

Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, October 26, 2021 6:00 PM

Dr. Matthew Prophet Education Center - Board  
Auditorium  
501 N. Dixon St  
Portland, OR 97227

## Agenda

1. 6:00 pm - Opening
2. 6:05 pm - Consent Agenda: Resolutions 6385 through 6388 *Vote- Public Comment Accepted*
  - 2.(a) Resolution 6385: Adoption of the Index to the Minutes
  - 2.(b) Resolution 6386: Expenditure Contracts
  - 2.(c) Resolution 6387: Revenue Contracts
  - 2.(d) Resolution 6388: Required Instructional Time Exemption
3. 6:10 pm - Student and Public Comment
4. 6:35 pm - Student Representative's Report
5. 6:40 pm - Superintendent's Report
6. 6:55 pm - Board Committee and Conference Reports
7. 7:05 pm - Comments from the Portland Association of Teachers
8. 7:10 pm - Portland Federation of School Professionals (PFSP)
9. 7:15 pm - Report to the Board: Division 22
10. 7:35 pm - Amendment of the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar (Resolution 6389) *Vote - Public Comment Accepted*
11. 7:45 pm - Report to the Board: Procurement Card Audit
12. 8:00 pm - Discussion: Possible Covid-19 Vaccine Requirements for Students (12+)
13. 8:30 pm - Appointment of Community Budget Review Committee (CBRC) Members (Resolution 6390) *Vote - Public Comment Accepted*
14. 8:45 pm - Other Business / Committee Referrals
15. 8:50 pm - Adjourn

**RESOLUTION No. 6385**

The Following Index to the Minutes are offered for Adoption

- 10/12/2021 – Regular meeting



## Index to the Minutes

*(Draft for Approval)*

### Regular Meeting

October 12, 2021

#### Attendance

Present: Chair DePass; Vice-Chair Scott; Directors Brim-Edwards, Greene, Hollands, Kohnstamm, and Lowery; Student Representative Weinberg

Absent: None

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## Actions Taken

- **Resolution 6375: Resolution to Designate October 2021 as Dyslexia Awareness Month**

Director Scott moved and Director Lowery seconded the motion to approve Resolution Number 6375. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed (7 yes – 0 no), with Student Representative Weinberg voting yes (unofficial)

Director Julia Brim-Edwards: Yes, Director Michelle DePass: Yes, Director Greene: Yes, Director Hollands: Yes, Director Amy Kohnstamm: Yes, Director Eilidh Lowery: Yes, Director Andrew Scott: Yes; Student Representative Weinberg: Yes (Unofficial)

- **Resolution 6376: Resolution to Recognize October 2021 as National Principals Month in Portland Public Schools.**

Director Holland moved and Director Scott seconded the motion to approve Resolution Number 6376. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed (7 yes – 0 no), with Student Representative Weinberg voting yes (unofficial)

Director Julia Brim-Edwards: Yes, Director Michelle DePass: Yes, Director Greene: Yes, Director Hollands: Yes, Director Amy Kohnstamm: Yes, Director Eilidh Lowery: Yes, Director Andrew Scott: Yes; Student Representative Weinberg: Yes (Unofficial)

- **Consent Agenda – Resolutions 6377 through 6380, and 6383 through 6384.**

Director Kohnstamm moved and Director Scott seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda, including Resolutions 6377 through 6380, and 6383 through 6384. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed (7 yes – 0 no), with Student Representative Weinberg voting yes (unofficial)

Director Julia Brim-Edwards: Yes, Director Michelle DePass: Yes, Director Greene: Yes, Director Hollands: Yes, Director Amy Kohnstamm: Yes, Director Eilidh Lowery: Yes, Director Andrew Scott: Yes; Student Representative Weinberg: Yes (Unofficial)

- **Resolution 6381: Resolution to Rescind Board Policies**

Director Kohnstamm moved and Director Scott seconded the motion to approve Resolution Number 6381. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed (7 yes – 0 no), with Student Representative Weinberg voting yes (unofficial)

Director Julia Brim-Edwards: Yes, Director Michelle DePass: Yes, Director Greene: Yes, Director Hollands: Yes, Director Amy Kohnstamm: Yes, Director Eilidh Lowery: Yes, Director Andrew Scott: Yes; Student Representative Weinberg: Yes (Unofficial)

- **Resolution 6382: Resolution to Approve the Budget Calendar to Prepare for the 2022-23 Budget**

Director Hollands moved and Director Lowry seconded the motion to approve Resolution Number 6382. The motion was put to a voice vote and passed (7 yes – 0 no), with Student Representative Weinberg voting yes (unofficial)

Director Julia Brim-Edwards: Yes, Director Michelle DePass: Yes, Director Greene: Yes, Director Hollands: Yes, Director Amy Kohnstamm: Yes, Director Eilidh Lowery: Yes, Director Andrew Scott: Yes; Student Representative Weinberg: Yes (Unofficial)

## **RESOLUTION No. 6375**

### Resolution to Designate October 2021 as Dyslexia Awareness Month

#### **RECITALS**

- A. Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin;
- B. Individuals with dyslexia may have difficulty in identifying or sequencing the individual sounds of spoken language, which affects the ability of an individual to speak, read, spell, and often learn a language;
- C. An individual with dyslexia may have a weakness in decoding or reading fluency and may have strength in higher level cognitive functions, such as reasoning, critical thinking, concept formation, or problem solving;
- D. Dyslexia is the most commonly occurring learning disability, 10-15% of the population is said to have dyslexia;
- E. Great progress has been made in understanding dyslexia on a scientific level, including the epidemiology, cognitive and neurobiological bases of dyslexia;
- F. Effective reading instruction for all children, screening to identify students at risk for dyslexia, as well as supplemental reading support for students at risk can help prevent reading problems;
- G. Early diagnosis of dyslexia is critical to ensure individuals with dyslexia receive focused, evidence-based intervention. Correct identification and intervention provides students with dyslexia, self-awareness and self-empowerment. Provision of necessary accommodations and instruction help to ensure school and life success;
- H. Portland Public Schools developed the five year Dyslexia Priority Plan in 2019, in partnership with a cross-departmental team as well as family/community stakeholders, and continues to improve upon the support and commitment to our students with dyslexia.

#### **RESOLUTION**

1. The Portland Public Schools Board of Education recognizes that dyslexia has significant educational implications that must be addressed; and designates October 2021 as "Dyslexia Awareness Month".

## **RESOLUTION No. 6376**

### Resolution to Recognize October 2021 as National Principals Month in Portland Public Schools

#### **RECITALS**

- A. During these extraordinary times, PPS school principals, vice principals, and assistant principals have exhibited great commitment and adaptability to lead and support their communities, with passion, energy, enthusiasm, vision, commitment, and unconditional love for each and every student; and
- B. Principals play a key role in the mission of Portland Public Schools: “We provide rigorous, high-quality academic learning experiences that are inclusive and joyful. We disrupt racial inequities to create vibrant environments for every student to demonstrate excellence.”; and
- C. Principals are expected to be educational visionaries, instructional leaders, assessment experts, managers of student behavior, community builders, public relations experts, budget analysts, facility managers, special programs administrators, and guardians of various legal, contractual, and policy mandates and initiatives, as well as being entrusted with the education and development of young people: and
- D. The professional responsibilities of school principals include building the leadership capacity of and mentoring aspiring administrators; and
- E. School principals often need to manage numerous responsibilities, work extended hours, and make difficult decisions; and
- F. The success of a school depends on the principal’s ability to work collaboratively with all stakeholder groups and establish positive relationships by building trust, practicing open communication, and building a restorative culture that emphasizes learning and growth for all students, colleagues, and members of the school community.

#### **RESOLVED**

The Board of Education recognizes October 2021 as National Principals Month and extends sincere appreciation and gratitude to school principals, vice principals, and assistant principals, for their individual and collective commitment to the success of every student in Portland Public Schools.

**RESOLUTION No. 6377**

The Following Index to the Minutes are offered for Adoption

- September 28, 2021 – Regular Meeting

**RESOLUTION No. 6378**

Expenditure Contracts that Exceed \$150,000 for Delegation of Authority

**RECITAL**

Portland Public Schools (“District”) Public Contracting Rules PPS-45-0200 (“Authority to Approve District Contracts; Delegation of Authority to Superintendent”) requires the Board of Education (“Board”) enter into contracts and approve payment for products, materials, supplies, capital outlay, equipment, and services whenever the total amount exceeds \$150,000 per contract, excepting settlement or real property agreements. Contracts meeting this criterion are listed below.

**RESOLUTION**

The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve these contracts. The Board accepts this recommendation and by this resolution authorizes the Deputy Clerk to enter into the following agreements.

**NEW CONTRACTS**

| <b>Contractor</b>                                        | <b>Contract Term</b>                                                                         | <b>Contract Type</b>                            | <b>Description of Services</b>                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Contract Amount</b>                       | <b>Responsible Admin, Funding Source</b> | <b>Certified Business</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Peregrine Sports, LLC                                    | 10/13/21 through 6/6/24                                                                      | Hotel, Catering, Space Rental<br>HCS 90766      | Hosting graduation ceremonies for 11 high schools at Providence Park for three years.<br>Special Class Procurement – Hotel, Catering, and Space Rental Contracts<br>PPS-47-0288(26)(a) | \$327,861                                    | S. Bird<br>Fund 101<br>Dept. 5404        | N/A                       |
| Andersen Construction Co.                                | 10/13/21 through 8/6/24                                                                      | Flexible Services Contractor Pool<br>FSCP 90643 | Flexible Services Contractor Pool – District-wide painting services<br>Request for Proposals 2021-2963                                                                                 | Not to Exceed \$3,000,000                    | C. Hertz<br>Funding Source Varies        | No                        |
| Daniel Shamebo Sabore dba Languages Translation Services | 10/13/21 through 10/12/22<br>Option to renew for up to three one-year terms through 10/12/25 | Personal Services<br>PS 90813                   | Translation Services – technical translation of educational materials.<br>Request for Proposals 2021-3003                                                                              | Not to Exceed \$200,000 through all renewals | S. Bird<br>Funding Source Varies         | No                        |
| CAL Interpreting and Translation, Inc.                   | 10/13/21 through 10/12/22<br>Option to renew for up to three one-year terms through 10/12/25 | Personal Services<br>PS 90804                   | Translation Services – technical translation of educational materials<br>Request for Proposals 2021-3003                                                                               | Not to Exceed \$600,000 through all renewals | S. Bird<br>Funding Source Varies         | No                        |
| IDEA Translations                                        | 10/13/21 through 10/12/22<br>Option to renew for up to three one-year terms through 10/12/25 | Personal Services<br>PS 90802                   | Translation Services – technical translation of educational materials<br>Request for Proposals 2021-3003                                                                               | Not to Exceed \$600,000                      | S. Bird<br>Funding Source Varies         | No                        |
| Oracle America Inc.                                      | 12/16/21 through 12/15/22                                                                    | Purchase Order<br>PO 157082                     | Oracle technical support services.<br>Special Class Procurement – Software and Hardware Maintenance, Licenses, Subscriptions, and Upgrades<br>PPS-47-0288(11)                          | \$522,489                                    | C. Hertz<br>Fund 101<br>Dept. 5582       | No                        |

\*A Certified Business is a for-profit business certified as a Minority-Owned Businesses (MBE), Women-Owned Businesses (WBE), Emerging Small Businesses (ESB), and/or Service-Disabled Veteran Businesses (SDV) by the State of Oregon Certification Office for Business Inclusion and Diversity.

**NEW COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENTS**

| <b>Contractor</b> | <b>Contract Term, Renewal Options</b> | <b>Administering Contracting Agency</b> | <b>Description of Goods or Services</b> | <b>Estimated Spend During Contract Term</b> | <b>Responsible Administrator, Funding Source</b> | <b>Certified Business</b> |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
|                   |                                       |                                         |                                         |                                             |                                                  |                           |

**NEW INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS (“IGAs”)**

| <b>Contractor</b>              | <b>Contract Term</b>   | <b>Contract Type</b>                     | <b>Description of Services</b>                                           | <b>Contract Amount</b> | <b>Responsible Administrator, Funding Source</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Gresham Barlow School District | 7/1/21 through 6/30/22 | Intergovernmental Agreement<br>IGA 90756 | Regional services to eligible individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder. | \$265,100              | S. Bird<br>Fund 205<br>Dept. 5430<br>Grant G2070 |
| David Douglas School District  | 7/1/21 through 6/30/22 | Intergovernmental Agreement<br>IGA 90757 | Regional services to eligible individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder. | \$194,700              | S. Bird<br>Fund 205<br>Dept. 5430<br>Grant G2070 |

**AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING CONTRACTS**

No New Amendments

**RESOLUTION No. 6379**

Revenue Contracts that Exceed \$150,000 Limit for Delegation of Authority

**RECITAL**

Portland Public Schools (“District”) Public Contracting Rules PPS-45-0200 (“Authority to Approve District Contracts; Delegation of Authority to Superintendent”) requires the Board of Education (“Board”) to enter into and approve all contracts, except as otherwise expressly authorized. Contracts exceeding \$150,000 per contractor are listed below.

**RESOLUTION**

The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve these contracts. The Board accepts this recommendation and by this resolution authorizes the Deputy Clerk to enter into the following agreements.

**NEW REVENUE CONTRACTS**

No New Revenue Contracts

**NEW INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS / REVENUE (“IGA/Rs”)**

| <b>Contractor</b>        | <b>Contract Term</b>   | <b>Contract Type</b>                              | <b>Description of Services</b>                                                                                                          | <b>Contract Amount</b> | <b>Responsible Administrator, Funding Source</b> |
|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Reynolds School District | 7/1/21 through 6/30/22 | Intergovernmental Agreement / Revenue IGA/R 90750 | Columbia Regional will provide school age classroom services and/or ASL interpreter services for children who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing. | \$383,710              | S. Bird<br>Fund 299<br>Dept. 5430<br>Grant S0031 |

**AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING REVENUE CONTRACTS**

No Amendments to Existing Revenue Contracts

**RESOLUTION No. 6380**

Approving Board Member National Meeting Attendance

**RECITALS**

- A. Board Policy 1.40.070 requires Board approval for individual Board members to attend state or national meetings as representatives of the Board.
- B. Portland Public Schools is a member of the Council of Great City Schools, and the Council is holding its Virtual 65th Annual Fall Conference October 19-23, 2021.
- C. The Board Chair has approved the participation of individual Board Members to attend the conference.

**RESOLUTION**

The Board affirms Chair Michelle DePass and Director Eilidh Lowery to attend the Council of Great City Schools Virtual 65th Annual Fall Conference.

**RESOLUTION No. 6381**

Resolution to Rescind Board Policies

Rescission of

- i. 5.50.073-P Health and Welfare Trust
- ii. 5.60.040-P Administrator Consultations
- iii. 5.70.054-P Compensation- Miscellaneous
- iv. 5.70.060-P Personnel File

**RECITALS**

- A. On September 8, 2021, the Board of Education’s Policy Committee reviewed and considered the necessity and relevance of:
  - i. 5.50.073-P Health and Welfare Trust
  - ii. 5.60.040-P Administrator Consultations
  - iii. 5.70.054-P Compensation- Miscellaneous
  - iv. 5.70.060-P Personnel File
- B. On September 14, 2021, the Board presented the first reading of each of those policies for rescission.
- C. The public comment period was open for at least 21 days, and no public comments were received.

**RESOLUTION**

The Board hereby rescinds each of the following policies:


- i. 5.50.073-P Health and Welfare Trust
- ii. 5.60.040-P Administrator Consultations
- iii. 5.70.054-P Compensation- Miscellaneous
- iv. 5.70.060-P Personnel File

and instructs the Superintendent to rescind any administrative directives that are no longer accurate or relevant as a result of rescinding these policies.

**RESOLUTION No. 6382**

Resolution to Approve the Budget Calendar to Prepare for the 2022-23 Budget

The Portland Public Schools Board of Education approves the following Budget Calendar to prepare for the 2022-23 fiscal year budget.

|  <b>Portland Public Schools</b><br><b>Budget Calendar to Prepare the 2022-23 Budget</b><br><i>Adopted TBD</i> |                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |   |   |                        |              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|------------------------|--------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                |                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |   |   | Board Inform / Review  | Board Action |
| <b>Budget Planning</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | September 28, 2021 | <i>School Board Meeting 6:00 PM</i><br>Board reviews draft 2022-23 Budget Calendar                                                                                                                                                | ✓ |   | BESC                   |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | October 12, 2021   | <i>School Board Meeting 6:00 PM</i><br>Board approves 2022-23 Budget Calendar                                                                                                                                                     |   | ✓ | BESC                   |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | October 26, 2021   | <i>School Board Meeting 6:00 PM</i><br>Board appoints Community Budget Review Committee (CBRC) members<br>Establish goal for the fund balance                                                                                     |   | ✓ | BESC                   |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | November- 2021     | <i>Community Engagement Events</i><br>School Finance 101 & Strategic Plan<br>Fund Balance Usage Recommendation                                                                                                                    | ✓ | ✓ | BESC                   |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | March 15, 2022     | <i>School Board Meeting 6:00 PM</i><br><i>Work session with CBRC</i><br>Board reviews Strategic Plan and Multi-Year Business Plan                                                                                                 | ✓ |   | BESC                   |              |
| <b>Budget Building</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | April 3, 2022      | <i>Publish 1<sup>st</sup> Notice of Budget Committee Meeting</i><br><i>(5 to 30 days before the meeting)</i>                                                                                                                      |   |   | The Oregonian Web Site |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | April 10, 2022     | <i>Publish 2<sup>nd</sup> Notice of Budget Committee Meeting</i><br><i>(5 to 30 days before the meeting)</i>                                                                                                                      |   |   | The Oregonian Web Site |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | April 26, 2022*    | <i>School Board Budget Meeting 6:00 PM</i><br><i>*Not a Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting</i><br><i>CBRC in attendance</i><br><b>Proposed Budget:</b> Superintendent delivers 2022-23 Proposed Budget message and presentation    | ✓ |   | BESC                   |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | May 4, 2022*       | <i>School Board Budget Work Session 6:00 PM</i><br><i>*Not a Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting</i><br>Board conducts public engagement session on Proposed Budget                                                                 |   | ✓ | BESC                   |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | May 10, 2022       | <i>School Board Meeting 6:00 PM</i><br>CBRC presents 2022-23 Proposed Budget Report to the Board                                                                                                                                  | ✓ |   | BESC                   |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | May 17, 2022*      | <i>School Board Budget Work Session 6:00 PM</i><br><i>*Not a Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting</i>                                                                                                                                | ✓ |   | BESC                   |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | May 24, 2022       | <i>School Board Meeting 6:00 PM</i><br><b>Approved Budget:</b> Board as Budget Committee approves 2022-23 Proposed Budget                                                                                                         |   | ✓ | BESC                   |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | June 5, 2022       | <i>Publish Notice of Budget Hearing and Budget Summary</i>                                                                                                                                                                        |   |   | The Oregonian Web Site |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | June 14, 2022      | <i>TSCC Hearing 4:30 PM</i><br>TSCC certifies 2022-23 Approved Budget<br><br><i>School Board Meeting 6:00 PM</i><br><b>Adopted Budget:</b> Board conducts a public hearing, adopts budget, makes appropriations and imposes taxes | ✓ | ✓ | BESC                   |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | July 15, 2022      | <i>Submit Tax Certification documentations</i><br><i>File budget information with County Recorder and Designated Agencies</i>                                                                                                     |   |   |                        |              |

**RESOLUTION No. 6383**

Amalgamated Transit Union and School District No. 1J, Multnomah County, Oregon. Ratification of the Letter of Agreement – Driver Pay Scale Increase

**RECITALS**

Portland Public Schools and Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) have entered into an agreement to increase the pay scale in the contract before the contract expires in order to recruit and retain employees.

**RESOLUTION**

The Superintendent is authorized and directed to execute the ratification of the Letter of Agreement between the ATU and School District No. 1J, Multnomah County, Oregon, as provided to the Board of Education and filed in the record of this meeting.

RESOLUTION No. 6384

Approving Board Member National Meeting Attendance

**RECITALS**

- A. Board Policy 1.40.070 requires Board approval for individual Board members to attend state or national meetings as representatives of the Board.
- B. The Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents held it's 18th Annual National Summit, in Washington D.C. on October 7-9, 2021.
- C. Chair DePass attended the t Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents Annual National Summit in Washington D.C.

**RESOLUTION**

The Board affirms Chair Michelle DePass attending the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents Annual National Summit in Washington D.C.

**RESOLUTION No. 6386**

Expenditure Contracts that Exceed \$150,000 for Delegation of Authority

**RECITAL**

Portland Public Schools (“District”) Public Contracting Rules PPS-45-0200 (“Authority to Approve District Contracts; Delegation of Authority to Superintendent”) requires the Board of Education (“Board”) enter into contracts and approve payment for products, materials, supplies, capital outlay, equipment, and services whenever the total amount exceeds \$150,000 per contract, excepting settlement or real property agreements. Contracts meeting this criterion are listed below.

**RESOLUTION**

The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve these contracts. The Board accepts this recommendation and by this resolution authorizes the Deputy Clerk to enter into the following agreements.

**NEW CONTRACTS**

| <b>Contractor</b>                                         | <b>Contract Term</b>                                                                         | <b>Contract Type</b>          | <b>Description of Services</b>                                                                            | <b>Contract Amount</b>     | <b>Responsible Admin, Funding Source</b> | <b>Certified Business</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Powerling, Inc.                                           | 10/27/21 through 10/12/22<br>Option to renew for up to three one-year terms through 10/12/25 | Personal Services<br>PS 90817 | Translation Services – technical translation of educational materials.<br>Request for Proposals 2021-3003 | Not to Exceed<br>\$600,000 | S. Bird<br>Funding Source<br>Varies      | No                        |
| Interpreters Unlimited, Inc.                              | 10/27/21 through 10/12/22<br>Option to renew for up to three one-year terms through 10/12/25 | Personal Services<br>PS 90816 | Translation Services – technical translation of educational materials.<br>Request for Proposals 2021-3003 | Not to Exceed<br>\$200,000 | S. Bird<br>Funding Source<br>Varies      | No                        |
| Translations Solutions Corporation                        | 10/27/21 through 10/12/22<br>Option to renew for up to three one-year terms through 10/12/25 | Personal Services<br>PS 90819 | Translation Services – technical translation of educational materials.<br>Request for Proposals 2021-3003 | Not to Exceed<br>\$200,000 | S. Bird<br>Funding Source<br>Varies      | No                        |
| LinguaLinx Language Solutions, Inc.                       | 10/27/21 through 10/12/22<br>Option to renew for up to three one-year terms through 10/12/25 | Personal Services<br>PS 90812 | Translation Services – technical translation of educational materials.<br>Request for Proposals 2021-3003 | Not to Exceed<br>\$600,000 | S. Bird<br>Funding Source<br>Varies      | No                        |
| Language Training Center, Inc. dba LTC Language Solutions | 10/27/21 through 10/12/22                                                                    | Personal Services<br>PS 90826 | Translation Services – technical translation of educational materials.<br>Request for Proposals 2021-3003 | Not to Exceed<br>\$200,000 | S. Bird<br>Funding Source<br>Varies      | No                        |

|                                |                                                                                                        |                                              |                                                                                                                   |                           |                                            |     |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----|
|                                | Option to renew for up to three one-year terms through 10/12/25                                        |                                              |                                                                                                                   |                           |                                            |     |
| Andersen Construction Co.      | 10/27/21 through 6/25/24                                                                               | Flexible Services Contractor Pool FSCP 90479 | Flexible Services Contractor Pool – Concrete, Asphalt & Striping Request for Proposals 2021-2965                  | Not to Exceed \$3,000,000 | C. Hertz Funding Source Varies             | No  |
| Hernanz Painting Company, Inc. | 10/27/21 through 8/6/24                                                                                | Flexible Services Contractor Pool FSCP 90716 | Flexible Services Contractor Pool – Painting Request for Proposals 2021-2963                                      | Not to Exceed \$3,000,000 | C. Hertz Funding Source Varies             | ESB |
| CDR Labor Law LLC              | 10/27/21 through 6/30/22                                                                               | Legal Services LS 90853                      | As-needed legal services. Direct Negotiation – Legal Services PPS-46-0525(13)                                     | \$300,000                 | L. Large Fund 101 Dept. 5460               | No  |
| Studio Petretti Architecture   | 10/27/21 through 11/30/23<br>Option to renew for up to four additional one-year terms through 11/30/27 | Architecture ARCH 90854                      | Architectural services for the Creative Science Seismic Rehabilitation Project. Request for Proposals 2021-3007   | Not to Exceed \$677,921   | C. Hertz Fund 458 Dept. 5511 Project DS020 | WBE |
| First Cascade Corporation      | 10/27/21 through 8/31/22                                                                               | Construction C 90850                         | Security fencing and access control at Cleveland and Beaumont schools. Invitation to Bid – Construction 2021-3008 | \$619,688                 | C. Hertz Fund 456 Dept. 5511 Project DS007 | No  |

\*A Certified Business is a for-profit business certified as a Minority-Owned Businesses (MBE), Women-Owned Businesses (WBE), Emerging Small Businesses (ESB), and/or Service-Disabled Veteran Businesses (SDV) by the State of Oregon Certification Office for Business Inclusion and Diversity.

#### NEW COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENTS

| Contractor     | Contract Term, Renewal Options                                                               | Administering Contracting Agency                          | Description of Goods or Services                                                                | Estimated Spend During Contract Term | Responsible Administrator, Funding Source | Certified Business |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Northside Ford | 10/27/21 through 4/30/23<br>Option to renew for three one-year terms through 4/30/26         | State of Oregon<br>Oregon Cooperative Procurement Program | Purchase of vehicles on an as-needed basis for Maintenance.                                     | Not to Exceed \$2,000,000            | C. Hertz Fund 101 Dept. 5592              | No                 |
| K-12 Insight   | 10/27/21 through 8/31/22<br>Option to renew for one additional one-year term through 8/31/23 | Region 4 Education Service Center<br>OMNIA Partners       | Purchase of "Let's Talk!", a cloud-based communications solution used for community engagement. | Not to Exceed \$415,500              | J. Garcia Fund 101 Dept. 5440             | No                 |

**NEW INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS (“IGAs”)**

| <b>Contractor</b>    | <b>Contract Term</b>     | <b>Contract Type</b>                     | <b>Description of Services</b>                                      | <b>Contract Amount</b> | <b>Responsible Administrator, Funding Source</b>   |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| University of Oregon | 10/23/21 through 9/30/26 | Intergovernmental Agreement<br>IGA 90807 | Purchase of license for Career Information Services (CIS) software. | \$316,093              | S. Bird<br>Fund 458<br>Dept. 5445<br>Project DC160 |

**AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING CONTRACTS**

No New Amendments

**RESOLUTION No. 6387**

Revenue Contracts that Exceed \$150,000 Limit for Delegation of Authority

**RECITAL**

Portland Public Schools (“District”) Public Contracting Rules PPS-45-0200 (“Authority to Approve District Contracts; Delegation of Authority to Superintendent”) requires the Board of Education (“Board”) to enter into and approve all contracts, except as otherwise expressly authorized. Contracts exceeding \$150,000 per contractor are listed below.

**RESOLUTION**

The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve these contracts. The Board accepts this recommendation and by this resolution authorizes the Deputy Clerk to enter into the following agreements.

**NEW REVENUE CONTRACTS**

No New Revenue Contracts

**NEW INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS / REVENUE (“IGA/Rs”)**

| <b>Contractor</b>               | <b>Contract Term</b>   | <b>Contract Type</b>                              | <b>Description of Services</b>                       | <b>Contract Amount</b> | <b>Responsible Administrator, Funding Source</b> |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| North Clackamas School District | 7/1/21 through 6/30/22 | Intergovernmental Agreement / Revenue IGA/R 90857 | Regional services for Deaf/Hard of Hearing students. | \$250,100              | S. Bird<br>Fund 299<br>Dept. 5422<br>Grant S0031 |

**AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING REVENUE CONTRACTS**

No Amendments to Existing Revenue Contracts

## **RESOLUTION No. 6388**

Resolution to Approve OAR 581-022-2320 Required Instructional Time Exemption (4):  
A school district may request permission to exempt an alternative education program.

### **RECITALS**

- A. OAR 581-022-2320 Required Instructional Time requires all school districts to ensure that at least 92% of all students in the district and at least 80% of all students at each school operated by the district are scheduled to receive annually the minimum hours of instructional time:
  - a. Grade 12 - 966 hours;
  - b. Grades 9-11 - 990 hours; and
  - c. Grades K-8 - 900 hours.
  
- B. Instructional Time in PPS alternative education programs in the Department of Multiple Pathways to Graduation are designed to meet the needs of alternative students. Programs will need the Board to approve exemption 4 yearly to ensure compliance with Division 22.

### **RESOLUTION**

The Board of Education hereby approves OAR 581-022-2320 Required Instructional Time Exemption (4) A school district may request permission to exempt an alternative education program. The Board directs staff to request permission to exempt PPS alternative education programs under the PPS Department of Multiple Pathways to Graduation. This Resolution is approved for the 2020-21 school year. This approval will ensure PPS is in compliance with OAR 581-022-2320 Required Instructional Time, Division 22.



**Date:** October 26, 2021  
**To:** School Board  
**From:** Shawn Bird, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction and School Communities  
**Subject:** Required Instructional Time Staff Report

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## **BACKGROUND**

On December 18, 2018, the PPS School Board approved [Resolution No. 5782](#), which directed staff to request permission to exempt PPS alternative education programs under the PPS Department of Multiple Pathways. This exemption was for the 2018-19 school year.

On April 16, 2020, the State Board of Education adopted OAR 581-022-0103: State Standards for the 2019-20 School Year. OAR 581-022-0103 established a streamlined set of Division 22 standards in effect for the 2019-20 school year, in recognition of the challenges faced by districts to accommodate for the emergency shift to Distance Learning for All in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many Division 22 Standards were waived for 2019-20 including Required Instructional Time.

For the 2020-21 School year, the State Board of Education adopted OAR 581-022-0104 State Standards for the 2020-21 School Year that set forth the state standards waived or modified for the 2020-21 school year. This OAR modified Required Instructional time:

(6) **Instructional Time.** School districts and public charter schools may include in the calculation of required instructional time of up to an additional 60 hours for staff professional development and up to an additional 60 hours for parent teacher communication to facilitate student learning, including parent teacher conferences, training, and support for distance learning. This allowance is in addition to the 30 hours allowed under OAR 581-022-2320(6)(d) and (e), respectively.

## **RELATED POLICIES**

OAR 581-022-2320 Required Instructional Time  
OAR 581-022-0104 State Standards for the 2020-21 School Year  
OAR 581-022-0103: State Standards for the 2019-20 School Year

## **ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION**

For the 2020-21 school year, all schools are in compliance with Required Instructional Time as defined by OAR 581-022-0104 State Standards for the 2020-21 School Year, except Alliance High School. Alliance HS did not have 80% of students receive at least 990 hours in grades 9-11 and 966 hours in grade 12. Alliance HS instructional program as an alternative school is

designed to provide students with flexible time options and assesses students prior to placement per regulation.

As with other alternative high schools within Multiple Pathways to Graduation, Alliance High School provides a school model which welcomes students who may work full time and/or have other family obligations, such as child care responsibilities, which does not allow them to attend school full time. Additionally, many students at Alliance are older students with few credits needed to graduate. For these reasons, by design, students in alternative schools frequently have personalized educational plans which do not include a full day of classes, and therefore, do not complete 990 instructional hours. This was the situation for Alliance High School in the 2020 -2021 school year.

In order for Portland Public Schools to be in compliance with Required Instructional Time as we report on Division 22, the Board will need to approve exemption 4:

(4) A school district may request permission to exempt an alternative education program as defined in ORS 336.615 from the requirement in subsection (1). The request must be made in writing to the Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Deputy Superintendent is authorized to grant permission under this section without obtaining approval from the State Board of Education. Permission will be granted where:

- (a) The request is made with the approval of the school district's governing school board;
- (b) The school district is using an evidence-based strategy that includes flexible time options; and
- (c) The school district has implemented a system to assess students prior to placement to determine whether placement in an alternative education program is appropriate.

An exemption was not requested in 2019-20 for Alliance HS and other Multiple Pathways to Graduation (MPG) Schools and Programs because Required Instructional Time was waived per OAR 581-022-0103: State Standards for the 2019-20 School Year

#### **TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:**

- By November 1, 2021: School district superintendents report to their local School Board the district's compliance with all Division 22 Standards in effect for the 2019-20 school year.
- By November 1, 2021: School districts post the report to their websites.
- By November 15, 2021: School districts complete and submit the annual Division 22 Assurance Form.

#### **BOARD OPTIONS WITH ANALYSIS**

To make the district compliant with OAR 581-022-0104 State Standards for the 2020-21 School Year and Required Instructional Time, the Board needs to approve exemption 4 for the 2020-21 school year.

With approval of Exemption 4, PPS will meet Division 22 compliance with Required Instructional Time for students at Alliance High School, A PPS alternative school and part of schools and programs under Multiple Pathways to Graduation.

Should the Board choose not to support Exemption 4, PPS will not be in compliance with the Division 22 Statute for Required Instructional Time

**CONNECTION TO BOARD GOALS**

This resolution provides for students to meet Board Goal 4. Post-Secondary Readiness / Ready for College & Career through the design at Alliance High School.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Board approve exemption 4 in order to be in compliance with Division 22 OAR regarding Required Instructional Time for the 2020-21 school year.

Exemption 4 is needed to be approved annually by the Board to remain in compliance with alternative programs.

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*As a member of the PPS Executive Leadership Team, I have reviewed this staff report.*

\_\_\_\_\_ *(Initials)*



**Date:** October 26, 2021  
**To:** School Board  
**From:** Shawn Bird, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction and School Communities  
**Subject:** Division 22 Community Report of the 2020-21 School Year

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## **Background**

By November 1 of each year, school district superintendents are required by OAR 581-022-2305: District Assurances of Compliance with Public School Standards to report to their community on the district's status with respect to all of the Standards for Public Elementary and Secondary Schools. The Standards are adopted by the State Board of Education and set out in Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 581, Division 22.

All changes and waiver to the Division 22 standards for the 2020-21 school year are set out in OAR 581-022-0104 State Standards for the 2020-21 School Year.

### **The following rules were waived in their entirety:**

- 581-022-2115 Assessment of Essential Skills
- 581-022-2130 Kindergarten Assessment
- 581-022-2325 Identification of Academically Talented and Intellectually Gifted Students

### **Subsections of multiple rules have been waived and/or modified:**

- personalized learning requirements for the diploma and modified diploma
- vision and hearing screening requirements
- weekly minimums for PE minutes
- instructional time

### **New Rule for 2020-21 only:**

581-022-0104(5) Ready Schools, Safe Learners Guidance

### **New Rules that went into effect beginning in the 2020-21 school year:**

- 581-022-2267 Annual Report on Restraint and Seclusion
- 581-022-2312 Every Student Belongs
- 581-022-2510 Suicide Prevention Plan

### **Timeline:**

- By November 1, 2021: School district superintendents report to their local School Board the district's compliance with all Division 22 Standards in effect for the 2019-20 school year.
- By November 1, 2021: School districts post the report to their websites.
- By November 15, 2021: School districts complete and submit the annual Division 22 Assurance Form.

### **Revisiting 2019-20**

On April 16, 2020, the State Board of Education adopted OAR 581-022-0103: State Standards for the 2019-20 School Year, which established a streamlined set of Division 22 standards in effect for the 2019-20 school year, in recognition of the challenges faced by districts to accommodate for the emergency shift to Distance Learning for All in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Any standard not included was waived.

At the October, 20, 2020 Board Meeting, the [Division 22 Community Report](#) was presented. The District certified compliance with all OARs except one:

- Standard 7 Talented and gifted. School Districts must serve students identified as talented and gifted by accommodating assessed levels of learning and accelerated rates of learning.

### **PPS Progress toward Division 22 Compliance**

Over the past four years, PPS has become compliant with:

- 581-022-2440: Teacher Training Related to Dyslexia in 2019-20
- 581-022-2340: Media Programs in 2019-20

- 581-022-2045: Prevention Education in Drugs and Alcohol in 2018-19
- 581-022-2050: Human Sexuality Education in 2018-19
- 581-022-2370: Complaint Procedure in 2017-18

**Compliance in 2020-21/Explanations and Corrective Action Plans:**

For the 2020-21 school year, Portland Public Schools was in compliance with all of the Division 22 Standards except the following Standards:

- 581-022-2100 Administration of State Assessments and 581-022-2110 Exception of Students with Disabilities from State Assessments
  - Required SBAC assessments were not given in the 2020-21 school year. On April 13, 2021, the PPS School Board passed Resolution No. 6287 that allowed the District to refrain from participation in state summative assessments in the spring of 2021.
  - The District will be participating in state summative assessments for the 2021-22 school year and will be in compliance with these two OARs.
- 581-022-2355: Instructional Materials Adoption
  - For the 2020-21 School Year, PPS was not compliant with Instructional Materials Adoption.
  - The Bond investment has enabled PPS to create an Instructional Materials Action Plan, attached to this memorandum, with support from ODE to demonstrate our path to compliance with this OAR by the 2024-25 school year.
    - The plan carefully sequences different adoptions over the next five years to put us in compliance. The sequencing of adoptions importantly allows our system to effectively implement each adoption.
    - The Instructional Materials Action Plan will be formally submitted to ODE by November 15 and will be formally approved by ODE by the end of November.

- 581-022-2500: Programs and Services for TAG Students
  - During the 2020-21 school year, the district was unable to verify that every TAG student in every PPS classroom had their rate and level of learning addressed as instruction occurred for the most part in Comprehensive Distance Learning.
    - As is done every year, building administrators and site based TAG facilitators led a rate and level PD during a staff meeting. Additionally, an asynchronous course was provided to educators through our online learning platform Pepper.
    - Attached to this memorandum is the PPS TAG Education Plan for 2019-22 for how we address programs and services for TAG students.
  
- 581-022-2330: Rights of Parents of TAG Students
  - PPS did not conduct TAG assessments during the 2020-21 school year because we were in CDL and therefore could not notify parents about the status of their students' identification and eligibility for TAG services.
  - In 2021-22 TAG assessments are resuming and parents will be notified.
  
- 581-022-0104 State Standards for the 2020-21 School Year and 581-022-2263 Physical Education Requirements.
  - PE Requirements were modified for 2020-21. In 2020-21, K-8 students were required to receive PE throughout the year. PPS was out of compliance as only K-5 students received PE throughout the year.
  - Under 581-022-2263 Physical Education Requirements, Districts are required to provide students with 150 minutes/week in grades K-5 & 225 minutes/week in grades 6-8.
  - For the 2021-22 school year, K-5 students are staffed to receive 90 minutes/week and grades 6-8 students are staffed to receive 1 quarter of Health and 1 quarter of PE for 225 minutes/week each year.
  - PPS is planning to be in compliance with 581-022-2263 Physical

Education Requirements for grades K-5 for the 2022-23 school year and in compliance with grades 6-8 in the 2024-25 school year.

- To become compliant in grades K-5, staff is asking the Board to modify [Board Resolution 5252](#). Instead of a scheduled 15 minute recess, the Board would allow students to have a 15 minute structured time four days a week. In addition to Board action, conversations are needed with labor partners to ensure this additional task conforms with our CBA. Staff will return to the Board later this year with a staff report and new resolution in order to begin implementation for the 2022-23 school year.
- To become compliant in grades 6-8, the investment is significant. PPS will need to increase staffing by an estimated 50 FTE. Space is also a consideration as currently not all K-8 and Middle Schools have sufficient space for PE. Nearly every school would need an alternate space outside of the gymnasium to provide structured movement. Staff is planning to incorporate this investment into Middle School Redesign and fully implement by 2024-25 to become compliant.

# Division 22 Assurances for the 2020-21 SY

October 26, 2021

# Division 22 Oregon Administrative Rules Assurances

## “Our Why”

- Signals our commitment to providing a high quality educational experience and equitable opportunities for all students.
- Division 22 standards articulate the floor of the education to be provided to students, not the ceiling.
- Assurances process offers an opportunity for districts not in compliance to reflect on areas in need of attention and receive technical assistance.



# Changes to the Assurances Process

[OAR 581-022-2305 District Assurances of Compliance with Public School Standards](#) was adopted by the State Board of Education in May 2021. There are four major changes to the assurances process set forth in the revised rule:

- The timeline for districts to submit their annual Division 22 Standards Assurances shifts permanently from February to November.
- The rule explicitly states that assurances are made for the preceding school year.
- The rule includes clear language indicating that the district is reporting to the community (not just the school board) and that the report should be made “in an oral presentation at an open public meeting, allowing for public comment, and by posting the report on the district’s webpage.”
- **All districts are required to use the same report template for reporting to the community.**



# Changes to the Division 22 Standards for 2020-21

All changes and waivers to the Division 22 standards for the 2020-21 school year are set out in [OAR 581-022-0104: State Standards for the 2020-21 School Year](#).

The following rules were waived in their entirety:

- [581-022-2115 Assessment of Essential Skills](#)
- [581-022-2130 Kindergarten Assessment](#)
- [581-022-2325 Identification of Academically Talented and Intellectually Gifted Students](#)

Subsections of multiple rules have been waived and/or modified:

- personalized learning requirements for the diploma and modified diploma
- vision and hearing screening requirements
- weekly minimums for PE minutes
- instructional time



# New Additions to the Division 22 Standards for 2020-21

## New Rule for 2020-21 only:

- [581-022-0104\(5\) Ready Schools, Safe Learners Guidance](#)

## New Rules that went into effect beginning in the 2020-21 school year:

- [581-022-2267 Annual Report on Restraint and Seclusion](#)
- [581-022-2312 Every Student Belongs](#)
- [581-022-2510 Suicide Prevention Plan](#)



# Three Steps in the Division 22 Assurances Process

- School district superintendents report to their local School Board the district's compliance with all Division 22 Standards for the 2020-21 school year **by November 1, 2021**.
- School districts post the Community Report on Compliance with Public School Standards to their websites **by November 1, 2021**.
- School districts complete and submit the annual Division 22 Assurances Form to ODE **by November 15, 2021**.



# Implemented Corrective Action Plans - Past 4 Years

- [581-022-2440: Teacher Training Related to Dyslexia](#) in 2019-20
- [581-022-2340: Media Programs](#) in 2019-20
- [581-022-2045: Prevention Education in Drugs and Alcohol](#) in 2018-19
- [581-022-2050: Human Sexuality Education](#) in 2018-19
- [581-022-2370: Complaint Procedure](#) in 2017-18

# State Assessment OARs

## Corrective Action Plan and Timeline

- [581-022-2100 Administration of State Assessments](#) and [581-022-2110 Exception of Students with Disabilities from State Assessments](#)
  - Required state summative assessments were not given in the 2020-21 school year. On April 13, 2021, the PPS School Board passed [Resolution No. 6287](#)
  - The District will be participating in state summative assessments for the 2021-22 school year and will be in compliance with these two OARs.

# Instructional Materials Adoption OAR

## Corrective Action Plan and Timeline

- For the 2020-21 School Year, PPS was not compliant with Instructional Materials Adoption.
- The Bond investment has enabled PPS to create an [Instructional Materials Action Plan](#) with support from ODE to demonstrate our path to compliance with this OAR by the 2024-25 school year.
  - The plan carefully sequences different adoptions over the next five years to put us in compliance. The sequencing of adoptions importantly allows our system to effectively implement each adoption.
  - The Instructional Materials Action Plan will be formally submitted to ODE by November 15 and will be formally approved by ODE by the end of November.

# TAG OARs

## Corrective Action Plan and Timeline

- [581-022-2500: Programs and Services for TAG Students](#)
  - During the 2020-21 school year, the district was unable to verify that every TAG student in every PPS classroom had their rate and level of learning addressed as instruction occurred for the most part in Comprehensive Distance Learning.
    - As is done every year, building administrators and site based TAG facilitators led a rate and level PD during a staff meeting. Additionally, an asynchronous course was provided to educators through our online learning platform Pepper.
- [581-022-2330: Rights of Parents of TAG Students](#)
  - PPS did not conduct TAG assessments during the 2020-21 school year because we were in CDL and therefore could not notify parents about the status of their students' identification and eligibility for TAG services.
  - In 2021-22 TAG assessments are resuming and parents will be notified.

# Physical Education OAR

## Corrective Action Plan and Timeline

- PE Requirements were modified for 2020-21. In 2020-21, K-8 Students required to receive PE throughout the year. PPS was out of compliance as only K-5 students received PE throughout the year.
- Under, [581-022-2263 Physical Education Requirements](#), Districts are required to provide students with 150 minutes/week in grades K-5 & 225 minutes/week in grades 6-8.
- For the 2021-22 school year, K-5 students are staffed to receive 90 minutes/week and grades 6-8 students are staffed to receive 1 quarter of Health and 1 quarter of PE for 225 minutes/week each year.



# Physical Education OAR

## Corrective Action Plan and Timeline

### K-5 2022-2023

Adjust [Board Resolution 5252](#) to have 15 minutes of structured time four days a week. This will add 60 minutes of PE per week. Staff will return to the Board later this year with a staff report and new resolution in order to begin implementation for the 2022-23 school year.

### Grades 6-8 2024-2025

Increase staffing by an estimated 50 FTE. Need alternate space in every school. Staff is planning to incorporate this investment into Middle School Redesign and fully implement by 2024-25 to become compliant.

# Portland Public Schools

## Report on Compliance with Public School Standards

### 2020-21 School Year

By November 1 of each year, school district superintendents are required by [OAR 581-022-2305: District Assurances of Compliance with Public School Standards](#) to report to their community on the district's status with respect to all of the Standards for Public Elementary and Secondary Schools. The Standards are adopted by the State Board of Education and set out in Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 581, Division 22.

The table below contains a summary of **Portland Public** School District's compliance with each of the requirements of Oregon's administrative rules found in [DIVISION 22 - STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS](#) during the 2020-21 school year. For each rule reported as out of compliance, **Portland Public** School District has provided an explanation of why the school district was out of compliance and the school district's proposed corrective action plan to come into compliance. The corrective action must be approved by ODE and completed by the district by the beginning of the 2022-23 school year.

| Rule # and Title                                                      | Status               | Explanation/Evidence                                       | Corrective Action Plan & Timeline |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <a href="#">581-022-0104(5) Ready Schools, Safe Learners Guidance</a> | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable                    |
| <a href="#">581-022-2000 Diploma Requirements</a>                     | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable                    |

|                                                                         |                      |                                                            |                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <a href="#">581-022-2005 Veterans Diploma</a>                           | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2010 Modified Diploma</a>                           | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2015 Extended Diploma</a>                           | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2020 Alternative Certificate</a>                    | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2025 Credit Options</a>                             | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2030 District Curriculum</a>                        | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2045- Prevention Education in Drugs and Alcohol</a> | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2050 Human Sexuality Education</a>                  | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2055 Career Education</a>                           | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2060 Comprehensive School Counseling</a>            | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |

|                                                                                             |                                                    |                                                                                                          |                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">581-022-2100 Administration of State Assessments</a>                            | <b>Out of compliance</b>                           | The PPS school board passed <a href="#">Resolution 6287</a> to suspend state testing in PPS for 2020-21. | PPS will be in compliance with this Standard for the 2021-22 school year |
| <a href="#">581-022-2110 Exception of Students with Disabilities from State Assessments</a> | <b>Out of compliance</b>                           | The PPS school board passed <a href="#">Resolution 6287</a> to suspend state testing in PPS for 2020-21. | PPS will be in compliance with this Standard for the 2021-22 school year |
| <a href="#">581-022-2115 Assessment of Essential Skills</a>                                 | <b>Waived for 2020-21 school year</b>              | Not applicable                                                                                           | Not applicable                                                           |
| <a href="#">581-022-2120 Essential Skill Assessments for English Language Learners</a>      | <b>In compliance</b>                               | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                               | Not applicable                                                           |
| <a href="#">581-022-2130 Kindergarten Assessment</a>                                        | <b>Waived for 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years</b> | Not applicable                                                                                           | Not applicable                                                           |
| <a href="#">581-022-2205 Policies on Reporting of Child Abuse</a>                           | <b>In compliance</b>                               | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                               | Not applicable                                                           |
| <a href="#">81-022-2210 Anabolic Steroids and Performance Enhancing Substances</a>          | <b>In compliance</b>                               | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                               | Not applicable                                                           |
| <a href="#">581-022-2215 Safety of School Sports – Concussions</a>                          | <b>In compliance</b>                               | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                               | Not applicable                                                           |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                          |                                                                               |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <a href="#">581-022-2220 Health Services</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>In compliance</b>     | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                    | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2223 Healthy and Safe Schools Plan</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>In compliance</b>     | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                    | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2225 Emergency Plans and Safety Programs</a>                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>In compliance</b>     | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                    | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2230 Asbestos Management Plans</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>In compliance</b>     | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                    | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2250 District Improvement Plan</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>In compliance</b>     | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                    | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2255 School and District Performance Report Criteria</a>                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>In compliance</b>     | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                    | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2260- Records and Reports</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>In compliance</b>     | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                    | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2263 Physical Education Requirements</a><br><br><a href="#">581-022-0104 State Standards for the 2020-21 School Year</a> : each public school student in kindergarten through grade eight will receive physical education throughout the | <b>Out of compliance</b> | The district was in compliance for K-5, but out of compliance for grades 6-8. |                |

|                                                                                                        |                      |                                                            |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| entire school year. All other requirements in OAR 581-022-2263 are waived for the 2020-21 school year. |                      |                                                            |                |
| <a href="#">581-022-2265 Report on PE Data</a>                                                         | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2267 Annual Report on Restraint and Seclusion</a>                                  | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2270 Individual Student Assessment, Recordkeeping and Reporting</a>                | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2300 Standardization</a>                                                           | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2305 District Assurances of Compliance with Public School Standards</a>            | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2310 Equal Education Opportunities</a>                                             | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2312 Every Student Belongs</a>                                                     | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |

|                                                                                                                                          |                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">581-022-2315 Special Education for Children with Disabilities</a>                                                            | <b>In compliance</b>                     | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                           | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <a href="#">581-022-2320 Required Instructional Time</a><br><br><a href="#">581-022-0104 State Standards for the 2020-21 School Year</a> | <b>In compliance</b>                     | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                           | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <a href="#">581-022-2325 Identification of Academically Talented and Intellectually Gifted Students</a>                                  | <b>Waived for 2020-21 school year</b>    | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                                       | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <a href="#">581-022-2330 Rights of Parents of TAG Students</a>                                                                           | <b>Implementing Approved Action Plan</b> | PPS was unable to evaluate and identify students for TAG eligibility during the 20-21 school year. As a consequence, PPS was unable to notify parents at the time of identification. | During the 21-22 school year, PPS will notify all parents of students determined to be eligible for TAG services, including students nominated but not assessed during the 20-21 school year. |
| <a href="#">581-022-2335 Daily Class Size</a>                                                                                            | <b>In compliance</b>                     | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                           | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <a href="#">581-022-2340 Media Programs</a>                                                                                              | <b>In compliance</b>                     | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                           | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <a href="#">581-022-2345 Auxiliary Services</a>                                                                                          | <b>In compliance</b>                     | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                           | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                                                |

|                                                                                                |                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">581-022-2350 Independent Adoptions of Instructional Materials</a>                  | <b>In compliance</b>                           | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Not applicable                                                                                                                              |
| <a href="#">581-022-2355 Instructional Materials Adoption</a>                                  | <b>Implementing approved corrective action</b> | PPS has been unable to purchase comprehensive curriculum resources in content areas described by Division 22. Over the course of the last few years, the school district has made efforts to supplement existing core materials, or has done partial adoptions, given limited funding. | With the Bond investment, PPS has completed an <a href="#">Instructional Materials action plan</a> with support of ODE to become compliant. |
| <a href="#">581-022-2360 Postponement of Purchase of State-Adopted Instructional Materials</a> | <b>In compliance</b>                           | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Not applicable                                                                                                                              |
| <a href="#">581-022-2370 Complaint Procedures</a>                                              | <b>In compliance</b>                           | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Not applicable                                                                                                                              |
| <a href="#">581-022-2400 Personnel</a>                                                         | <b>In compliance</b>                           | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Not applicable                                                                                                                              |
| <a href="#">581-022-2405 Personnel Policies</a>                                                | <b>In compliance</b>                           | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Not applicable                                                                                                                              |

|                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">581-022-2410 Teacher and Administrator Evaluation and Support</a>                                                                                             | <b>In compliance</b>                           | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                                                                | Not applicable                           |
| <a href="#">581-022-2415 Core Teaching Standards</a>                                                                                                                      | <b>In compliance</b>                           | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                                                                | Not applicable                           |
| <a href="#">581-022-2420 Educational Leadership - Administrator Standards</a>                                                                                             | <b>In compliance</b>                           | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                                                                | Not applicable                           |
| <a href="#">581-022-2430 Fingerprinting of Subject Individuals in Positions Not Requiring Licensure as Teachers, Administrators, Personnel Specialists, School Nurses</a> | <b>In compliance</b>                           | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                                                                | Not applicable                           |
| <a href="#">581-022-2440 Teacher Training Related to Dyslexia</a>                                                                                                         | <b>In compliance</b>                           | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                                                                | Not applicable                           |
| <a href="#">581-022-2445 Universal Screenings for Risk Factors of Dyslexia</a>                                                                                            | <b>In compliance</b>                           | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule.                                                                                                                                                                | Not applicable                           |
| <a href="#">581-022-2500 Programs and Services for TAG Students</a>                                                                                                       | <b>Implementing approved corrective action</b> | PPS is unable to provide evidence that instruction provided to identified students is designed to accommodate their assessed levels of learning and accelerated rates of learning in every classroom across the district. | PPS has a <a href="#">written plan</a> . |

|                                                             |                      |                                                            |                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <a href="#">581-022-2505 Alternative Education Programs</a> | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |
| <a href="#">581-022-2510 Suicide Prevention Plan</a>        | <b>In compliance</b> | The district has met all of the requirements of this rule. | Not applicable |

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## District Information

Include names, titles, and contact information (email and phone).

Superintendent: Guadalupe Guerrero, Superintendent ([gguerrero@pps.net](mailto:gguerrero@pps.net) , 503-916-3203 x63203)

Main Point of Contact: Daniel Cogan, Academic Programs Associate ([dcogan@pps.net](mailto:dcogan@pps.net), 503-916-2000 x71023)

## Historical Data for Instructional Materials Adoptions

Complete the gray columns in the table below.

| Content Area                  | State Adoption Year | For use in classrooms by fall: | Most recent district adoption year | Independent adoption or from state list? | Notes (e.g. district applied for postponement, etc.) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Mathematics                   | 2015                | 2016                           | 2011                               | State List                               |                                                      |
| Science                       | 2016                | 2017                           | 2011                               | State List                               |                                                      |
| Health and Physical Education | 2017                | 2018                           | 2008                               | State List                               |                                                      |
| Social Sciences               | 2018                | 2019                           | 2008                               | State List                               |                                                      |
| World Languages               | 2020                | 2021                           | 2010                               | State List                               |                                                      |
| English Language Arts         | 2021                | 2022                           | 2016                               | Independent                              |                                                      |
| English Language Proficiency  | 2021                | 2022                           | 2016                               | State List                               |                                                      |

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## Planned Adoption Schedule

Outline the district’s plan for adopting materials over the next several years with a timeline that is both realistic and reflects a sense of urgency. Modify the table as needed by adding or deleting rows. This plan should result in the district coming into alignment with the state adoption schedule, within one or two years, which is the timeframe allowed for postponement. Consider prioritizing content areas that have gone the longest without a new adoption and doing multiple adoptions in the same year when possible.

The state adoption schedule through the year 2026 is included below for your reference.

| Oregon State Review Cycle        | For use in classrooms by fall: |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2022: Mathematics                | 2023                           |
| 2023: Science                    | 2024                           |
| 2024: Health & PE                | 2025                           |
| 2025: Social Sciences            | 2026                           |
| 2026: World Languages & the Arts | 2027                           |

| School Year                        | Content Area(s) to be adopted                                | Adoption Plan (State List or Independent Adoption)                                  |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2020-21 (Fall 2021 implementation) | Math K-5<br>6-8 Science<br>K-5 Foundational Skills (Phase I) | Math K-5: State List<br>Science 6-8: State List<br>Foundational Skills: Independent |
| 2021-22 (Fall 2022 implementation) | World Languages<br>6-12 Mathematics                          | For all adoptions, resources on the state list will be reviewed. Other independent  |

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|                                    |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                    | K-12 Social Sciences<br>K-12 Health & PE<br>Social Emotional Learning (Phase I)   | resources may also be reviewed with a criteria checklist to ensure quality, alignment, and cultural responsiveness.                                                                                    |
| 2022-23 (Fall 2023 implementation) | K-12 Language Arts<br>ESL/ELP<br>The Arts<br>Social Emotional Learning (Phase II) | For all adoptions, resources on the state list will be reviewed. Other independent resources may also be reviewed with a criteria checklist to ensure quality, alignment, and cultural responsiveness. |
| 2023-24 (Fall 2024 implementation) | K-5 Science<br>Social Emotional Learning (Phase III)                              | For all adoptions, resources on the state list will be reviewed. Other independent resources may also be reviewed with a criteria checklist to ensure quality, alignment, and cultural responsiveness. |
| 2024-25 (Fall 2025 implementation) | Health/Physical Education                                                         | For all adoptions, resources on the state list will be reviewed. Other independent resources may also be reviewed with a criteria checklist to ensure quality, alignment, and cultural responsiveness. |
| 2025-26 (Fall 2026 implementation) | Social Sciences                                                                   | For all adoptions, resources on the state list will be reviewed. Other independent resources may also be reviewed with a criteria checklist to ensure quality, alignment, and cultural responsiveness. |

## Next Steps

## Instructional Materials Division 22 Action Plan

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- Submit a draft plan to ODE staff as soon as possible and **no later than June 28, 2021**.
- ODE staff will either forward the plan as written to the Director (or their designee) for approval OR return it to the district with feedback, questions, and/or suggestions for revision.
  - If applicable, a revised plan should be submitted **no later than July 9, 2021**.
- Note: If you are going to take your plan to your local school board for feedback or approval, we recommend you consult with ODE first in order to avoid having to go back to your Board multiple times.

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**ELEMENT ONE: ORS 343.397 (1) and OAR 581-022-1330 (1) - (3) (a)**

**STATEMENT OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY ON THE EDUCATION OF  
TALENTED AND GIFTED STUDENTS**

**☒1 A: POLICIES: Local School Board Policies:**

**PPS School Board Policy: 6.10.015-P**

**Talented and Gifted Education**

1. The district is committed to an educational program that recognizes the unique value, needs and talents of the individual student. Curriculum and instruction designed to meet the level and rate of learning of talented and gifted students is an integral part of this commitment. Talented and gifted students means those children who require special education programs or services, or both beyond those normally provided by the regular school program in order to realize their contribution to self and society and who demonstrate outstanding ability or potential in one or more of the following areas:
  - a. Intellectual ability
  - b. Unusual academic ability in reading or mathematics
2. The Board, therefore, directs district staff to provide classroom or school programs designed to promote educational opportunity for talented and gifted students commensurate with their ability.
3. The district has established an appeals process for parents to utilize if they are dissatisfied with identification process or appropriateness of programs and services provided for their talented and gifted student.

*History: Adpt 3/10/83; Amd 10/26/95; Amd 9/9/02; BA2421*

**☒1B: POLICIES: District's Mission Statement:**

**Mission:** Every student **by name** prepared for college, career and participation as an active community member, regardless of race, income or zip code.

**☒1C: POLICIES: Talented and Gifted Education Philosophy:**

**TAG Department Vision for 2018-2019**

Encouraged by the PPS equity policy and community input, we are investing in improvements in our effort to create a program to meet the unique and diverse needs of all students. We will collaborate with all neighborhood schools to support programs to address TAG students' needs, develop and nurture students who show potential for demonstrating high levels of critical thinking, and establish a pathway to positive partnerships with families.

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TAG students will become collaborative learners who have the skills necessary to positively impact the world around them.

PPS has five major goals for providing comprehensive TAG services across the district:

1. **TAG identification improvement-** improve universal screening practices to automate identification and to increase identification of historically underserved students.
2. **Professional development for staff-** train TAG facilitators, teachers, and administrators in rate and level, depth of knowledge, classroom look fors, and using formative assessments to inform instruction.
3. **Curriculum development-** include in-depth DOK/TAG extensions and differentiated lessons, activities, opportunities, and projects into each GVC unit written in the new common core curriculum documents.
4. **Use formative assessment to inform instruction-** use MAP assessment results/RIT scores to provide personalized learning opportunities for each student.
5. **Create individual instructional plans** - work with campus committees that include teachers, TAG facilitators, and parents to create individual instructional plans to identify learning goals and identify classroom practices that would meet individual TAG students learning needs.

### ELEMENT 2: ORS 343.397 (2) and OAR 581-022-1330 (1) - (3) (b)

#### **AN ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE DISTRICT FOR TALENTED AND GIFTED CHILDREN**

Talented and gifted education is a needs-based program emanating from the student's identified need for TAG services. Once identification is established, the student should receive instruction aligned to her/his area(s) of identified need(s) or strength(s). Current services in PPS vary by campus and classroom.

#### **2A: TAG SERVICE - IDENTIFICATION: Identification, Instruments, Body of Evidence, Cumulative Record File, Transfer Students**

Currently Portland Public School District uses the CogAT 7 for intelligential identification in grades K-12, ITBS K-2 for academic identification in Math and/or Reading and the SBAC spring scores for grades 3-12. All 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students are screened using the CogAT 7 Screener in the fall for possible TAG identification. For the school year 2018-2019 the TAG Department identified 1,183 2nd graders who met the threshold of 75% or higher to be nominated for full CogAT test for intellectual giftedness. Eighty two percent of the students identified in the screener applied for further testing in order to be potentially identified. Portland Public School District currently has 2,654 students identified under the category of General Intellectual, 2,447 identified as Academic in Math, 2,979 identified as Academic in Reading and 1,983 as Potential to Perform. Some of these students identified may have

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qualified in more than one area and have been counted more than once. Presently, the body of evidence used to identify students for TAG services includes: TAG Nomination and Identification Forms, students work samples, nationally and locally normed test results, and parent and teacher surveys. The TAG eligibility team consists of the schools' TAG Facilitator, and/or school administration, the child's classroom teacher(s) and a TAG TOSA (teacher on special assignment). The TAG Department verifies accuracy and confirms identification.

In an attempt to increase the identification and services provided to historically underserved students, PPS will be creating a systematic identification process which will be designed in the 2019 spring semester for implementation in the fall of 2019. Starting in the 2019-2020 school year, PPS will use the Naglieri 3 for intellectual identification and spring SBAC and NWEA MAP (nationally and locally normed test results) assessments for identification of talented and gifted in the areas of Math and Reading in Grades 3-12. Universal testing will be done in the fall for 2nd grade using the Naglieri 3 and the MAP assessment. Teacher and parent checklists and work samples may also be used for secondary evidence of identification. PPS will take a systematic approach to identifying students with a barrier free identification process by using an opt-out process for parents as opposed to an opt-in through application.

Once a student is identified as TAG, PPS will create a digitized cumulative folder with the identification letter, nomination form, parent letter, parent communication, and records of participation. If a student transfers from another school district in Oregon and was previously identified at a gifted student they are not automatically identified in PPS as TAG but may demonstrate evidence through school records. Assessments and criteria used for identification will be evaluated for final determination. There is no time limit for this process and may occur at any time. If a child transfers from another state the same process applies.

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Talented and Gifted Education Plan 2019-2022**

**2B: SPECIAL PROGRAMS: INSTRUCTION FOR TAG STUDENTS:** What instructional services are provided to identified Talented and Gifted Students at the elementary, middle, and high school levels? [OAR 581-022-1330 (4)]

| <u>Elementary</u>                                                                                   | <u>Middle School</u>                                                                                                               | <u>High School</u>                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Flexible Grouping (Teacher Discretion)</b>                                                       |                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Strategies to address Depth &amp; Complexity- (To be included in PPS Common Core Curriculum)</b> |                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Talented and Gifted Identification K-12 – (97<sup>th</sup>-99<sup>th</sup> percentile)</b>       |                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Potential Talented and Gifted K-12- (Potential to Perform)</b>                                   |                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>ACCESS Academy 1-8 (99th% and Demonstrated Need)</b>                                             |                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● IBPYP - selected schools</li> </ul>                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● IBMYP- selected schools</li> <li>● Compacted Math Cy1 and Cy2 (by examination)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● IB- selected schools</li> <li>● AP- selected schools</li> <li>● CTE</li> <li>● Dual Credit</li> </ul> |
| <b>Single Subject Acceleration: Math grades 2-7 (by examination)</b>                                |                                                                                                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Middle College- Jefferson High</li> </ul>                                                             |
| <b>Whole Grade Acceleration (by examination and committee decision)</b>                             |                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                |

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**1. GROUPING & PLACEMENT**

**Differentiating in four foundation areas (reading/language arts, math, science, social studies) through flexible grouping:**

Currently there is not a system-wide approach to flexible grouping across Portland Public Schools. Flexible grouping is a fluid classroom approach of clustering within the classroom. Students working at the same rate and level so they can progress at a deeper or accelerated level. This instructional practice varies by campus and teacher. With the implementation of the NWEA MAP exams, we will begin training teachers to use student rate and level reports to provide flexible grouping opportunities across the system.

Training to begin in 2019-2020 to be able to offer the following system wide:

K-5: Opportunities to participate in flexible grouping within their campus classrooms.

6-8: Opportunities to participate in flexible grouping, curricular acceleration, cross-curricular projects and projects and IB MYP courses at IB MYP schools.

9-12: Opportunities to participate in AP, IB or dual credit courses in at least two foundation areas, work with a professional mentor to produce high level products based on interest and possible career path.

**2. INSTRUCTIONAL CORE**

**Differentiating in four foundation areas (reading/language arts, math, science, social studies) through the addition of the dimensions of depth and complexity:**

Currently there is not a system-wide approach to the incorporation of the dimensions of depth and complexity across Portland Public Schools. This instructional practice varies by campus and teacher. With the creation of a guaranteed and viable curriculum and common core curriculum across the district, PPS will include the following DOK dimensions in units available to teachers in math and ELA as developed. The following skills and knowledge will be included in extension options for meeting rate and level within the written curriculum:

K-2: Identifies and defines dimensions, e.g. recall, infer, predict, hypothesize, critique, analyze, prove, synthesize, of depth and complexity and relates them to the foundation areas.

3-5: Identifies keywords that define the dimensions, e.g. recall, infer, predict, hypothesize, critique, analyze, prove, synthesize of depth and complexity; uses the dimensions as prompts to form questions and/or answers.

6-8: Integrates the dimensions, e.g. recall, infer, predict, hypothesize, critique, analyze, prove, synthesize of depth and complexity with the content imperatives in courses.

9-12: Integrates the dimensions, e.g. recall, infer, predict, hypothesize, critique, analyze, prove, synthesize of depth and complexity with the content imperatives in AP, IB or dual

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credit courses, conducts interdisciplinary studies, and makes decisions based on reasoned arguments using dimensions of depth and complexity and content imperatives as substantiation.

**☒ 2 B 2: SPECIAL PROGRAM INSTRUCTION: Optional Instructional Formats:**  
Please list any other instructional formats that are available at elementary, middle or high school levels? **Jefferson Middle College, IBPYP, IBMYP, Virtual Scholars, Portland Evening Scholars, Summer Scholars, Dual Credit**

**☒ 2 B 3: SPECIAL PROGRAMS INSTRUCTION: Advanced Placement Course Offerings:** Our district offers 27 Advanced Placement courses. These Advanced Placement courses are available to all students at non-IB schools:

**Biology, Calculus AB, English Language & Composition**

Advanced Placement course offerings for the 2018-2019 school year that are offered at selected schools:

**US History, US Government & Politics, World History, European History, Human Geography, Psychology, Psychology, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Studio Art 2D Design, Studio Art 3D Design, Studio Art Drawing, Music Theory, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics,, English Literature & Composition, Chemistry, Physics 1: Algebra-based, Physics 2, Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism, Physics C: Mechanics, Environmental Science, Spanish Language & Culture, Spanish Literature and Culture, Chinese Language & Culture, Japanese Language & Culture, and Seminar**

**☒ 2 B 4: SPECIAL PROGRAMS: International Baccalaureate Offerings:**

(A) Does the district offer International Baccalaureate instruction? **Yes**

(B) How many schools and students participate in IB? **6**

**PYP: MLK (K-5), Sabin (K-5), Skyline (K-5), Vernon (K-5)**

**MYP: Skyline (6-8), Vernon (6-8)**

**DP: Cleveland (11-12), Lincoln (11-12)**

(C) Is an International Baccalaureate Diploma available to students? **Yes**

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**2 C: SPECIAL PROGRAMS INSTRUCTION: Teacher’s Knowledge of Students in Class:**

Every campus in PPS has a designated TAG facilitator who is paid an extended responsibility stipend to manage TAG identification & nomination, parent communication and teacher TAG training on campus. The TAG Facilitator has access to student identifiers and is able to print out a class list of students for each teacher with TAG identified student names on a report. Teachers can also identify TAG students when viewing the student data page in Synergy. An alert symbol indicates TAG on the identified students. Classroom teachers are also able to view their students who are identified as TAG in Dashboard- a district-wide student information system.

PPS is starting to formatively assess students using the NWEA MAP assessment in the 2018-2019 school year in math grades 3-9 and as a reading pilot in some 2nd grade classrooms. As the district rolls out professional development to campuses on how to read and use the MAP results/RIT scores to inform instruction, teachers will be able to access MAP student reports to identify each student’s rate and level in tested MAP areas.

**2 D: SPECIAL PROGRAMS: TAG Students Instructional Plans:**

Currently in PPS, written TAG Instructional Personal Learning Plans are not required for the individual student unless requested by the parent. If a parent requests a TAG Instructional Learning Plan for their student, teachers are responsible for writing the plan and reviewing the plan with the parent(s) within 30 days of the request. *Attachment Element 2D1.*

Every campus in PPS has a campus TAG plan that is unique to their school and their programs. These campus TAG plans are posted on the district website and will be updated annually with input from TAG facilitators, campus administration, and the district TAG department.

PPS has the goal to **create individual instructional plans**. We are dedicated to working with campus committees that include teachers, TAG facilitators, and parents to create individual instructional plans to identify learning goals and identify classroom practices that would meet individual TAG students learning needs.

**2 E: OPTIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL FORMATS: MAGNET / CHOICE SCHOOLS and TAG ENRICHMENT**

Portland Public School District offers highly gifted student choice school transfer through an alternative program, ACCESS Academy, which serves students in 1st- 8th grade. Students must score at the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile on one or more intellectual or academic assessment and meet the school’s other alternative education criteria. Students who meet the criteria (99<sup>th</sup>

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percentile and demonstrated need for an alternative educational placement) and apply are placed into a lottery. The enrollment goals for the 2019-2020 school year is 344 students.

TAG students who attend ACCESS Academy as well as other neighborhood schools and choice schools participate in various enrichment programs both during the day and afterschool. Some examples of enrichment include and vary from campus to campus: Science Fair, Oregon Writing Festival, Robotics Club, Chess Club, Saturday Academy, Reed Scholars Program, and mentorships, SUN After-School Program, Speech and Debate, Drama, Mock Trial, Honor Society, Battle of the Books, OATAG Spelling Bee, Model United Nations, Mathletics, and Coding Club.

**2 F: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT- INSTRUCTIONAL**

2018-2019 school year:

- Rate and Level Training
- Formative Assessment/MAP Training
- OATAG State Conference (optional)

2019-2020

- Rate and Level Training
- Depth and Complexity Training
- Formative Assessment/MAP Training
- Implementing Common Core Curriculum (GVC)
- Creating Individual Instructional Plans
- Identifying Underserved Talented and Gifted Students
- OATAG State Conference (optional)

2020-2021

- Rate and Level Training
- Formative Assessment/MAP Training
- Creating Individual Instructional Plans
- Implementing Common Core Curriculum (GVC)
- Strategies to address depth and complexity
- Flexible Grouping
- Administrator Training- Classroom look fors
- OATAG (optional)

2021-2022

- Rate and Level Training
- Using Formative Instruction to Personalize Learning
- Creating Individual Instructional Plans

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- Implementing Common Core Curriculum (GVC)
- Administrator Training- Classroom look fors
- Strategies to address depth and complexity
- Flexible Grouping
- OATAG (optional)

**2 G: COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS:** What are the district procedures for communicating with parents during the following timeframes? [OAR 581-022-1320]

☒ 2 G 1: Prior to testing for TAG Placement – **School TAG bulletin board, school newsletter, PPS TAG website, TAG Facilitators, Fall Back to School Night, TAG PowerPoint, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Universal Testing Letter to parents**

☒ 2 G 2: Notification of results of testing for TAG Placement – **Letter sent home to parents from the TAG Department. TAG Facilitator and Principal receive list of student results.**

☒ 2 G 3: Explanations of the TAG services available to identified students – **TAG Facilitator, Back to School Night TAG presentation, PPS TAG website, parent/teacher conferences**

☒ 2 G 4: Explanations of the TAG learning plan, (TAG PEP), if available – **TAG Facilitator, TAG TOSAs, PPS TAG website, parent/teacher conferences**

☒ 2 G 5: Opportunities for parent input into the TAG Learning Plans – **Meeting with TAG Facilitator and classroom teacher(s).**

☒ 2 G 6: Explanations of “what TAG identification means” to parents of newly identified students – **TAG PowerPoint during Fall Back to School Night, PPS TAG website, TAG Facilitator, parent/teacher conferences**

☒ 2 G 7: Transition of TAG students from elementary to middle – **elementary/middle school counselors**

☒ 2 G 8: Transition of TAG students from middle to high – **middle/high school counselors**

☒ 2 G 9: Notification to parents of option to request withdrawal a student from TAG services – **TAG Facilitator, parent/teacher conferences, TAG Department, Letter to parents from the TAG Department and copied to digitized student cumulative folder**

☒ 2 G 10: Notification of right to file a complaint concerning TAG programs or services beginning with the district’s own complaint process. – **PPS District website, PPS TAG website, TAG Department, TAG Facilitator, Building Administrator**

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**ELEMENT 3: ORS 343.397(3) and OAR 581-02201330 (1) – (3) (c)**

**A STATEMENT OF DISTRICT GOALS FOR PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE  
SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND OVER WHAT SPAN OF TIME THE  
GOALS WILL BE ACHIEVED**

The Department of Talented and Gifted in Portland Public Schools is committed to overseeing, supporting, and monitoring (in collaboration with other departments and regional cohorts and school-based staff) programs and services for talented and gifted students district-wide. We are committed to evaluating our processes, system, guidelines, policies, philosophies and innovation in order to better meet the needs of our students and guide the present work in a more meaningful and sustainable manner.

PPS has five major goals for providing comprehensive TAG services across the district:

1. **TAG identification improvement-** improve universal screening practices to automate identification and to increase identification of historically underserved students.
2. **Professional development for staff-** train TAG facilitators, teachers, and administrators in rate and level, depth of knowledge, classroom look fors, and using formative assessments to inform instruction.
3. **Curriculum development-** include in-depth DOK/TAG extensions and differentiated lessons, activities, opportunities, and projects into each GVC unit written in the new common core curriculum documents.
4. **Use formative assessment to inform instruction-** use MAP assessment results/ RIT scores to provide personalized learning opportunities for each student.
5. **Create individual instructional plans -** work with campus committees that include teachers, TAG facilitators, and parents to create individual instructional plans to identify learning goals and identify classroom practices that would meet individual TAG students learning needs.

The following actions will be taken by PPS to meet these goals:

**Year One: January 2019- June 2020**

- Examine and evaluate the current process of identification.
- Examine and evaluate the current testing instruments.
- Create a positive and transparent narrative for TAG. Use a variety of media to promote, communicate and teach the community the characteristics of a TAG student and how TAG services at the school level will be able to serve each student.

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- Foster positive and transparent communication with all stakeholders about processes, rules, statues, procedures and policies.
- Assist TAG Facilitators in evaluating and updating building TAG plans for each campus.
- Provide campus specific TAG services & implementation ideas to each principal for incorporation into the campus TAG plans
- Develop relational capacity between the TAG department and schools.
- Build relationships with TAG Facilitators for optimal professional development and solicit feedback for next steps and support.
- Provide professional development for TAG Facilitators and teachers on rate and level.
- Create professional development for TAG Facilitators and teachers related to depth and complexity.
- Create professional development for TAG Facilitators and teachers on identification of under-represented, ELL and twice-exceptional talented and gifted students.
- Collaborate with English as a Second Language Department to inform ESL communities about TAG identification and services.
- Communicate with school leaders and communities of underrepresented students to increase engagement and identification practices.
- Collaborate with the Math Department and schools to monitor and evaluate the process and procedures for Single Subject Acceleration in Math.
- Collaborate with the Math Department on TAG services in DLI schools.
- Encourage parents of color and under-represented communities to attend TAGAC.
- Collaborate with TAGAC regarding policies and processes.
- Develop a series of parent information nights regarding the gifted child.
- Manage and adjust TAG budget to meet the needs of TAG students.
- Participate and provide input on curriculum development to ensure the incorporation of depth and complexity into the district units in the PPS standard core curriculum.
- Provide formative assessment professional development.
- Examine and evaluate the ACCESS academy admission cycle for the year 2018-2019.

**Year Two – June 2020- June 2021**

- Examine, evaluate and modify (if needed) the current process of identification.
- Examine and evaluate the current testing instruments for identification.
- Continue to create a positive and transparent narrative for TAG. Use a variety of media to promote, communicate and teach the community the characteristics of a TAG student and how TAG services at the school level will be able to serve each student.
- Continue to foster positive and transparent communication with all stakeholders about processes, rules, statues, procedures and policies.

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- Provide quarterly full day professional development to TAG Facilitators on identification, rate and level, depth of knowledge, and individual instructional plans.
- Assist TAG Facilitators in evaluating and updating building TAG plans for each campus.
- Provide training and guidance on the creation of individual instructional plans.
- Provide building administrators “look fors” to ensure TAG strategies are being implemented in the classroom.
- Continue to develop relational capacity between the TAG department and schools.
- Continue to build relationships with TAG Facilitators for optimal professional development and solicit feedback for next steps and support.
- Continue to create professional development for TAG Facilitators and teachers related to depth and complexity and evaluate effectiveness and implementation.
- Evaluate and provide continued professional development for TAG Facilitators and teachers on identification of under-represented, ELL and twice-exceptional talented and gifted students.
- Continue to collaborate with English as a Second Language Department to inform and encourage ESL communities about TAG identification and services.
- Continue to communicate with school leaders and communities of underrepresented students to increase engagement and identification.
- Collaborate with the Math Department on TAG services in DLI schools.
- Examine and evaluate ACCESS admission cycle for the year 2019-2020.
- Continue to collaborate with the Math Department and schools to monitor and evaluate the process and procedures for Single Subject Acceleration in Math and using MAP/RIT scores for personalized learning opportunities.
- Continue to encourage parents of color and underrepresented communities to attend TAGAC.
- Continue to collaborate with TAGAC regarding district policies, processes, and implementation.
- Continue to develop a series of parent information nights regarding the gifted child.
- Manage and adjust TAG budget to meet the needs of TAG students.
- Continue to collaborate and provide input on core curriculum development and PPS core curriculum standards

**Year Three – June 2021-June 2022**

- Examine, evaluate and modify (if needed) the current process of identification.
- Examine and evaluate the current testing instruments for identification. Use demographic data over time to evaluate the increase of identification of historically underserved students.
- Continue to create a positive and transparent narrative for TAG. Use a variety of media to promote, communicate and teach the community the characteristics of a

## **Portland Public School District**

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- TAG student and how TAG services at the school level will be able to serve each student.
- Continue to foster positive and transparent communication with all stakeholders about processes, rules, statues, procedures and policies.
  - Assist TAG Facilitators in evaluating and updating building TAG plans for each campus.
  - Provide guidance and training on writing and implementing individual instructional plans.
  - Provide building administrators “look fors” to ensure TAG strategies are being implemented in the classroom.
  - Continue to develop relational capacity between the TAG department and schools.
  - Continue to build relationships with TAG Facilitators for optimal professional development and solicit feedback for next steps and support.
  - Provide quarterly professional development for TAG Facilitators based on needs assessments.
  - Evaluate and provide continued professional development for TAG Facilitators and teachers on identification of under-represented, ELL and twice-exceptional talented and gifted students related to rigor and depth and complexity.
  - Continue to collaborate with English as a Second Language Department to inform and encourage ESL communities about TAG identification and services.
  - Continue to communicate with school leaders and communities of underrepresented students to increase personalized learning opportunities for students.
  - Continue to collaborate with the Math Department and schools to monitor and evaluate the process, implementation and procedures for using formative assessment to inform instructional practices in the classrooms.
  - Continue to encourage parents of color and underrepresented communities to attend TAGAC.
  - Continue to collaborate with TAGAC regarding evaluation of programming and services.
  - Continue to develop a series of parent information nights regarding the gifted child.
  - Manage and adjust TAG budget to meet the needs of TAG students.
  - Continue to collaborate and provide input on core curriculum units in the PPS core curriculum standards
  - Examine and evaluate ACCESS admission cycle for the year 2021-2022.

**Portland Public School District**  
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**ELEMENT 4: ORS 343.397 (4) and OAR 581-022-1330 (1) - (3) (d)**

**A DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE OF THE SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES WHICH WILL BE PROVIDED TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS**

For example, if the district has determined that it is not identifying underrepresented students at a percentage that is commensurate with the district's outlined race and ethnicity, what could the district do to improve this disparity? What special programs and/or services could be improved or enhanced to address this inequity?

The Department of Talented and Gifted will evaluate the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade screening process using demographic data of students identified as potential TAG candidates. TAG Facilitators will receive professional development on the Culturally Linguistically, and Economically Diverse Learner Teacher Rating Scale to identify potentially gifted students who have been historically underserved. By establishing local norms at the school level, we have the opportunity to engage students in talented and gifted education directly with an equity focus.

Collaboration with TAGAC and other stakeholders will provide the district with input regarding services and programs that are meeting the needs of our talented and gifted students. The TAG Department will communicate directly with schools that have large historically underserved populations by teaming with other departments in the district to engage parents in identifying our unserved TAG students. The TAG Department will provide communication to parents of historically underserved students regarding options for talented and gifted programs available to our students who test in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile. The district will use data to evaluate the effectiveness of advanced course offerings at the secondary level and adjust as necessary.

In an attempt to increase the identification and services provided to historically underserved students, PPS will be creating a systematic identification process which will be designed in the 2019 spring semester for implementation in the Fall of 2019. Starting in the 2019-2020 school year, PPS will use the Naglieri 3 for intellectual identification and spring SBAC and NWEA MAP (nationally and locally normed test results) assessments for identification of talented and gifted in the areas of Math and Reading in Grades 3-12. Universal testing will be done in the Fall for 2nd grade using the Naglieri 3 and the MAP assessment. Teacher and parent checklists and work samples may also be used for secondary evidence of identification. PPS will take a systematic approach to identifying students with a barrier free identification process by using an opt out process for parents as opposed to an opt in through application.

**Portland Public School District**  
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**ELEMENT 5: ORS 343.397 (5) and OAR 581-022-1330 (1) - (3) (e)**

**A PLAN FOR EVALUATING PROGRESS ON THE DISTRICT PLAN INCLUDING  
EACH COMPONENT PROGRAM AND SERVICE**

The Department of Talented and Gifted will evaluate its progress on TAG district goals based on feedback from:

- Monthly and annual TAG Team Evaluations
- Monthly communications with schools
- Talented and Gifted Advisory Committee (TAGAC) feedback
- Professional Development surveys from TAG Facilitators meetings
- District and state assessments of TAG students
- Annual ACCESS admission cycle review
- Student outcomes including MAP growth, SBAC scores, AP/IB exam scores
- Demographic data of identified students

***Attachments:***

Element 2 D- Attachment 2D1: Blank TAG Personal Educational Plan



**Portland Public Schools  
K-12 Individual Instructional Plan  
2018-2019**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

|                            |  |                            |                  |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Student's Full Name</b> |  | <b>Student ID Number</b>   |                  |
| <b>Current School</b>      |  | <b>Current Grade Level</b> | <b>Birthdate</b> |
| <b>Homeroom Teacher</b>    |  | <b>TAG Facilitator</b>     |                  |

**Why is the student being considered for an individual plan? Please explain. (Parent and/or School)**

**What specific instructional practices have been implemented to meet the student's rate and level? (School Only)**

**Additional Notes:**

| <b>Student Data</b> <i>(School)</i>                                                                  |                                                         |        |        |       |        |       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| Intellectual assessment/s                                                                            | CogAT7:                                                 | Date:  | Other: | Date: | Other: | Date: |
| Reading assessment/s                                                                                 | IOWA:                                                   | Date:  | SBAC:  | Date: | Other: | Date: |
| Math assessment/s                                                                                    | IOWA:                                                   | Date:  | SBAC:  | Date: | Other: | Date: |
| Grades                                                                                               |                                                         |        |        |       |        |       |
| Observations and/or Oral responses                                                                   |                                                         |        |        |       |        |       |
| <b>Possible Content Areas for Instructional Planning</b> <i>(Complete at Least One Content Area)</i> |                                                         |        |        |       |        |       |
| Rate of Learning                                                                                     | SP: Slow pace, EP: Expected Pace, RP: Rapid Pace        |        |        |       |        |       |
| Level of Learning                                                                                    | 1: Beginning, 2: Developing, 3: Proficient, 4: Advanced |        |        |       |        |       |
| Content Area #1: _____                                                                               | Rate:                                                   | Level: |        |       |        |       |
| Academic Goal                                                                                        |                                                         |        |        |       |        |       |
| Instructional Strategies                                                                             |                                                         |        |        |       |        |       |
| Content Area #2: _____                                                                               | Rate:                                                   | Level: |        |       |        |       |
| Academic Goal                                                                                        |                                                         |        |        |       |        |       |
| Instructional Strategies                                                                             |                                                         |        |        |       |        |       |
| Content Area #3: _____                                                                               | Rate:                                                   | Level: |        |       |        |       |
| Academic Goal                                                                                        |                                                         |        |        |       |        |       |
| Instructional Strategies                                                                             |                                                         |        |        |       |        |       |

**Possible Instructional Strategies/Best Practice**

- Implement appropriate placement based on data and need
- Single Subject Acceleration in Math (*Spring*)
- Whole Grade Acceleration
- Cluster Grouping
- Flexible Grouping
- Compacting
- Independent Study/Projects
- Tiered Assignments
- Student judges or evaluates situations, problems, or issues.
- Student compares and contrasts ideas (e.g. analyze generated ideas).
- Student generalized from concrete data or information to the abstract.
- Student makes connections among carried and multiple attributes centered on one concept.
- Student proves with evidence, judge with criteria, and/or argue.
- Student shares original thoughts about issues or ideas in context.
- Student explores diverse points of view to reframe ideas.
- Student develops and elaborates on their ideas.
- Student adds to, combines, minimizes/maximizes, and/or substitutes.
- When higher-level thinking skills are embedded in the total school experience, students learn to apply and use these skills in other areas of their lives as well. Critical thinking, reasoning, reflecting, discussing, and applying new ideas are essential to characteristics of a climate of learning that encourages students to think on a higher level, challenge existing ideas, and entertain new possibilities for the future.
- Student employs brainstorming techniques.
- Student engages in problem identification and definition.
- Student engages in solution-finding activities and comprehensive solution articulation.
- Student gathers evidence from multiple sources through research-based techniques (e.g. print, non-print, internet, self0investigation via surveys, interviews, etc.).
- Student analyzes data and represents it in appropriate charts, graphs, or tables.
- Student make inferences from data and drawing conclusions.
- Student determines implications and consequences.
- Student communicates research study findings to relevant audiences in a formal report and/or presentation.

|                        | <b>Signatures (<i>Minimum 3</i>)</b> | <b>Agree</b> | <b>Disagree</b> | <b>Initial Date</b> | <b>Follow-Up Date</b> |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Parent/Guardian</b> |                                      |              |                 |                     |                       |
| <b>Parent/Guardian</b> |                                      |              |                 |                     |                       |
| <b>Current Teacher</b> |                                      |              |                 |                     |                       |
| <b>TAG Facilitator</b> |                                      |              |                 |                     |                       |
| <b>Principal</b>       |                                      |              |                 |                     |                       |
| <b>Other</b>           |                                      |              |                 |                     |                       |
| <b>Other</b>           |                                      |              |                 |                     |                       |

## RESOLUTION No. 6389

Resolution to approve a change to the 2021-22 Portland Public School District Calendar to make Friday, November 12, 2021, a professional development day.

### RECITALS

- A. To maximize the learning experience of PPS students, it is important that our educators have opportunities to collaborate and build deeper understanding of new curriculum adoptions (e.g., math, science and literacy), strengthen their teaching skills (i.e.g., culturally sustaining teaching, equitable grading), and continue to learn the latest on the health and safety measures in schools.
- B. Prioritizing a smooth implementation of COVID-19 health and safety measures across schools, PPS has delayed other professional development and learning opportunities for its educators.
- C. Board Policy 3.20.010-P Annual Calendar states “after Board approval, any modification of the [annual school] calendar will be made consistent with applicable provisions of the collective bargaining agreement and shall require final Board action.”
- D. Changing November 12 to a mandatory professional development day on the calendar may have an impact on Required Instructional Time per OAR 581-022-2320. Changing November 12 from an Instructional day, will result in the following scheduled instructional hours for the 2021-22 school year:
  - i. Grade 12: 982 hours
  - ii. Grades 9-11: 1020 hours
  - iii. Grades 6-8: 950 hours
  - iv. Grades 2-5: 924 hours
  - v. Grade 1: 919 hours
  - vi. Kindergarten: 909 hours

### RESOLUTION

The Board of Education hereby modifies the 2021-22 School District Calendar changing November 12 from a regular school day to a professional development work day.



**Date:** October 26, 2021  
**To:** School Board  
**From:** Dr. Shawn Bird, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction and School Communities  
**Subject:** Making November 12 a Professional Development Day--Staff Report

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## **BACKGROUND**

On April 27, 2021, the School Board approved Resolution 6294 adopting the 2021-22 School District Calendar.

This year on the District Calendar, Veteran's Day, November 11, falls on a Thursday, and there is no school on this Federal holiday. A regular school day is scheduled for the following day, Friday, November 12.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the District has been limited in its ability to offer professional development to school-based staff. Providing safe and healthy learning conditions has been the number one priority.

## **RELATED POLICIES**

3.20.010-P Annual Calendar  
OAR 581-022-2320 Required Instructional Time

## **ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION**

In the midst of the delta variant surge, implementing COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols has become our highest priority. Understanding and following those protocols with fidelity, including frequent updates from ODE and health authorities, has been time consuming. In addition, we have been short-staffed in many areas, notably our substitute staff.

Due to demands on school staff resources and staffing constraints, we are challenged to provide professional development to our teaching staff that focuses on our recent bond-funded curriculum adoptions and key instructional practices and initiatives intended to narrow student opportunity gaps. In addition, principal meetings have been cancelled and staff meetings have, out of necessity, been focused on ensuring staff are familiar with how to adapt to and implement the latest requirements for health and safety. Furthermore, professional development that typically happens during the day has been cancelled so as not to exacerbate an already acute shortage of available substitute educators to cover teacher absences. Teachers who have covered other colleagues' classes, when a substitute was not available, have also foregone important planning and preparation time. Due to the urgent need to provide deferred

professional development for our teachers, staff is proposing that the Board of Education convert Nov. 12 from a student day into a professional development day.

The professional development proposed for this regular work day will include a range of key topics for teachers and our classified Staff:

- Health and Safety
- K-5: PD on Math and Literacy Adoptions
- 6-8: PD on the Science Adoption
- 6-12: Math Field Test PD
- 6-12: PD on Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy, Equitable Grading, Student Engagement
- K-12: Classroom Management
- Collaborative planning time

### **TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION:**

Professional Development Teams have begun preparing Professional Development (PD) for November 12. The professional development will be a mix of District-directed PD on adoptions and instructional practices, as well as an opportunity for schools to tailor the PD for school and teacher needs.

The details and logistics will be shared with building administrators, teachers and classified staff on a weekly basis starting this week to prepare them for this change in the District calendar and to ensure they are prepared for this day of learning.

Communications will be shared with families multiple times and through email, text, social media so that families can prepare for this change in the calendar.

### **BOARD OPTIONS WITH ANALYSIS**

This change in the calendar may impact [OAR 581-022-2320 Required Instructional Time](#). Time requirements are as follows:

- Grade 12: 966 hours
- Grades 9–11: 990 hours
- Grades K–8 — 900 hours

Changing November 12 from an Instructional day into a professional development day, will leave us scheduled with approximately the following instructional hours for the 2021-22 school year:

- Grade 12: 982 hours
- Grades 9-11: 1020 hours
- Grades 6-8: 950 hours
- Grades 2-5: 924 hours
- Grade 1: 919 hours
- Kindergarten: 909 hours

If we have inclement weather this winter that closes school, there are four potential make-up days. Three are scheduled at the end of the school year, June 13-15, 2022. President's Day on February 21, 2022, can also be used with at least 30 days' notice.

For 12th graders, only President's Day can be used to make up for inclement weather because High School Graduation is set for June 5-9. As a result, for Seniors to be in compliance with Required Instructional time, there can only be two inclement weather days that are not made up on President's Day.

For Kindergartners to be in compliance with Required Instruction Time, there can also only be one inclement weather day that is not made up on one of the four designated makeup days.

If there are more inclement weather days than described above, the Board would need to pass a resolution counting up to 30 hours of Staff professional development toward Required Instructional Time for the District to be in compliance with this OAR.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Labor Partners are in agreement that staff will greatly benefit from a day of professional learning.

In most cases, child care providers will be able to provide child care on November 12 for families currently registered in those programs; similar to what they are doing on other non-school days.

On Thurs., Oct. 21 PPS sent a communication to all PPS families via newsletter and will work with local media to promote this information.

### **CONNECTION TO BOARD GOALS**

This professional development day supports building organizational capacity to fulfill all of the Board Goals as it is placing a focus on the professional learning of our educators K-12 as we work toward continuous improvement in the classroom and across the organization.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Board approve this change to the calendar allowing staff a much needed professional development day.

---

*As a member of the PPS Executive Leadership Team, I have reviewed this staff report.*

\_\_\_\_\_ (Initials)



| JULY 2021 |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|
| M         | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|           |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 5         | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 12        | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 19        | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 26        | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

| AUGUST 2021 |    |    |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|
| M           | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|             |    |    |    |    |
| 2           | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 9           | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 16          | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 23          | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 30          | 31 |    |    |    |

| SEPTEMBER 2021 |    |    |    |    |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|
| M              | T  | W  | T  | F  |
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| 6              | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 13             | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 20             | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 27             | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |

| OCTOBER 2021 |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|
| M            | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|              |    |    |    | 1  |
| 4            | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 11           | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 18           | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 25           | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

| NOVEMBER 2021 |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| M             | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|               |    |    |    |    |
| 1             | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 8             | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 15            | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 22            | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 29            | 30 |    |    |    |

| DECEMBER 2021 |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| M             | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|               |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 6             | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 13            | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 20            | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 27            | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

| JANUARY 2022 |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|
| M            | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|              |    |    |    |    |
| 3            | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 10           | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 17           | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 24           | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 31           |    |    |    |    |

| FEBRUARY 2022 |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| M             | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|               | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 7             | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 14            | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 21            | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 28            |    |    |    |    |

| MARCH 2022 |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|
| M          | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|            | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 7          | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 14         | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 21         | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 28         | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

| APRIL 2022 |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|
| M          | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|            |    |    |    | 1  |
| 4          | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 11         | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 18         | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 25         | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

| MAY 2022 |    |    |    |    |
|----------|----|----|----|----|
| M        | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|          |    |    |    |    |
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| 9        | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 16       | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 23       | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 30       | 31 |    |    |    |

| JUNE 2022 |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|
| M         | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|           |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 6         | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 13        | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 20        | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 27        | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |

|   |                                                                   |   |                                                                                                                                                |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|   | Schools closed due to holiday or break period                     |   | High school transfer deadline                                                                                                                  |
| ★ | First/last day of school for students: 1st Grade Ramp Up Sep. 1-2 |   | End of quarter                                                                                                                                 |
| + | Day/evening conferences (no school for students)                  |   | Teacher Professional Development/planning day (no school for students)                                                                         |
| ▲ | Statewide inservice (no school for students)                      |   | Possible snow make-up day                                                                                                                      |
| ♥ | Kindergarten first day: Kindergarten Ramp Up Sep 1 - Sep 7        |   | Pre-Kindergarten/Head Start first day                                                                                                          |
| ↗ | Mid-Term Progress Reports                                         | * | Staff Meetings                                                                                                                                 |
| 👜 | New Educator Orientation                                          | * | Professional Development Day for CSI, Title, Kellogg, and Feeders on Aug 25. Kellogg MS to have PD Days on Aug. 24-25 (no school for students) |



# **Procurement Card (PCard) Audit Results**

**PPS Board of Education Meeting  
October 26, 2021**

**Janise Hansen, CIA  
Sr. Internal Performance Auditor  
Office of Internal Performance Audit (OIPA)**



# Thank you!

We extend our appreciation to the Purchasing and Contracting Department; specifically the school district's PCard Manager, Stephen Hirai and the PCard Accountant, Deb Watkins who incredibly responsive to our request for information and documentation needed to complete the audit. Stephen and Deb were also willing to collaborate and provide us feedback that added value throughout the audit.





# Background

The PCard Audit was included in the Office of Internal Performance Audit (OIPA) 2019-20 Audit Plan approved by the Portland Public Schools (PPS) Board of Education via Resolution 5935 on July 16, 2019.





# Summary

- **Audit Objective** — See report page 8, bottom of the page
- **Conclusion** — See report page 9, bottom of the page
- **Recommendations** — See report page 5 and 6
- **Management Response** — See report page 5 and 6, detailed responses included on pages 10 – 15
- **Final Thoughts**





# Questions?





## **The Office of Internal Performance Audit**

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### **Internal Audit Report**

### **Procurement Card (PCard) Audit**

**Issue Date: October 2021**

**Senior Internal Performance Auditor**  
Janise Hansen, CIA

**Internal Performance Auditor**  
Mary Catherine Moore

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## Letter of Transmittal

October 8, 2021

Portland Public Schools - Audit Committee  
501 North Dixon Street  
Portland, OR 97227

The Office of Internal Performance Audit (OIPA) has completed the Procurement Card (PCard) Audit of selected P-Card transactions that occurred during the 2019-20 fiscal year. The audit was included in the Audit Plan approved by the Portland Public Schools (PPS) Board of Education on July 16, 2019, resolution number 5935.

The objective of the audit was to assess the adequacy of internal controls over the school district's PCard Program; determine whether the PCard activity is compliant with applicable policies, procedures, administrative directives, and best practices. To meet the audit objective, we examined accounting documents; tested PCard transactions; reviewed required PCard training materials/modules; reviewed the PCard Manual, applicable policy, procedures, administrative directives, and best practices; and interviewed PCard personnel.

Based on the results of the audit, we found the school district's internal controls over PCard usage are adequate to maintain the overall integrity of the PCard Program. The audit did not identify any evidence of intentional fraud, but did identify opportunities for improvement and some instances of noncompliance. The corresponding audit results and recommendations are included in the audit report.

The audit made 13 recommendations and the Purchasing & Contracting Department agreed with 11 and partly agreed with the remaining two. When possible, recommendations were made incrementally throughout the audit. As a result, implementation of four recommendations are already complete.

We extend our appreciation to the staff within the Purchasing & Contracting Department and specifically the school district's PCard Manager and PCard Accountant for their assistance and cooperation during the course of the audit.

We look forward to meeting with you at an upcoming Audit Committee meeting to more fully discuss the report's results and recommendations. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Office of Internal Performance Audit.

Janise Hansen  
Janise Hansen, CIA  
Senior Internal Performance Auditor

Mary Catherine Moore  
Mary Catherine Moore  
Internal Performance Auditor

## **About the Office of Internal Performance Audit (OIPA)**

### **Purpose and Mission**

State and local governments can enhance credibility with the taxpayers by implementing performance audits to support accountability and ensure that tax dollars are spent as effectively as possible.

PPS performance auditing, conducted by the OIPA, is an objective and systematic examination of evidence to provide an independent assessment of a government organization, program, activity, or function. The goal of these audits is to improve program effectiveness; improve the equity of service delivery; provide useful, objective, and timely information; strengthen administrative and management systems and controls; facilitate decision-making by parties with responsibility for overseeing or initiating corrective action; and improve student achievement District-wide. The objectives of performance audits vary, but generally address whether PPS is operating economically and efficiently, and/or whether it is achieving desired results.

The purpose of the internal performance audit function is to help improve the accountability and performance of PPS through independent auditing and reporting.

### **Independence and Objectivity**

The OIPA Senior Internal Performance Auditor is hired, evaluated, and may only be removed by the PPS Board of Education. Reporting directly to the PPS Board of Education is meant to ensure the work of the OIPA is independent, impartial, and objective so stakeholders can trust the audit results and recommendations.

### **Standards**

The OIPA adheres to very rigorous and demanding professional auditing requirements described in Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards, or more commonly referred to as GAGAS or the Yellow Book.

### **Authority and Responsibilities**

The authority and responsibilities of the OIPA are defined in its charter and PPS Board Policy 1.60.040-P, both approved by the PPS Board of Education.

## **Executive Summary**

Procurement Cards (PCards) are a Portland Public Schools (PPS) issued credit card that can be used by PPS staff to make school district purchases. While PCards present an efficient and cost-effective way for PPS staff to make simple school district purchases, PCards are also inherently high risk and are vulnerable to misuse. As a result, adequate internal control over the PCard Program is critical.

The Office of Internal Performance Audit (OIPA) has completed an audit of selected PCard transactions that took place during the 2019-2020 school year. The objective of the audit was to assess the adequacy of internal controls over the school district's PCard Program; determine whether the PCard activity is compliant with applicable policy, procedures, administrative directives, and best practices.

Based on the results of the audit, we found the school district's internal controls over PCard usage are adequate to maintain the overall integrity of the PCard Program. The audit did not identify any evidence of intentional fraud, but did identify opportunities for improvement, and some instances of noncompliance. The corresponding audit results and recommendations are included in this report.

The audit made 13 recommendations and the Purchasing & Contracting Department agreed with 11 and partly agreed with the remaining two. When possible, recommendations were made incrementally throughout the audit. As a result, implementation of four recommendations are already complete.

Below is a list of the recommendations:

1. We recommend PCard the training modules, PCard Updates and Best Practices and the PCard Budget Holder Review & Sign Off Training, be required annually for all PCard and budget holders. (Management partly agreed and implementation is complete)
2. In an effort to streamline the processing of PCard transactions, we recommend the PCard Program discontinue the duplicative requirement to save supporting documentation for PCards in a Google folder, in addition to uploading them into Works. (Management agreed)
3. In an effort to streamline the PCard application process, we recommend the PCard Program update guidance to require proof of the completed training modules be included with the PCard application. (Management agreed and implementation is complete)
4. We recommend PCard holders load appropriate supporting documentation into Works. (Management agreed and implementation is complete)
5. We recommend the PCard Program continue to enforce appropriate disciplinary actions detailed in the PCard Infraction Table. (Management agreed and implementation is complete)
6. We recommend PCard budget holders strengthen their review and sign off processes to include a manual review of PCard receipts and/or other appropriate supporting documentation. (Management agreed)
7. We recommend the PCard Infraction Table be updated to include a Level IV Infraction as the budget holder's failure to timely review and sign off on the PCard holders monthly transaction reconciliation; and identify, implement, and enforce appropriate discipline actions. (Management agreed)
8. A. We recommend the PCard Program obtain a signed proxy form for all PCard budget holders who utilize a group proxy to reconcile monthly PCard transaction reconciliation completed by PCard holders, as required by current policies and procedures. -OR-

## Internal Performance Audit Report Procurement Card (PCard) Audit

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- B. We recommend the PCard Program update current guidance to reflect their current practice of notifying new budget holders of the existing proxy access and save documentation of the notification. (Management agreed)
9. A. We recommend the PCard Program Manager obtain a list of employee status changes at least every other week. -OR-  
B. We recommend the PCard Program Manager work with the Human Resources department to obtain reports that identify an employee's last day at least every other week. This will enable the PCard Program Manager to follow up with the PCard holder related to any outstanding transactions and deactivate the PCard timely. (Management agreed)
10. We recommend the PCard Program transition to a risk-based PCard transaction review procedure that includes a thorough and complete review of all high-risk transactions. (Management partly agreed)
11. We recommend the PCard Manager/Administrator review and update current Merchant Category Codes (MCC<sup>1</sup>) include and MCCs exclude lists to ensure MCCs are not listed on both. (Management agreed)
12. We recommend the PCard Program Manager/Administrator add the list of MCCs identified by OIPA to the MCCs exclude list. (Management agreed)
13. We recommend the PCard Program Manager/Administrator obtain and review Bank of America's Commercial Card Authorization Data Source System annual SOC 2<sup>2</sup> audit report on the design and operating effectiveness of its controls relevant to security, availability, processing integrity, and confidentiality. If concerns related to Works system are identified, the PCard Program Manger should determine the impact to the PPS PCard Program and implement mitigating internal controls when appropriate. (Management agreed)

The above-mentioned recommendations are intended to assist the Purchasing & Contracting Department, in strengthening internal controls to further reduce the risks associated with the use of PCards. Management's full response to each recommendation is included in this report on pages 10-16.

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<sup>1</sup> MCC – Merchant Category Code is a four-digit number used to classify a business by the types of goods or services it provides.

<sup>2</sup> SOC 2 – System and Organization Controls 2 audit is conducted to ensure the service providers securely manage data and protect the interest of your organization and the privacy of its clients.

## **Background Information**

In 2008, PPS entered into a contract with Bank of America to administer the PPS PCard Program. Under the contract, there is no charge for issuance or maintenance of the cards. Additionally, the PCard Program takes advantage of a cash rebate of approximately 1.7% on standard card purchases generating an average of about \$250,000 in rebates annually over the last nine years.

As part of the contract, Bank of America provides access to an electronic payment application, Works. The Works system is an online web-based application that allows the PCard Administrator the ability to assign customized transaction limits and a monthly purchase limit based on the individual PCard holder's needs. The PCard Administrator can also restrict the use of PCards at certain types of vendors, by excluding certain Merchant Category Codes (MCC). The reverse is also true, the PCard Administrator can also create a customized MCCs include list that restricts PCard use to only the MCCs on the list.

Works also allows cardholders to review, reconcile, and run reports on purchases made with their PCard. Given Works is a real-time system, purchase data usually posts to Works within a two-day period after the purchase. Once posted, PCard holders have the ability to review, approve, and sign off on transactions. There is no need to wait until the end of the month to reconcile; it can be done anytime. These Works system features enhance PPS' ability to manage PCard transactions.

The Purchasing & Contracting Department is responsible for administering and monitoring PCard Program.

PCards are often used instead of Purchase Orders (POs), petty cash, or employee reimbursements because PCard purchases are much less labor-intensive saving time spent by the employee placing the order, time spent in Purchasing & Contracting dispatching and managing POs, and time spent in Accounting Services making payments and communicating with vendors.

The number of PCard transactions and total expenditures annually are approximately:

- 2018-19 school year: 46,386 transaction totaling \$15.5 million
- 2019-20 school year: 36,357 transaction totaling \$14.4 million
- 2020-21 school year: 26,295 transaction totaling \$14.5 million

The decrease in PCard activity during the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school year is a result of the change in typical school district activity due to the on-going Coronavirus pandemic.

During the 2019-20 school year:

- There were 311 PCard holders
- PCard transaction account for less than 2.7% of non-salary related expenditures
- PCard purchases consisted of the following:
  - 5.3% were \$100 or less
  - 26.6% ranged from \$101 to \$999
  - 68.1% exceeded \$1,000

# Internal Performance Audit Report Procurement Card (PCard) Audit

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The PCard Audit was included in the Audit Plan approved by the Portland Public Schools (PPS) Board of Education on July 16, 2019, resolution number 5935.

## Prior Audit History

In January of 2019, the Oregon Secretary of State Audit's Division (SoS) issued an audit report of its examination of spending at Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and Portland Public Schools (PPS), which included a review of transparency, controls, and priorities. The audit identified additional steps these agencies could take to improve returns on the state's education investments and increase achievement. While the report provided insight into a variety of topics, for the purposes of this audit, we focused on the portions of the report related to PCard use.

The SoS report made the following recommendation to PPS related to the PPS PCard Program:

- PPS should improve controls over purchasing card use. Improvement include requiring management review for at least non-standard and high-dollar transactions, and improving policy guidance on appropriate business purpose, taxpayer-funded meals, parties, student incentives, gifts, and use of unusual merchants. Also, the district should improve aggregate analysis of PCard use data to identify spending trends and unusual transactions.

The SoS report also included comments throughout the report related to the school district's PCard use. The full SoS report, as well as the status of the implementation of recommendations, is posted on the school district's web site at: <https://www.pps.net/Page/15139>.

The SoS Audit's Division is currently working on their follow up on the recommendations included in their report. In an effort to not duplicate efforts, we did not perform any specific follow up procedures on their recommendations. However, within the scope of our audit, we did review evidence of the improved internal controls over PCard use. Specifically, on April 4, 2019, the PCard Program Manager issued a memo to all PCard holders, supervisors, budget holders, and proxies detailing the summary of changes made to the PCard Program to comply with the recommendations of the SoS report. We observed evidence of the implementation of each of the items included in the memo. This memo is included in this report in Appendix B.

## Roles and Responsibilities

PPS Management has the primary responsibility to establish, implement, and monitor internal controls. Internal Audit's function is to assess and test those controls in order to provide reasonable assurance that the controls are adequate and operating effectively.

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (aka GAGAS). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient and appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objective. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objective.

## Audit Objective

The objective of the audit was to assess the adequacy of internal controls over the school district's PCard Program and determine whether the PCard activity is compliant with applicable policies, procedures, administrative directives, and best practices.

## **Scope of the Audit**

The scope of the audit included PCard transactions that occurred during the 2019-20 school year (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020).

## **Audit Approach and Methodology**

To achieve the audit objective, we performed the following procedures:

- Planned the audit with input and cooperation of the Purchasing & Contracting Department to ensure we had an adequate understanding of the PCard Program.
- Reviewed applicable policies, procedures, administrative directives, and best practices.
- Reviewed the PPS PCard Manual, Infraction Table, PCard Guides and PCard FAQs (frequently asked questions) as well as other PCard resources and information posted on the Purchasing & Contracting Department webpages.
- Reviewed PCard training modules including the following: PCard Application Training, PCard Updates and Best Practices, Transaction Approval, PCard Reconciliation Retraining, and the PCard Manual Retraining.
- Attended a One-on-One Training session the PCard Manager and/or PCard Accountant performs with each new PCard holder.
- Attended a PCard Infraction Review Committee meeting the PCard Manager conducts monthly that includes the Director of Purchasing & Contracting and representatives from the Finance Department and Human Resources.
- Reviewed supporting documentation for tested PCard transactions.
- Reviewed transaction reports from Works.
- Interviewed the PCard Program Administrator/Manager and PCard Accountant.
- When appropriate, judgmental sampling was used to improve the overall efficiency of the audit.
- Analyzed available data to corroborate information obtained during interviews with PPS staff.
- Reviewed the PCard Program Summary of Changes that was issued by the PCard Program Manager in response to the SoS audit.

## **Conclusion**

Based on the results of the audit, we found the school district's internal controls over PCard usage are adequate to maintain the overall integrity of the school district's PCard Program. The audit did not identify any evidence of intentional fraud, but did identify opportunities for improvement, and some instances of noncompliance. The corresponding audit results and recommendations are included in this audit report.

**Internal Performance Audit Report  
Procurement Card (PCard) Audit**

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**Procedures, Results, What Works Well, and Recommendations**

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| <p><u>Procedure:</u><br/>Determine whether PCard policies, procedures, administrative directive, PCard Manual, and PCard training modules contain best practices, are consistent, and are reviewed and updated as necessary.</p> <p><u>Results:</u><br/>We determined PCard policies, procedures, administrative directive, the PCard Manual and PCard training modules contain best practices, are consistent, and are reviewed and updated as necessary. However, we noted best-practices indicate PCard training be completed annually which is not currently required by PPS.</p> <p>Additionally, we noted the PCard Manual and training modules currently required supporting documentation like receipts be uploaded into Works and also saved in a Google folder. This process is duplicative.</p> <p><u>What Works Well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Training materials are reviewed and updated yearly.</li><li>• Good mechanism for tracking completed training.</li><li>• PCard Program provides clear instructions and FAQs on PCard use on its program webpage.</li></ul> | <p><u>Recommendation:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. We recommend PCard training modules, PCard Updates and Best Practices and the PCard Budget Holder Review &amp; Sign Off Training, be required annually for all PCard and budget holders.</li><li>2. In an effort to streamline the processing of PCard transactions, we recommend the PCard Program discontinue the duplicative requirement to save supporting documentation for PCards in a Google folder in addition to uploading them into Works.</li></ol> |
| <p><u>Management Response:</u></p> <p>Recommendation 1: We agree with the PCard holder training recommendations. All mentioned mandatory annual PCard holder trainings have already been developed and implemented as of July 2021. However, we disagree that an online annual budget holder review training is necessary. We already provide one-on-one initial trainings for budget holders whenever requested. We also provide the PCard Budget Holder Review and Sign Off Guide, a short and concise guide with screenshots showing how to review transactions in Bank of America Works, to all new budget holders. The same Guide is linked to each budget holder approval reminder email. We believe an online training would be superfluous and unlikely to add value.</p> <p>Recommendation 2: We agree with the recommendation to discontinue the PCard Google Team Drive and will do so immediately.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

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| <p><u>Procedure:</u><br/>Determine whether PPS staff complete the required PCard training modules prior to being granted a PCard.</p> <p><u>Results:</u><br/>We tested 20 of the 93 new PCard applicants that occurred during the 2019-20 school year and found all 20 completed the required training modules prior to being granted a PCard. No exceptions noted.</p> | <p><u>Recommendation:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. In an effort to streamline the PCard application process, we recommend the PCard Program update guidance to require proof of the completed training modules be included with the PCard application.</li></ol> |
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Procurement Card (PCard) Audit**

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| <p><u>What Works Well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear PCard instructions and required training are provided to new PCard holders.</li> <li>• PCard Program requires a signature from a new PCard holder when the PCard is picked up.</li> </ul> |  |
| <p><b>Management Response:</b><br/>Recommendation 3: We agree with the recommendation to require proof of completed training with the PCard application and have already implemented this change as of July 1, 2021.</p>                                                |  |

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| <p><u>Procedure:</u><br/>Determine whether PCard transactions are for an allowable purpose.</p> <p><u>Results:</u><br/>We tested 122 PCard transactions and noted all were for an allowable purpose. No exceptions were noted.</p> <p><u>What Works Well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Authorizations or pre-approvals on certain purchases and charges were obtained.</li> <li>• Over limit transactions include approvals from budget holders and PCard Program Manager.</li> </ul> | <p><u>Recommendation:</u><br/>None.</p> |
| <p><b>Management Response:</b><br/>Not applicable, no recommendations were made.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                         |

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| <p><u>Procedure:</u><br/>Determine whether PCard transactions are supported by the appropriate documentation.</p> <p><u>Results:</u><br/>We tested 122 PCard transactions and noted three (2.5%) had receipts that did not agree with the amount in Works.</p> <p>We shared these results with the PCard Accountant who contacted the PCard holder and was able to obtain and upload the correct receipts into Works.</p> <p><u>What Works Well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receipts from Level 3 vendors/suppliers are automatically uploaded in Works.</li> <li>• Authorizations or pre-approvals on certain purchases and charges were obtained.</li> <li>• Over limit transactions include approvals from budget holders and PCard Program Manager.</li> </ul> | <p><u>Recommendation:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. We recommend PCard holders load appropriate supporting documentation into Works.</li> <li>5. We recommend the PCard Program continue to enforce appropriate disciplinary actions detailed in the PCard Infraction Table.</li> <li>6. We recommend PCard budget holders strengthen their review and approval processes to include a manual review of PCard receipts and/or other appropriate supporting documentation.</li> </ol> <p>Also see recommendation 1.</p> |
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## Internal Performance Audit Report Procurement Card (PCard) Audit

**Management Response:**

Recommendations 4-6: We agree with the recommendations and will continue to support PCard holders and budget holders with training and guidance. We already require PCard holders to upload supporting documentation in Works and do enforce disciplinary action based on the Infraction Table. We will add a detailed recommendation to budget holders regarding review of documentation to our website by November 1, 2021. This recommendation is already in the Budget Holder Review and Sign Off Guide.

**Procedure:**

Determine whether PCard holders are completing the required monthly reconciliation in Works by the 7<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**Results:**

We tested 122 PCard transactions and noted instances where the reconciliations were not completed timely. However, the PCard Manager and/or Accountant identified each of these instances and counted them as a PCard infraction. As a result, we do not take exception.

The PCard Infraction Table is included in Appendix A.

**What Works Well:**

- PCard Manager/Accountant suggest PCard holders put a reminder on their calendars to help them remember to complete the reconciliation by the 7th of the month.
- Transactions that were not reconciled timely were identified by the PCard Accountant and tracked as an infraction.

**Recommendation:**

None.

**Management Response:**

Not applicable, no recommendations were made.

**Procedure:**

Determine whether PCard budget holders are completing the required monthly review and sign off in Works by the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**Results:**

We tested 122 PCard transactions, 11 (9%) were not reviewed by the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month following the post date, and they were not identified as failure to sign off by the PCard Program review.

We noted the PCard Program currently identifies the budget holder's failure to review and sign-off the PCard holders monthly transaction reconciliation informally as a Level IV infraction. The Level IV infraction report is shared with the budget holder's manager. However, the PCard Infraction Table does not include a Level IV infraction.

**Recommendation:**

7. We recommend the PCard Infraction Table be updated to include a Level IV infraction as the budget holder's failure to timely review and sign off the PCard holders monthly transaction reconciliation; and identify, implement, and enforce appropriate discipline actions.

**Internal Performance Audit Report  
Procurement Card (PCard) Audit**

**Management Response:**

Recommendation 7: We agree with the recommendation and will create a separate budget holder infraction table that details the current process for addressing budget holder failures to timely review and sign off on PCard holder transactions by the end of this fiscal year.

Procedure: If applicable, determine whether a signed proxy form was completed for PCard holders who utilize a proxy to reconcile their monthly PCard transactions. The proxy form also requires the PCard holder's budget holder to sign off on the proxy form.

Results:

Of the 122 PCard transactions tested, we identified the use of seven proxies. Of those seven, one (14%) had a previous budget holder's authorization to use a proxy, however they did not have their current budget holder's authorization.

Per discussions with the PCard Program Manager, they approve a proxy in the system by location, and notify budget holder of PCard proxy. If the new budget holder does not wish to continue the use of the proxy they can contact the PCard Program Manager at any time to update proxy access.

For the one instance where a signed proxy form was not obtained we requested the notification to the PCard holder of the proxy access, however the PCard Program was unable to locate this notification.

What Works Well:

- PCard holders can appoint proxies to assist in performing the required review and sign off of monthly PCard transactions.
- PPS Groups or Departments can appoint a proxy to reconcile PCard transactions for more than one PCard holder.

Recommendation:

8. A. We recommend the PCard Program obtain a signed proxy form from all PCard budget holders who utilize a group proxy to reconcile monthly PCard transactions.

-OR-

B. We recommend the PCard Program update current guidance to reflect their current practice of notifying budget holders of the existing proxy access and save documentation of the notification.

**Management Response:**

Recommendation 8: We agree with the recommendation. It is our current practice to require a new proxy reconciler form for any person that wants a proxy.

Procedure:

Determine whether PCards are returned or deactivated if the PCard holder leaves PPS employment or the use of the PCard is no longer needed.

Results:

Recommendation:

9. A. We recommend the PCard Program Manager obtain a list of employee status changes at least every other week.

-OR-

B. We recommend the PCard Program Manager work with the Human Resources

## Internal Performance Audit Report Procurement Card (PCard) Audit

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| <p>We reviewed the process and procedures related to returning or deactivating PCards when the PCard holder leaves PPS employment, or the use of the P-Card is no longer needed. We found the P-Card Program Manager's processes and procedures adequate however reports listing employee status changes are only obtained and reviewed once a month.</p> | <p>Department to obtain reports that identify an employee's last day at least every other week. This will enable the PCard Program Manager to follow up with the PCard holder related to any outstanding transactions and deactivate the PCard timely.</p> |
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**Management Response:**

Recommendations 9: We agree with the recommendations and are already working with the Human Resources Department to have the employee status change report updated to be run every two weeks and to show effective date of retirements, terminations, and layoffs with future dates where possible.

Procedure:

Determine whether violations of PCard policy and procedures are identified as infractions and the appropriate disciplinary actions are enforced.

Results:

We tested 122 transactions and noted there were 16 infractions identified by the PCard Program Manager/Accountant. We confirmed each of these 16 infractions were correctly identified as the appropriate infraction and appropriate disciplinary actions were enforced. No exceptions noted.

What Works Well:

- PCard Infraction Table easily identifies the type, level, and consequences for the various occurrences.
- PCard Program has a good tracking mechanism for addressing and resolving infractions.
- PCard Program created templates that are sent to PCard holders with infractions and advises them of the action taken.

Recommendation:

None.

**Management Response:**

Not applicable, no recommendations were made.

Procedure:

Determine whether the PCard Program Manager/Accountant is completing a review of all PCard transactions.

Results:

In the PCard Manual – Audit and Programs section, it states the PCard Program reviews all PCard transactions. We reviewed the PCard Program's review procedures and noted that at some level, they are reviewing all PCard transactions. However, between 26,000 and 46,000 PCard transactions are processed annually and as a result, performing a thorough and complete review of all PCard transactions is not reasonable. Transitioning to a risk-based PCard transaction review will reduce the number of transactions that are reviewed, but will enable the PCard Program to complete a thorough and complete review of high-risk transactions.

Recommendation:

10. We recommend the PCard Program transition to a risk-based PCard transaction review procedure that includes a thorough and complete review of all high-risk transactions.

**Internal Performance Audit Report  
Procurement Card (PCard) Audit**

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| <p><u>What Works Well:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PCard Program has a designated staff member (PCard Accountant) who performs monthly audits.</li> </ul> |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|

**Management Response:**  
 Recommendation 10: We do agree to use a risk-based review but disagree with the model recommended by the auditors, as we do not believe it will fully capture instances where Board policy is not followed (e.g. meals and gifts) or accidental purchases are made. Instead we will employ a review model that focuses on the types of transactions highlighted in the SoS audit, employs tools that the SoS audit utilized (e.g. Benford curve), and pays particular attention to high dollar transactions and spend profiles that exceed standard limits. We will formalize the model in a written procedure by November 1, 2021.

Procedure:  
 Determine whether the PCard Program is utilizing the administrative functions in Works to help reduce the risk of PCard misuse.

Results:  
 We found the PCard Program Manager/Administrator has utilized the administrative functions to help reduce the risk of PCard misuse. Further restricting additional MCCs would help reduce the risk of PCard misuse.

What Works Well:

- Works allows receipts from Level 3 vendors/supplies to be automatically uploaded.
- Reports can easily be extracted from Works.

Recommendation:

11. We recommend the PCard Manager/Administrator review and update current MCC include and MCC exclude lists to ensure MCCs are not listed on both.

12. We recommend the PCard Program Manager/Administrator add the list of MCCs identified by OIPA to the MCC exclude list.

13. We recommend the PCard Program Manager obtain and review Bank of America's Commercial Card Authorization Data Source System annual SOC 2 audit report on the design and operating effectiveness of its controls relevant to security, availability, processing integrity, and confidentiality. If concerns related to Works system are identified, the PCard Program Manager should determine the impact to the PPS PCard Program and implement mitigating internal controls when appropriate.

**Management Response:**  
 Recommendation 11: We agree with the recommendation to clarify our MCC code include or exclude lists. We will delete any unused MCC code include or exclude lists. We will continue to only utilize RESTRICTD and FAM PERMITS lists, wherein there is no duplication or inconsistency.

Recommendation 12: We partially agree with this recommendation and will review any recommended exclude lists provided. However, we will continue to allow use of those MCC codes that we identify as needing use by our schools.

Recommendation 13: We agree with this recommendation. We will obtain the SOC report annually and ask the internal audit team to train us on how to review this document and additionally assist with annual review if needed.

# Internal Performance Audit Report Procurement Card (PCard) Audit

## Appendix A: P-Card Infraction Table

**P-Card Infraction Table**

Infractions are classified by Tier and each Tier has its own infraction path. The Tiers and occurrence are independent of each other. For example, you can have a second occurrence of a Tier I infraction and then receive a first occurrence of a Tier II infraction within the same fiscal year.

| Tier     | Infraction Type                                                                                                                                                                                           | First Occurrence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Second Occurrence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Third Occurrence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Fourth Occurrence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tier I   | LVL 1.1<br>No Works Sign-off<br><br>LVL 1.2<br>Lack of documentation or no receipts                                                                                                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P-Card Accountant to email cardholder with supervisor in copy</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P-Card Manager to email cardholder with supervisor in copy</li> <li>Card suspended until cardholder completes mandatory reconciliation training</li> <li>Cardholder to sign P-Card Acknowledgment form w/ clear statement that discipline may result with next occurrence</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P-Card Manager to email cardholder and supervisor, with their supervisor in copy</li> <li>Supervisor to schedule investigatory meeting with employee</li> <li>Cardholder must immediately pay back the District for the accidental purchase or unauthorized purchase</li> </ul>                                                                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P-Card Manager to email cardholder and supervisor, with their supervisor in copy</li> <li>Supervisor to schedule investigatory meeting with employee</li> <li>Cardholder must determine appropriate disciplinary action</li> <li>Cardholder must immediately pay back the District for the accidental purchase or unauthorized purchase</li> <li>Card suspended</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P-Card Manager to email cardholder and supervisor, with their supervisor in copy</li> <li>Mandatory supervisor consultation with HR and Finance Admin, to determine appropriate disciplinary action</li> <li>Card suspended</li> </ul> |
| Tier II  | LVL 2.1<br>Spilling orders to circumvent limits<br><br>LVL 2.2<br>Unauthorized purchases per P-Card Manual (examples: gifts, meals while on travel, etc.)<br><br>LVL 2.3<br>Accidental personal purchases | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P-Card Manager to email cardholder with supervisor in copy</li> <li>Card suspended until cardholder completes mandatory P-Card manual training</li> <li>Cardholder to sign P-Card Acknowledgment form w/ clear statement that discipline may result with next occurrence</li> <li>Cardholder must immediately pay back the District for the accidental purchase or unauthorized purchase</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P-Card Manager to email cardholder and supervisor, with their supervisor in copy</li> <li>Supervisor to schedule investigatory meeting with employee</li> <li>Cardholder must immediately pay back the District for the accidental purchase or unauthorized purchase</li> </ul>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P-Card Manager to email cardholder and supervisor, with their supervisor in copy</li> <li>Mandatory supervisor consultation with HR and Finance Admin, to determine appropriate disciplinary action</li> <li>Cardholder must immediately pay back the District for the accidental purchase or unauthorized purchase</li> <li>Card suspended</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P-Card Manager to email cardholder and supervisor, with their supervisor in copy</li> <li>Mandatory supervisor consultation with HR and Finance Admin, to determine appropriate disciplinary action</li> <li>Card suspended</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Tier III | LVL 3<br>Fraud and Abuse                                                                                                                                                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P-Card Manager informs HR, cardholder supervisor, and supervisor's manager</li> <li>Mandatory supervisor consultation with HR and Finance Admin, to determine appropriate disciplinary action</li> <li>Card suspended</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

# Internal Performance Audit Report Procurement Card (PCard) Audit

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## Appendix B: P-Card Program Summary of Changes Memo



**PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**OFFICE OF PURCHASING & CONTRACTING**  
501 North Dixon Street / Portland, OR 97227  
Telephone: (503) 916-3421 / Fax: (503) 916-3109  
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 3107 / 97208-3107

**Date:** April 4, 2019

**To:** PCard Cardholders, Supervisors, Budget Holders, and Proxies

**From:** Stephen Hirai, PCard Program Manager  
Emily Courtnage, Director of Purchasing & Contracting  
Cynthia Le, Chief Financial Officer

**Subject:** PCard Program Summary of Changes

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As you are likely aware, our PCard program was reviewed as part of the recent Secretary of State Audit. In order to comply with the recommendations of the Audit Division, we have made a number of changes to the PCard program. We need your help to ensure that we are following the best practices outlined in the PCard Manual.

### **PCard Budget Holder Approval in Bank of America Works Reinstated April 1st**

All budget holders will be required to approve all PCard purchases utilizing their budget in the Bank of America Works system by the 12th of each month. Training will be available in Pepper in early April. We will also send out an Approval Quick Guide with screen shots for those who are already familiar with Works. The first approval deadline for April transactions will be May 12<sup>th</sup>.

If a budget holder has responsibility of multiple departments, proxy approval may be delegated to the department manager or director. A proxy approver form can be found on the PCard website.

### **New PCard Reconciliation Deadline on the 7<sup>th</sup> of the month**

With the reinstatement of the approval process, the cardholder reconciliation deadline will change to the 7<sup>th</sup> of the month in order to allow approvers sufficient time to review and approve transactions by the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month. The reconciliation deadline for April transactions will be May 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **New PCard Manual Highlights**

The new PCard Manual is effective April 1<sup>st</sup>. A few of the primary changes are:

- **Sharing of PCards is prohibited**
  - All purchases made with your card are your responsibility. Do not let anybody else use your card, including other PPS staff. If others in your school or department need to purchase with a PCard, they should apply for and be responsible for their own card.
- **Updated lists of acceptable and unacceptable purchases**

# Internal Performance Audit Report Procurement Card (PCard) Audit

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- **Guidance for Spending District Funds: Food and beverages, gift cards, fundraising activities, and gifts**
  - See new Appendix C in the PCard Manual
- **Revised infraction table**
  - The new infraction table was reviewed and approved by HR, and unions were notified of the changes. In general, the new infraction table provides for earlier PCard Manager intervention (including mandatory retraining and/or suspension of card privileges) as well as earlier supervisor and/or HR notification. Infractions will continue to be noted after the reconciliation deadline and tracked on a fiscal year basis.
- **Merchant Category Codes (MCC) restrictions**
  - To better control District spending, we have instituted MCC restrictions for certain vendor types. Your card will not work if you attempt to use it with any of the restricted vendors types. If you need to make a legitimate District purchase from a vendor type on the list, please let us know so we can review the vendor and purchase in advance.
- **Electronic statements**
  - Starting March 28<sup>th</sup>, paper statements will no longer be mailed to cardholders. Bank of America is requiring the switch from paper to electronic statements. To access your electronic statement, please go to <https://www.centresuite.com> and create a new account.
- **Approval process**
  - There are now detailed instructions on the PCard website for the approval process. As noted, online training is available via Pepper for all budget holders affected by this change.
- **Online Shopping**
  - PCards may never be associated with a personal online account. Always create a new, separate account for your department or school using a PPS email address and PPS physical address.

### New PCard Design Coming Soon

In order to reduce the risk of accidental PCard use for personal purchases, we're redesigning PPS's PCard. The new cards will be white with the PPS emblem prominently displayed in blue.

### Who Do I Contact with Questions or Problems?

Stephen Hirai, PCard Program Manager, 503-916-3314

Debra Watkins, PCard Accountant, 503-916-3750

PCard team at [pcard@pps.net](mailto:pcard@pps.net)



**Date:** October 22, 2021

**To:** PPS Board of Education

**From:** Jonathan Garcia, Chief of Staff

**CC:** Guadalupe Guerrero, Superintendent; Dr. Shawn Bird, Deputy Superintendent; Claire Hertz, Deputy Superintendent; Liz Large, Contract General Counsel

**Subject:** Follow-Up: Should PPS Require Students to be Vaccinated Against COVID-19?

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### Introduction

As the PPS Board of Education considers a requirement that students (ages 12 and older) be vaccinated against COVID-19, we are providing this follow up to the staff analysis from September 27. Included:

- PPS Board of Education Discussion Timeline (See Appendix A);
- Decision-Making Options for Possible Vaccination Requirement (See Appendix B); and
- Highlights from Community Feedback.

On September 28, the Board heard from public health experts and pediatric doctors on the precedent and consequences of requiring COVID-19 vaccinations to attend school, summarized in a staff report (Appendix I). A recording of the meeting can be found [here](#).

This week we held a series of [listening sessions](#) with families and students. You can view the community sessions on our [YouTube channel](#).

You can find the written transcripts of these three sessions in Appendix E - H.

- E** 10.21.21 PPS Student Listening Session
- F** 10.19.21 PPS Board Listening Session Grant, McDaniel, Jefferson, MPG
- G** 10.19.21 PPS Board Listening Session Cleveland, Franklin, Benson
- H** 0.19.21 PPS Board Listening Session Ida B Wells, Lincoln, Roosevelt

In addition, we are providing you two key artifacts to inform your decision. The first is the findings of an outside poll conducted by DHM Research (Appendix C - September 2021) which found that 70 percent of Portland Metro residents support Oregon public schools to require students ages 12 and older to be vaccinated against COVID-19 (compared to 62 percent of all Oregonians).

Additionally, between October 1 and October 20 at 1pm, we received over 300 written comments via our Let's Talk platform (see appendix D), with over 63 percent of comments affirming that PPS should require students to be vaccinated against COVID-19 (versus 35 percent saying no).

On October 26, you will hold public discussion on the merits, consequences and impacts of a vaccine requirement, with a possible consideration and vote on a student vaccine requirement at the November 2 Board meeting.



**Board Decision (See Appendix B)**

As Board members weigh the impacts of a vaccine requirement, we believe you will be considering from these options:

- A. Require vaccination for all students participating in extracurricular activities (e.g. sports, band, choir) that are shown to be high risk for transmission of COVID-19, only;
- B. Require vaccination for all PPS students 12 years of age and older;
- C. Require vaccination for all PPS students 16 years of age or older; and
- D. No additional immunization requirements for students at this time.

Additionally, under Oregon law, school boards may be able to further define the non-medical exemptions accepted. You will also weigh and consider the merits and consequences of options for non-medical exemptions. We believe that PPS has the authority to adopt more stringent vaccination requirements, including limiting nonmedical exemptions, but this legal interpretation has not been tested in the COVID era.

In other words, besides medical exemptions, should PPS offer philosophical nonmedical exemptions or only provide religious exemptions?

**What We Heard?**

As we described above, PPS hosted listening sessions for students and families while encouraging families to weigh in via written feedback. While 63 percent of written comments were encouraging the Board of Education to require the COVID-19 vaccine, the family listening sessions invited more dissenting perspectives, encouraging the PPS Board not to require the COVID-19 vaccine as a precursor to attending a PPS school. Below is the staff's attempt to highlight a few reasons for being in support or against a requirement based on feedback received through Let's Talk! and the listening sessions.

| <b>In Support of Requiring PPS Students to Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. There is enough evidence and scientific review that suggests the vaccine is effective in protecting against serious illness or death.</li><li>2. Requiring a COVID-19 vaccine is a good public health decision that will benefit everyone in the community.</li><li>3. There is historical precedent (here at PPS and across the US) of school districts requiring immunization records to attend school.</li><li>4. Requiring all students to be vaccinated will increase communal confidence that everyone will be more protected against the disease. This confidence will positively impact the mental health of students in particular.</li><li>5. A number of school districts (both big and small) have already required the COVID-19 vaccination.</li><li>6. It will message to our broader community that PPS is being guided by public health advice (and not by politics).</li></ol> |



**Against of Requiring PPS Students to Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19**

1. It is too early to require a vaccination against COVID-19 for students. There are unknowns and risks that have not yet been fully understood.
2. Many question the efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccine, weighing natural immunity over vaccination;
3. If PPS requires this vaccine, students and families will be excluded from attending school; many indicated that they would unenroll their children from PPS schools.
4. It is important to accept and build tolerance towards individuals who do not want to get vaccinated, regardless of reason.
5. Should the decision be made by individuals and families or should it be required by public institutions like PPS?
6. As expressed by public health experts, vaccine mandates are used when all voluntary encouragements are exhausted.
7. Local data suggests that children have little risk of serious illness, and therefore the mandate is not required.
8. A majority of people will choose to be vaccinated against COVID-19. It does not need to be required because people will have a personal choice. (Encourage v Mandate)
9. Requiring the COVID-19 vaccine might create a false sense of safety because of individuals who are vaccinated, and yet are testing positive (i.e. breakthrough cases);
10. General fear and distrust of public health and the pharmaceutical industry.

**Additional Questions and Comments - Requiring PPS Students to Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19**

1. If PPS does approve a vaccination requirement for students, it will be important that PPS provides non-medical religious exemptions at minimum.
2. The PPS Board should consider requiring the COVID-19 vaccine for students when it is fully approved by the FDA.
3. PPS should ensure that it creates culturally relevant educational content for students and families surrounding the vaccine.

# PPS Board of Education Discussion Timeline

Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19?



## PPS Board of Education heard from experts

On September 28, the Board heard from public health experts and pediatric doctors on the precedent and consequences of requiring COVID-19 vaccinations to attend school, summarized in a [staff report](#). A recording of the meeting can be found [here](#).



## Board heard from the community

This week we held a series of [listening sessions](#) with families and students. You can view the community sessions on our [YouTube channel](#) and transcripts have been provided to the Board.



## Board discussion

At its regular meeting on October 26 at 6 p.m., the Board will hold public discussion on the merits, consequences and impacts of a vaccine requirement.



## Possible Board vote

If the Board decides to move forward with a vaccine requirement, it would consider and vote on a student vaccine requirement at the November 2nd board meeting.



# COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement for PPS Students

Appendix B

## Part A

The PPS Board of Education will require that all students attending PPS schools...

### Option A

12 years of age and older, participating extracurricular activities shown to be high risk for transmission, must be vaccinated.

### Option B

12 years of age and older to be fully vaccinated.

### Option C

16 years of age and older to be fully vaccinated.

### Option D

No requirement of the COVID-19 vaccine for any PPS students at this time.

### Not Under Current Consideration

5 through 11 years of age must be fully vaccinated.

### Top Consideration:

Studies from other school districts and from our own PPS data shows sports, music, and performing arts are particularly high risk activities for transmission of COVID-19.

Pfizer-BioNTech available under FDA emergency use authorization for anyone 12 through 15 years of age.

Pfizer-BioNTech available under full FDA approval for anyone 16 years of age and older.

Pfizer-BioNTech is being considered, but not yet approved, under FDA emergency use authorization for anyone 5 through 11 years of age.

## Part B Exemptions

Besides medical exemptions, PPS will offer certain nonmedical exemptions:

- **Option A** - Religious
- **Option B** - Religious + Philosophical

**Oregon law provides medical exemptions for children who have a medical condition that contraindicates vaccination.**

- Only physicians or local health departments may sign a medical exemption.

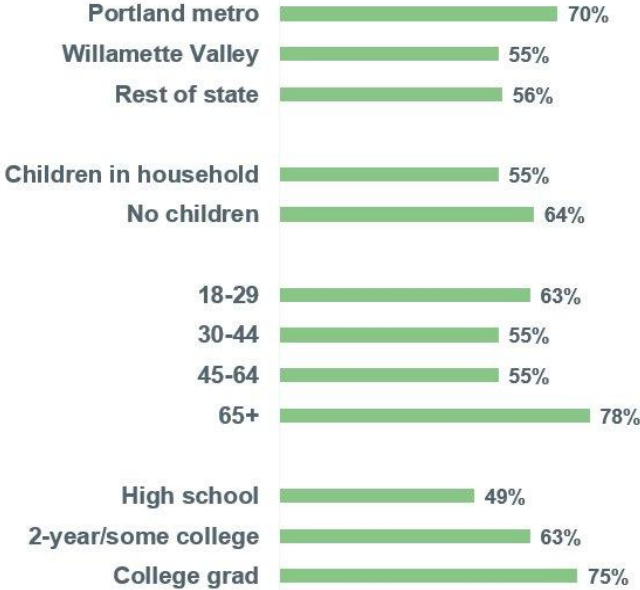
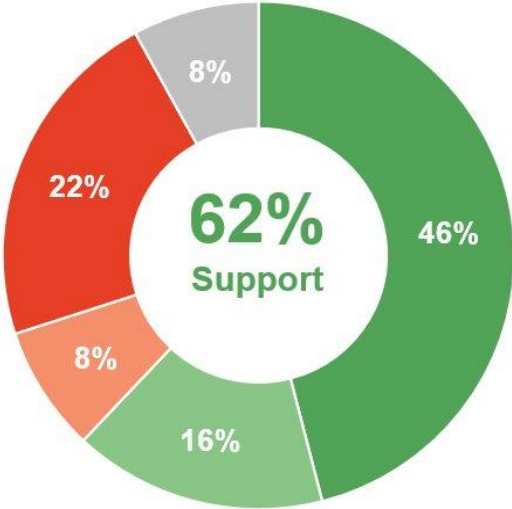
**Oregon recognizes exemptions for nonmedical reasons.**

- To claim a nonmedical exemption, a parent must submit a Vaccine Education Certificate from a healthcare practitioner or from an online education module.



# Require COVID-19 vaccine for Oregon public school students ages 12 and older

Strongly support / Somewhat support / Somewhat oppose / Strongly oppose / Don't know



| Dialogue Number | Date Received    | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID- 19? | Subject Line              | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Category         |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| #04315          | 10-19-21 6:44 PM | Neutral                                                                                | Covid vaccine requirement | I am just wondering if a district requires a Covid vaccine for students 12 and older and if something happens to the student (blood clots, heart issues, etc.) because of the vaccine, is the school district liable then because the school district required the students to have it? Thank you                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Community Member |
| #04007          | 10-7-21 9:46 PM  | neutral                                                                                | Vaccine mandates          | I have four children that were so excited to go to public school from homeschool! Our religion prevents us from accepting vaccinations; I implore you to preserve religious exemptions to Covid vaccination mandate. This is imperative to my children still having access to public education.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian  |
| #04309          | 10-19-21 4:55 PM | No                                                                                     | Against vaccine mandates  | Thank you for taking my comment. I am absolutely against mandating emergency use vaccines on our children in order to attend school. The vaccines are not safe (potential side effect in this age group being myocarditis). These vaccines have not been adequately tested to understand long term effects. We also know that vaccinated people still get covid and can transmit covid. I repeat, people who have received any of the vaccines curtesy bring offered are still getting covid snd transmitting COVID. The vaccines aren't working. We know natural immunity is far superior (according to Anthony Fauci amongst others). Please do not even consider vaccine mandates in order to attend public school,                                                                                   | Community Member |
| #04306          | 10-19-21 4:05 PM | No                                                                                     | Vaccine "Mandates"        | Hello! Just a few things since you're considering "forced" vaccinations on kids! 1. A health mandate can't be administered to people born into God given rights, and that includes what is injected into their bodies! 2. I can pretty much say, that a HUGE lawsuit will be forthcoming if this is "forced" on the kids! I believe there will be a lawsuit from teachers as well! 3. Please read the Nuremberg Code; pretty much says it all when you are considering giving an unproven, unsafe, failed vaccine to people! Do your research on this vaccines...everyone has been duped...they ARE NOT FDA approved! Oh, by the way...kids have a 99.98% survival rate from "covid"...better than the common flu! Parents ARE IN CHARGE of their kids health; not schools, nor the governor! Thank you! | Community Member |

| Dialogue Number | Date Received    | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID- 19? | Subject Line          | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Category         |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| #04307          | 10-19-21 4:43 PM | No                                                                                     | Vaccine mandates      | Please do not consider vaccine mandates for kids. The science is clear that vaccines don't prevent spread, only severe disease. Since children and teens are the population that have the lowest rates of infection and death, they do not need vaccines. We know that 1:8000 in the 12-18 age group will get myocarditis. That is data from VAERS, considered to represent only 1% of adverse events due to a poorly functioning website. How can we even consider putting them in this harm's way? Also, the only approved vaccine, Cominrnaty, won't be available until 2024. We can't mandate the children become a part of a phase 3 trial I' m order to receive an education. There are many reasons that one may not become "fully vaccinated:" they may have natural Immunity, they may have had a negative reaction to their first shot, they may be allergic to an ingredient, they may have a religious or philosophical Belief that disagrees with vaccines, they may have been advised not to get it from a doctor. One size does not fit all. Let's stop forcing kids to carry the burdens of this disease. Let them be kids and have a healthy childhood. Covid is not the greatest threat to their health and livelihood, misplaced public policies are. Thanks for listening, | Community Member |
| #04194          | 10-14-21 5:30 PM | No                                                                                     | 12+ mandatory vaccine | I am a pps employee and I am vaccinated. I am also a parent of a child over 12. I took it before the job required on the recommendation of my doctor only after a lot of conversation. The same way I am sceptical about the timing of the vaccine for adults, I feel more so about children. Especially if I have the power to decide whether he get it or not. Any future or immediate damage will be on my heart. I think we should allow more time to make sure it is safe as it can be.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Employee         |
| #04085          | 10-10-21 3:03 PM | No                                                                                     | No Vaccine Mandate    | I am a PPS employee in the SPED department, and I believe a vaccine mandate could have the potential to exclude and/or harm our most vulnerable students, many of whom have complex medical needs. Such decisions should be left up to their families.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Employee         |

| Dialogue Number | Date Received     | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID- 19? | Subject Line                         | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Category                  |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| #04316          | 10-19-21 6:46 PM  | No                                                                                     | Please do not mandate covid vaccines | <p>Hello, With much respect for all you do I am writing to ask that you please not mandate the covid vaccine for your PPS students. This will lead to discrimination, marginalization and shame for those students who are not vaccinated. PPS has done an outstanding job teaching our kids about racial justice, LGBTQ equality, and gender spectrum, all in an attempt to right the wrongs of discrimination, marginalization and shame, however, this mandate would do the opposite of that. This mandate is not social justice, it is not helping our kids to understand differences of opinion that occur even in science. Instead, I ask PPS to be leaders in bringing together this very divisive issue. Helping students see both sides of the issue, asking for tolerance and understanding, discussing the merits of being friends and colleagues with people who have different views of the world and of value systems. The first world counties bought up all the supplies of the covid vaccines, preventing third world countries from access to this medical intervention. Where is the global stewardship and social justice? Why aren't we talking about that?</p> <p>Thank you for your time and thoughtfulness in this matter. Warmly, Hilary Andrews</p> | Employee                  |
| #04100          | 10-11-21 10:50 AM | No                                                                                     | Mandatory vaccines for students      | <p>I want to go on record that I am vehemently against mandating covid vaccines for students. We still do not know the long term effects of the vaccines on any human, let alone our children. I feel that it is irresponsible and inequitable to force families to vaccinate students. I implore you to not take away freedom of choice.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Employee, Parent/Guardian |

| Dialogue Number | Date Received    | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID- 19? | Subject Line                           | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Category        |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| #04012          | 10-8-21 5:05 AM  | No                                                                                     | Vaccine Mandate                        | I'm 100% AGAINST mandating my child to get the COVID vaccine in order to attend school. Please leave this decision up to the parents! The reason why PPS decided to open full time this fall was because of the SCIENTIFIC information showing that schools were not a huge threat and breeding ground. It was said that schools were one of the more safest places to be so why enforce a mandate?? According to PPS own dashboard, there are not any significant outbreaks in any school so again. why mandate? Being a family of color, I strongly believe a mandate will disproportionately affect more students of color. Students of color have been more impacted and this would only further the divide. If a mandate was enforced, I would have no choice but to pull my child out of PPS. I stand firm in letting the parents have a choice about what they want to do with their child's bodies and I personally am not confident at all in this vaccine for younger children. There is no evidence that supports the need for a mandate. Masks, distancing, and other measures have shown to have an impact so if it ain't broke. don't fix it. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04325          | 10-19-21 8:01 PM | no                                                                                     | I DO NOT SUPPORT COVID VACCINE MANDATE | -TAKING VACINE SHOULD BE A CHOICE -EVERYONE HAS RIGHT TO MAKE THEIR OWN DECISION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Parent/Guardian |
| #04289          | 10-18-21 3:17 PM | no                                                                                     | Covid Vaccine - No Mandates            | The Covid vaccine is new and unproven. In adults, its effectiveness has been shown to be diminishing even after a few months. The bodies of children are still developing. We have no idea of the long-term effects of the Covid vaccine or of how it will affect physical growth and development. Children are not susceptible to the Covid virus, and rarely develop symptoms even when testing positive. A mandate requiring vaccination is nothing more than an exercise of control over a parent's God-given right to care for his or her child in a manner that is best for the child. In addition, a vaccine mandate by a public or private school will expose the school and school board to liability for any adverse effects of the vaccination suffered by their students.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Parent/Guardian |

| Dialogue Number | Date Received    | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID- 19? | Subject Line                           | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Category        |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| #04298          | 10-19-21 9:37 AM | no                                                                                     | Comment re: Mandated COVID vaccination | I'm submitting this comment against mandating covid vaccinations for students. While the vaccine has been deemed safe and effective for the majority of individuals, the risk of 12-15 year old healthy boys experiencing cardiac adverse events such as myocarditis after their second dose of the Pfizer and BioNTech vaccine is around four times adolescents' risk of being admitted to hospital as a result of infection with SARS-CoV-2. If vaccinations are mandated, PPS should: *Accommodate children who may need extended leave to recover from minor vaccination side effects. (attendance, missing school work should not negatively impact grades) *Proclaim and admit liability for children who might receive more serious injuries from the vaccination. *Ensure an option of vaccination OR regular testing *Exclude students who have already gotten and recovered from covid from the vaccine mandate. *Provide parents choosing not to vaccinate child with acceptable amount of funding to provide alternative education either at home or elsewhere. While I personally support vaccinations, I can't support a mandate without a range of acceptable alternatives for parents who choose otherwise. Thank you, Jessica Martin | Parent/Guardian |
| #04042          | 10-8-21 1:15 PM  | No                                                                                     | Covid 19 vaccinations for kids over 12 | Simply put this is a health decision for the parents to make and not for the school system to mandate. The science does not make a reasonable argument for children this age to need a shot as the chances of hospitalization are virtually nonexistent at 0.27% and the vaccine is unproven and not approved for this age group. I am not a anti-vaxer but this is a massive overreach of the school system and is not reasonable .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Parent/Guardian |

| Dialogue Number | Date Received    | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID- 19? | Subject Line               | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Category        |
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| #04338          | 10-20-21 8:45 AM | No                                                                                     | Covid Shot Mandate for PPS | <p>To whom it may concern: I am opposed to the potential PPS covid shot mandate. Statistics show children and teens are more likely to be harmed by the seasonal flu and data also shows there is infinitesimal Covid risk for minors under 18 years of age . For those in the community of greater risk, they have had the opportunity to receive the shots to avoid more serious symptoms. We also know that covid can be passed on and contracted by the vaccinated so the issue of Covid cases and quarantine at PPS will not be resolved anyway. Many larger school districts across the country have operated safely since mid 2020 without issue and Portland already has a significant vaccination rate among it's population; cases are declining rapidly in Oregon. I fear that a mandate will alienate and cause division among a significant percentage of the student and community population including people of color and minorities. I urge you to *take your time to consider this carefully before making any decisions*; at minimum, wait until the shots have been FDA approved for all minors under 18, and, until parents with children ages 5-11 have had the opportunity to voluntarily get their children shots when they become available. Please also consider all immunity options including natural antibodies (as Europe does) and testing options as well as religious and medical exemptions. Medical and philosophical choice and Covid safety are not mutually exclusive. Thank you.</p> | Parent/Guardian |
| #04118          | 10-12-21 4:53 PM | No                                                                                     | Covid Vaccine              | <p>In a free society parents make health care choices for their children, not school districts. Forced vaccinations for a disease that doesn't effect children the same way it does adults over the age of 60 isn't science, but tyranny. Please consider dozens of studies in the UK and Israel for reference. The UK has taken back and reconsidered vaccines for people under the age of 30 due to the ineffectiveness of the three widely distributed vaccines for covid 19. This vaccine at date still hasn't been out a total year. What are the long term effects? I am not willing to gamble and wait and see. My children's health is more important.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04089          | 10-10-21 6:35 PM | No                                                                                     | covid vaccine | <p>I am writing to express my hope that PPS does not require vaccinations for students. While I hope that all parents comfortable vaccinating their students choose to do so, and that all efforts are made by all parents to stop spread of covid, I don't want it to be a requirement. After my son got his first vaccine, he experienced dizziness, lightheadedness, rapid heartbeat, and pounding heart several times after exercise. He checked out fine at ER after first time, but even after taking breaks for several days continued having issues. After this issue I have learned that many other countries, including UK, Denmark, and Spain are vaccinating teens with one dose of Phizer instead of two due to effectiveness of vaccine versus side effects in healthy kids with no underlying conditions, especially boys. Norway is only offering one dose, making decision on second later, and Sweden is only giving to kids 12 to 15 with underlying conditions. In the US we still have work to do with research, side effects, open communication. We do not have procedures in place for needed medical exemptions. I am afraid for him to get second dose, but I have no real avenue to go thru to avoid him getting it. But I want there to be more research done on why there are heart issues and what puts him at risk for them, it is concerning he had symptoms like this after first dose. I just want more time, research, and information, and I want him to go to school and have those experiences. And I want all the parents comfortable vaccinating their kids to do so, understanding the scary experience I had with mine. Thank you, Hazel LaBrie</p> | Parent/Guardian |
| #03977          | 10-7-21 6:23 PM  | No                                                                                     | Covid vaccine | <p>Please do not require a COVID-19 vaccine for all children 12 years and older. I believe everyone has the right to decide what is best for their children, community, and family. So many children will be unable to attend public school if this is mandated. We purposefully put our children in public school so they can be a part of their community in their city. If it becomes required to get this vaccine we would be heartbroken to have to remove our children because we do not feel it is safe yet for them to get this. It would be excluding many children and families who want to be a part of their local community but have a different belief and view then some of those around them. My husband and I 100 percent support and respect anyone's decision to vaccinate their child for COVID-19, we would love to have the same respect and understanding back. Part of being a healthy, life-giving, thriving community includes respect and acceptance of differing beliefs. It would be unfortunate to lose that and could be very damaging for many children who would have to be pulled out of school because of this.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04124          | 10-12-21 10:03 PM | No                                                                                     | Covid vaccine mandates for students | I am completely opposed to Portland school district mandating any covid vaccines for students to attend school. These decisions should be between a parent and their child's doctor. Children are not super spreaders, nor are they even affected by covid in the vast majority of cases. These mandates will further cause discrimination and equity gaps in our most vulnerable minority populations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Parent/Guardian |
| #04037          | 10-8-21 11:28 AM  | No                                                                                     | Covid vaccine requirement           | I do not agree with the idea of requiring vaccines for anyone let alone the student population of 12 and over. I have two students one of which meets the age requirement and one that does not. We as a family are not for the vaccine and think it is unreasonable to force students to have it.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Parent/Guardian |
| #04282          | 10-18-21 10:49 AM | No                                                                                     | Disagree with Vaccine Mandate       | Hello PPS staff, I know that navigating what feels right moving forward for schools is a big deal and we all want to move forward in a way that feels right and good. I'm a concerned parent of a PPS student who strongly disagrees with a school-wide vaccine mandate. Individuals should have the final say when it comes to their own health choices and forcing a child to put something in their body doesn't sit right. Especially since the vaccine has been proven to not stop the spread and transmission of COVID-19. Surely, there are other options that have yet to be explored such as more frequent covid tests, etc. Please continue to allow families to make their own medical decisions as we continue to move forward in unity, regardless of vaccine status. Thank you for hearing our voices! | Parent/Guardian |
| #04255          | 10-16-21 9:04 AM  | no                                                                                     | Mandatory COVID vaccines for kids   | Hello, I am a parent of 3 elementary aged children and my work schedule prevents me from being able to attend the upcoming listening sessions on this topic. I just want to say that I am concerned about making vaccines mandatory for children of this age because of safety. I want to have the safety of the vaccine well demonstrated before considering it for my kids. I don't want to rush into this and I know many parents feel the same way.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04311          | 10-19-21 5:55 PM | no                                                                                     | No on Covid Vaccine Mandate                                              | <p>Dear PPS school board, I am a mom to 2 kids in the PPS district. One student is attending her second year at Ida B. Wells and I also have a special needs son attending the Pioneer program. I am against imposing vaccine mandates on students. Aside from religious and philosophical reasons that must be honored according to both the US and Oregon State Constitution, these experimental vaccines are still in their testing phase and the trial will not be completed until 2023. As with all medications, these vaccines carry risk of serious adverse reactions. PPS school board should not be playing doctor and needs to leave this decision between the patients and their primary care physicians. Speaking on the risk of adverse reactions, Covid-19 is extremely rare in children for causing any serious harm or hospitalization. In several countries, they are not recommending the vaccines for children because the risk of adverse reactions outweigh the alleged benefit. I have a 12 year old son who is severely autistic. He is non-verbal. The risk of Myocarditis is very real for his age group and it is not mild. Furthermore, my son, being non-verbal, would not be able to tell me if he was experiencing chest pains or other concerning symptoms. Myocarditis is not mild. The heart muscle does not regenerate. The risk of being hospitalized for Myocarditis is 8 to 9 times more likely than suffering serious complications from Covid-19 for children 12-18. It has been proven that the vaccine does not actually stop the spread of Covid-19. The benefit may only be to those that choose to get the vaccine. It should be up to each person to decide their own risk/benefit ratio since getting the vaccine is not proven to protect others. There are 2 recent studies from the NIH and from the University of Wisconsin. I recommend you go over both of these as scientific references to my claims mentioned here. I have linked to them below.</p> <p><a href="https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.07.31.21261387v4.full.pdf">https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.07.31.21261387v4.full.pdf</a> <a href="https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8481107/?fbclid=IwAR00YLckr1bun9iRYmxSeKgZ99e49nZvOfr1ZXv6x8oliD8CJqTHNOyIlFo">https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8481107/?fbclid=IwAR00YLckr1bun9iRYmxSeKgZ99e49nZvOfr1ZXv6x8oliD8CJqTHNOyIlFo</a></p> <p>Sincerely, Sylvia Colasacco</p> | Parent/Guardian |
| #04312          | 10-19-21 6:25 PM | no                                                                                     | No to COVID-19 Proposed Vaccination Requirement for students aged 12-16. | <p><b>Please see letter here:</b><br/> <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fN2GI11G3IPNzqaN0nEr4bl71YjNB2Zb/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fN2GI11G3IPNzqaN0nEr4bl71YjNB2Zb/view?usp=sharing</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04239          | 10-15-21 1:29 PM | no                                                                                     | No Vaccine mandate - at least not yet | <p>1. Here in Portland, we have some of the lowest Covid rates and lowest risks for children in the country: Multnomah County Pediatric case rate: 90.2 cases per 100,000 children<br/> Multnomah County pediatric risk of hospitalization: 1 in 100,000, after testing positive. We also have higher than average voluntary vaccine uptake. So, is it necessary for PPS to be one of the first districts to have a formal mandate? No. Definitely not. Dr. Vines said it best in the PPS Board work session: Mandates are for when you have exhausted all other options. The urgency is not there for PPS...at least not yet. 2. It's not popular to talk about, but any vaccine is not risk free. In fact, this vaccine is unique in that it carries the MOST risk for children, particularly myocarditis and pericarditis risk. The FDA was concerned enough about that risk that it asked Pfizer to track these serious side effects as they did their study in kids aged 5-11. And we have yet to hear how that went with respect to those side effects. Speaking of the risks, countries such as the UK and Norway are pulling back on their vaccination of children because of this myocarditis and pericarditis risk. I've observed health officials here in the US brush it off, but you should be aware that other countries are concerned enough about this serious side effect that they are moving to only giving a single dose of vaccine to young people, since it happens more often after the second dose. With the jury still out on this significant side effect for children, it's WAY too soon for a school district to start talking about mandates. 3. The benefits of the vaccine are incentives on their own, without mandates: Greater immunity against Covid Exemption from quarantines (this is a big one!) 4. If you mandate, you WILL exclude some students from school. Sure, some will be pressured to get it, as is the assumed goal of the mandate. But some will refuse and will be left out. Making children pay the price of their education is simply unethical. Thank you for considering. Thank you for school this year. We are all so glad to be back and no longer take it for granted. katie harter (and yes, I am vaccinated)</p> | Parent/Guardian |
| #04317          | 10-19-21 6:49 PM | no                                                                                     | No Vax mandate please!                | <p>Please do not mandate the vaccine for kids! 1.Kids are not at risk for severe disease 2. the vaccine has not been shown to prevent the spread of the disease 3. The risk of myocarditis is greater than the risk of COVID for these kids. thank you!</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04302          | 10-19-21 1:33 PM | no                                                                                     | Opposition to vaccine mandate | <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the issue of mandating vaccines for PPS students. Our son is a 10th grader at PPS. He has a 4.0 grade point average, earned a varsity letter his freshman year, and is well-adjusted to high school after a tumultuous virtual freshman year. We strongly oppose vaccine mandates on medical and ethical grounds. The OHA announced this week that Oregon Covid numbers are trending downward and this downward trend is expected to continue. In any event there is clear evidence that children are not the drivers of this infection and therefore there is no urgent need to mandate vaccines for them. Children have a very low risk of complications from Covid-19 virus and high risk individuals do not need mandates to choose to be vaccinated. All medical interventions are associated with risks and it's no different with Covid vaccines. Myocarditis is a serious condition that can be life-threatening. Studies show that young boys are particularly vulnerable. Long term risks including cancer and autoimmune conditions in children are unknown. Other countries are acknowledging serious risks to children and are advising caution and some are prohibiting Covid vaccination for children under the age of 17. Our children deserve this protection too. It is also important to recognize that many children, including ours, have been exposed to Covid and have developed natural immunity. Recent studies show that this natural immunity is likely stronger and more durable than vaccine immunity.</p> <p><a href="https://brownstone.org/articles/natural-immunity-and-covid-19-twenty-nine-scientific-studies-to-share-with-employers-health-officials-and-politicians/">https://brownstone.org/articles/natural-immunity-and-covid-19-twenty-nine-scientific-studies-to-share-with-employers-health-officials-and-politicians/</a> If the school board's primary concern is to prevent further cases and spread at PPS schools, this can be accomplished more effectively by providing families with home rapid antigen tests so infectious students, whether they are vaccinated or not, will know they are infectious and stay home. We can join in our neighboring state of Washington's efforts to make these tests widely available to all students and their families.</p> <p><a href="https://schrier.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-schrier-urges-president-biden-use-executive-order-make-more-rapid-covid">https://schrier.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-schrier-urges-president-biden-use-executive-order-make-more-rapid-covid</a> We need our school district to advocate for interventions that are low risk, equitable, and that truly protect health. Covid vaccine mandates are none of these things. Sincerely, Paul Papak Krista Van Engelen</p> | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04236          | 10-15-21 12:39 PM | no                                                                                     | Re: Proposed COVID-19 vaccine mandate | <p>My son is a PPS 7th grader. He is a wholehearted learner, friend, and community member who loves school and makes a significant contribution there. We would like for him to remain in school. However, we will withdraw him immediately should vaccines for COVID-19 be mandated for PPS students. Based on extensive research, we have significant concerns about the vaccines that have been introduced in response to COVID-19. Despite the government and media phrase "safe and effective", there is plenty of data to show that THERE IS SOME RISK TO SOME PEOPLE from taking the vaccine. Therefore, I believe vaccination should be voluntary. If there is risk, there must be choice. Here is what our research reveals: RISKS OF VACCINE ARE GREATER THAN RISKS OF COVID-19 FOR TEENS</p> <p>Through age 19, children and adolescents have a 99.9973% COVID-19 survival rate, according to the CDC. (1) A University of California study concludes that boys aged 12 to 15 with no underlying conditions are four to six times more likely to get vaccine-related myocarditis than be hospitalized with COVID-19. (2) The UK's vaccine advisory body has refused to give the green light to vaccinating healthy children aged 12-15 years on health grounds alone. (3) VACCINES DO NOT RELIABLY PREVENT TRANSMISSION OR INFECTION</p> <p>New data released by the CDC shows that vaccinated people infected with the Delta variant can carry detectable viral loads similar to those of people who are unvaccinated. (4) In a report released from the Ministry of Health in Israel, the effectiveness of 2 doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine against preventing COVID-19 infection with the delta variant was reported to be 39%. (5) Please do not put parents in a position of having to choose between our children's health and their education. It is imperative that you honor PPS students' constitutional rights of medical freedom. Thank you. Sage Cohen, PPS parent</p> <p>SOURCES This information, which has been a constant throughout the reported pandemic, is reiterated in the most recent analyses by Stanford physician, epidemiologist and statistician John Ioannidis</p> <p><a href="https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.07.08.21260210v1.full.pdf">https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.07.08.21260210v1.full.pdf</a> University of California research study</p> <p><a href="https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.08.30.21262866v1">https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.08.30.21262866v1</a> BBC News article, September 3, 2021 <a href="https://www.bbc.com/news/health-58438669?fbclid=IwAR3mbRqs5TEsYKWuQsHlIspxPC8mqP4-HYvBHEgGhrM9Uisitlw3wHGQsig">https://www.bbc.com/news/health-58438669?fbclid=IwAR3mbRqs5TEsYKWuQsHlIspxPC8mqP4-HYvBHEgGhrM9Uisitlw3wHGQsig</a> CDC Report, August 6, 2021</p> | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04099          | 10-11-21 10:18 AM | no                                                                                     | Recommend but do not mandate vaccinations.           | As a physician and mother I strongly believe in the benefit of vaccinations to prevent the spread and severity of disease. My entire family, including 2 children who are 12 and older, are vaccinated. However, I know for some i.e. those with clotting disorders, unstable autoimmune conditions, past history of an adverse vaccine reaction, recent COVID infection, other medical conditions, or strong religious beliefs may not be able to receive the vaccine. Rather than removing these kids from the in- person education that strongly benefits their health, I recommend that you instate mandatory weekly testing for the unvaccinated children and continue the mask wearing, and social distance protocols in place for all. These safety protocols will protect all students and will allow all the children to stay in school.                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #04229          | 10-15-21 10:16 AM | no                                                                                     | requiring children to be vaccinated against Covid-19 | Vaccinating children (under the age of 18) is medically unnecessary. Because Covid-19 tends to be a less severe illness to this population the risks of the vaccine are greater than those associated with becoming sick with the virus. Additionally, the vaccine does little to effect the spread of the virus, thus indicating that any protection it creates is for the individual being vaccinated. This then, should be a decision left to families. An article published on September 30th of this year in the peer reviewed European Journal of Epidemiology (Subramanian, Kumar) researched vaccination rates across 68 countries and 2947 counties in the US and found that vaccination rates did not negatively affect infection rates anywhere in the world. In spite of this well researched finding, mandates have been moving forward to the detriment of research on early (non vaccine) treatment for Covid. We as a society need to look broader, for when we drop our ONE basket of eggs | Parent/Guardian |
| #03939          | 10-7-21 4:37 PM   | no                                                                                     | Strongly Against COVID- 19 Vaccine Mandate           | I am submitting this public comment to express our family's strong opposition to a COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate for PPS students. Our son is 11 yo (turning 12 yo in a few months), and we firmly believe the long-term risks of this new, untested vaccine are truly unknown. We absolutely do not want our son to be a guinea pig in such an experiment. Children are continually growing and developing - please don't throw an unknown monkey wrench into the natural growth process. Darryn Ambrose parent of PPS 6th grader                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04257          | 10-16-21 9:54 AM | no                                                                                     | Upcoming Vaccine Mandate Town Hall | The adult members of our household are vaccinated, something we did not question for a second. But child vaccine requirements are meant to eradicate things that horribly affect not only adults but children as well. COVID is not that, and between the high vaccination rate of adults in the area and the safety precautions in place for children in PPS, child vaccination seems like an unnecessary step. And reluctance/difficulty with child vaccine compliance is sure to lead to further disenfranchisement of students that have already suffered enough thru the last 18 months of home schooling. Thanks. Craig Posey (father to 3rd grader, Rose City Park Elementary) m.craig.posey@gmail.com | Parent/Guardian |
| #03949          | 10-7-21 4:56 PM  | no                                                                                     | Vacanation                         | I am not for requiring the students to be required to get the shot to attend school... if this is something that will be required then I will be pulling my children from pps... there are still things we do not know about long term effects from the shot.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |
| #03948          | 10-7-21 4:55 PM  | no                                                                                     | Vacanation                         | I am not for requiring the students to be required to get the shot to attend school... if this is something that will be required then I will be pulling my children from pps... there are still things we do not know about long term effects from the shot.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04231          | 10-15-21 10:28 AM | no                                                                                     | Vaccinating kids isn't going to help | <p>Hello and thanks in advance for reading this, I'll start by telling you a bit about myself. I graduated with honors from the PSU School of Public Health and am currently working on my master's degree in public health policy. I'm not an anti-vaxxer and I believe mandatory vaccines have a place in public school guidelines. That said, I strongly recommend against vaccines for Covid, based on the nature of the disease and science around it. Vaccines work by allowing the body to immediately recognize and attack a specific pathogen. They exist to turn a serious illness into a mild one. They reduce or eliminate symptoms. They prevent the spread of diseases if that disease is spread by symptomatic people, which most diseases are. Covid is different. The spread of the disease since day 1 has been mostly from people who show no symptoms. While we all want life to return to normal and have been counting on the vaccine to slow the spread, it simply isn't doing that. I've been reading scientific journals throughout the pandemic and the CDCs own data shows no mechanism for the vaccine slowing spread and no solid data to support that it does. Yes, red states with low vaccination rates have more Covid cases, but those states are also less likely to social distance, wear masks or take other precautions, which we know reduce Covid rates. Another important consideration is that kids have been unlikely spreaders of Covid since day 1. Even if there was good science to support the assertion that the vaccine will slow the spread of Covid, kids shouldn't be a high-priority target for vaccinations, their parents should be. Finally, since the main point of the vaccine to reduce the seriousness of the disease, it is important to keep in mind that Covid is generally not dangerous to kids. Here's a link to a Washington Post article on that topic: <a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/covid-children-deaths/2020/09/25/9df39bf4-fdad-11ea-8d05-9beaaa91c71f_story.html">https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/covid-children-deaths/2020/09/25/9df39bf4-fdad-11ea-8d05-9beaaa91c71f_story.html</a> So, why are we mandating vaccinating kids? It won't slow the spread. There's no pressing need to reduce child deaths from Covid, since there aren't many to begin with. I'm all for taking measures to protect kids, and to slow the spread of Covid, but mandatory vaccines do neither.</p> | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04213          | 10-14-21 10:23 PM | no                                                                                     | Vaccine Mandate                 | I want to share that I do not support a vaccine mandate for students. Though our family is vaccinated, we do not believe in forcing others to be vaccinated. In addition, it is proven that being vaccinated does not stop the spread of COVID. All of the other measures must remain in place until COVID spread diminishes. Being vaccinated should be a choice. This country has a history of dishonesty in the medical field, particularly in BIPOC populations, so they in particular have reason to be very skeptical of vaccines.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Parent/Guardian |
| #03918          | 10-7-21 4:20 PM   | no                                                                                     | Vaccine Mandate                 | I think a covid vaccine mandate for kids 12 and over is a terrible idea. First, plenty of kids I know have already had covid and do not need a vaccine. Second, if this goes through, it's only a matter of time until a vaccine is available for younger kids and then I anticipate the same discussion. Forcing young children to get the vaccine. I am 1000% against this.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |
| #04214          | 10-14-21 10:35 PM | no                                                                                     | Vaccine mandate 12yrs and older | I am 100% against this mandate for the vaccine. Children have a 99.9% chance of survival if they contract this virus. The fully vaccinated are still contracting and still transmitting this virus to others so what is the point of the vaccine other then Lessing your own symptoms- which if your asymptomatic you would not even know you were ill and potentially spread the virus to others, if you have symptoms you will know you need to get tested, stay home and quarantine. I think there is a greater unknown health risk here of injecting our children with this vaccine that is still a clinical trial. I believe the vaccine to be more harmful to humans then the virus itself and time will show this truth. Please for the future of our children do not mandate this vaccine. Thank you. | Parent/Guardian |

| Dialogue Number | Date Received    | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID- 19? | Subject Line     | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Category        |
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| #04303          | 10-19-21 2:01 PM | no                                                                                     | Vaccine mandates | <p>I am very concerned about the topic of covid vaccine requirements for students. There are many reasons why it should not be required but I will name just a few. First, our community rates are coming down, please see attached graphs. Second, there may be previous harm by a childhood vaccine and parents do not want to risk the potential for another bad outcome. Doctors will not be able to write an exemption because there is yet to be evidence that this particular vaccine will cause harm to that particular child. The only way to know is to try and then then it would be too late. The child would only qualify for an exemption for boosters but the harm will already have been done. Third, there is evidence of myocarditis in healthy children and the long term risks of myocarditis in children is unknown. Fourth, there is much evidence of covid recovered having more robust and longer lasting immunity than the vaccinated and that if you vaccinate children who are already immune there is no benefit and only the potential for harm. Fifth, there are already high levels of community vaccine uptake. If some people have valid concerns or want to wait for more safety data that should be tolerated. As you can see the concerns are varied and based in science. I implore you to encourage vaccination if you want but leave the choice up to families with no negative consequence for children for not receiving this vaccine. Mandating the vaccine will force children out of school and they will have to form homeschool pods, find private schools that offer choice or just homeschool. I would appreciate a response. Thank you.</p> | Parent/Guardian |

| Dialogue Number | Date Received     | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID- 19? | Subject Line     | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Category        |
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| #04125          | 10-12-21 11:52 PM | no                                                                                     | Vaccine Mandates | <p>Hi, I am submitting this comment/request for consideration in the upcoming PPS talks regarding potential COVID Vaccine requirements for all students. I will keep this very basic and ask that the board not to put forth a COVID vaccine mandate for the following reasons. 1.) Protecting the kids: Even with the Delta variant, ages 0-18 (w/out underlying conditions) have a higher chance of hospitalization/death from the seasonal flu. Any kids with underlying conditions and are not already vaccinated/previously infected should take precautionary measures. 2. Protecting others/community: The adults (65%+ to date) that felt the need/duty to get vaccinated have done so. There are millions of people already immune from prior infection, which is not waning at the rate of the vaccines. The non-adults that are more vulnerable and not vaccinated should already be taking major precautions to avoid the virus. Therefore, it is not the responsibility of kids to risk their long-term health, to protect others. 3. Prior Infection: Children that have already have antibodies/immunity from previous infection are already immune, more so than a vaccine. Even if a mandate were put in place, it would be unethical to ignore this fact and not exempt those with naturally acquired immunity. In addition, making a child get a vaccine when they could possibly be infected may very well make their condition or side-effects much worse. It is understood that getting the vaccines while fighting COVID is a bad combination. Probably not a liability worth the gamble. Has this committee taken these points into consideration already? 4.) I goring data/best practices from other countries: Despite many other countries decision not to mandate vaccines for children and/or limiting the dosage to a single shot, the U.S. seems determined to force a 2-dose regiment. Has this committee researched why that is exactly? In conclusion, I am a fully vaccinated parent. I made that choice and I gave my child the choice, despite my scepticism of the actual necessity and long-term safety. My 16yr old chose to get a single shot of the Pfizer, which should be all he needs to be concerned with. Had he chose not to be vaccinated, I would 100% supported that as well, based on the actual scientific data that we have at this time. Thanks for your time. -Eric Livingston</p> | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04092          | 10-10-21 9:26 PM | no                                                                                     | Vaccine mandates                      | Covid vaccines must be a choice. These vaccines have known side effects. Some people have life threatening adverse reactions to the Covid vaccines. Therefore, every individual must made their own decision without coercion or punishment, especially since the benefit of the Covid vaccine is more personal than social; It is well known that the Covid 19 virus covid can be transmitted and spread by covid vaccinated people. Stick with science and medical ethics, allow people to make their own medical decisions without punishment. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04040          | 10-8-21 12:27 PM | no                                                                                     | vaccine mandates                      | I have a fourth grade student at Lewis Elementary. I do not want any sort of covid vaccine mandate. If a mandate goes into effect, she will no longer be a PPS student, which is totally fine with me because she doesn't learn anything at school anyway. she learned way more over the covid break she ever has at school.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Parent/Guardian |
| #04267          | 10-17-21 2:00 PM | no                                                                                     | What's better than mandates? Testing. | My name is Rachel O'Rourke and I have 3 students in Portland Public Schools - A freshman and senior at Grant and a 6th grader at Harriet Tubman. When it comes to the topic of                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04296          | 10-19-21 9:06 AM | no                                                                                     | Vaccination mandates        | <p>The risk of a severe outcome (including death) in children due to Covid is minuscule. Seasonal flu is a greater risk to children than Covid, according to CDC data. We should protect our children above all else, and should consider exposing them to experimental treatments (like mRNA vaccines) only when the benefits to children vastly exceed the treatment risks. I will not expose my healthy children to an experimental gene altering treatment when the probability of them dying from the disease is about the same as being struck by lightning. Children's mental health must also be considered. My 13 year old son thrives in in- person school. During remote school he was disengaged and indifferent. Vulnerable members of society now have access to vaccines and we must now allow our children to get back to something of a normal life. Vaccine mandates will only serve to discriminate against families who are hesitant to expose their children to experimental treatments. The vaccines themselves introduce risks that may outweigh the benefits for children, and long term side effects to the vaccines have yet to be studied. People may argue that children must be vaccinated to get to herd immunity, but health experts agree we will not reach herd immunity with the Delta Variant (R-naught of 5+) until 90% vaccination/exposure. We will not get to herd immunity through vaccination. In summary: We must protect children at all costs. Covid is not a risk to children. The vaccines introduce known risks. Experimental vaccine long term side effects have not been studied. Children's mental health requires access to in-person school. We must not discriminate against the un-vaccinated when vaccines are available to high risk members of society. Thank you, Sam Walker</p> | Parent/Guardian |
| #03968          | 10-7-21 5:41 PM  | no                                                                                     | Covid child vaccine mandate | My family will not accept a Covid vaccine mandate for children. This is regardless of our child getting the vaccine or not.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04190          | 10-14-21 5:03 PM | no                                                                                     | Covid Vaccine Requirements | As a parent of a student within the PPS district, I am firmly against mandating a vaccine for Covid 19. While I am not "anti-vax", as my student has received all of the required immunizations on their regular schedules, I am against mandating a vaccine for a population that has such a small percentage of risk associated with the disease. Per data available, Covid poses no more of a risk to children than the flu, yet a flu shot has never been considered a requirement to attend school. The data supplied in the district's most recent correspondence to parents does not support the need for children 12+ to be vaccinated against Covid 19. I respect each individual's ability to choose what they feel is best for them and their families based on their own assessment of risk. Forcing vaccination against a sickness that has a student casualty rate of 3 in the Portland area (per the data provided by the district), does not establish enough cause to mandate vaccination for every student. More children have died in car crashes far more than Covid over the last 18 months, yet there are no current proposals by the district to address motor vehicle safety as it relates to students. The science provided suggests that the proposed mandates are about politics more than they are about true public health as it relates to our children. I strongly urge PPS to follow the data and leave the decision in the hands of parents to assess risk for their own children as to whether their child should be vaccinated. Thank you for listening. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04207          | 10-14-21 8:33 PM | no                                                                                     | Covid mandate              | I believe it is wrong to force this vaccine on any person. People should have the right to choose with out ultimatums attached. Especially when there are children involved. If people want to then great and if not that should be mutually respected.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Parent/Guardian |
| #04028          | 10-8-21 10:06 AM | no                                                                                     | COVID vaccination          | We are not anti-vaccine. My children are vaccinated. But we are absolutely uncomfortable with the current COVID vaccine mandates & we will not be vaccinating our children until there is more long-term information & data. Requiring vaccination will only negatively impact students. We will pull them from public school and will home-school them instead & with both of us working full-time (as is the situation with many families) we are in no way capable & our children's education will suffer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04313          | 10-19-21 6:27 PM | no                                                                                     | Covid vaccine mandate | <p>My family and I are against the proposed Covid vaccine mandate for students. I believe if implemented, it will be an epic policy failure by the PPS Board of Directors and Executive Team. The vast majority of Portlanders and their families that have voluntarily made the choice to receive the vaccine, have already done so. There have been ample opportunities, readily available sites and access for students all around the city. If students and their families wanted the vaccine, they have made their choice to do so by now. Also by now, the vast majority of Portlanders and their families that have voluntarily chosen NOT to vaccine, have also made their choice. Yes, it is a choice. Not simply "vaccine hesitancy", as some people mistakenly think. This choice is made for medical, religious, and philosophical reasons. We have strongly held beliefs and have made informed choices and have concluded that the vaccine is not the route we will take. Just like those of you that have chosen to get the vaccine, also have a strongly held belief that getting the vaccine is the right choice for you and your families. We MUST start respecting each other's choices. Isn't that what we try and teach our children...to be curious, respect differences and that's it's not ok force people to do things against their will? Coercion and force will fail. PPS will indeed lose students and there will certainly be an equity impact on communities that have valid reasons to be concerned about forced medical mandates. This is exactly why the Board of Portland Community College came to the conclusion, that they will NOT be implementing mandates, citing equity concerns. I ask the Board of Directors, Superintendent and Executive Team: What will be your legacy? Inclusion and Equity OR Exclusion and Coercion. We are at a crossroads. Choose wisely. Thank you, Gwen Vilches</p> | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04041          | 10-8-21 12:29 PM | no                                                                                     | COVID vaccine mandate | <p>My child is currently in high school (as a senior) through PPS. For a variety of important medical and meaningful reasons, our family is not vaccinated. Our child also has natural immunity from contracting the virus this summer. From our research, we are aware that our student is now naturally protected from the virus, and in accordance and respect for our diligent and ongoing self-care, we would not be willing to have our child vaccinated if a mandate were to be passed. Our family has a long history of practicing vigilant wellness and proactive health care. To mandate the vaccine without regard to a student's individual healthy lifestyle and personal well-being, disregards the amount of time, resources, finances, care and personal choice we've made and shouldered, to be resilient amidst an unhealthy world. Excluding our child from educational resources and preventing them from finishing their senior year based on a vaccine mandate, would go against everything a supportive educational system is here to do and serve. Knowing and feeling compassion for the many necessary factors you are considering as a school district... we fully support PPS looking at ways to protect the most vulnerable amongst your populations, while ALSO NOT excluding those who have committed to being healthy, resilient and proactive in their own health care and wellness during the COVID pandemic. Thank you. PPS parent</p> | Parent/Guardian |
| #03921          | 10-7-21 4:21 PM  | no                                                                                     | Covid vaccine mandate | <p>I am deeply opposed to a vaccine mandate. Those who choose to vaccinate can feel protected but science shows that vaccinated individuals can contract covid and spread it similarly to a non vaccinated individual so they are simply less likely to get hospitalized and die. This must be up to people to choose. Without long term data on the effect of these vaccines it is not reasonable to have a mandate and if so allowing for religious or philosophical exemption is 100% essential. If that was not granted my children would be forced out of the school that they are finally so excited to be returning to. This is also becoming a gray area of discrimination in our community. Furthering the trauma already that has occurred due to covid. Those who want the vaccine can feel happy they are protected but do not start going to forcing these things unless you want lawsuits should anyone die or become injured or decide to take you to court. Don't waste PPS resources in this</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Parent/Guardian |

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| #03937          | 10-7-21 4:37 PM   | no                                                                                     | COVID vaccine mandate for students     | Administration of COVID vaccine to children and adolescents (aged 12 +) is: 1) NOT authorized by the FDA (therefore PPS would be taking on a substantial legal liability if mandating); 2) Highly questioned by respected world scientist, especially in the context of the "increasing data suggesting that myocarditis, an inflammation of the heart, may be more common among adolescents and young adults after vaccination than had been thought." I am quoting the New York Times article from TODAY (October 7, 2021) . You can read the full article here: <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/06/health/covid-vaccine-children-dose.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/06/health/covid-vaccine-children-dose.html</a> I fully hope that PPS does not wish to inflict potential harm on healthy children or become subject to the liability accordingly. Children, according to the World Health Organization, are neither viral vectors, nor likely to suffer serious consequences from contracting the virus. Given that all PPS families have been given the choice of opting out of physical school attendance in lieu of online access, a vaccine mandate for those choosing to attend in person should not be necessary. Finally, having families withdraw children from attending PPS (many will should a COVID vaccine mandate be implemented) will be detrimental to families, children and PPS. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04038          | 10-8-21 11:33 AM  | no                                                                                     | Covid vaccine mandate- NO              | NO MANDATE FOR THE VACCINE. Completely up to parents, overreach of school district, and leads to inequity issues for minorities and low income children who don't get vaccinated and need to be in schools. This would hurt so many kids.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |
| #04343          | 10-20-21 10:13 AM | no                                                                                     | COVID vaccine requirement for students | I am against requiring students to be vaccinated against COVID to attend PPS schools. COVID poses little risk to children and the potential harmful effects of the shots may outweigh the benefits of receiving the vaccine. Plus, unvaccinated children shouldn't be denied schooling for what is most likely their parents decision. I understand that public schools require vaccinations against other diseases, but those are primarily childhood diseases and COVID is, basically, an older person's disease. Thank you, Jeff Totten                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04193          | 10-14-21 5:25 PM | no                                                                                     | COVID vaccine requirement for students    | I'm feeling nervous about upcoming COVID vaccine requirements for students. My children are 5 & 7, so still not able to get the vaccine, and implementing a requirement prior to even getting an emergency use authorization, let alone full FDA approval seems overly preemptive. It will be a large barrier to public education after our kids have already lost out on a lot of education the past two years. Lack of long-term studies combined with the lessened severity of COVID-19 among young children makes me feel hesitant. England has not only not placed a requirement, but has gone so far as to only require their students to quarantine when they have symptoms (not just an exposure). If requirements are passed, negative testing should be an acceptable option. Sincerely, A Buckman Parent | Parent/Guardian |
| #04084          | 10-10-21 2:59 PM | no                                                                                     | COVID Vax Mandate - NO!                   | Hello. I am a PPS parent, and I am against a COVID vax mandate. My children have already had and recovered from COVID. Additionally, I have a child with a serious neurological condition, and I am not willing to chance this unnecessary medical procedure exacerbating his illness. My kids' health is my responsibility, as the parent. I would pull my kids out of PPS before giving them this vaccine. A school has no right to make medical decisions for my children. I hope you are listening. Thanks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Parent/Guardian |
| #03995          | 10-7-21 7:41 PM  | no                                                                                     | COVID-19 vaccination mandate for students | PPS should never mandate such a thing for students. Everyone is different, and the vaccine works differently on everyone. In another word, it is a huge threat to some people, especially children whose bodies are still growing. Vaccines should NOT be something you get for other people but only for yourself, thus it is a personal choice. We should focus on healthier diet and exercise instead of getting the vaccine in order to build stronger bodies to fight any illnesses.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04292          | 10-18-21 11:24 PM | no                                                                                     | Do NOT mandate the vaccine for children 12 and up | <p>First of all, NO ONE should be forced to put anything into the body they DO NOT explicitly consent to. To do the opposite is a direct expression of colonialism. It is coercion, and coercion is a form of abuse, yet another expression of rape culture. Those who wish to be vaccinated or have their children vaccinated can do so, but to say: Get vaccinated or lose your ability to go to school, socialize with peers, be ostracized and cut off from the world, is grossly unjust. Sick. A literal expression of the sickness of this culture. There are many who do not wish to receive this vaccine (roughly 1/4 of the United States) and there is good reason for this. This article is non-biased essay on the pros and cons of vaccinating your children for covid, ignoring neither the benefits nor the negatives, and leaving plenty of room for the unknowns. <a href="https://healthykidshappykids.com/2021/06/14/should-kids-get-a-covid-19-vaccine/">https://healthykidshappykids.com/2021/06/14/should-kids-get-a-covid-19-vaccine/</a> In it. Dr. Elisa Song outlines many of my own hesitations about vaccinating my children. Consider that 1 in every 3,000 children receiving the vaccine develops myocarditis, not to mention VAERS is rife with reports of harm, injury and even death. Which (though anecdotal), if you do just a little research, listen or watch the countless testimonials available on social media of the actual individuals hurt by this vaccine, you cannot dismiss. To force a vaccine mandate on children just so they can attend school when the risks for them are so exceptional small is grossly negligent, and completely disregards the personal choice of parents and their children to make the choice that is best for them. It is just another way of taking power away from the individuals, families, and handing it over to the state. No matter what any one says about the safety and efficacy of this vaccine, we cannot possibly know the long term consequences. We can't know because it hasn't been studied for long enough. There are so many unknowns about this vaccine, much more than there are knowns. We are in the midst of a great experiment, and unvaccinated are the control group. Right now there are literally thousands and thousands of Doctors and Scientists voicing these concerns, and they are being dismissed, or even worse, canceled and purposely silenced. How can we possibly discern an accurate picture of what is going on, when their is such a strong agenda in which only one side of the story is allowed to be spoken and shared. Lastly, to say this is matter of social justice, that we must mandate the vaccine in order to get those vaccinated who might not have access, seems foolish at best, and a clear expression of white supremacy at worse. Do these people want to be vaccinated? Maybe some truly</p> | Parent/Guardian |
| #04209          | 10-14-21 9:30 PM  | no                                                                                     | Mandating vaccines for students                   | This is not appropriate for PPS to be making such decisions. This is a parents decision to decide on vaccinations for their children or not!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04101          | 10-11-21 11:48 AM | no                                                                                     | Mandatory covid vaccine       | I am not anti-vax, but I do not believe any one has the right to tell me what to do with my health or my child's health. Saying my child, who has a natural immunity at the moment should also be forced to have a covid shot to go to school is wrong. A blanket decision without taking in all factors is wrong.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |
| #04234          | 10-15-21 11:11 AM | No                                                                                     | Mandatory COVID Vaccines      | Greetings, I am reaching out to voice my thoughts on the proposal for mandatory COVID vaccines. Portland Public Schools, and all public systems, have an obligation to provide for                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |
| #04019          | 10-8-21 8:23 AM   | no                                                                                     | No Available Approved Vaccine | The FDA extended the Emergency Use Authorization on the Pfizer shot. That is the only vaccine available. Comernity will not be available until 2023. The state has no legal authority to mandate experimental injections. Stanford University just published all the records for the nuremberg trials. The trials covered Political, Military, Media, and Doctors. Anyone pushing this experimental jab faces criminal liability.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Parent/Guardian |
| #03924          | 10-7-21 4:24 PM   | no                                                                                     | No on vaccine mandates        | I do not support a vaccine mandate, thank you                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Parent/Guardian |
| #04003          | 10-7-21 8:45 PM   | no                                                                                     | No required COVID shots       | Restore freedom and fight back. No person in our country should ever be forced into medical procedures of which the long term consequences are unknown. Our family and many many others will exit PPS if this happens if forced to choose and this will continue to rip communities apart.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Parent/Guardian |
| #04326          | 10-19-21 8:23 PM  | no                                                                                     | NO VACCINE MANDATE            | Hi, I am a PPS parent with two kids attending Franklin High School, a freshman and a junior this school year. I am here to say that I am against the vaccine mandate. That is a personal decision that is to be made between parents and their children not a decision that a school and/or government should be making on our behalf. If PPS mandates vaccines, I will have no choice but to pull my children out of public school and enroll them into online schooling and/or homeschool. I hope that is not a decision that we as parents will need to make and that my kids get the opportunity to finish and graduate Franklin. Please respect our decision as we respect those who chose to vaccinate themselves and their children. It is a choice, therefore leave it as such. Thank you. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04280          | 10-18-21 9:45 AM  | no                                                                                     | No vaccine mandate            | Do not require students to be vaccinated considering the high risk they are posing to some students. No long term safety studies. Many kids will leave rather than get the shot. Parents don't want it after finding out it is not as effective as we thought.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Parent/Guardian |
| #04060          | 10-8-21 9:41 PM   | no                                                                                     | NO vaccine mandate            | Pro vaccine parent here - don't mandate this for all students - it's detrimental to the community. Personal choice for each family.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04017          | 10-8-21 8:16 AM  | no                                                                                     | No Vaccine Mandate                         | I will not be attending the town hall on a vaccination mandate. I want to submit my voice against a vaccine mandate for many reasons including the scientifically proven low risk of the virus to students. Personal choice and freedom and the rights of all in Portland to education. Thank you. Sam                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Parent/Guardian |
| #04083          | 10-10-21 2:53 PM | no                                                                                     | No Vaccine Mandate for Students            | As a PPS parent, I am absolutely and wholeheartedly against COVID vaccine mandates for students. Here are some of the reasons why: -the vaccine does not stop infection or transmission -it does not take into account those who have recovered from COVID and already acquired natural immunity -there is no long-term safety data for children -risk of heart inflammation, blood clots, injury, and death -COVID symptoms are rarely serious in this age group -COVID cases are on the decline -we have not seen significant outbreaks and illnesses so far this school year in PPS -drug companies have no liability should a child experience a vaccine injury -the district should focus its time and resources on education, not monitoring people's health choices This medical decision should be left up to individual families. Where there is a risk, there must be a choice. Medical coercion in order to attend school is not fair or equitable to our students. Thank you for your time. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04198          | 10-14-21 6:02 PM | no                                                                                     | NO VAX MANDATE                             | I am firmly against COVID vaccine mandates for students.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian |
| #03991          | 10-7-21 7:18 PM  | no                                                                                     | Opposed to mandating C19 shot for students | Under 18 has the lowest risk of adverse outcomes from C19. Many have mildly symptomatic or asymptomatic cases. The shots do not create a full stop barrier to contracting or passing on C19. There is no logical reason to require our students get this shot. This choice should be made by families and their doctors. Students who receive the shots should be doing so because it is the decision arrived at by their families and health care providers.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04305          | 10-19-21 2:59 PM | no                                                                                     | Our family is opposed to vaccine mandates for PPS students | <p>Dear Friends at PPS: My son is a PPS 7th grader. He is a wholehearted learner, friend, and community member who loves school and makes a significant contribution there. We would like for him to remain in school. However, we will withdraw him immediately should vaccines for COVID-19 be mandated for PPS students. Based on extensive research, we have significant concerns about the vaccines that have been introduced in response to COVID-19. Despite the government and media phrase "safe and effective", there is plenty of data to show that THERE IS SOME RISK to SOME YOUNG PEOPLE from taking the vaccine. Therefore, I believe vaccination for children and adolescents should be voluntary. If there is risk, there must be choice. Here is what our research reveals: RISKS OF VACCINE ARE GREATER THAN RISKS OF COVID-19 FOR TEENS Through age 19, children and adolescents have a 99.9973% COVID-19 survival rate, according to the CDC. (1) A University of California study concludes that boys aged 12 to 15 with no underlying conditions are four to six times more likely to get vaccine-related myocarditis than be hospitalized with COVID-19. (2) The UK's vaccine advisory body has refused to give the green light to vaccinating healthy children aged 12-15 years on health grounds alone. (3) VACCINES DO NOT RELIABLY PREVENT TRANSMISSION OR INFECTION New data released by the CDC shows that vaccinated people infected with the Delta variant can carry detectable viral loads similar to those of people who are unvaccinated. (4) In a report released from the Ministry of Health in Israel, the effectiveness of 2 doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine against preventing COVID-19 infection with the delta variant was reported to be 39%.</p> <p>(5) Please do not put parents in a position of having to choose between our children's health and their education. It is imperative that you honor PPS students' constitutional rights of medical freedom. Thank you. Sage Cohen, PPS parent SOURCES</p> <p>1. This information, which has been a constant throughout the reported pandemic, is reiterated in the most recent analyses by Stanford physician, epidemiologist and statistician John Ioannidis <a href="https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.07.08.21260210v1.full.pdf">https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.07.08.21260210v1.full.pdf</a> 2. University of California research study <a href="https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.08.30.21262866v1">https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.08.30.21262866v1</a> 3. BBC News article, September 3, 2021 <a href="https://www.bbc.com/news/health-58438669?fbclid=IwAR3mbRoc5TEcYKWuOscHllcnyPC8mgP4_HYoPBHEqGhrM9Ulcitlw3wHG0sig4">https://www.bbc.com/news/health-58438669?fbclid=IwAR3mbRoc5TEcYKWuOscHllcnyPC8mgP4_HYoPBHEqGhrM9Ulcitlw3wHG0sig4</a></p> | Parent/Guardian |
| #04059          | 10-8-21 9:37 PM  | no                                                                                     | Please don't require kids to have the vaccine              | We don't know the long term effects. Only 2 kids in OR have died "with COVID-19" in 2 years. It's not equitable. Bad side effects already being reported.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04182          | 10-14-21 4:44 PM | no                                                                                     | Proposed Vaccine mandate for 12+       | Hello, I received news of upcoming listen sessions around the topic of covid vaccination requirements for students aged 12+. Can't attend but wish to comment if I can. While my PPS student is below age 12 right now, I would personally feel that if a vaccine requirement is put in place for the 12+ age group, that one for ages 12 and under would naturally follow (when a vaccine is available to them). Not all families feel fully comfortable yet with the degree of research and trials that has been conducted. Having a requirement at this time would naturally take away choice in order to participate in school. So far, we've felt very safe with our school protocols that are in place as of now. <u>We truly appreciate this!</u> | Parent/Guardian |
|                 |                  |                                                                                        |                                        | To: Portland Public School District Officials From: Parents of a PPS teen student Re: COVID vaccine mandates for Portland Public School Children Talking points (need references for                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                 |
| #04177          | 10-14-21 4:31 PM | no                                                                                     | Required Covid vaccine                 | My children will not be receiving the Covid vaccine and if it will become a requirement I will have to take my children out of school.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Parent/Guardian |
| #03922          | 10-7-21 4:21 PM  | no                                                                                     | Required vaccinations                  | Hello! I am pro-vaccine, I am anxiously awaiting the time when my young son can get vaccinated and he will be first in line, but I do not support a mandate at this time. I think PPS should do as much as possible to educate and make vaccines easily accessible for folks, but I stop short of requiring it. Should new information become available or changes happen to the current cases, variants, etc. then I am open to considering it as a requirement to attend school. Sincerely, Alison                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Parent/Guardian |
| #03954          | 10-7-21 5:04 PM  | no                                                                                     | requiring vaccination for 12 and above | Please do NOT require vaccinations for our Middle School and High School age children. They don't need one more thing to separate them into groups, or have animosity towards each other over. Portland prides themselves in being open minded, please give us parents and our teenagers the opportunity to choose for ourselves about being vaccinated without being punished and having to miss out on in person schooling if we/they choose not to. Thanks!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
|                 |                  |                                                                                        |                                        | In a word "No". If a child or possibly worse many children face a serious adverse event within the next five years that compromises the rest of their lives or results in their death                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                 |
| #04279          | 10-18-21 9:40 AM | no                                                                                     | Strongly oppose vaccine mandate        | No vaccine mandate for students!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Parent/Guardian |
| #04188          | 10-14-21 5:00 PM | no                                                                                     | Vaccinations for 12 + year olds        | I do not agree with having our kids vaccinated. This is a experimental drug that has devastated and taken lives. The government and pharmaceuticals are not to be trusted with the health and well-being of anyone let alone our children. Thank you. Let us educate our children about regenerative agriculture, and how that has the real capability to save our lives.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04340          | 10-20-21 8:51 AM  | no                                                                                     | Vaccine Mandate | I am not opposed to vaccination - both my husband and I are vaccinated, but I am uncomfortable with my child being required to get vaccinated prior to a lengthy worldwide rollout where there is more time for observation and study of potential side effects outside the lab.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Parent/Guardian |
| #04217          | 10-14-21 11:21 PM | no                                                                                     | Vaccine mandate | I am asking that PPS vote against mandates, offer transparent information and perhaps ask their school nurses to do presentations and/or info sessions around the safety of the different vaccines for COVID-19 that are available in our communities, and allow for informed choice. My student is a senior in high school and while I am vaccinated my daughter is not ready to make that choice with concerns for how it could impact her future fertility. We are a Black family, and this concern is not far fetched given how epigenetics impact us and the history of medical trauma that has been inflicted upon Black women in this country. Please consider how culture impact our concerns as people and take the time to come from a trauma informed approach in order to offer informed choice without taking body autonomy away from my daughter who I'm certain wants to finish her senior year on campus. She is diligent about masking and social distancing, and very responsible young person who is just not ready to consent. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04088          | 10-10-21 5:05 PM  | no                                                                                     | Vaccine mandate | I will not support vaccinating my children for Covid. They are not at risk. The narrative has changed from save the most at risk adults and elderly to save the children. It has no long term testing. Many drugs are recalled after FDA approves them- Gardasil being one. Chicken Pox vaccine took several years if testing and testesting on thousands of childten. Covid? Under 3000 children and a few months. I don't vaccinate for the flu. We will NOT enroll our children into any district or school requiring this. We're fine with homeschool or relocating opting to not sell or rent our home to keep from generating revenue fir enrolled students. Our six kids will be OUT. Im not sharing my info due to retaliation known to occur to those choosing medical freedom.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #03994          | 10-7-21 7:33 PM   | no                                                                                     | Vaccine mandate | No vaccine mandate! Parents can't even keep their jobs without getting the vaccine, don't put this burden on our children as well. Haven't they been through enough? With or without the vaccine our children will still have to wear masks and will still be able to contract and spread the virus. It is not necessary to mandate the vaccine for children. Please don't mandate the vaccine!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |
| #03980          | 10-7-21 6:40 PM   | no                                                                                     | Vaccine Mandate | For the sake of ALL of our children, vaccines must be required for ALL children (subject to age eligibility) WITHOUT a right to opt out for "personal reasons".                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |

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| #03928          | 10-7-21 4:29 PM  | no                                                                                     | Vaccine mandate              | I am all for anyone who wishes to get the vaccine get it, but absolutely do not think it is right or necessary to require it for all students. As the vaccine only protects the individual who takes it, and has no effect on those around them, I do not feel right agreeing to mandate a vaccine on anyone else child. If I want my child protected, then they will get the vaccine. It is none of my business or concern if their peers are also vaccinated.                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #04199          | 10-14-21 6:29 PM | no                                                                                     | Vaccine mandate for students | I do not support the mandate at this point. I am vaccinated and my kids will be when they are able, but mandating is not the right move. I work in healthcare and am experiencing first hand the attrition from our mandate. We have lost a surprising number of employees and it would be terrible to see a similar number of students unable to attend school in person. After a year and half of online learning, it is unreasonable to think that it would be a viable alternative for many students. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04057          | 10-8-21 9:34 PM  | no                                                                                     | Vaccine mandate NO           | No vaccine mandate - side effects outweighs benefits                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Parent/Guardian |
| #03957          | 10-7-21 5:08 PM  | no                                                                                     | Vaccine mandate NO!          | You are asking for controversy lawsuits and problems. Focus on educating kids not mandating a vaccine there are no long term data on. People will vaccinate who want it and the rest need to have a choice or children will suffer even more at the hands of PPS and a mandate. The way to end covid is to allow natural Immunity in the population that will easily survive it. Don't go there PPS. It's been traumatic enough for families.                                                             | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04308          | 10-19-21 4:49 PM  | no                                                                                     | Vaccine mandates | Please do not consider vaccine mandates for kids. The science is clear that vaccines don't prevent spread, only severe disease. Since children and teens are the population that have the lowest rates of infection and death, they do not need vaccines. We know that 1:8000 in the 12-18 age group will get myocarditis. That is data from VAERS, considered to represent only 1% of adverse events due to a poorly functioning website. How can we even consider putting them in this harm's way? Also, the only approved vaccine, Comirnaty, won't be available until 2024. We can't mandate the children become a part of a phase 3 trial in order to receive an education. That's coercion. There are many reasons that one may not become "fully vaccinated:" they may have natural Immunity, they may have had a negative reaction to their first shot, they may be allergic to an ingredient, they may have a religious or philosophical Belief that disagrees with vaccines, they may have been advised not to get it from a doctor. One size does not fit all. