

PUBLIC HEARING TESTIMONY

RE: CT Gov. Executive Orders and the School Mask Mandate

February 7, 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

I am a 20 year resident of Greenwich, CT and I have raised two children here. My eldest is 20yo and my youngest is 14yo and a high school freshman at Greenwich Academy.

Since September of 2020, my youngest daughter has been able to attend school in-person thanks to the school's strict policy on mandating masks for all children pre-K to 12. All the correspondence I have received from the school regarding the mask mandate have made reference to "the state guidance and in compliance with the Governor's Executive Order".

My family and I are grateful that the state's guidance has been clear and unequivocal because it has allowed our school's policy to be clear, and based on science and best practices from the medical community.

Thanks to the mask mandate and the high percentage of vaccinations in our school, my daughter has been able to go to school, participate in after-school activities, clubs and even sports. She has cousin's who live in Texas who have not been as lucky.

Knowing that my daughter is following best practices at school has made it possible for my mother and father to live with us since October 2021. My mother was diagnosed with a very aggressive cancer and is being treated here in Connecticut where she can live safely in the same house with her granddaughter and where COVID infection rates are much lower than in Florida where she usually resides.

Whenever a government representative is given special powers there should be healthy and vigorous debate as to the extent of those powers and the benefit to the community. I for one hope that the Governor's executive orders remain in place, his leadership on COVID policy has kept my family, our school and our community safe.

It takes a community to build immunity!

Sincerely,
Renée Shafer Lux

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