Agenda. Individual speakers shall be allowed three minutes each to address the Board on Closed Session 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.

No one came forward when the Board President requested comments on the Closed Session agenda items.

D. CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

The Board recessed at 5:01 p.m. and reconvened in Closed Session at 5:03 p.m. Closed Session ended at 5:45 p.m.

1. Conference With Labor Negotiator, Leanee Medina Estrada: WEA, CSEA, and/or Unrepresented Employees, Pursuant to Govt. Code 54957.6

2. Conference with Real Property Negotiators Regarding the potential purchase, sale, exchange, or lease of Real Property, Pursuant to Government Code 54956.8, for the following properties:

a. Property: Land Acquisition for Potential Elementary School in the Woodland Research and Technology Park (WRTP) as Specified in the WRTP Specific Plan, Agency Negotiator: Elodia Ortega-Lampkin, Interim Superintendent and Lewis Wiley, Associate Superintendent, Business Services, Negotiating Parties: Woodland Joint Unified School District

E. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION - 6:00 P.M.



The Board President reconvened the meeting in Open Session at 6:00 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Morgan Childers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board President announced that a Special Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 15 at 5:00 p.m. for the Board to consider adopting optional outdoor masking protocols.

2. Announcement of any action taken in Closed Session or items to be approved in Open Session that were reviewed in Closed Session

The Board President announced that no action was taken in Closed Session.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR SECTIONS G. CONSENT AGENDA AND H. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

There were no public comments for sections G. Consent Agenda and H. Community Engagement.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

Trustee Rogelio Villagrana pulled the following Consent Agenda item for separate action: G.1.a. Approve Purchases of Items/Services in Excess of \$15,000: List 11-22.

Motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda, as modified at the meeting.

Motion made by: Rogelio Villagrana

Motion seconded by: Morgan Childers

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Morgan Childers - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes

Noel Rodriguez - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

1. Business Services

a. Approve Purchases of Items/Services in Excess of \$15,000: List 11-22

Motion was made to Approve Purchases of Items/Services in Excess of \$15,000: List 11-22, with the following modification: the funding source for Purchase Order #2 HMC Architects and Purchase Order #3 Mobile Modular were changed to the Spring Lake fund.

Motion made by: Rogelio Villagrana

Motion seconded by: Morgan Childers



Regular Board Meeting
02/10/2022 - 05:00 PM
District Office Board Room
435 6th Street
Woodland, CA 95695

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes
Morgan Childers - Yes
Bibiana Garcia - Yes
Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes
Noel Rodriguez - Yes
Rogelio Villagrana - Yes
Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

2. Human Resources

- a. Approve Certificated Personnel Report, 22-11
- b. Approve Classified Personnel Report, 22-11

3. Superintendent's Office

a. Approve Board Meeting Minutes:

- I. January 13, 2022 - Special Board Meeting
- II. January 20, 2022 - Regular Board Meeting

b. Approve Resolution 34-22: African American History Month – February 2022

c. Approve Resolution 35-22: Career Technical Education (CTE) Month - February 2022

d. Approve Resolution 36-22: Resolution to Excuse Board Members Attendance at Meetings of the Board of Trustees

H. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1. Presentation: Resolution 34-22: African American History Month – February 2022

Trustee Noel J. Rodriguez presented Resolution 34-22: African American History Month to Yolo County Superintendent of Schools Garth Lewis.

2. Presentation: Resolution 35-22: Career Technical Education (CTE) Month - February 2022

Trustee Morgan Childers presented Resolution 35-22: Career Technical Education (CTE) Month to Pioneer High School Culinary Teacher Laith Morse.

3. Action: Approve Gifts to the District



Motion was made to approve Gifts to the District.

Motion made by: Jake Whitaker

Motion seconded by: Rogelio Villagrana

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Morgan Childers - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes

Noel Rodriguez - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

I. PUBLIC COMMENT TO THE BOARD (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 agenda or within the Board's jurisdiction. Individual speakers shall be allowed three minutes each to address the Board on agenda or non-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.

Debbie Roe shared information regarding a recent Community Advisory Committee meeting.

Woodland HS Student Annamarie Reichenbach spoke on behalf of the student body to request that prom be held, and she shared that they were willing to follow the guidelines necessary to attend the event.

