Carol DeSoto

From: applications@charlescountymd.gov on behalf of Charles County Government

<applications@charlescountymd.gov>

Sent: Monday, January 3, 2022 11:09 PM

To: Public Record

Subject: *NEW SUBMISSION* Required Face Coverings to Reduce the Spread of COVID-19

Required Face Coverings to Reduce the Spread of COVID-19

Submission #: 1383558

IP Address: 174.196.131.233
 Submission Date: 01/03/2022 11:08
 Survey Time: 10 minutes, 24 seconds

You have a new online form submission.

Note: all answers displaying "*****" are marked as sensitive and must be viewed after your login.

Public Hearing Comment Form

Questions or More Information (301) 645-0555

Name

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Are you:

Against Topic

Comment

I am opposed to the required use of face masks to prevent the spread of Covid-19. As an adapted physical education teacher, I am ordinarily tasked with the health and physical development of children with disabilities. After 2 years of pandemic restrictions, virtual learning, and now mandatory masks in the school setting, I am convinced that we have irrevocably set back an entire generation of students. My students with autism spectrum disorders are not where they should be with social and communication progress at this point in the school year or in their educational careers thus far. The kids with social, emotional, or behavioral disabilities have nothing to look forward to in coming to PE class as performing physical activity in a mask is burdensome and uncomfortable. Finally, I cannot hear nor can my students hear me well. Wearing a mask and attending school is not normal. To have to wear a mask in every other social setting beyond school is doing real harm to our community with schoolage children, for whom the virus does not ordinarily present a high risk of adverse outcome and we have a vaccine that is available for ages 5 and older. It really is time to stop using face masks to deal with the disease. Early treatment options, staffing incentives at the hospital, and a public service announcement campaign that calms fears about catching the virus for those not at serious risk and/or vaccinated would be a far better use of the Commissioners' time and our tax money. I have never heard Dr. Abney brief the community about

what at-home strategies to deal with symptoms of COVID-19 are appropriate. I've never heard a doctor brief the Commissioners about approved treatments. I've never had a mailer come to my home, produced by the Charles County Department of Health, that has said anything other than "Stay home, get tested, wear a mask". Is there any wonder our hospital is overrun by people with mild symptoms looking for a test?

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Thank you,
Charles County, MD

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