From: <u>Jessica Clark</u>
To: <u>Public Testimony</u>

Subject:Mask mandates (specifically in schools)Date:Friday, August 6, 2021 1:57:18 PM

I am writing to share my objection to forced mask mandates within the KC metro area. First and foremost I would like to address the masks and their dangers to children, to which there is ample peer-reviewed evidence as well as statistics. For example, there is a statistic out that last year during the previous lockdown/mask mandates, there were 5x more suicides than deaths from covid in adolescents. Most teachers who want the vaccine have gotten it. There is such an abundance of data to support the harm and uselessness of masks that it cannot be ignored. I personally work in the school system and have seen the mental toll and stress it has caused children to wear these masks while trying to learn. I have witnessed children trying to read during group work and get so winded they cannot finish a sentence. THAT IS CHILD ABUSE! My own child has been berated and told by others they hope he dies from Covid because the mask fell beneath his nose! These things are abhorrent and disgusting and are only the tip of the iceberg as far as the trauma and negatives that happen when you mandate something like this, giving people unnecessary judgment and authority over others. Those that want to are still free to wear a mask when you don't impose unconstitutional mandates while still allowing everyone to make choices regarding their bodily autonomy. Additionally, I am being forced to pull my child from the public school system and homeschool because I cannot in good conscience as his mother allow him to endure these things when it's my duty to protect him. I know of several other patents who will do the same resulting in decreased funding for the school system. This isn't my preferred way but I have been given no other alternative. Please consider that we cannot keep putting children in harmful situations to simply makes adults "feel better". Look at the FACTS about covid specifically a 99.8% survival rate amongst people under the age of 65. It is our duty to protect and speak out for our children and others from gross government overreach and tyranny.

Thank you for your time.

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