

Re: Testimony for Feb 17, 2022 regarding masks starting March 1

1 message

Rajab, Farouk <frajab@stoningtonschools.org>

Thu, Feb 17, 2022 at 3:22 PM

To: Matt Beaudoin <matt@mysticknotwork.com>

Cc: heidi.simmons@stoningtonschools.org, cesposito@stoningtonschools.org, daniel.kelley@stoningtonschools.org, christopher.donahue@stoningtonschools.org, kevin.agnello@stoningtonschools.org, sara.baker@stoningtonschools.org, Van Riley <vriley@stoningtonschools.org>, "deOliveira, Ana" <adeoliveira@stoningtonschools.org>

Good evening Matt,

Thank you for sharing your opinion with us. Due to the number of comments received via email, we will not read them during our special meeting however they will be included in our meeting minutes.

Thank you,
Farouk

On Thu, Feb 17, 2022 at 3:19 PM Matt Beaudoin <matt@mysticknotwork.com> wrote:

Farouk, Daniel, Heidi, Chris, Craig, Kevin, and Sara,

Please ensure this is read and included in the record as testimony regarding the Special Meeting this afternoon February 17, 2022. Thank you for the good work you do advocating for educational success, physical and mental student safety, and serving as the voice of the parents and other citizens of Stonington,

Thanks
Matt (SHS class of '88)

Matthew Beaudoin 02/17/2022
18 Johnson Street
Pawcatuck, CT 06379

Honorable Board of Education for our Town of Stonington Connecticut,

I submit this testimony in writing as I have conflicting commitments during the hour of discussion.

I'm certain that the mild health impacts to the under 25 crowd have been testified to and we have agreed as a nation for a long time that this disease largely effects the elderly and people with major diseases as comorbidity. Rather than bore you with facts and statistics, let me tell you what's happening in my family right now.

My granddaughter was diagnosed with covid on Tuesday at 2pm. She is 3 months old. I've read the statistics that say that only a handful of kids under 10 have succumbed to the COVID disease in any of its variants since Jan 2020 Still, she is my granddaughter. No sooner had I started to worry that she'd be the exception that we got the call that her fever broke and she is acting fine. She 'felt sick' for about 6 hours. Yesterday morning, Christa reported that her daughter was happy, hungry, and acting as though nothing happened. To the people that are concerned that the lowest risk among us, the under 5 crowd, has no access to the vaccine, they can be reassured that the Omicron variant is still having a small impact on our young.

In November 2020, we lost my grandmother to an earlier variant of COVID. We were her primary caregivers while our shop was shut down. During this time, she expressed her annoyance that kids were locked away from friends, and locked out of school. She couldn't understand. I know that we made a bargain with our students. Just wear the mask and keep your distance while the adults come up with a vaccine and other solutions. Once we get grandma safe, we'll give you your childhoods back.

Well, here we are. We have a variant that is milder than the flu, FINALLY. We have a solid array of vaccines, we know the proper care and treatment in hospital for the disease, and we are even prescribing medicines to ease side effects as a home care option.

It's time to give back our children their friends, their childhood, and let them understand that adults operate with the highest integrity.

If it helps in your decision process, here is a short list of Connecticut towns that are siding with their students to make masks an option, not a requirement to access our educational system:

Ansonia, Bethel, Bridgeport (Mar31), Bristol, Fairfield, Glastonbury, Madison, Montville, New Fairfield, New Milford, Newington, Newtown, North Haven, North Stonington, Plainfield, Preston, Southington, Stafford, Stamford (Mar 15), Watertown, West Hartford, Wethersfield

I have only found 2 towns putting off their decision: New Haven and Mansfield (UCONN)

Respectively Submitted,
Matthew Beaudoin

--



Mystic Knotwork
Matt Beaudoin
25 Cottrell St
Mystic, CT 06355

860-889-3793

[Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [Newsletter](#)

Wood is for boats, please conserve and think before you print