

**BEFORE THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE
SOULSBYVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

RESOLUTION # 2021/2022-08

**IN THE MATTER REGARDING UNIVERSAL INDOOR MASKING, QUARANTINES, AND
VACCINES**

1. **WHEREAS**, this school board is elected to represent our students and by extension their families,
2. **WHEREAS**, we have taken the time to determine the desires and opinions of our school community through surveys, public meetings, etc. and we have determined the desires and opinions of our teachers and staff through meetings and surveys, and
3. **WHEREAS**, we are an institute of learning and as such should be directing our resources and time towards that end, not wasting precious learning time enforcing mandates that are not part of our purpose, mission, expertise or goals, and
4. **WHEREAS**, the California Department of Public Health Guidance for K-12 schools requires mandatory universal masking indoors in K-12 settings with limited exemptions as specified in the general guidance for use of Face Coverings. The guidance also requires schools to develop and implement local protocols to enforce the mask requirements, but schools *“do not have discretion or authority to opt out from enforcing the requirement;”* and
5. **WHEREAS**, the ability to see, appreciate and communicate through facial expressions is crucial to a student’s social development, mental health, and physical well-being, and mask wearing may disproportionately impact students who are hearing impaired or those attempting to learn English as a second language, as it may impede their ability to process, understand and emulate spoken language
6. **WE THEREFORE RESOLVE**, that the Soulsbyville Elementary School District Governing Board is strongly opposed to continuing the universal indoor masking requirements without clear, measureable, definable metrics towards an end point.
7. **WE THEREFORE RESOLVE**, to make masking for students a decision left to the parents or guardians of those students, effective January 3, 2022.

8. **WE THEREFORE RESOLVE**, No enforcement or segregation of students based on the choice to mask or not to mask. Teachers may not exclude children from the classroom for mask status. Teachers may choose to use their own PPE as desired, but may not treat masked and unmasked students differently in any way (seating location, activities, etc.)
9. **FUTHERMORE**, the Soulsbyville Elementary School District Governing Board demands the State of California to work expeditiously to providing timely guidance for schools to appropriately allow mask wearing to be optional when conditions warrant, and to clarify what those local benchmarks would be; and
10. **WHEREAS**, quarantines are disruptive to learning,
11. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that we will diligently strive to find ways to shorten, minimize and reduce the impact of quarantines on our students and learning loss
12. **WHEREAS**, Quarantine protocols will be limited to those exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. We will continue to offer COVID-19 tests to students who request them. COVID-19 positive students will follow current guidelines.
13. **WHEREAS**, current law provides that 10 currently mandated vaccines are required prior to a student's first admission to a given school, subject only to a narrow medical exemption; and that additional vaccines (including COVID-19 vaccines) may be required but would be subject to broader medical and personal belief exemptions, and
14. **WHEREAS**, the abovementioned currently mandated vaccines have been vetted by decades of research and experience, and were originally required solely based on the fact that benefits **far** outweigh risks, and
15. **WHEREAS**, the Soulsbyville Elementary School District Governing Board strongly believes that parental choice in vaccination and other health decisions is paramount,
16. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Soulsbyville Elementary School District Governing Board vehemently objects and opposes any forced requirements of new vaccines without personal or religious beliefs exemptions that would allow families and parents options to choose until such time that said new vaccines in like manner have been proven to be far more beneficial than any potential risks, and
17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Soulsbyville Elementary School District Governing Board will not enforce or preemptively implement a vaccine requirement and,

18. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that there will not be any form of segregation or parsed protocols based on vaccination status in regards to activities, employment, testing, masking, or attendance.
19. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Soulsbyville Elementary School District Governing Board will do what is in their power to make our voices, and the voices of our staff, students and families, heard, to influence local and state lawmakers to provide actual metrics to discontinue universal masking indoors and to keep the above mentioned vaccine exemptions in place, and finally,
20. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Soulsbyville Elementary School District Governing Board requests the State of California to restore local authority to create and implement COVID-19 safety plans, including guidelines for masks, quarantines, vaccinations, and the establishment of normal classroom instruction tailored to local conditions; and
21. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Superintendent of the Soulsbyville Elementary School District is directed to transmit this Resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom; State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond; Director and State Public Health Officer CDPH, Dr. Tomas J. Aragon; Senator Andreas Borgeas; Assemblyman Frank Bigelow; Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors, Daniel Anaiah Kirk and Ryan Campbell; and Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools, Cathy Parker; to make known the desires expressed by the Soulsbyville Elementary School District Governing Board regarding public health decisions related to COVID-19.

The foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted, by a roll call vote of the Governing Board,
upon the motion of Board Member Dena Canaday _____, seconded by Board Member Timothy Morton _____ at a meeting of this Governing Board held on December 13, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: 4

NAYS:1

ABSENT: 0

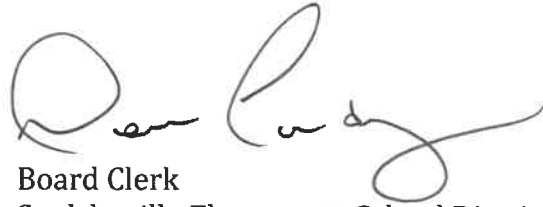
ABSTENTIONS: 0

I, Dena Canaday, Clerk of the Governing Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution #2021/2022-08, In the Matter Regarding Universal masking, student quarantine, and vaccine requirements, adopted by the Soulsbyville Elementary School District Governing Board at a regular meeting held at its regular place of meeting by the vote above stated, which resolution is on file in the office of the said Board.

Soulsbyville Elementary School District
RESOLUTION #2021/2022-08 REGARDING MASKING & VACCINATION REQUIREMENT

Signed:

Dated: 12-15-21



Board Clerk
Soulsbyville Elementary School District

Attest:

Dated: 12/15/21



Superintendent
Soulsbyville Elementary School District