

From: [Michael Edwards](#)
To: [StateBoard, SDE](#)
Subject: UNMASK CT SCHOOL CHILDREN (Intended for Public Comment)
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Please defend the defenseless children in the state of CT who are being wrongfully and immorally forced to wear masks in school. Mask mandates should stop immediately.

Based on CDC Guidance, Vaccinated adults are now being advised it is safe to be indoors without a mask. Well, as indicated by real data, children have never been at risk of serious complications from covid-19 nor is there any data showing they are transmitting the disease at high rates.

Adult teachers and school staff have been vaccinated by now if they wanted to be, and can choose to wear a mask or two if they deem it necessary for their health. Likewise, students (or their parents) can still opt to wear masks if they choose to for their own health. There should be no differential treatment of children (or their parents) who make the personal choice to NOT wear a mask.

I hope you take this message seriously as you may have noticed parents across the nation are no longer being silenced as they attend board of education meetings to speak out on the matter. This will soon happen in CT if not being done already.

Homeschooling is becoming a serious and interesting option for many CT families as the parents trust in institutions are being eroded.

If children enter a second school year wearing masks there will be irreparable harm psychologically and perhaps physically with prolonged mask use. After two school years of masking we cannot expect a "flip a light switch" moment will occur with children. When some time in the future they are permitted to remove the masks there may be serious anxiety issues among many students. As you are aware, children's mental health has declined in recent years and a noticeable increase in juvenile suicides has occurred.

The latest change of mask guidance informed the vaccinated population that they can enter crowded indoor places (bars, movie theaters, etc) without a mask on. Meanwhile, the DPH, Governor Lamont, and the CT Department of Education know full well the unvaccinated population will be entering these same crowded places unvaccinated with no legal enforcement mechanism to gain compliance. This is a clear double standard of treatment when compared to the healthy young population in CT who have shown to be impacted minimally by this virus?

I have questions I hope you will answer?

-What is the criteria for continual masking of school children? What is the threshold for when masks will be removed from school children? Is the long term plan to have children masked until the vaccines reach full clearance by FDA for school aged children in which at that point all children would be forced vaccinated to attend school? Does the daily positivity rate (recently went to below 1%) have to hit 0%? Do we need to another entire school year of data to compile showing children's reaction to Covid-19 is minimal? Do you need a coalition of teachers, superintendents and teacher unions to give the "OK" for children to be unmasked?

These questions should be answered and parents rightfully should be able to ask them.

Thank you,

Michael Edwards
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