

Mask mandates and peer-reviewed literature

Melisa Schelvan <mbschelvan@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 13, 2021 at 10:05 AM

To: nhobbins@mcpsmt.org, vmcdonald@mcpsmt.org, kmercer@mcpsmt.org, awake@mcpsmt.org, publiccomment@mcpsmt.org, javgeris@mcpsmt.org, mgehl@mcpsmt.org, dllorenzen@mcpsmt.org, woldperson@mcpsmt.org, jvogel@mcpsmt.org, awalker-andrews@mcpsmt.org, rwatson@mcpsmt.org

Dear Board Members,

I was hoping I would have no need to send this email, that logic and integrity would prevail. I am asking that you seriously consider the literature regarding masks and COVID-19 vaccines in children FOR YOURSELF. Please do not rely on recommendations from the CDC, or from the Missoula County Health Department, or any other government agency for that matter. I would say don't even listen to me, but that is obviously unnecessary. I emailed the below example of why I am saying this to Jennifer Courtney, who is on your COVID-19 task force. Not only was this news to her, she didn't seem too bothered that the CDC is MISREPRESENTING the peer-reviewed literature. This is only 1 example. I can send many. You all say you believe in science, so READ IT. Examine it critically. Stop relying on other people to tell you what it says. I am aghast. I don't know what else to say. Please take the time to read this.

If you look closely at a paper listed on the CDC website for wearing masks and authored by CDC scientists, you will see the lack of scientific integrity. Here is a direct quote from the paper (emphasis mine) (Brooks and Butler. 2021. Effectiveness of Mask Wearing to Control Community Spread of SARS-CoV-2. JAMA. 325(10):990-999.) <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2776536> :

“Wearing a mask can become uncomfortable, particularly for long periods in warm environments, and covering the nose and mouth may inhibit verbal and nonverbal communication, particularly for children and deaf individuals. **However, children aged 7 to 13 years have been shown to be able to make accurate inferences about the emotions of others with partially covered faces,8 ...**

So, I looked up reference #8, which is the peer-reviewed paper they based the bolded statement above upon; I'm pasting below the actual results taken directly from that study (here's a link so you don't have to take my word <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0243708>):

“The main effect of Covering, $F(2, 154) = 27.19$ $p < .001$, $\eta^2 = .26$, showed that children were more accurate when faces were uncovered ($M = .34$, $SD = .47$) compared to when the faces wore a mask ($M = .24$, $SD = .43$), $t(80) = 6.57$, $p < .001$, $d = .73$, $CI95\% [.07, .13]$, or shades ($M = .24$, $SD = .43$), $t(80) = 6.24$, $p < .001$, $d = .69$, $CI95\% [.07, .13]$.”

“For facial configurations associated with sadness, children were less accurate when the faces wore masks ($M = .28$, $SD = .45$) compared to when the faces had no covering ($M = .43$, $SD = .49$), $t(80) = 4.60$, $p < .001$, $d = .51$, $CI95\% [.08, .21]$.”

“For facial configurations associated with anger, children were less accurate when the faces wore masks ($M = .27$, $SD = .44$) compared to when the faces had no covering ($M = .34$, $SD = .48$), $t(80) = 2.72$, $p = .041$, $d = .30$, $CI95\% [.02, .13]$.”

“For facial configurations associated with fear, children were less accurate when the faces wore masks ($M = .18$, $SD = .38$) compared to when the faces had no covering ($M = .25$, $SD = .43$), $t(80) = 2.91$, $p = .028$, $d = .32$, $CI95\% [.02, .12]$.”

“Thus, across all emotions, children were less accurate with faces that wore a mask compared to faces that were not covered.”

As you can see, those CDC authors were less than honest in the way they represented that paper. That is one example of about 10 that I found in that 1 paper alone. You'll never know unless you look. Are you bothered

by this?

I have also spent considerable time following the vaccine literature itself, rather than relying on the CDC to tell me what to think and do. The literature is not good. The community data coming out of highly vaccinated countries is not promising. It is not just my child that will suffer the consequences of your failure to do your own homework, but your children as well. Maybe I am wrong, and you are right. I hope that is the case for the sake of the thousands of kids you are putting in harm's way.

Melisa Schelvan



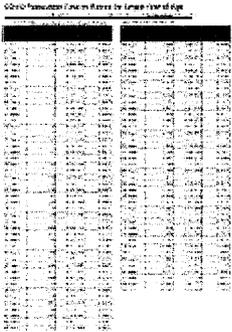
Public Comment <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

Mask policy

Sean <seansatake@gmail.com>
To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Thu, Oct 14, 2021 at 8:49 AM

Based on the CDC the pediatric death rate is 0% to.001. How do you justify the mask policy and what science is it based on. The masks I'm seeing won't stop a virus. I can only speak for own experience working in a hospital operating room, but the masks and policies do not meet any established guidelines for sterile healthcare procedures. This is an exercise in control and borderline child abuse.



