

Formal Written Correspondence to the Board [#484]

1 message

LVJUSD <no-reply@wufoo.com>

Sat, Aug 7, 2021 at 4:20 PM

Reply-To: no-reply@wufoo.com

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Name *

Marjana Ryan

Address *

Email *

Subject *

Please keep the mask mandate

Comments *

Dear LVJUSD Board,

I am a concerned parent who is attempting to do the best for the continued growth and well being of my children who attend school within the Livermore School District. Unlike a lot of the parents, I am also a nurse. I have been a nurse for over 20 years and I have worked continuously throughout the pandemic. Because of this, I feel that I have a very honest and morbid view of the Covid pandemic. I understand that people are very concerned about their freedoms and their ability to choose. A basic human characteristic has been lost in the recent years: community. To care about the community, one must consider the good of all over the good of a few. In the middle of a pandemic, the community needs must outweigh the desires of the individual. As Covid-19 is an airborne virus, one of the best defenses we have is a mask. A mask provides a barrier from the small particulates that anyone can cough and spread. Everyday, I am faced with this fact when I go to work. Everyday, I willingly take the risk and wear my mask so I can help other families stay whole, healthy and together. While people may think their personal freedoms are at risk when wearing a mask, NOT wearing a mask puts everyone's basic freedom and right to breathe at risk. To be slightly uncomfortable but ensuring students can return to school the next day and the next and the next should make everyone overwhelmingly in favor of wearing masks at schools.

I am choosing to speak out in favor of the mask mandate for the schools. I have watched the patients enter the hospital having difficulty breathing. I have seen them turning blue from an insidious lack of oxygen. I have heard the denials as someone gets diagnosed with Covid, claiming the whole thing is a hoax. I have also seen the fear. The fear of impending doom because breathing, which should be so easy it's subconscious, becomes a trial. This is not something I wish to see on my children's face or any child's face. I have also seen the fear in the family members who are separated from the sick family members and can only interact via a web cam for brief moments. I have seen the fear of the patients struggling to survive while alone in a hospital room. This is something I do not wish on any parents of a school-aged child who only wanted to go to school to learn and see their friends.

I implore you and beseech you, please keep the mask mandate in place for the LVJUSD schools. Please allow our children the chance to have go to school and lessen the terror of getting sick. Please enforce all people on school campuses to wear masks to keep the infection rates down. If anything, the biggest reason to wear a mask is to bring about an end to this pandemic. The only way this pandemic will end is when the virus is unable to infect. A mask is key to this.

If proof is needed to show this the mask mandate is a good idea, please look into the Brentwood school district, who

has already started school. They are wearing masks. And have some social distancing and contact tracing policies in place. Within the first week, 15 students and teachers tested positive for Covid. Can you imagine how much worse this would have been without masks? To reiterate, Covid is an airborne virus. Wearing a mask is one of the easiest and best ways to defend against it.

Thank you for your time,
Marjana Ryan



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