

TOWN OF PRINCETON

Office of the Selectboard

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August 10, 2021

The Honorable Governor Charlie Baker Massachusetts State House, Room 360 Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Baker, Secretary Peyser, Commissioner Riley, Commissioner Aigner-Treworgy

The Centers for Disease Control recently stated: "Due to the circulating and highly contagious Delta variant, CDC recommends universal indoor masking by all students (age 2 and older), staff, teachers, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status."

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recently wrote:

"All students older than 2 years and all school staff should wear face masks at school (unless medical or developmental conditions prohibit use)."

The AAP also stated:

"All eligible individuals should receive the COVID-19 vaccine."

These measures are necessary for our students, faculty, and staff, as well as their families and other residents of our state. It is clear that individuals spread the virus through the air when in close proximity to others. At particular risk are individuals with compromised immune systems, including cancer survivors.

We don't like wearing masks; but we understand the critical role they play in minimizing spread and mutation of the virus. Therefore, we strongly urge you to implement a state-wide face mask requirement for all students, faculty and staff and mandate COVID vaccinations for all eligible students, faculty, and staff.

Leaving this decision to each school district turns a health decision into a political decision. We thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Karen Cruise, Richard Bisk, Matthew Moncreaff Town of Princeton Selectboard

cc: Senator Harriet Chandler, Representative Kim Ferguson