

Shockley Tina

From: Paul Rominiecki <rupaul40@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 1:07 PM
To: DOEregulations comment
Cc: Bunting Susan
Subject: [External] Regulation Review, Mandatory Mask for School Children

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

Dear Dr. Susan Bunting,

I want to share my thoughts on a topic I feel strongly about: masks on children. I do not believe school age children should be forced to wear masks, and I urge you to adopt a policy that allows parental choice for all students on this matter for the upcoming school year.

I know you have to make a lot of tough decisions and you can't please everyone. I have a world of respect for you and I am aware that some in the community may not agree with my perspective. It's my view that emotion and politics (from both sides!) have driven a lot of policy choices during the pandemic at nearly every level of government... that's too bad.

I'll try to be brief but here are a few points that summarize my reasons for not supporting mandatory masks for school age children:

- **It's a great blessing that COVID doesn't pose as serious a health risk to children as it does to adults. Critically, school age children do not significantly spread COVID either.** Furthermore, now that the adults in our community (teachers, school staff, parents and family members) have had a chance to get vaccinated, the risk to adults of serious illness from COVID infection is even smaller.

- From [this article](#): A study out of the UK released last week proved—once again—what we’ve known for more than a year: [Children transmit the coronavirus](#) at a much lower rate than do adults. Epidemiologist Shamez Ladhani, who led the study, found that children “aren’t taking [the virus] home and then transferring it to the community. These children have very little capacity to infect household members.”
- **We do not yet know enough about the potential downside of mask-wearing for school age children.** I think you could make a case for or against masking children (which is why I support parents making the choice either way), but if masking is to be mandated, the onus is on those putting a mandate in place to show that masking passes a risk-benefit analysis. This area merits more study, but common sense tells us that covering the face can come with problems.
 - From [this article](#): Masking children is associated with: [increases](#) in anxiety and depression; [decreases](#) in communication and socialization skill development; [increases](#) in headaches, face rashes and redness, and impaired facial recognition; and [increases](#) in tooth decay.
- **The rest of the world (outside of the U.S.) seems to understand that masks on children are not a good idea.** The [World Health Organization](#) has held since August 2020 that no one under the age of 5 should be required to wear a mask. European countries, like the U.K. and France, [do not require masks on school age children](#) even in school settings.
 - From [this article](#): “It’s important that primary schoolchildren don’t wear face coverings,” says [Public Health England's medical advisor](#) Dr. Susan Hopkins. She explains that this is because COVID infection rates are low among their age group and wearing face coverings “could affect their development.”

Below are some links to more articles that expand on some of these points and more:

[Let my children take off their masks, the science says it is safe](#)

[Mandatory Masking of School Children is a bad idea](#)

[Young children are at low COVID risk in schools, but masking them could do long-term damage](#)

[Masking children: What does the science say?](#)

[It's 98 Degrees Out. Why Is My Child Still Wearing A Mask?](#)

Thanks for reading this email and considering these facts. Of course, we are all sad that the pandemic has required so many changes in our lives. But masks on young children are, in my view, more harmful than beneficial. As a parent, I can’t ignore this and—I hope you understand—I have to speak up for what is best for my children. Thanks for considering my perspective!

Sincerely,

Paul J. Rominiecki
130 Kingsmill Drive
Felton, DE 19943

Shockley Tina

From: Sara Manning <saramanning6@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 8:21 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] 6.0 Covid-19 Mitigation and Prevention

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to respectfully voice my concern and objection to this new proposed school regulation requiring the wearing of masks permanently.

I am a Delaware resident and mother of 3 young children, 2 of which are not of school age and my oldest is in 1st grade. Though I understood the decision for requiring masks initially in this pandemic I don't see how requiring masks permanently will be beneficial enough to out way negative consequences that our kids would be the recipients of. I have a child who battled with a stutter for over a year. If she and her teacher were required to wear masks permanently I believe her over coming this would have been drastically more difficult and may have never happened. She was able to watch the pace in which we speak, hear and see clearly how to pronounce words and was rewarded with huge smiles and excitement when progress was made. Which bring me to my next concern....the emotional health of our children. This pandemic is scary enough by how the media and adults are handling it much less requiring everyone to cover their faces and now everyone is harder to see and be understood. There are many more reasons why I believe requiring masks to be worn permanently is not the right decision for our children's future. Please consider the long term consequences that are outside just the health benefits. Making this permanent is over the top!

Respectfully,

Sara Lose

Shockley Tina

From: Tina Szelestei <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 8:16 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] No more Mask

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

Masking should be optional not forced . I don't wish for my children to wear something over their mouth and nose for Eight plus hours a day my highschool child is even longer than that because of the bus ride is extremely Long . I have tolerated and try to be patient but Enough is Enough your masking mandate is forced . I have individual rights my children have Rights you are not the owner of my children I have not given the state of Delaware my children to raise Ask Dr Rattay to show me valid Studies that masking children for all day including bus ride is healthy and safe show me how it prevents illnesses to others .Valid Studies not these incompetent ones that are being thrown around . Real Studies I demand that just like you demand us to your rules those are mine and many other parents that are like minded.

Tina Szelestei
757 Butterpat Rd
Hartly, DE 19953
tinaszele@yahoo.com

Shockley Tina

From: Sarah Keith <sarah.keith@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 8:16 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Revisions to Title 14, 815, Section 6

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

To Whom it May Concern,

As I understand the proposed revision to Title 14, the DOE will be granted unilateral authority to mask children in schools, both public and private, regardless of the need, efficacy or otherwise and without knowledge of the effects of the long term use of face coverings on a child's physical, social and mental development.

School mask mandates have only been employed in response to an emergency order issued for the sole and exclusive purpose of protecting a population from a serious public health crisis for a specified period of time. This authority to issue an emergency orders provides governing authorities the ability to sensibly respond to health emergencies but grants citizens protection from unchecked governance. Revising the language of Title 14 removed these protections and grants the DOE the ability to write its own rules by sidestepping the guidelines for emergency health orders.

This revision must not be approved and the DOE shall be required to continue to comply with emergency orders as they are intended.

Sarah Keith

Sent from my iPhone

Shockley Tina

From: Lisa Jubb <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 8:15 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] End mask mandate

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

Mask mandates should not be permanent. They need to end. Parents should be able to decide if they want their child to wear a mask. Based on the statistics, COVID-19 is NOT a disproportionately dangerous disease for children. Research on the efficacy of masking to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among children is not conclusive. Please let our children return to a somewhat normal learning environment. Let's keep up with cleaning and social distancing but end the mask mandate do not make it permanent.

