



Marsha DeGennaro <mdegennaro@woodbridgeps.org>

Fwd: [External Email] Re: [External Email] Beecher should return to mandatory masking

1 message

Jonathan Budd <jbudd@woodbridgeps.org>
To: Marsha DeGennaro <mdegennaro@woodbridgeps.org>

Thu, Mar 17, 2022 at 10:38 AM

Hi Marsha,

Please post this e-mail thread as "Correspondence" linked to the BOE meeting for Mon., March 21.

Thanks,

Jonathan

Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Woodbridge, CT School District
jbudd@woodbridgeps.org
203-387-6631

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jonathan Budd** <jbudd@woodbridgeps.org>
Date: Thu, Mar 17, 2022 at 10:38 AM
Subject: Re: [External Email] Re: [External Email] Beecher should return to mandatory masking
To: Chandra Prasad <chandraprasadbooks@gmail.com>

Thank you, Chandra. We will do that.

Jonathan

Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Woodbridge, CT School District
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203-387-6631

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On Wed, Mar 16, 2022 at 8:33 PM Chandra Prasad <chandraprasadbooks@gmail.com> wrote:

Yes, you're free to post this as correspondence related to next week's BOE's meeting. Thank you.

On Wed, Mar 16, 2022 at 6:59 PM Jonathan Budd <jbudd@woodbridgeps.org> wrote:

Hi Chandra,

Thank you for your e-mail. Can I ask you: would you like this e-mail posted as Correspondence related to next week's Board of Education meeting? If you'd like, we could do that, but I want to ask because you have shared personal details about your son, which would be posted in the public record if we post the e-mail. Please just let me know either way.

Thanks

Jonathan

On Wed, Mar 16, 2022 at 4:43 PM Chandra Prasad <chandraprasadbooks@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Beecher BOE, Dr. Budd, and Ms. Sherman,

Greetings. I'm writing to let you know that my son currently has Covid. He is sick with coughing, congestion, fatigue, fever, and asthma. The asthma is particularly worrisome since he has been hospitalized for this condition many times in the past. My son told me today that he knows of at least six other 5th graders at Beecher who also have Covid right now. In addition, I've been receiving frequent alerts about kids on his bus being Covid-positive (although he is a pick-up). I don't think the timing of his positive diagnosis is a coincidence. Our family has managed to remain Covid-negative for two years. But only a week after Beecher lifted its mask mandate, my son contracted Covid--and he is far from alone. As you know, Beecher does not have adequate space for distancing for its very large population of students. Thus, masking was a necessary mitigator of disease. We are now seeing what happens when that necessary mitigator is removed: an uptick in illness.

Even though the mask mandate was lifted at Beecher, my son continued to mask. But this measure was clearly not enough; he contracted Covid because everyone around him removed their masks. We need to reinstitute the mask mandate at Beecher. I do not and will never understand the concept of masking as an encroachment on personal liberties. Masking is a minor inconvenience that people should accept in order to guarantee the health of the general populace, and especially the health of the medically vulnerable. Without it, Covid will prevail, which is exactly what is now happening at Beecher.

I respectfully ask that the Board reinstitute the mask mandate as soon as possible to spare other children from Covid.

Regards,
C. Prasad
Beecher parent

Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Woodbridge, CT School District
jbudd@woodbridgeps.org
203-387-6631

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CHANDRA PRASAD

Books: www.chandraprasad.com

Email: chandraprasadbooks@gmail.com

Twitter: [@chandrabooks](https://twitter.com/chandrabooks)

Instagram: [@chandraprasadbooks](https://www.instagram.com/chandraprasadbooks)

TikTok: [@chandraprasadbooks](https://www.tiktok.com/@chandraprasadbooks)

MERCURY BOYS, my newest novel, is now in bookstores

"The novel blends history, romance, friendship, and a touch of magic into a compelling story."

—*School Library Journal*

"This well-researched speculative narrative by Prasad centering history, romance, and toxic friendships will appeal."

—*Publishers Weekly*

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