Amanda McGregor, Keshia Oesterle, Brigit Huxsoll, and three individuals via voicemail, expressed their opposition to COVID-19 masking mandates.

The Board recessed the meeting at 6:37 p.m. and resumed the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Becca Bernard (via voicemail) thanked the District for making health a priority.

J. REPORTS

1. Report from Student Board Members

Pioneer High School Student Board Member Bryan Fernandez Gonzalez shared information about Pioneer HS events.

Woodland High School Student Board Member Annamarie Reichenbach shared information about Woodland HS events.

2. Interim Superintendent's Report



Interim Superintendent Elodia Ortega-Lampkin shared district updates.

3. Report from California School Employees Association (CSEA)

CSEA President Brandi Bolden shared information regarding CSEA activities.

4. Report from Woodland Education Association (WEA)

Public Comment:

Garret Wright stated that the WEA President communicated a message that encouraged public comments that supported universal masking, and he shared his opposition to COVID-19 mask mandates.

Emily Murphey and one individual expressed their opposition to COVID-19 mask mandates.

WEA President Jennifer Drewek shared information regarding WEA activities (via voicemail).

5. Report from Board Members

Trustees Richardson Fowler, Rodriguez, Childers, Bautista Zavala, Villagrana, and Whitaker shared information regarding activities that they have participated in since the last Regular Board Meeting.

6. Information: Board Committee Updates

Trustees Bautista Zavala and Villagrana shared information from a recent Collaborative for Woodland Youth meeting.

Trustee Whitaker shared information from a recent Environmental Stewardship Committee meeting.

Trustee Rodriguez shared information from a recent Ethnic Studies Board Committee meeting.

The Board recessed the meeting at 7:23 p.m. and resumed the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

K. GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

1. Information/Action: Update on WJUSD Redistricting Process and Mapping Scenarios

Public Comment:

Maribel Quintana, Douglass MS Counselor, expressed that she felt that the school attendance areas needed revisions.

Motion was made to approve Scenario #1 Map for the WJUSD Redistricting of Trustee Areas.

Motion made by: Rogelio Villagrana

Motion seconded by: Bibiana Garcia

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - No

Morgan Childers - Yes



Bibiana Garcia - Yes
Kandice Richardson Fowler - No
Noel Rodriguez - No
Rogelio Villagrana - Yes
Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

2. PUBLIC HEARING: The Board previously received a presentation detailing the requirement of districts that elect by-trustee area to review their population demographics following each decennial census and adjust their trustee area boundaries to insure population balance. That presentation also covered the impact of the 2020 census on the district's trustee area boundaries and shared draft adjusted maps for the board's consideration. It is recommended the board conduct a public hearing for the purpose of obtaining input on the draft adjusted trustee area map plan scenarios that have been prepared to balance the total population amongst the trustee areas in accordance with Education Code section 5019.5, and to select a final plan to be utilized effective the November, 2022 election.

The Board President opened a Public Hearing at 8:39 p.m. As no one came forward to speak on the subject, the Public Hearing concluded at 8:39 p.m.

a. Action: Approve Resolution 33-22: Approving Adjusted Trustee Area Boundaries

Motion was made to approve Resolution 33-22: Approving Adjusted Trustee Area Boundaries.

Motion made by: Rogelio Villagrana

Motion seconded by: Morgan Childers

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - No
Morgan Childers - Yes
Bibiana Garcia - Yes
Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes
Noel Rodriguez - No
Rogelio Villagrana - Yes
Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

3. Action: Approve Revised Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5131.2: Bullying

This item was tabled.

4. Information: Board Goals for 2022

The Information item "Board Goals for 2022" was presented by the Board President, and the Board provided feedback for edits.

5. Information: Review Board Commitments and Agreements



The Information item "Review Board Commitments and Agreements" was presented by the Board President.

6. Action: Resolution Allowable Under AB 361: Brown Act Teleconferencing

Motion was made to approve the Resolution Allowable Under AB 361: Brown Act Teleconferencing.

Motion made by: Morgan Childers

Motion seconded by: Kandice Richardson Fowler

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Morgan Childers - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Yes

Noel Rodriguez - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

L. TEACHING AND LEARNING

1. Information: Report on Magnet Schools and Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM) Programs

The Information item "Report on Magnet Schools and Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM) Programs" was presented in a PowerPoint presentation by Executive Director of Teaching and Learning Christina Lambie, and Director of Equity and Access Maria Orozco.