Lisa Jubb
310 Fashion Circle
Newark, DE 19711
Lj13@comcast.net

Shockley Tina

From: Pastor Boulet <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 8:10 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Please OPPOSE Proposed Regulation to Title 14 in Delaware Code.

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

I am writing to ask that you please OPPOSE Proposed Regulation to Title 14 in Delaware Code. As the pastor of a church in our state, I am very familiar with the issues you're dealing with, and I understand that no one answer will satisfy all your families. This said, in an environment of significant disagreement and diversity of opinion, I think that wisdom would be on the side less control and regulation not more control. This is especially the case when regulations around masks/vaccines are wildly diverse everywhere else in our daily life. All around us people are interested to self-regulate, but within our schools... we continue to exercise heavy-handed control. Finally, if you are going to proceed with mask mandates and the like, I strongly encourage you to give special consideration to private schools. The families of these schools have spent a great deal of money to educate their children outside of the public system, and it seems like an unnecessary conflict to regulate their behavior on this matter.

Pastor Boulet
505 schoolhouse Rd
Hockessin, DE 19707
jon@sycamorehillchurch.org

Shockley Tina

From: Madison Smith <fofdancer419@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 8:07 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External]

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

I am opposed to the proposed regulation 815. More specifically, I oppose the addition of section 6.0 which requires mask wearing by all students and staff in K-12 schools. without any qualifying language. As currently worded, the proposed Regulation 815 is not limited only to public health emergencies, nor does it provide the authority to require masks to the Secretary of Education or to the school district administration/Board. The proposed regulation 815 supersedes the doctrine of local school board authority and requires mask wearing with no end date or qualification only during public health emergencies.

I respectfully request the proposed regulation 815 be withdrawn from the register of regulations and section 6.0 be removed in its entirety, or qualifying language be added to limit the application of mask wearing requirement only during public health emergencies.

Sent from my iPhone

Shockley Tina

From: Erin Wiener <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 8:07 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Unmask our Children

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

It is time to stop masking our children. You are harming our kids and that is unacceptable! The science shows that masks do more harm than good. Stop trying to gain power at the expense of our kid's mental and physical health. Respectfully, Erin Wiener

Erin Wiener
778 Magnolia Avenue
Smyrna, DE 19977
ewienner@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Wendy Parsons <colfer36@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 8:05 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Unmask our children

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

Unmask our children!!!

Are you aware the children at Gunning Bedford MS are made to take the pacer test (in case you are unaware what that is: run as fast as you can back and forth, sit ups, push ups)while wearing a mask? We have had beautiful weather why is this not being done outside?

When talking to the principal who finally called me back after 2 weeks, she informed me there was 80 kids in gym class. (when talking to Jeff Menzer, superintendent, he told me 40 kids. Besides that point, apparently the two teachers can not handle taking the children outside. Surprised at that one. She asked me what I wanted her to do about it? She doesn't control the teachers. I thought the kids were her responsibility during school.

Since talking to Jeff Menzer and Jon Cooper the children still have not been outside. The other day I find out during study hall the children were allowed to go outside but **HAD TO KEEP THE MASKS ON!**

We all know the only mask that works 90% of the time is an N95 mask. All the money the schools have received you would think you would invest in some for these poor kids

Why are these children using a public water fountain but are masked up sitting at their desks? Would love an answer to that one.

Still going through the budget. Amazing how much money has been received for Covid. I just hope it's not to keep these kids masked up.

Do your job and look after our children. Stop using them to prove a point.

Unmask the kids!!!

Regards

Wendy Parsons
[302-985-3949](tel:302-985-3949)

Sent from my iPhone

Shockley Tina

From: Kim Luton <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:57 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] No MASK mandate for school aged children

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

I am asking you to remove any language that allows masks to be permantly installed into school regulations for children attending ANY school is the State of Delaware. The effectiveness of masking has not been proven to reduce or eliminate any virus transfer and our children are missing important communication transfer because their mouths and noses are covered. Respectfully submitted.

Kim Luton
5090 Kenton rd
Dover, DE 19904
stillkimmi1@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Casey VanNorman <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:54 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] No to permanent masks.

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

To whom it may concern. I'm writing this email to voice my concerns about masks becoming a permanent part of the school rules. I believe that mask should be up to the parents. We are only 1 of 10 states that mask our children! I would like to see the data/proof that they are actually working!! Thank you , Casey VanNorman

Casey Vannorman
58 Circle Drive W
Milton, DE 19968
caseyk614@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Felicia Quinn <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:51 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Masks in schools

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

A growing body of research suggests that long-term masking of children may have serious negative effects on them physically, developmentally, socially, and academically. We do not believe these risks have been adequately considered by the DOE, especially when weighed against the data regarding the actual risk of COVID-19 complications for children.

Felicia Quinn
668 n state st
Dover, DE 19901
Felicia.snyder95@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Jonathan Nazigian <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:49 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] No more masks! Hurting children!

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

Please stop the harm being done by masking. Far, far more damage is being done by wearing those filthy disgusting masks and breathing their own air than by COVID. Follow the science and the success of Florida! Masks need to stop.

Jonathan Nazigian
11 Breeze Hill Rd
Wilmington, DE 19807
naz2024@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Kimberly casale <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:45 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Class action lawsuits coming!!

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

I pay tuition at private schools for 4 kids, you can't tell me what to do with MY CHILDREN THAT ARE FULLY VACCINATED!!! We'll sue you to the fullest extent of the law, we promise!!

Kimberly Casale
2344 brackenville rd
Hockessin, DE 19707
Kimberlycasale@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Michael Megan <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:45 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] No more masks!

