



Melanie Martinoff <mmartinoff@msd.k12.or.us> **Mandate masks**

Amanda Gregory <amandagregory913@gmail.com> Sun, Jul 25, 2021 at 6:35 PM To: schoolboard@msd.k12.or.us

Dear School Board Members,

We know how important it is to have students back in the classroom with their peers and teachers. We know how exciting and important it is to feel a sense of normal again. We also know that children under 12 cannot yet receive a vaccine which leaves many of our student population unprotected. We have seen the research that supports mask wearing to reduce the spread of COVID-19, and did it successfully back in the spring.

As a parent and an employee of McMinnville School District I urge you to follow the recommendations of the AAP, CDC, and newest RSSL framework. Please mandate mask wearing while inside all school buildings by all students and staff regardless of vaccination status. With the primary focus on elementary and middle schools due to students current inability to receive a vaccine because of age restrictions.

I know you'll get pushback with either decision you make, but please look at the science and follow the recommendations from the before mentioned agencies. The health of our students and community depend on it.

Sincerely,

Amanda Gregory



Melanie Martinoff <mmartinoff@msd.k12.or.us> **Please don't mask our children**

Cindy Schroeder <runtotorun@onlinemac.com> Mon, Aug 2, 2021 at 11:13 AM To: SchoolBoard@msd.k12.or.us

I worked for MSD for 25 years before retiring.....

I am emailing to voice my **opposition** to masking students this Fall.....I did an internet search on the topic...Masking our kids....the results are all over the map. The data shows support for and against....

I believe the final decision should be the parents! They know what is best for their own children.

Cindy Schroeder



Melanie Martinoff <mmartinoff@msd.k12.or.us> **Masks for fall 2021**

Angie <girlylynx@yahoo.com> Thu, Jul 22, 2021 at 2:02 PM To: mmartinoff@msd.k12.or.us

As a parent of a former McMinnville student and a grandparent to several upcoming students, I am writing this letter to request that the school district make masks optional for our students. Watching my second grade grandson, who struggles with sensory issues, have melt down after melt down over his masks last year just tore us up inside. Children have an extremely low infection rate and they do not represent the groups that are at risk. I personally taught in a local preschool last year with 75 unmasked children and we had literally ZERO cases. The teachers wore clear face shields and no masks.

If a parent feels more comfortable keeping their child masked, then that should be up to the parent. Optional masks are my vote 100 percent!

Thank you for your consideration.

Angela Linck

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone



Melanie Martinoff <mmartinoff@msd.k12.or.us>

Updated Covid-19 guidelines

1 message

notification@sharpschool.com <notification@sharpschool.com> Mon, Aug 2, 2021 at 12:44 PM To: noreply@sharpschool.com

The following email message was generated by a user filling in a contact form on your website. It was sent from the following IP address: 73.240.118.97

I would like to inquire if there have been any changes to the current course for in person learning for the 2021-2022 school year. As it stands, with the current situation regarding the delta variant of Covid-19 and the posted policies on the districts website, I feel extremely uncomfortable sending my child to school for in person learning.

Thank you for your time.

Sent By: Randal Sheldon

Sent From: rsheldon113@gmail.com



Melanie Martinoff <mmartinoff@msd.k12.or.us> **Mask requirements**

'Jackieblu Loya' via School Board Email <schoolboard@msd.k12.or.us> Mon, Aug 2, 2021 at 1:06 PM Reply-To: Jackieblu Loya <jackieblu@me.com>

To: SchoolBoard@msd.k12.or.us

Mcminnville School Board.

I would like to call on you for support in regards to our children this next year. This has been a very traumatic time for our children, and even more for those in working class and poor families that are barely making it , and yet had to continue to pay for care. Even when they were allowed to go back to school, I had NO way of getting my 9 year old there in the middle of the day while I was at work. Plus, she has trouble with transitioning because of her ASD/ ADHD.

Now, we are seeing that the school district is asking to have our children wear masks this next year, which hasn't been scientifically proven to change anything. There will always be a variant (like the flu) and at some point we will need to get on with our lives. I ask that you take a look at the model Crook County school District and others are applying for the upcoming school year and consider EVERYONE.

This has gone on long enough. Our children have already fallen behind in their education in comparison to other states and countries who have had schools open most of this time. They don't deserve more punishment. I have special needs children and they have all suffered without in person learning. Distance learning was not productive and kind of a joke . My daughters daycare could barely keep up with the lessons or meetings let alone get her to sit still long enough.