2. Information: Secondary Late Start Implementation Plan Update for the 2022-23 School Year

Public Comment:

Pioneer HS Junior Students Ryan Cristo and Mohini Sharma shared their support for the Proposed Late Start HS Schedule, and they also shared that they surveyed their junior class and the results showed that 91.3% of juniors also supported the proposed schedule.

The Information item "Secondary Late Start Implementation Plan Update for the 2022-23 School Year" was presented in a PowerPoint presentation by Director of College and Career Readiness Lore Carrillo.

M. FACILITIES AND FINANCE

1. Information: Average Daily Attendance (ADA) and Enrollment Report for the 2021-22 School Year (Written Report)

The Information item "Average Daily Attendance (ADA) and Enrollment Report for the 2021-22 School Year" was presented as a written report.



N. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Action: Public Hearing and Approve the Initial Proposal to the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the Woodland Joint Unified School District (WJUSD) and the California School Employees Association (CSEA), Chapter 118, for the 2022-2025 Successor Agreement

The Board President opened a Public Hearing at 9:05 p.m. As no one came forward to speak on the subject, the Public Hearing concluded at 9:05 p.m.

Motion was made to approve the Initial Proposal to the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the Woodland Joint Unified School District (WJUSD) and the California School Employees Association (CSEA), Chapter 118, for the 2022-2025 Successor Agreement.

Motion made by: Rogelio Villagrana

Motion seconded by: Morgan Childers

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes

Morgan Childers - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - Yes

Kandice Richardson Fowler - Not Present

Noel Rodriguez - Yes

Rogelio Villagrana - Yes

Jake Whitaker - Yes

Motion Passed

O. INFORMATION: TRUSTEE REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

P. INFORMATION: CLOSING COMMENTS

Q. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT SCHEDULED REGULAR BOARD MEETING: February 24, 2022 - Closed Session at 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. for Open Session.

R. ADJOURNMENT

The Board President adjourned the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

Public Comments Submitted Via Email

Hello WJUSD,

My name is Emily Murphey and I am a parent of a DI first grader at Dingle and a DI TK student at Beamer Elementary.

I am writing today to express my concern with the lack of progress our district is making in terms of allowing Children's facial expressions to be allowed and seen on our campuses. A smile hasn't been seen by teacher or student in over a year. Why are our students the only members of society being forced to cover their faces while outdoors? It's hypocritical, unnecessary and proven scientifically wasteful in terms of preventing



Regular Board Meeting
02/10/2022 - 05:00 PM
District Office Board Room
435 6th Street
Woodland, CA 95695

transmission of covid outdoors.

Throw us reasonable, rational thinking parents a bone here. Take away outdoor masking effective immediately.

Allow our youth to live like you do... mask free outdoors. Show them with your leadership that you believe their smiles deserve to be seen. You can do this safely, without harm. Stadiums and concerts are filled with 10's of thousands of shoulder to shoulder patrons enjoying themselves outdoors maskless. They can do this because it's safe. And currently allowed and approved by the California Department of Public Health.

Fresh air and smiles can make an immediate positive impact on my daughter's daily lives. **END OUTDOOR MASKING NOW!!**

Thank you for taking my sincere concerns into consideration,

Emily Murphey

Good evening,

I am writing in to ask that the board and WJUSD remove outdoor masking, it's long past time! Yolo county doesn't have an outdoor mask mandate, yet our children are forced to wear masks while playing outside. Dr. Sisson has stated she doesn't think masking children outside is necessary, yet here we are 7 months into the school year still masked outside! We are the only district in our area with an outdoor mask policy and one of the very few to enforce outdoor masking in the whole country! I know the district has lost staff and students due to these mandates, if we do not see things moving forward now, be prepared to lose more! I guarantee there is not one wjUSD staff member that wears their mask for 8 hours straight, yet the students are expect to, with no break?

Most students and staff have had covid, many are vaccinated. It is time to move forward, some children do not know school without masks. It is time for mask choice, it is time to focus on what is best to promote student learning and growth! Covid cannot be the driving force in academics, this has become abundantly clear by how behind students are. Our children have sacrifice so much, we need to start focusing on what they want and believe me choosing to wear a mask or not is what they want!