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

This letter is to inform you that I am opposed to regulation 815. More specifically, I am opposed to the addition of section 6.0 which requires mask wearing by all students and staff in K-12 schools without qualifying language. We the parents need you to provide us with the scientific data you have found regarding how paper and cloth masks are beneficial to anyone's health which you used to base your decision on. Do you understand that there are young children who are going to school with filthy, unclean masks? They have been wearing these unclean masks for 8 hours a day, 5 days a week for months now. The dirty masks are conducive for spreading illness more so than breathing and you are not providing all children with clean masks to stop infections and diseases. If you are unaware of the harms of dirty masks, I implore you to do further research. Do you know how many children are delayed? Have you done the research on daycare aged children and how they are delayed due to not seeing their teachers faces? I have a middle school aged child and a daycare aged child and see what this has done to both of them. For the sake of children's health, I propose regulation 815 be withdrawn from the register of regulations and section 6.0 be removed in its entirety, or qualifying language be added to limit the application of mask wearing requirement only during public health emergencies.

Michael Megan
20933 Reynolds Pond Rd
Ellendale, DE 19941
mstephens1125@yahoo.com

Shockley Tina

From: Leah Martin <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:42 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Mandates

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

A growing body of research suggests that long-term masking of children may have serious negative effects on them physically, developmentally, socially, and academically. We do not believe these risks have been adequately considered by the DOE, especially when weighed against the data regarding the actual risk of COVID-19 complications for children. It should be a parents right to decide as to whether they want their child to wear a mask or not.

Leah Martin
358 nault rd
Dover, DE 19904
leahmartin111@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Gina Stevens <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:40 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Take mask off our kids!

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

As a mother of 3 children one with adhd and another with severe depression you are hurting these kids by this mask mandate. My children have been exposed to Covid on numerous occasions never caught the virus and are perfectly fine so please remove this mandate ASAP

Gina Stevens
34 Fieldmaple Dr
Camden Wyoming, DE 19934
Gln530@hotmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Erin Jackson <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:38 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Give us our freedoms!

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

Based on the statistics, COVID-19 is NOT a disproportionately dangerous disease for children. Research on the efficacy of masking to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among children is not conclusive. A growing body of research suggests that long-term masking of children may have serious negative effects on them physically, developmentally, socially, and academically. We do not believe these risks have been adequately considered by the DOE, especially when weighed against the data regarding the actual risk of COVID-19 complications for children. Masking of children should be a decision made by parents/guardians in conjunction with their family's healthcare providers. Whether it's thousands at DE's Firefly festivities, chanting sports fans that fill stadiums, or hundreds of thousands of Covid positive people pouring into this country monthly at the southern border, mask requirement inconsistencies are not only contradictory but irrational. Students are more and more aware of these contradictions as the school year wears on. Enforcement is extremely difficult and the mandate is impossible to defend. The time and effort devoted to mask enforcement should instead be going to caring for the emotional and academic well-being of our students, who have suffered tremendous set-backs in their education and emotional development since March of 2020.

Erin Jackson
24454 Waller rd
Georgetown, DE 19947
Jacksonacresde@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Wills Kim <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:37 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Science is not there, Control is not science

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

The numbers for school contagion is low. These children go everywhere else without a mask but school. You are mentally changing these children. You are showing them education equals a fear based environment. For those wanting their children to wear a mask, they can still have that choice without this regulation. Cancer patients and those with acute autoimmune diseases, do not require everyone to wear a mask for theirs to work. Please open your minds and think. Medical needs are personal. You are mandating a permanent requirement for a temporary issue. The death numbers are down. The treatment is up and yet, these regulations are based on the beginning of this pandemic. Think of mental issues, lost educational time due to controlling mask wear and the big picture years from now. Don't be political, be educational.

Wills Kim
8061 Shawnee road
Milford, DE 19963
mskimwills@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Jennifer Buckler <jen.b.2785@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:35 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Mask on kids

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

Hi. I am writing to say I disagree with the children wearing mask permanently. Its one thing if it's a personal choice. STOP THE MANDATE!!

Shockley Tina

From: Heidi Friedkin <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:29 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] This is ridiculous!

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

Please don't do this to our children. It is not clear whether masks even help that much and there is information that long term mask wearing is actually detrimental. Please let people make their own decisions. I would really worry people would pull their children out of public schools if you made a decision like this.

Heidi Friedkin
2305 Beacon Hill Drive
Wilmington, DE 19810
heidijanef@verizon.net

Shockley Tina

From: jenna vincent <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:26 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] No masks please

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

Hi, I am a teacher and parent. I am concerned that the DOE is stepping far outside of their area of expertise and authority in regards to a public health mandate. It is fine to follow Department of health guidelines but to go out on your own in a more restrictive line of thinking is confusing, without logic, not driven by research and facts. Please reconsider this harmful act as it leads your department down a slippery slope and sets a dangerous precedent for other departments to use "mandates" outside of their area of expertise. Let's hope it doesn't come to that. Thank you for your time.

Jenna Vincent
217 Goldfinch Turn
Newark, DE 19711
jenna.s.vincent10@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Elisa <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:11 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] No masks

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

There is no need for our Children to wear a mask. There is no proof that they work. The children have not been affected by Covid 19. In mask our children now!

Elisa
14382 Shiloh church road
Laurel, DE 19956
elisastitcher@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Amy Hudson <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:06 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] No Mask Mandate

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

As a third grade teacher in Wicomico County Maryland, I see first hand the negative effects masking has on students. They can't distinguish sounds for phonics or writing, due to the muffle from the mask. It is difficult for slower learners even with a clear mask. In addition, they can't read facial expressions of their peers, so many social skills are being missed. Most importantly, I see firsthand the number of students that are wearing the same mask for days/weeks at a time. If the districts won't provide clean masks daily, there is no way to ensure a child is not sitting in several days worth of bacteria. Therefore, all the sanitizing and cleaning is for naught since we can't guarantee parents are doing their part at home. As an unvaccinated teacher, I am much more comfortable with hand sanitizing and washing hands frequently. The sight of some of these masks makes me think we are creating variants or antibiotic resistant issues in these petri dishes we insist putting on our kids' faces.

Amy Hudson
16389 Goose Nest Road Laurel, DE
Laurel, DE 19956
sethhudson1@aol.com

Shockley Tina

From: mark karmeris <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:04 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Bondage

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

Please release the children of Delaware from this burden. Not one single scientific study supports the effectiveness of a cloth mask when trying to prevent the spread of a virus, not one. The matter is simply too small and passes right through any and all face coverings. Our children, the most vulnerable of all, are suffering needlessly and the DOE should be involved with protecting, nurturing, and guiding them along, not burdening them with useless tasks and fear producing mandates. Please be reasonable and look at the real data. They are the one segment of our society that is least effected by the virus and most vulnerable to our fear related reactions to it.