FbehTuY.jpeg
236K

Numbers Discrepancy

Michael Starmer <flyfishin_dude@yahoo.com>

Thu, Oct 14, 2021 at 9:09 AM

To: "publiccomment@mcpsmt.org" <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

Sent to Mr. Watson & All Trustees,

After the MCSBT meeting last night, I visited the MCPS website as well as the State of Montana DPHHS website to review the number of active Covid-19 cases being reported in our schools here. There was a significant discrepancy between the two. As of 10/8. MCPS were reporting 82 active cases on their website, while on the State website it shows only 10 active cases.

I contacted MT DPHHS who told me that their published figures come directly from the Missoula City/County Health Department. I then contacted the MCHD to find out why they were not reporting the current active case load to the State. They in turn told me that the numbers they report to the state are determined by the information they receive from the schools. I asked who or what department in the MCPS Administration was responsible for that and they couldn't tell me. In the Missoula Public School System, the "buck" stops with you, so perhaps you can explain to me why this is happening?

Also, I looked up the active Covid-19 cases from the Kalispell school system on their website. They have 6,193 students enrolled this year and with staff (793) for a total of 6986 combined. As of today, they are reporting the active number of combined student and staff cases at 26 (Home - Kalispell Public Schools (sd5.k12.mt.us)). I can't find the current enrollment in the MCPS system, but based on past enrollment information, my estimate is around 10,000 students. Using the staffing requirements that the Kalispell school system has, I'll add the same ratio of staff to arrive at an estimated combined figure for Missoula of 11,279. Missoula is reporting the number of combined active cases to be 82 as of October 8th.

If my assumption above is correct, Kalispell has an active case percentage of .374%, compared to Missoula's active case percentage of .727%. With Missoula's mandatory mask policy, wouldn't you think that the percentages would be the reverse? How can Kalispell's active case percentage be just over half of Missoula's even though they have a mask choice policy? Perhaps while you are answering my first question, you can address the second.

Thank you for your time.

Mike

Mike Starmer

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406-544-1412

Sent from Mail for Windows

KEEP THE MASKS.

mask mandates now. <zootownparent@protonmail.com>
Reply-To: "mask mandates now." <zootownparent@protonmail.com>
To: "publiccomment@mcpsmt.org" <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

Fri, Oct 15, 2021 at 8:43 AM

"31 Missoula parents and taxpayers" do not represent all of the Missoula parents and taxpayers.

It represents exactly 31 people. 31 people who want to see the parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles and other loved family and friends be exposed to what they think is "not a crisis." Those 31 parents should just come out and admit that they don't believe in the pandemic and they cosign to conspiracy theory.

I am grateful that MCPS considers and respects my family and my children's security in having a 2 parent household to be more important than the incessant crying and whining of 31 people who want to have their feelings coddled.

Those 31 people don't speak for all of parents, children or people of Missoula county. They only speak for those 31 people.

Sent with ProtonMail Secure Email.



Public Comment <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

So Happy for mask mandate!

Heidi Halverson <hlhmontana@aol.com>
To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Fri, Oct 15, 2021 at 10:06 AM

Dear School board,

I am so proud of you for voting to continue the mask mandate for students. I am a dental hygienist and obviously work close to individuals. I am vaccinated (unlike some of my co workers and peers). I also do not have any children in school district #1. I do feel that everyone should do their part in stopping this crazy awful pandemic!

So thank you for doing your part. We shall get through this if we all do what science has proven to be effective.

Kind regards,

Heidi



Public Comment <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

Thank you for mask mandate.

Melissa Blunt <mblunt@montanadsl.net>
To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Fri, Oct 15, 2021 at 9:31 PM

Thank you for upholding the mask mandate in the schools. Montana is embarrassingly the worst state in the union for infections because of political policies that are not based on health advice from professionals so I really appreciate you were standing by what's right for our community health. thank you.

Melissa Blunt

Sent from my iPhone



Public Comment <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

mask mandate in schools

jamesandwhitney2@gmail.com <jamesandwhitney2@gmail.com>
To: "publiccomment@mcpsmt.org" <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

Mon, Sep 27, 2021 at 9:08 PM

To Whom It May Concern-

I am very disappointed in a lot of the comments I have read. It's very simple.

Our community spread of Covid is out of control right now. Our numbers are the highest they have ever been and the majority of people in our community are NOT wearing masks. As we have all seen being vaccinated does not cover you 100%. Vaccinated people are still getting very sick and spreading it.

In our schools the number of students contracting Covid is also increasing. However, they are not contracting it through the schools. They are getting Covid out in the community when they are NOT wearing masks. Masks in the schools are working. Masks are absolutely slowing the spread of Covid.

I know many parents don't want their kids wearing masks but I'm begging you to please support the mask mandate. Please do it for the health and safety of every person that works closely with your kids. I am a mother (my kids wear masks at school) and I'm one of the people who works closely with your kids. I also desperately don't want to get Covid.

Sincerely,

W. Guthrie

Sent from Mail for Windows 10
