



## MEETING MINUTES

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### 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 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](mailto: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

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#### Voting Members

Deborah Bautista Zavala, Clerk  
Morgan Childers, Board Member  
Bibiana Garcia, Board Member  
Noel Rodriguez, Board Member  
Rogelio Villagrana, Vice President  
Jake Whitaker, President

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### 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**

The Board President 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

Morgan Childers - Yes

Bibiana Garcia - 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 expressed their opposition to COVID-19 masking mandates: Emily Murphey, Amanda MGregor, Jackie Gnos, Rebecca Weinhardt, and two individuals via voicemail.

Laura Brubaker and Eric (via voicemail) expressed that if the board chose to follow the recommendation from the Yolo County Public Health Officer to lift the outdoors mask mandate, then they should also verify that the majority of students are vaccinated as also recommended, prior to making the decision.

Sean Ditty described an incident with the Board President, and shared that the FBI visited his home.

Jennifer Owens (via voicemail) expressed her support for keeping the outdoor masking requirement for elementary students.

Motion was made to extend public comments for an additional ten minutes.

Motion made by: Deborah Bautista Zavala

Motion seconded by: Bibiana Garcia

Voting:

Deborah Bautista Zavala - Yes



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District Office Board Room  
435 6th Street  
Woodland, CA 95695

Morgan Childers - Yes  
Bibiana Garcia - Yes  
Noel Rodriguez - Yes  
Rogelio Villagrana - Yes  
Jake Whitaker - Yes

**Motion Passed**

The following individuals expressed their opposition to COVID-19 masking mandates: Norman Dewberry, Rolando Pimentel, Zack Kincaid, and three individuals.

**D. GOVERNANCE SUPPORT**

**1. Action: Adopt Optional Outdoor Masking Protocols**

Motion was made to lift the WJUSD Outdoor Masking Protocols effective immediately and will default to implementing the guidance on masking from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). When such guidance changes, the Interim Superintendent has the authority to implement the changes, and the district will inform parents and the community immediately (i.e. via email/ParentSquare), and distribute a press release to the media.

Motion made by: Jake Whitaker

Motion seconded by: Morgan Childers

Voting:

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

**Motion Passed**

**E. ADJOURNMENT**

The Board President adjourned the meeting at 5:38 p.m.

**Public Comments Submitted Via Email**

I am writing in to urge the board and district to allow mask choice. It is time! We cannot continue to live our lives putting covid over everything. Hyper focusing on covid while ignoring all the negatives covid measures leave in their wake is only setting our students farther behind.

We now know masks liking do and did very little in the way of stopping covid. We also know they are causing speech and other developmental delays. So let's start weighing out the pros and cons, covid measures effect all students differently. We need to start thinking about what is best for all students.



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Our children have sacrificed the most during all of this, we now need to focus on helping them and bring back some normalcy to their academic lives.

Please consider the opinions, thoughts and feelings of all parents and students NOT just the ones you agree with!

We have complied against our will long enough and we are DONE!

Thank you,  
Amy

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It is almost funny to look back at perspectives that were considered gospel over the last two years, which have now been proven to be ridiculously untrue. Ideas such as lockdowns as a way to slow the spread, effective masks made of old T-shirts or the promise that you can't get COVID after you received the vaccine are now laughable. I believe the idea that continuing to mask children will be something we look back on and laugh, and then cry at how foolish we really were.

At tonight's board meeting I expect a lot of empty discussion on "what is right" all to make no real decision other than to continue down this road of following whatever the teachers union and the state want of our children. As I wrote to you in a letter over a year ago, do not fool yourself into thinking that you are helping. You are simply trading one crisis for another. In the name of safety you have cost our children more than we may ever know. The rate of child suicide, depression, anxiety as well as the untold amount of learning loss should be evidence enough that this charade needs to stop.

Since you have continued to take the position of just defaulting to whatever the state wants, I implore one of you to make a motion that when the state gives the district the choice on child masking, that you in turn give that choice to the parents. No need to have a waiting period or further discussion - decide today. As noted in Dr Sission's own rescinded order: families have had enough time to vaccinate if they so desire, there are far more at home treatments for those infected, deaths and hospitalizations are a fraction of what they were a year ago and, children continue to be the least affected population. If she truly believes those are good enough reasons to give the choice to adults for their own health, it is good enough to give them the choice over their own children.

Matt Van Peurse

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Hello,

As a Woodland elementary school parent I am in favor of mask choice in schools in all settings, indoor and outdoor, no matter the students or staffs vaccination status. As of today the state's mask mandate is no longer in effect except for in schools. I know this board says they can't make their own decisions about mandates but they can, as other California school boards have decided to go against the state guidelines because of the facts that have been made clear in this pandemic. The virus is mild for children and they are the least at risk of



dying from it. In the summer of 2021 Woodland summer schools allowed mask choice at recess and currently kids are allowed to take their masks off at lunch. Most students wear cloth masks and the cdc states they provide the least protection to the virus. This week's case rates were a total of 46 cases in the district with 0 deaths in the county and with a total of 284 covid deaths total in Yolo County during the whole pandemic. We're told our kids have to wear masks until 50% of the school is vaccinated to keep them from spreading the virus but those who are vaccinated still get infected and can transmit the virus as easily as those who are unvaccinated. At this point we need to learn to live with the virus and each family can make their own choices on masks and vaccines for their kids.

Celina Freitas

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Hello members of the WJUSD board,

I'm the parent of 3 children currently attending WJUSD schools. If you choose to lift the outdoor mask mandate at tonight's session, I fully support you. The outdoor masking made sense with the school's prior contact tracing, but with that no longer in place, it makes sense to lift the outdoor masking.

I do hope you will be careful as to the right time to lift the indoor mask mandates. Only 25% of kids 5-11 years old in California are vaccinated against Covid at this time. Dr. Sisson recommends mask mandates in schools can be lifted when 50% of students are vaccinated. I understand these are difficult decisions to make and some people will be upset no matter what you decide to do. Thank you for your time and for looking out for the kids of WJUSD.

Brooke Lopez

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Dear board of trustees,

I am in favor of the optional outdoor masking protocol. The CDC recommends that it is not necessary to wear masks outdoors. We have been under covid protocols for two years now. It is time we give our students and staff a break from masks.

A potential problem could be children misplacing or switching masks. This could be solved by assuming each student has a lanyard attached to the mask so it can easily be removed and put on.

The CDC recommendation for wearing masks outdoors says "In general, people do not need to wear masks when outdoors (e.g., participating in outdoor play, recess, and physical education activities). CDC recommends people who are not fully vaccinated wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people."

Our schools are not crowded outdoor spaces. Staff and students generally have enough space to distance themselves from each other.

Please consider these facts when making your final decision. Thank you.



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WJUSD Physical Education Teacher

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Board President

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Board Clerk