Thank you,

Amy David

Members of WJUSD school board,

I'm the parent of 3 children currently attending WJUSD and I understand you may have lots of comments at this meeting regarding masks in our schools. I want to give you my support for masking of staff and students as per the state mandate and the Yolo county mandate. Prior to the 20-21 school year my children attended



Regular Board Meeting
02/10/2022 - 05:00 PM
District Office Board Room
435 6th Street
Woodland, CA 95695

a private school which unfortunately did not take the pandemic as seriously as WJUSD. As a registered nurse who works in the community, my husband and I felt it was the best course of action to pull our children out of this school and enroll them in WJUSD, not only for the health of our family but also for our children's teachers, fellow classmates, and our entire community. We are very happy with our decision and all of our children are thriving in their schools. Thank you for taking Covid seriously and looking out for the health of all the staff and students in the District.

Brooke Lopez

Board Members,

Please take a moment to read my attached letter regarding your position on current policies and making changes.

Dear WJUSD and Board Members,

My name is Randi Nannini and I am a 1 st grade teacher in this district. I am writing to ask that when the state drops the mask mandate on February 15 th , we do what is right for the well-being of children and end the mask mandate at the WJUSD schools.

Quoting an email send out from the WJUSD, "this is a formal notice that all staff and students are considered exposed to COVID." You sent this email to all students and staff in January. If your position is that all students and staff have been exposed, then why are we still wearing masks? If the state is choosing to free this restriction, we should also.

Young children do not need to wear masks, especially outdoors. Children need to breathe fresh air, look at other children to learn social cues from facial expressions, and frankly not be stifled by the masks.

Children are not learning appropriate social cues due to the lack of facial interactions. The district made these rules, and are leaving teachers to enforce them. Teachers are being ridiculed and harassed by other staff and parents if a student has a mask down. We no longer have the freedom to just educate these kids. We are policing your policies. Teaching in this climate is challenging enough without the added pressures of watching for proper mask usage while doing it.

If your true stance is that everyone has been exposed, then please end this mask policy. At the very least, drop the outdoor usage mandate. We are causing more harm than good.

Thank you,

Randi Nannini

Please reconsider your mask requirement at recess for Woodland schools. We are one of only a few districts doing this and it's simply unfair to our children. Woodland Christian has never required masks on their kids



outdoors, and those kids are thriving. I suppose this means if you are affluent enough to send your child to a private school, then you don't have to worry about Covid? WJUSD is losing SO many good kids and families because of the board's overreach in forcing kids to wear masks. The reality is there is no scientific evidence of outdoor masking being effective. Neither the CDC nor CDPH recommend outdoor masking for K-12 schools. Neither the State of California nor Yolo County require outdoor masking. Why are we doing this to our children?

It's been proven that masking kids has a negative affect on their ability to learn language and social skills. With the warmer days ahead we need to let our children breath! The use of "community case counts" does not correlate to an individual's risk of outdoor transmission in a school setting. The risk of outdoor transmission is functionally non-existent

The parents of Yolo county are fed up, and every single board member should be held personally liable when it's further proven that masking children is harmful.

Allyson Pinegar

Dear Trustees,

I wanted to start by sharing that on the California School Board Association website it states:

"The role of the school board is to ensure that the school districts are responsive to the values, beliefs and priorities of their communities."

Keeping that quote in mind, I am beyond frustrated and disappointed that we as parents continuously have had to reach out over the past two years to remind you that you were NOT elected to parent our children and you were NOT elected to make medical choices for our children. The Woodland Joint Unified School Board needs to stay in their lane! You have been elected to represent us- the people, parents and students of Woodland. Your thoughts, feelings and personal agendas don't matter whatsoever. Looking for guidance from huge school districts like Los Angeles is unrelatable and doesn't matter! You are supposed to be representing the VALUES, BELIEFS and PRIORITIES of your COMMUNITY.

It has been absolutely disheartening to see our children sent to school in masks daily. They have been unable to fully see their teacher's or their friend's facial expressions for 2 years which is a key factor in language building. It's even more disheartening that our children can't even be outside without a mask while our supposed "leaders" in California who set these so-called mandates such as Governor Newsom and Mayor Garcetti attend INDOOR football game MASKLESS in California! It is maddening that Yolo County takes direction from these hypocritical clowns and that the Woodland Joint Unified School Board School Board continues to follow along with this nonsense as well. Do the correct thing and remove the mask mandate effective immediately!