Anyway, I'm sure you're hearing this for the millionth time, and who knows if you've even taken the time to read this email, but we are tired.

I would've liked my children to continue with their education through MSD , however , I will have to

consider unenrolling my students for the upcoming school year if these mask mandates continue, and this back and forth.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jackieblu Loya
971-237-9394



Melanie Martinoff <mmartinoff@msd.k12.or.us> **Mask Mandate**

Tyson Smith <mrtsmith1@gmail.com> Tue, Aug 3, 2021 at 9:14 PM To: info@msd.k12.or.us

My wife and I understand that Kate Brown has reinforced the mask mandate. We are also aware that multiple other districts are going to push back and try to keep it a district choice. We hope that you will consider getting onboard with the decision to take our children's psychological health serious. And allow masks be optional based on the parents decision on what's best for their children. Children are literally killing themselves over these BS lockdowns and mandates. Make the children a priority!

Sent from my iPhone



Melanie Martinoff <mmartinoff@msd.k12.or.us>

School year plans (CDL/hybrid options)

1 message

Shannon Ingebrand <shannoningebbrand@gmail.com> Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 2:56 PM To: Melanie Martinoff <mmartinoff@msd.k12.or.us>

I am not sure how to word this message as I have never had to come to the school board about anything before. If this is brought up in a public meeting I prefer to remain anonymous if possible. I have 2 elementary aged children (one 6 yr old going into 1st grade & 1 9 yr old going into 4th grade) that are currently going to Newby school. We have been very concerned about returning to school since both children are too young to be vaccinated. We have been crossing our fingers that the district would offer some sort of online or even just hybrid program again this year since they both absolutely excelled last year (terrific grades, perfect attendance & both absolutely loved it). Since we are getting so close to the start of the school year & no plan for CDL or hybrid for the school year has been announced we are assuming if we wish to keep our children home we will need to homeschool. Since this is not something we have ever even considered we have no clue where to start. The thing is the minute they can be (& are) vaccinated we would like to be able to send them back to their normal school & resume classes as normal. I am worried that if I choose the wrong online homeschool option that I may be setting them up to be stuck in it for the rest of the year even if they are able to be vaccinated this year. That would definitely make them sad. I am also worried that I may choose an option that isn't as suited for them as last year's CDL option was. They absolutely loved last year's programs, the zoom classes & the curriculum. I just want to be able to make the right choices for my children but also be able to keep them healthy & safe & unfortunately with no hybrid or CDL options I am stuck in a bit of a bad spot. I am hoping maybe even if you aren't able to offer these options that you can provide some sort of support for those of us that will then need to choose homeschool. The best options? A way to connect with other parents stuck in the same boat? Or perhaps we could look into some sort of Hybrid or CDL for this year? It's getting down to the last minute & making me & both my kids extremely anxious about what the year will look like with rising cases. I don't want you to force everyone to stay home or do hybrid, I just want options for those of us who feel it's best.



Melanie Martinoff <mmartinoff@msd.k12.or.us> **Ask Governor Brown for local control**

Jubilee Cable <jubileecable@hotmail.com> Wed, Aug 4, 2021 at 10:44 AM To: "dbrockett@msd.k12.or.us" <dbrockett@msd.k12.or.us>, "slegard@msd.k12.or.us" <slegard@msd.k12.or.us>, "mmartinoff@msd.k12.or.us" <mmartinoff@msd.k12.or.us>, Mary Starrett <starrettm@co.yamhill.or.us>, "berschauerl@co.yamhill.or.us" <berschauerl@co.yamhill.or.us>, "kullac@co.yamhill.or.us" <kullac@co.yamhill.or.us>

Please submit the following letter as testimony at the next MSD school board meeting. I would also like to be informed at how I can speak in person at upcoming meetings. Thank you!

Dear Superintendent Brockett, McMinnville School Board, and Yamhill Commissioners,

I pulled my oldest from entering kindergarten last year because I knew she would not thrive with the paranoid and strict rules. She had anxiety at the start of the pandemic, and developed crippling OCD tendencies from the rules at her daycare. Long story short, I am happy to report that she is functioning with normal, thriving mental health because of homeschooling and my immense efforts to shield her from the anxiety of this pandemic. Had I fueled her anxiety by promoting her every five-minute hand washing, her intense fear of being alone, and her fear of contracting any germs from anyone- I would have a depressed, OCD, anxiety ridden child- that I have no doubt.

