

Date: Wed, Aug 18, 2021 at 12:23 PM

Subject: Thank you

To: Emily Prusso <eprussotrustee@lvjUSD.org>

Cc: <kbowers@lvjUSD.org>, Kristie Wang <kwangtrustee@lvjUSD.org>, <awhitetrustee@lvjUSD.org>, <cbuenotrustee@lvjUSD.org>, <yquzmantrustee@lvjUSD.org>, <cvanschaack@lvjUSD.org>

Emily,

I wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude for your thoughtful and compassionate words at last evening's school board meeting. You clearly gave tremendous thought and consideration into the many messages received from a diverse collection of thought. I appreciate that you recognize the conflicting data leaves you in a position to question the efficacy of masking children. Please know that you have earned my respect because of your ability to listen, ask the hard questions (ie. efficacy of masks/impact on students), and your kind responses. The challenges of these times are not lost on me. I am not blind to the delicate position each of you hold with the education and safety of our children, while navigating an ever changing (often flip-flopping) era of data/ information, and the management of 'mandates/orders' that interfere with our liberties as americans.

Below is the email I sent today to Julie Kraybill at Sunset Elementary School because they were not made aware by the district office that we had unenrolled Jaxyn from the school. I thought you would like to know of the miscommunication between the district office and the elementary school so that it can be avoided in the future. Perhaps the process needs to be more clearly defined? I have heard from several other parents their desire to unenroll their children until mask choice is granted.

Again, thank you for your thoughtful speech last evening. Please don't stop asking the hard questions that must be asked.

Warm regards,
Nichole & TJ Thomas

Julie,

I have rather unfortunate news regarding my son's enrollment with Sunset Elementary School. As you may know, our oldest two daughters, our nieces and nephews, as well as my husband and I all attended Sunset and have very much so looked forward to our youngest son attending this year. Sadly, there is a mandate that my husband and I cannot under good conscious subject our child to.

The reasoning for this is due to the enforcement of masks over the children's faces. I don't find it particularly humane to block their airways with spit, sweat, dirt soaked masks. I find this to be an awful hindrance of speech development, and overall social and emotional development. These masks are rather unnecessary. Take a look at the data that clearly shows a lower death rate from covid than compared to the average flu season we have managed through year after year without masks.

I have already let the District office know by email and telephone. I will continue to advocate for mask choice and pray things turn around for the better.

Warm regards,
Nichole & TJ Thomas