Another frustrating topic is parent volunteers. We were all notified on January 6th from the Interim Superintendent that Parent Volunteers would be happening soon. However, there has no progression. Rumor has it that it was because this last variant of the virus was "too dangerous", for parents to be in and out of the classrooms. Ironically enough, School Board members were not only able to enter various schools throughout the district, just recently, they also went into multiple classrooms. How hypocritical is that logic? Once again, here is another example of elected officials abusing their authority and bending the rules for them. The saying



Regular Board Meeting
02/10/2022 - 05:00 PM
District Office Board Room
435 6th Street
Woodland, CA 95695

“Rules for thee and not for me” applies not only at the federal and state level, but very clearly within the Woodland Joint Unified School Board as well.

It’s time for the WJUSD School Board to step up and do the right thing. Unmask the children and let the parents volunteer in the classrooms! The children need it. The teachers need it. The parents need it. Enough is enough!

Best,

Elissa Farnham

Hello,

I am emailing to let the school board know that masking needs to end at schools for everyone. Vaccinated or not everyone at school should be able to have mask choice. If someone is vaccinated that is their choice and if someone is not that is also their choice especially since both can transmit the virus. Given low case and death rates and the mildness of the Omicron variant these preventative measures are no longer necessary. Mask choice needs to be the approach because death rates from Covid in children with no underlying health conditions have been low this whole pandemic. The school board has not been making choices in the best interest of the students and have been overarching by making the kids wear masks outside when it’s not required by the state or CDC. Our kids deserve a normal life again. I hope you all start making better choices for the students that are based on the science.

Thank you,

Celina

Dear WJUSD Board of Trustees, Interim Superintendent Ortega-Lampkin

I am witting in in support of continuing the mask mandate for students in WJUSD. I know tonight many parents will voice their support for dropping the mask wearing requirement for students. I also know we are all tired and weary of all the restrictions COVID has caused, so I understand.

However many of our WJUSD families have family members that for one reason or another are immune compromised and at high risk from COVID. Students not wearing masks would make it necessary for those students to home school or attend flex academy. I ask that we wait until it is recommended for school children to be mask free to drop this requirement; that we not exclude the vulnerable from our schools.

Respectfully,

Vicki Keith

Please consider reading my letter. Please hear my heart. Our kids need us all to do better.

Members of the WJUSD School Board,



Thank you for the opportunity to send you my thoughts on mask mandates for our WJUSD school Children. I am the mother of three boys, 2 of whom go to school at Pioneer High. The past two years have been rough on all of us- parents, teachers and our children-alike. I appreciate the School Board has done their best to protect our children and have done what they thought was best for everyone in the community. But it is time to stop pretending that masking is solving a problem for our school children in this city.

Today our County's Dr. Aimee Sisson announced that indoor mask mandates are being lifted for our county next week. In the Press Release it said, "data from the state of California and other regions dramatically demonstrates that hospitalization data no longer tracks with case rates." Do you realize that per Cal Matters, our county has the lowest number of case rates for those counties that track the numbers (less than 4 cases per 100,000 people)? Our own case numbers sent to all the parents for the week of January 31st showed for our whole school district there were only 61 CASES for the whole school district. THE WHOLE DISTRICT. And four of those cases are at the District office, so not even staff that spend their whole working day with our students. So our County case numbers are down, the number of cases in our schools are down, but our kids still need to be masked. Why? Just a month ago, I was getting emails for my two boys daily that one or both of them had been in a class with a COVID positive student, but now the numbers for the whole high school they attend are less than 10. For the whole school. Why? It isn't due to masks. Masking hasn't changed.

What has changed? The virus and its virulency. We know this from the news. We know this from the CDC. Case numbers are down. Our own Public Health Department tells us this. Our own Governor has shown he isn't worried about the virus. How? By showing up to a football game in So Cal and being photographed sitting and talking and standing around with others, maskless. Let's stop the charade. Our kids deserve better.

Data has shown that our school age children have the least risk of being dramatically sick or affected by the virus. Dr. Jeanne Noble, Director of COVID response for UCSF's Emergency Department, pointed out in an interview this week that kids are the lowest group in terms of serious illness or death. So why are we making them suffer? Why are we making them wear a face diaper for up to 8 hours a day (for our older kids)? A child has a greater risk of being injured in a pool drowning than by COVID, yet we make them suffer?

