



RE: Board Correspondence – Concerned Parent

Mishael Webster,

Thank you for your letter dated September 8, 2021. It was shared at a public meeting held on September 29, 2021.

On behalf of the Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools' Board of Education ("Board") I wanted to inform you that school districts across British Columbia follow the direction set by the Provincial Health Office, BCCDC and Ministry of Education.

The Board will continue to prioritize the safety and well being of its students and staff. With that being said, we understand that these health orders may not align with the families of our 15,000 students across the district.

We respect your decision to teach your child from home, that is your right. However, if you do choose to send your child back to school, our Principals are open to speaking to each family about individual plans surrounding health and safety measures such as mask wearing.

Sincerely,

Charlene McKay
Board Chair

From: [Karen Matthews](#)
To: [Karen Matthews](#)
Subject: FW: Concerned parent
Date: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 3:28:09 PM

From: mishael webster <>
Sent: September 6, 2021 3:50 PM
To: Superintendent <Superintendent@sd68.bc.ca>; Deputy Superintendent <DeputySuperintendent@sd68.bc.ca>; Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Programs <AsstSupElementary@sd68.bc.ca>; Learning Services Director of Instruction Elementary <DirectorofInstructionElementary@sd68.bc.ca>; Director of Communications <DirectorCommunications@sd68.bc.ca>; Communications <Communications@sd68.bc.ca>
Subject: Concerned parent

CAUTION: External Message

Dear Board Members,

My name is Mishael and I am the mother of a child who is currently enrolled in SD #68. I am writing in response to your letter dated August 30th, which was forwarded to my family through Gabriola Elementary School, as I would like to address some concerns.

Obviously, not all community members share the same sentiments regarding the vaccination and masking of our children. These hot topics will soon be on the table once again and I wanted my voice to be heard. My hope is that you will leverage the respect you have earned in the school community to advocate for the **equitable** treatment of all students. There will be those who choose to wear masks and/or get a vaccine and those who don't and, in my opinion and in the interest of maintaining a culture of support and unity, rather than division, we should not be forcing anyone to mask or vaccinate. Instead, the focus should lie on the promotion of tolerance and personal decision-making for **all**.

Children are at nearly zero percent risk of contracting or transmitting Covid-19 and have a 99.997% survival rate. Further, schools are reportedly a very low risk environment for transmission of this virus. Health Officers, in response to heavy lobbying by Teacher's Unions and other NGO groups, are ignoring the harms to minors and continuing to implement the exaggerated emergency measures. For no reason and under no circumstances, should the wellbeing of young people be compromised under the guise of keeping adults safe. We are to **protect** children

and not put them at risk of physical, psychological, and developmental harms. I understand the difference of opinion that exists regarding these issues, even among scientific experts in the field, which is precisely the reason why a parent should question what is right or wrong for their own child. My child's future depends on me doing the work, asking tough questions, and seeking the truth. My motivation lies entirely with that, nothing more. I have and will continue to do everything in my power to advocate for my child, and as a public servant, no matter how difficult or scary, I would hope that you would do the same. I encourage you to dig deep and be the change we need.

My hope is that you collectively consider the bigger picture, and get uncomfortable in order to protect our children's liberties. Should you wish to check out further resources related to this matter, please visit [Action4Canada](#). You may find this [German Court ruling against masks, social distancing and testing for students](#) of particular interest.

I have spoken with the principal of the school my child is enrolled in this year and was told the mask mandate guidelines would be followed. Because my child is entering grade 4 this year, I will be pulling him out of school and teaching him from home as I cannot get onboard with the exaggerated emergency measures being mandated at his school. I believe it is only fair to let you know why my child is being pulled from the public school system so you have the opportunity to research and review the mandates in place as well as reconsider the rights and personal decisions of ALL families and students within the school board.

Respectfully yours,

Michael Webster

Sent from my iPhone

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