Mark Karmeris
825 Loveville Rd
Hockessin, DE 19707
mkarmeris@wilmingtonchristian.org

Shockley Tina

From: Devin Rice <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:04 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Unmask our Kids

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

Its time to unmask our kids.. Whether it's thousands at DE's Firefly festivities, chanting sports fans that fill stadiums, or hundreds of thousands of Covid positive people pouring into this country monthly at the southern border, mask requirement inconsistencies are not only contradictory but irrational. Students are more and more aware of these contradictions as the school year wears on. Enforcement is extremely difficult and the mandate is impossible to defend.

Devin Rice
25479 Hollis Road
Harbeson, DE 19951
Devin171@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Kimberly Anthony-Thompson <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:00 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] No more masks

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

With all do respect, the masks are nonsense. As a parent I should have the say over what my children wear, not anyone else. I respectfully request you stop this nonsense and allow parents to parent. Respectfully, Kimberly Thompson

Kimberly Anthony-Thompson
4817 South State Street
Magnolia, DE 19962
Kimberly.anthony-thompson@appo.k12.de.us

Shockley Tina

From: Tina Beres <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:57 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] End the mask mandate

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

As an elementary school teacher, I have watched my students try to interact with each other and with me and it is a struggle. They cannot hear each other and much of the time I am sure they cannot hear me. We have them work with partners as much as possible but as I listen in, it is quite apparent that they can barely hear each other. They speak quietly normally, now it's almost a whisper. I never realized how much I rely on reading lips while communicating. I am so thankful that my own daughter is a senior and will be done with this no matter what. If she was younger, I know that I would have moved our family to another state where this is no longer being required. I truly believe that if this mandate is to stay much longer, I will be forced to begin to search for another career and I love my job. I need to see their faces. I need to see their smiles. They need to know I'm not upset with them when they get a wrong answer. They can't tell because kids use facial cues to help them navigate the world. I thank you for trying to keep everyone safe but it's time. The negative effects of the masks seem far worse than the chances of a child being seriously harmed from being exposed to Covid. I've never seen so many kids with anxiety and depression. Parents are writing emails like never before about how their kids are feeling. They don't mention masks most of the time but that is the only thing that is really different at the moment. I am asking that you not only never make masks permanent but that you stop this mask mandate for schools now. As a teacher and a mother, enough is enough. We can go everywhere else without them, why do we have to spend 7 hours a day in them.

Tina Beres
72 Cantwell Drive
Middletown, DE 19709
abtbberes@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: James <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:56 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] No clear evidence

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

It has been proven that children typically do not contract the virus. There is no justification for extending the mandate. The affect it's having on mental health may be irreversible. If the mandate is extended, we will remove our children from public school.

James
4033 Fig st
Dover, DE 19901
Liljimmylee@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Kimberly Clark <cfamily3@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:55 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Attn: Regulation Review 14 Delaware Code Section 122(b)(2) (14DELC -122(b)(2))

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a parent of child in the Appoquinimink School District and I am opposed to the regulation amendment. As a parent, working individual, and a tax payer of the First State of Delaware, I do NOT support the mask mandate. Mask should NOT be permanent and should be repealed and lifted immediately.

Please do to move forward with this amendment and allow children to remove their masks, breath fresh air and live a normal life at school.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kim Clark
Townsend, DE

Shockley Tina

From: Kimberly Clark <cfamily3@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:51 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Attn: Regulation Review 14 Delaware Code Section 122(b)(2) (14DEL.C -122(b)(2))

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a parent of child in the Appoquinimink School District and I am opposed to the regulation amendment. As a parent, working individual, and a tax payer of the First State of Delaware, I do NOT support the mask mandate. Mask should NOT be permanent and should be repealed and lifted immediately.

Please do to move forward with this amendment and allow children to remove their masks, breath fresh air and live a normal life at school.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kim Clark
Townsend, DE

Shockley Tina

From: Amy Cooper <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:48 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] No Permanent Masking for Children

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

My son is in 3rd grade. I am very concerned about the growing body of research suggesting that long-term masking of children may have serious negative effects on them physically, developmentally, socially, and academically. I do not believe these risks have been adequately considered by the DOE, especially when weighed against the data regarding the actual risk of COVID-19 complications for children. Please do not force our children to continue wearing masks.

Amy Cooper
212 E. 2nd St.
New Castle, DE 19720
amyecooper@comcast.net

Shockley Tina

From: Christina Moritz <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:39 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] END MASK MANDATE FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

End the mandate NOW!!! As a mother of 2 middle schoolers, both whom have 504s. I'm imploring your to end the mandate. My son who has a hearing loss has had trouble hearing and understanding teachers, staff and classmates due to being muffled by masks for the past year. My daughter with ADHD and anxiety has issues with things being on her/touching her face. **SHOW ME THE DATA!!!!** Mask wearing and vaccinations are a personal choice and should remain so for Delaware students and all employees of K-12 schools!!! **SHOW ME THE DATA DOE!!**

Christina Moritz
124 Lucky Ben Dr
Harrington, DE 19952
calmingheart72@yahoo.com

Shockley Tina

From: Debra-Gladys Hanna <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:26 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] No to masking children in schools.

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

Historically throughout these last two years, children have been the least affected by COVID-19. Historically as well, children develop immunities and natural antibodies to multiple viruses through their school attendance. This is normal and expected and needed in order that they have strong immune systems. All of this makes masking mandates for children in schools and daycares non-sensical and irrational and can harm them physically, developmentally, and emotionally. As a parent I reserve my right to decide for my children what is best for them. Statistics support that our children are not in danger of any serious COVID-19 symptoms. We must let the children be free children and free them of the non-sensical donning of these dirty irrational masks. This needs to end now and in no way can masking be a permanent mandate.

Debra-Gladys Hanna
c/o 108 Spud Lane
Hartly, DE 19953
deb63han@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Baer Erin <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:26 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Stop masking our kids

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

Please stop masking our kids. You have no conclusive data that masking our kids is benefiting the public. The rates of deaths and hospitals is down and we there are only 10 states doing this now. We have the lowest numbers of all of them. I had to pull my daughter from Public school because she was having headaches everyday because of the masks. They are not helping. Let the parents decide. Thank you

Baer Erin
2 birchland drive
Smyrna, DE 19977
erinmbaer@gmail.com

Shockley Tina

From: Donna Paddock <paddockdonna8@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 11:41 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Dress code regulations

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

The DOE is well aware of the controversy parents in this state have with government agencies impinging on our rights as parents to do what we feel is best for our children.