How do they suffer? For our younger kids, they suffer from the ability to see their friend's facial expressions and smiles. This is hard on their mental health. Some of you on the Board have young children. Have you asked them if they miss their friends' smiles? Let me tell you, my teenagers miss seeing their friends' faces and I am talking about teenage boys! I keep hearing from the high school that we want to help your students with their mental health. You know what would help? Let them see each other again. Let them breathe fresh air all day, not just sometimes. Let them be kids.

The difference between us as adults and our children is this: you and I, we have a choice. We can walk away. We can walk outside. But our kids are expected to sit in class. Our kids are expected to learn when they are mentally struggling each day. My boys get headaches regularly now. They never did before this school year: that wasn't a normal thing for either of them. My oldest suffers from horrific dizziness now and no specialist can figure out why. He asked me the other day, "What if it is because I have to wear a mask all day?" What if??? Yes, the teachers let the kids go outside for some air if they ask, but why should our kids be in this place



where they have to ask to get fresh air??

I know you are thinking, but we don't have the power to lift the mask mandate. Yes, you do. A mandate isn't a law. You can say, "we believe in the science and we believe our kids should get to be kids." Our own Dr Sisson is telling you the case numbers are down. You, the School Board, can stand up for the kids you were elected to help and say, "ENOUGH."

I am asking you to allow for parental choice for masks. I am asking you to lift the school mask mandate and allow parents to choose if they want their kids to wear a mask during the day.

I am asking you to remember that the parents in this city voted you into your seats on the Board because we trusted you to take our children into account in all your decisions. Your position is for the kids, and no one else.

I implore you to think of our kids. I implore you to think of their physical AND mental health. I implore you to stand up for what is right for the kids.

Thank you for your time,

Carrie-Ann Houdeshell

I'm Zach Kincaid, back again to comment in regards to the vaccine and masking mandates, both current and potential. The last time I spoke with you, I came in with optimism, but was met with dismissal and delays.

You, the trustees, have ridiculed, gas lit, and ignored the concerned parents who have come begging and pleading for you to cease your attack on our children. Your claims that you are bound to only follow orders and that you have no power to correct this situation are not only outright lies, but also the weakest excuses you could use to squirm your way away from the responsibility you have been entrusted with. You are knowingly making parents feel that they have been backed into a corner. We all know you understand the stress you have placed on us, because your own parents have come to these meetings in order to confront us about you and defend your actions with the same nonsense: it's not the trustees fault.

Our children are the least susceptible in this pandemic and studies have proven that child to staff transmission is the least likely way for a teacher or staff member to become infected and as far as I can tell, has never even been recorded. Other studies prove that the masks required at our schools, both paper and cloth, are ineffective at best, and at worst horribly detrimental to the mental health and development of our children, especially those students who are learning English as a second language or are hearing impaired. Outdoor Masking is disgraceful, inhumane, and needs to end immediately. Indoor masking needs to end at least by February 15th alongside the state and county requirements.

Parents, grandparents, and volunteers, even those who have been vaccinated, have been disallowed from participation on campus, unvaccinated students have been banned from participation in school activities, and rumors are circulating about mask requirements for unvaccinated students only. Dividing students by status will create a physically and psychologically dangerous environment. While you promote your stances on



Regular Board Meeting
02/10/2022 - 05:00 PM
District Office Board Room
435 6th Street
Woodland, CA 95695

inclusivity, social emotional needs, and harassment, you enact policy that restricts interaction, damages mental and emotional health, segregates students and encourages bullying.

My grandfather was a lifelong educator who spent countless nights and weekends teaching, mentoring, and helping raise his students, his kids. Hearing teachers described as selfish would have deeply upset him. Yet here we are, with the district allowing their own fear and paranoia to trump the best interests of the children who are compelled to attend and who you are legally bound to provide an education.

Now that every student is considered exposed, and mandates everywhere are ending, it is time for this board to drop their restrictions in its schools and on its students and we request that this get added to your agenda, or for you to call a special meeting, or whatever it takes to get this done.

We are the "certain community members" and these students are OUR children

Zach Kincaid

Board President

Board Clerk