

# TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

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## RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE & THE BURRILLVILLE SCHOOL COMMITTEE REQUESTING THE REMOVAL OF MASK MANDATE FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

- WHEREAS, the Burrillville School Committee and Town Council respectfully request that mask requirements for children be thoroughly reviewed; and
- WHEREAS, the Town requests that the following information, the attached presentation and support/references be reviewed by the Office of the Rhode Island Governor and be sent to the Rhode Island Department of Health and the Rhode Island Department of Education for a detailed response; and
- WHEREAS, the Covid-19 mortality risk among school-aged children = 0.001%. This translates into one child per 100,000 infected children OR 0.01 child per 1,000 infected children<sup>1,2</sup>; and
- WHEREAS, Covid-19 morbidity in children is equally rare with limited evidence in the form of clinical case studies; and
- WHEREAS, 68% of percent of parents report impairments due to mask wearing in their school-aged children, including but not limited to, irritability (60%), headache (53%), difficulty concentrating (50%), joylessness (49%), and malaise (42%)<sup>3</sup>; and
- WHEREAS, these short-term complications can lead to longer-term mental health issues – the state of RI is experiencing a mental health crisis among children, in particular<sup>4</sup>; and
- WHEREAS, mask effectiveness is highly controversial – various publications have demonstrated they are largely useless in protecting against the transmission of Covid-19. For example, a study found that aside from N95 masks, alternative masks do not provide effective filtration<sup>5, 6, 7, 8</sup>; and
- WHEREAS, any argument concerning the risk of transmission from child to adult must consider that we now have the option to protect those at risk (certain adult populations) without continuing to punish those who are not at risk (children). A widely available vaccine with proven efficacy data offered at no cost; and
- WHEREAS, from a health economic perspective, mask mandates in children provide no clinical benefit with a significantly high human burden; and
- WHEREAS, the information provided herein appears to show that mask wearing by children of any age is not supported and can actually cause harm; and
- WHEREAS, The Burrillville Town Council and Burrillville School Committee respectfully make this joint request that the Governor of the State of Rhode Island, the Rhode Island Department of Health and Rhode Island Department of Education immediately review all mandatory mask requirements for students and determine the efficacy of eliminating such requirements on an immediate basis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it is time for facts and science to support the decisions that are, and will, impact our children, both short and long term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that without a clear, timely and substantive response to the information provided, the Burrillville Town Council will support the School Committee including, but not limited to, public support, legal and administrative support and to take any other measures necessary to reach a sensible conclusion and implement policies and practices that are deemed to be in the best interest of our children.

Passed as a resolution of the Burrillville Town Council this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

Alexandra LeClair  
Alexandra LeClair, Chair  
Burrillville School Committee

Donald A. Fox / *Don*  
Donald A. Fox, President  
Burrillville Town Council

ATTEST: Vicki Martin  
Vicki Martin, Town Clerk

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