This committee's attempt to try to sneak (on the down low) in to the policy a change in dress code to require students to wear a medical device as part of their school attire, knowing full well this is a MAJOR debatable issue in our country right now, is an outrage and a blatant disrespect to all parents in this state! You are overstepping your bounds here and you know it!

I request this board reconsider and remove the requirement of mask/facial coverings from the proposed change of this state's school dress code regulation and also remove any verbiage pertaining to or relating to mask/face coverings.

Donna Paddock, R.T.(R)(CT)(ARRT)
Millsboro, Delaw

Shockley Tina

From: Jena Anderson <jena3677@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 11:40 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Response to Title 14, 815, Section 6 proposed regulation

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

Department of Education,

Overall the mask mandate has not only been irrational but harmful. Seriously, It is best for a 2 year old to be masked over a virus that is not even a danger to them? If I need to spell out the negative social, physical and academic developmental repercussions this has to children of all ages then you should not be in the business of educating. We all know that there are other pressures weighing in on your decision but I am trying to appeal to your humanity. Please do not place this potential indefinite conditioning and burden on our children. God help us all!

99.9% recovery. Let the kids be kids!

Jena Anderson
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Shockley Tina

From: Michelle McDowell <mlhudson.mh@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 11:39 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Regulation 815

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

Good morning,

I am imploring upon you today to not extend the mask mandate past the December expiration date. I wholeheartedly feel that IF any such issue arises where they are needed after that, then our local school boards and officials are fully capable of making that decision. There is NO data backing the forced mask wearing and it is time for our children to have the ability to breathe and learn while in school as opposed to the masks creating anxiety, loss of focus, mental health issues, the inability to fully learn and understand what is being taught. It is unfair to both the teachers and the children to have the priority in the classroom be whether a child is wearing their mask correctly rather than actually teaching a full lesson, which we all know the children need since they are so far behind in their learning already. Again, we the parents want to see the data behind the decision to force the mask mandate to be extended. Thank you for your time and attention and I hope you make the best decision in the interest of the children and their future based on DATA and not political pressures.

--

Michelle McDowell

Shockley Tina

From: Cooper Jennifer <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 11:44 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] No masks!!

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

Please do not make our children. Or anyone wears a mask!! It should be our choice and our choice as a parent!!

Cooper Jennifer
Lady court
Dover, DE 19901
cuddles3489@yahoo.com

Shockley Tina

From: Gary Schall <gschall56@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 11:47 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] "933 DELACARE: Regulations for Early Care and Education and School-Age Centers" and "934 Regulations for Family and Large Family Child Care Homes."

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

Gary Schall
209 Sheats Lane
Middletown, DE 19709
(H) 302.376.0312
(M) 302.588.6972

"933 DELACARE: Regulations for Early Care and Education and School-Age Centers"
"934 Regulations for Family and Large Family Child Care Homes."

I oppose these new regulations for mandatory school masking that would have no expiration date. The science clearly shows that mandatory mask mandates for schools is unnecessary and detrimental to the school children.

Regards,
Gary Schall

Shockley Tina

From: Ashley Jackson <response@mandatemadness.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 11:49 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Opposition of proposed regulation

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the email.

Dear DE State Board of Education,

I am writing today because I am in opposition of the proposed regulation to title 14 in Delaware Code. I am the parent of a 2nd grader in the capital school district. So far this year since the week of September 20 (not even 2 weeks after school began) my son has had chronic sinus infections and the common cold. I blame this on continuous masking. My son gets a mask break for breakfast and lunch. They are told they can take them off if they're outside for recess, but they get in trouble if they get too close to friends, so he ends up wearing it all day long except for a 30 minute lunch. This is unacceptable. You are concerned with our children's health, well the masking is causing unnecessary illness. What parameters are you willing to allow the kids to be unmasked? When are you going to allow us as parents to make the decision for what is best for OUR children? What DATA and statistics are you using to validate your decisions to try to keep our children masked?! I demand to see the science you are using! Are you aware that Delaware is in the minority in the country of trying to control and take away parents rights of making decisions for their children??? This is not ok. The majority of the. Country has figured out a way to make it work for masking of children optional. DDOE needs to take a step back and give the rights back to the parents to make this choice. I look forward to you removing this from regulations and the unmasking of our children. Respectfully, Ashley Jackson Kent County DE resident

Ashley Jackson
1449 Parkers Chapel Rd
Marydel, DE 19964
acjacks26@yahoo.com

Shockley Tina

From: Catalina, Tressa <tressa.catalina@bbh.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 11:07 AM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] ATTN: Regulation Review 14 Delaware Code, Section 122(b)(2) (14 Dec.C.122(b)(2)), within part g

Importance: High

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

Good morning.

I am writing in regard to the proposed change to the State Education Guidelines by the Delaware Department of Education which came out last week. Specifically, Title 14, 815, part 6 which is being proposed to require masks in school all of the time and potentially ongoing since we are moving from an emergency health order (where the mask mandate sits now) based on the pandemic into writing this into the DOE regulation as a law.

Our family personally feels this action is very premature to take such a potentially long term position and without any sufficient data for requiring masks every year all of the year. The regulations (law) are ones that should not be frivolously changed but careful consideration taken to warrant the change.

Additionally, even with adults being vaccinated, they can still get COVID, and transmit COVID to another vaccinated or un-vaccinated individual. Why aren't mask mandates made in workplaces? If you are going to make laws, they need to be followed by EVERYONE.

Thank you!

Kind Regards,
Tressa

Tressa Catalina | Trust Administrator | Private Banking
= BROWN BROTHERS HARRIMAN TRUST COMPANY OF DELAWARE, N.A.
Follow us on [LinkedIn](#)

 Please consider the environment before you print this email.

Disclaimer: Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. and its affiliates do not provide tax or legal advice. Clients should consult with their legal or tax advisor before taking any action relating to the subject matter of this communication.

***** IMPORTANT NOTE *****

The opinions expressed in this message and/or any attachments are those of the author and not necessarily those of Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., its subsidiaries and affiliates ("BBH"). There is no guarantee that this message is either private or confidential, and it may have been altered by unauthorized sources without your or our knowledge. Nothing in the message is capable or intended to create any legally binding obligations on either party and it is not intended to provide legal advice. BBH accepts no responsibility for loss or damage from its use, including damage from virus.

