

February 8, 2022

To Members of the Connecticut Legislature:

I respectfully request that the mask mandate in public schools be maintained.

*Schools are not well ventilated

*Vaccination rates for 12-18 year olds are only at the 50% range while it is even lower for the 5-11 age range.

*Without masks, how will unvaccinated children be protected?

*Virtual school is no longer an option. If masking is removed, how do schools continue to claim they are "safe"?

*Schools no longer do contact tracing – that is left for the students to communicate with each other – effectively being the adults in the room.

*For parents who claim masks cause anxiety in their children, I suggest those parents look at themselves and realize they are passing their anxiety onto their children.

*Requiring masks is not child abuse. It could be posited that refusing to have your child wear a mask is child abuse – why expose your child to a deadly virus if a mask can help block it?

*Without masking, how will immune-compromised children be protected?

*Without masking, how will immune compromised relatives be protected from their child's school exposure?

*Just because the rate has come down does not mean this pandemic is over. Every time the masks come off, a new variant emerges and infections, hospitalizations and deaths rise.

*The positivity rate is inaccurate as many if not most home tests are not reported.

*Why would we remove masks in the middle of winter when it's been shown that winter is the worst time for Covid in the Northeast?

*For all of the people claiming they can't breathe under a mask, please ask each every one of them how medical personnel do it day in and day out for hours at a time.

Please do not permit the vocal minority to highjack our children's' health.

Thank you,
Jenny Law
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