I would love to enroll my oldest back into public school this fall. But I will not subject my 1st grader or my pre-K daughter to be pulled from my car crying (the new drop off I'm informed by multiple parents last year), placed 6 ft apart from their peers, told to constantly hand wash, to go to recess with closed playgrounds, to not share, to not direct play with others, and above all- wear a mask. To expect such small children to wear a mask all day AND converse with their peers and teacher is beyond me. This is not a safe environment for children's mental health, and the mark has been completely missed.

A survey by Mental Health America in September of 2020 showed over half of 11-17 year olds reported having thoughts of suicide or self harm in >50% or every day of the previous two weeks.

Mental Health America ranked Oregon as the 3rd highest for youth mental illness.

Data from the Lines for Life, a suicide prevention group in Oregon, shows a 38% increase to their youth line from March to the end of 2020.

These statistics should be alarming, and certainly not ignored.

These statistics above are likely worse now because of Governor Brown's whiplash decisions. So much was promised in the media about "returning to normal" once you get the Covid vaccine. It was pushed to the younger population, whom I'm sure was desperate to return to a resemblance of normal. Then the masks were lifted as a reward, and a month later- enforced again for the school year. This sort of back and forth creates instability in children's and teen's lives, and promotes depression and anxiety.

While some argue that it's the school's responsibility to reduce/eliminate the possibility of covid spread in schools, my opinion is it's the public school's responsibility to TEACH our children, to provide ACCESS TO ALL, and to have a safe ENVIRONMENT to do so. There clearly are differences in opinions on what a "safe" environment is, but what upsets me the most- is the lack of regard to children's mental health. Leave the decision of what's best for children's health to parents. Please return back to teaching our children with logical safety rules that apply to age specific children.

I urge you to ask our governor to return local control so that you can put our children first.

If the MSD rules for fall remain in place, I will unenroll my 4 year old from Pre-K at Grandhaven, and continue to homeschool my 1st grader.

DISCLAIMER- these thoughts are of my own opinion and do not reflect that of my employer.

Warm Regards,
Mrs J. Cable

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Melanie Martinoff <mmartinoff@msd.k12.or.us>

This evening's school board meeting

1 message

Kate Bonilla <bonilla.kate@gmail.com> Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 2:57 PM To: Melanie Martinoff <Mmartinoff@msd.k12.or.us>

Hi Melanie

I would like to submit the following statement for this evening's school board meeting. I may be able to attend in-person but I am curious if you can give me more details regarding the Agenda item "Planning for Next Year"--what will be reviewed then? Also, what is the difference between emailing a statement versus reading it? I am unclear--

Thank you for your help,

Kate Bonilla

Dear School Board and Superintendent Brockett:

My name is Kate Bonilla and I am a resident of McMinnville. In the past, I have had the pleasure of working as an Educational Assistant in McMinnville School District. I also completed my internship year as a School Psychology graduate student in McMinnville. I am currently a practicing School Psychologist in a nearby district.

I am here today to speak to you as a parent of two kiddos who attend Memorial Elementary; neither of my children are able to get vaccinated because both are under the age of 12. I noticed that one agenda item this evening is "Planning for Next Year" and would like to provide my input on some items for your consideration.

With the rise of the Delta variant (particularly among the unvaccinated), I am eager to voice my support for putting evidence-based safety measures in place to ensure the safety of MSD's amazing staff and students. Namely, I am eager to see these questions addressed:

1. Will MSD be following the state mandate to require mask-wearing among students and staff?
2. What have you done to improve ventilation?
3. Have you added portable HEPA air filtration units in classrooms?
4. Are staff members vaccinated?
5. How are you handling lunch (when children will need to have masks off)?
6. How are you planning for distance learning in the event that a large group of students needs to quarantine?

All of these questions speak to what scientific experts have learned since March of 2020 when this pandemic took hold (and real-time case studies have demonstrated): mask-wearing greatly reduces transmission, air filtration is key, ventilation (as easy as having windows open) has positive impact, vaccines will be critical in preventing overloaded ICUs, and regular testing/contact tracing will keep community outbreaks under control.

I feel so lucky to have my children learn from dedicated and passionate educators who have worked so hard over the last year; I ask these questions and promote these strategies with respect for the entire school community. Most importantly, I see these issues to be an extension of MSD's commitment to equity. We know that our families with compromised access to healthcare, elderly relatives living in the home, underlying medical conditions, and/or disabilities are most vulnerable to this virus; I hope we can see beyond individual interest and consider how we can protect the most vulnerable folks in our schools and larger community. Thank you for considering these questions and points as you move forward with your planning. I am so grateful for everyone's hard work during such a challenging time.

Respectfully,

Kate Bonilla