Shockley Tina

From: Bunting Susan
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 7:25 AM
To: Moffett-Batty Angela
Subject: Fwd: [External] Mask Mandate - Regulation Review 14 Delaware Code Section 122(b)(2)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kimberly Clark <cfamily3@verizon.net>
Date: November 1, 2021 at 7:07:14 AM EDT
To: Sweeney Whitney <Whitney.Sweeney@sbe.k12.de.us>, Fifer Candice <Candice.Fifer@sbe.k12.de.us>, Lofink Vincent <vincent.lofink@sbe.k12.de.us>, Brittingham Shawn <Shawn.Brittingham@sbe.k12.de.us>, Noble Audrey <Audrey.Noble@sbe.k12.de.us>, Powell Provey <provey.powell@sbe.k12.de.us>, Rushdan Wali <Wali.rushdan@sbe.k12.de.us>, Turner Wendy <Wendy.Turner@sbe.k12.de.us>, Sampson Elise <Elise.Sampson@sbe.k12.de.us>, Bunting Susan <Susan.Bunting@doe.k12.de.us>, Ahner Jenna <Jenna.Ahner@sbe.k12.de.us>
Subject: [External] Mask Mandate - Regulation Review 14 Delaware Code Section 122(b)(2)
Reply-To: Kimberly Clark <cfamily3@verizon.net>

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

Dear All,

I am a parent of child in the Appoquinimink School District and I am opposed to the regulation amendment. I do NOT support the mask mandate. Mask should NOT be permanent and should be repealed and lifted immediately.

As a parent, working individual, and a tax payer of the First State of Delaware, I would like to see the data that these decisions are being based on. How can such a decision be made without hard, scientific facts. I want to see the facts that a mask prevents the spread or that masks DO NOT impact a person's immune system and how it is healthy to breathe your own dirty air all day. Masks the are basically a piece of cloth. Let's see the data! With NO true data, it is the parent's right to choose what is best for child.

Do what is right for our children and put an end to this mask mandate and allow children to breath fresh air, show their face and live a normal life at school.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kim Clark
Townsend, DE

Shockley Tina

From: Michael Sadowsky <mpsadowsky@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 12:36 AM
To: DOeregulations comment
Cc: Spiegelman, Jeff; Ennis, Bruce; Hansen, Stephanie
Subject: [External] DOE Permanent Masking Public Comment

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

The Department of Education's proposal for permanent masking in schools is a bad policy that will eventually become a roadblock to change, and should not be adopted.

The DOE proposal to permanently mask school children is being done in regulations where updates are measured in years, not weeks or even months. That is not enough flexibility in an ever changing COVID environment. To claim that regulations can simply be repealed requires everyone to forget that only in the Spring of 2021, DIAA was incapable of repealing the mask requirement for outdoor sports.

Meanwhile what we know about Covid is an ever changing carousel. We once knew that,
Covid came from a wild bat in a wet market,
Covid spread primarily through physical contact,
We simply needed 2 weeks to flatten the curve,
Non medical masks holes are too large to stop the virus from spreading
Masks only protect the infected wearer from spreading further
Vaccinated individuals are safe from the virus
Large sporting events would be automatic super spreaders
Imagine what we are going to know tomorrow.

Meanwhile while Delaware clings to masking Florida, Texas and all of Europe continue to not universally mandate masking in schools. Someone is going to be right, someone is going to be wrong. The data is coming, and no one is hiding from it. What are the results? What are the policy pivots? Is a strictly worded regulation that changes every 2 years, 5 years, really good policy when the Covid revelations just keep coming?

Furthermore permanent universal masking in schools, or anywhere, is a societal risk debate that belongs in the State Legislature not the Executive Branch. A change to the expected wardrobe of citizens based on the perceived risk any single citizen could pose is a fundamental change to how society as a whole operates. Citizens face a large number of risks any given day while going about their lives. Getting into a car. Riding on a School Bus. Where they live. What they eat. What they expect of others around them. When those norms change, they should be debated by the Legislature the citizens have elected to write their laws containing their societal norms. And then the Executive branch can go execute those changes. But the Executive branch expanding some other granted power to claim the ability to change societal norms is an overreach of power by the Executive Branch.

Michael Sadowsky
Estates of St. Anne's, Middletown, DE
HR - 11
Sen - 14/10

Shockley Tina

From: J Hansen <boppa53@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 12:50 PM
To: DOEregulations comment
Subject: [External] Invited comments to Dept of Education "proposed" Regulations for public & private schools - mask mandate

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system. **DO NOT CLICK** links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and are *expecting* the email.

I'm a grandparent of 4 children in a private school in Delaware and have commented (following), per the invitation, to respond to the proposed revised Regulations on school mask mandates....

=====

=====

PROPOSED
PUBLIC NOTICE

Education Impact Analysis Pursuant to 14 Del.C. Section 122(d)

815 Health Examinations and Screening

C. IMPACT CRITERIA

Invitation to comment follows:

3. The amended regulation will help ensure all students' health and safety are adequately protected.

- What scientific evidence supports mask effectiveness against virus transmission? (It doesn't specify N95 masks).
- How can this claim be substantiated?

The amended regulation specifically addresses the challenge of reducing the transmission of COVID-19 in schools and child care centers.

Who are such policies meant to protect? The teachers, administrators, other staff? Aren't they already facing mandated Covid-19 vaccinations? Certainly not the children. Their risk to the Covid-19 virus has always been very low; the annual flu is still a greater threat to children.

Any student with an underlying health condition remains the responsibility of the parent(s). They might require that their child wear a mask around others. It is their prerogative. It is their responsibility to take appropriate measures for their child.

It is neither the right or duty of the government to implement unsubstantiated restricted policies upon its citizens when those policies have not proven to be effective in preventing the very thing for which they were imposed.

Consider the Amish communities who did not follow the original 2-week lock-down imposed in mid-March 2020 to "Flatten the Curve". The virus went quickly through those communities. The elderly were the most vulnerable and some of them died. The rest became - or already were - naturally immune to the virus. Thus life for the Amish continued normally; no lock-downs, no masks, and no social

distancing, unlike much of the US. The country of Sweden is a larger example. Sweden elected not to shut-down and their morbidity numbers are no worse than the countries which did.

And now, after more than 18 months of 'lock-downs', social distancing, masks, and even vaccinations, those policies continue to be imposed in the "Blue states" primarily. And they're not selectively applied; for example to the most vulnerable (elderly). Instead blanket policies are imposed upon healthy young individuals (including children) who have never had significant vulnerability to the virus. It is not wise, it doesn't "Follow the Science", nor is it citizen-friendly, or even citizen-considerate.

Respectively submitted,

Joel Hansen

Shockley Tina

From: Bunting Susan
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 1:08 PM
To: Moffett-Batty Angela
Subject: FW: [External] Regulation Review, Mandatory Mask for School Children

Susan S. Bunting

Susan S. Bunting, Ed.D.
Secretary of Education
Department of Education

From: Paul Rominiecki <rupaul40@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 1:07 PM
To: DOEregulations comment <DOEregulations.comment@doe.k12.de.us>
Cc: Bunting Susan <Susan.Bunting@doe.k12.de.us>
Subject: [External] Regulation Review, Mandatory Mask for School Children

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

Dear Dr. Susan Bunting,

I want to share my thoughts on a topic I feel strongly about: masks on children. I do not believe school age children should be forced to wear masks, and I urge you to adopt a policy that allows parental choice for all students on this matter for the upcoming school year.

I know you have to make a lot of tough decisions and you can't please everyone. I have a world of respect for you and I am aware that some in the community may not agree with my perspective. It's my view that emotion and politics (from both sides!) have driven a lot of policy choices during the pandemic at nearly every level of government... that's too bad.

I'll try to be brief but here are a few points that summarize my reasons for not supporting mandatory masks for school age children:

- **It's a great blessing that COVID doesn't pose as serious a health risk to children as it does to adults. Critically, school age children do not significantly spread COVID either.** Furthermore, now that the adults in our community (teachers, school staff, parents and family members) have had a chance to get vaccinated, the risk to adults of serious illness from COVID infection is even smaller.
 - From [this article](#): A study out of the UK released last week proved—once again—what we've known for more than a year: [Children transmit the coronavirus](#) at a much lower rate than do adults. Epidemiologist Shamez Ladhani, who led the study, found that children “aren't taking [the virus] home and then transferring it to the community. These children have very little capacity to infect household members.”
- **We do not yet know enough about the potential downside of mask-wearing for school age children.** I think you could make a case for or against masking children (which is why I support parents making the choice either way), but if masking is to be mandated, the onus is on those putting a mandate in place to show that masking passes a risk-benefit analysis. This area merits more study, but common sense tells us that covering the face can come with problems.
 - From [this article](#): Masking children is associated with: [increases](#) in anxiety and depression; [decreases](#) in communication and socialization skill development; [increases](#) in headaches, face rashes and redness, and impaired facial recognition; and [increases](#) in tooth decay.
- **The rest of the world (outside of the U.S.) seems to understand that masks on children are not a good idea.** The [World Health Organization](#) has held since August 2020 that no one under the age of 5 should be required to wear a mask. European countries, like the U.K. and France, [do not require masks on school age children](#) even in school settings.
 - From [this article](#): “It's important that primary schoolchildren don't wear face coverings,” says [Public Health England's medical advisor](#) Dr. Susan Hopkins. She explains that this is because COVID infection rates are low among their age group and wearing face coverings “could affect their development.”

Below are some links to more articles that expand on some of these points and more:

[Let my children take off their masks, the science says it is safe](#)

[Mandatory Masking of School Children is a bad idea](#)

[Young children are at low COVID risk in schools, but masking them could do long-term damage](#)

[Masking children: What does the science say?](#)

It's 98 Degrees Out. Why Is My Child Still Wearing A Mask?

Thanks for reading this email and considering these facts. Of course, we are all sad that the pandemic has required so many changes in our lives. But masks on young children are, in my view, more harmful than beneficial. As a parent, I can't ignore this and—I hope you understand—I have to speak up for what is best for my children. Thanks for considering my perspective!

Sincerely,

Paul J. Rominiecki

130 Kingsmill Drive

Felton, DE 19943

Shockley Tina

From: Bunting Susan
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 12:57 PM
To: Moffett-Batty Angela
Subject: FW: [External] Regulation Review, Mandatory Masks for School Children

Susan S. Bunting

Susan S. Bunting, Ed.D.
Secretary of Education
Department of Education

From: DERedRider <paguardguy@protonmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 12:08 PM
To: DOEregulations comment <DOEregulations.comment@doe.k12.de.us>
Cc: Bunting Susan <Susan.Bunting@doe.k12.de.us>
Subject: [External] Regulation Review, Mandatory Masks for School Children

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

Dear Dr. Susan Bunting:

I want to share my thoughts on a topic I feel strongly about: masks on children. I do not believe school age children should be forced to wear masks, and I urge you to adopt a policy that allows parental choice for all students on this matter for the upcoming school year.

I know you have to make a lot of tough decisions and you can't please everyone. I have a world of respect for you and I am aware that some in the community may not agree with my perspective. It's my view that emotion and politics (from both sides!) have driven a lot of policy choices during the pandemic at nearly every level of government... that's too bad.

I'll try to be brief but here are a few points that summarize my reasons for not supporting mandatory masks for school age children:

- **It's a great blessing that COVID doesn't pose as serious a health risk to children as it does to adults. Critically, school age children do not significantly spread COVID either.** Furthermore, now that the adults in our community (teachers, school staff, parents and family members) have had a chance to get vaccinated, the risk to adults of serious illness from COVID infection is even smaller.
 - From [this article](#): A study out of the UK released last week proved—once again—what we've known for more than a year: [Children transmit the coronavirus](#) at a much lower rate than do adults. Epidemiologist Shamez Ladhani, who led the study, found that children “aren't taking [the virus] home and then transferring it to the community. These children have very little capacity to infect household members.”
- **We do not yet know enough about the potential downside of mask-wearing for school age children.** I think you could make a case for or against masking children (which is why I support parents making the choice either way), but if masking is to be mandated, the onus is on those putting a mandate in place to show that masking passes a risk-benefit analysis. This area merits more study, but common sense tells us that covering the face can come with problems.
 - From [this article](#): Masking children is associated with: [increases](#) in anxiety and depression; [decreases](#) in communication and socialization skill development; [increases](#) in headaches, face rashes and redness, and impaired facial recognition; and [increases](#) in tooth decay.
- **The rest of the world (outside of the U.S.) seems to understand that masks on children are not a good idea.** The [World Health Organization](#) has held since August 2020 that no one under the age of 5 should be required to wear a mask. European countries, like the U.K. and France, [do not require masks on school age children](#) even in school settings.
 - From [this article](#): “It's important that primary schoolchildren don't wear face coverings,” says [Public Health England's medical advisor](#) Dr. Susan Hopkins. She explains that this is because COVID infection rates are low among their age group and wearing face coverings “could affect their development.”

Below are some links to more articles that expand on some of these points and more:

[Let my children take off their masks, the science says it is safe](#)

[Mandatory Masking of School Children is a bad idea](#)

[Young children are at low COVID risk in schools, but masking them could do long-term damage](#)

[Masking children: What does the science say?](#)

[It's 98 Degrees Out. Why Is My Child Still Wearing A Mask?](#)

Thanks for reading this email and considering these facts. Of course, we are all sad that the pandemic has required so many changes in our lives. But masks on young children are, in my view, more harmful than beneficial. As a parent, I can't ignore this and—I hope you understand—I have to speak up for what is best for my children. Thanks for considering my perspective!

Sincerely,

Bradley W. Shermer

104 Margit Court

Newark, DE 19711

Shockley Tina

From: Bunting Susan
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 1:02 PM
To: Moffett-Batty Angela
Subject: FW: [External] Unmask Our Children Now!

Susan S. Bunting

Susan S. Bunting, Ed.D.
Secretary of Education
Department of Education

From: James Mandel <jamrmand@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 1:02 PM
To: Bunting Susan <Susan.Bunting@doe.k12.de.us>
Subject: [External] Unmask Our Children Now!

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

I write to you today with grave concern for my child's current state of well-being. I believe that my daughter, her classmates and other students under your care, or specifically within the Smyrna School District, are being abused and taken advantage of with the forcing of mask wearing.

By now, most schools throughout our country have already lifted mask mandates, or better yet, never enforced them to begin with. Why in Delaware are we behind on this?

These restrictions are being forced without any proven science that exemplify positive effects of mask wearing. It goes against our will as parents and our rights as U.S Citizens to make free choices for ourselves and our families. It's wrong and unjust for educators to enforce this.

Bottom line, masking of children should be a decision made by parents or guardians in conjunction with their family's healthcare providers – Not enforced by someone behind closed doors who makes arbitrary decisions that a majority of our community disagrees with.

I strongly believe that long-term masking of children or any human for that matter, has serious negative effects on them physically, developmentally, socially, and academically. Children with masks covering their faces are less engaged with teachers, other students, and themselves.

Mask wearing or face covering most certainly interrupts my child from breathing freely and showing a smile on her face.

Fact: Myself and thousands of other families will and have already united on this issue and will fight relentlessly until you work to rescind these ridiculous mandates.

Enough is enough.

Unmask our children NOW!

--
James R. Mandel

Shockley Tina

From: DERedRider <paguardguy@protonmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 12:08 PM
To: DOEregulations comment
Cc: Bunting Susan
Subject: [External] Regulation Review, Mandatory Masks for School Children

WARNING: External Email - This email originated outside of the State email system.
DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and *are expecting* the email.

Dear Dr. Susan Bunting:

I want to share my thoughts on a topic I feel strongly about: masks on children. I do not believe school age children should be forced to wear masks, and I urge you to adopt a policy that allows parental choice for all students on this matter for the upcoming school year.

I know you have to make a lot of tough decisions and you can't please everyone. I have a world of respect for you and I am aware that some in the community may not agree with my perspective. It's my view that emotion and politics (from both sides!) have driven a lot of policy choices during the pandemic at nearly every level of government... that's too bad.

I'll try to be brief but here are a few points that summarize my reasons for not supporting mandatory masks for school age children:

- **It's a great blessing that COVID doesn't pose as serious a health risk to children as it does to adults. Critically, school age children do not significantly spread COVID either.** Furthermore, now that the adults in our community (teachers, school staff, parents and family members) have had a chance to get vaccinated, the risk to adults of serious illness from COVID infection is even smaller.
 - From [this article](#): A study out of the UK released last week proved—once again—what we've known for more than a year: [Children transmit the coronavirus](#) at a much lower rate than do adults. Epidemiologist Shamez Ladhani, who led the study, found that

children “aren’t taking [the virus] home and then transferring it to the community. These children have very little capacity to infect household members.”

- **We do not yet know enough about the potential downside of mask-wearing for school age children.** I think you could make a case for or against masking children (which is why I support parents making the choice either way), but if masking is to be mandated, the onus is on those putting a mandate in place to show that masking passes a risk-benefit analysis. This area merits more study, but common sense tells us that covering the face can come with problems.
 - From [this article](#): Masking children is associated with: [increases](#) in anxiety and depression; [decreases](#) in communication and socialization skill development; [increases](#) in headaches, face rashes and redness, and impaired facial recognition; and [increases](#) in tooth decay.
- **The rest of the world (outside of the U.S.) seems to understand that masks on children are not a good idea.** The [World Health Organization](#) has held since August 2020 that no one under the age of 5 should be required to wear a mask. European countries, like the U.K. and France, [do not require masks on school age children](#) even in school settings.
 - From [this article](#): “It’s important that primary schoolchildren don’t wear face coverings,” says [Public Health England’s medical advisor](#) Dr. Susan Hopkins. She explains that this is because COVID infection rates are low among their age group and wearing face coverings “could affect their development.”

Below are some links to more articles that expand on some of these points and more:

[Let my children take off their masks, the science says it is safe](#)

[Mandatory Masking of School Children is a bad idea](#)

[Young children are at low COVID risk in schools, but masking them could do long-term damage](#)

[Masking children: What does the science say?](#)

[It's 98 Degrees Out. Why Is My Child Still Wearing A Mask?](#)

Thanks for reading this email and considering these facts. Of course, we are all sad that the pandemic has required so many changes in our lives. But masks on young children are, in my view, more harmful than beneficial. As a parent, I can’t ignore this and—I hope you understand—I have to speak up for what is best for my children. Thanks for considering my perspective!

Sincerely,

Bradley W. Shermer

104 Margit Court

Newark, DE 19711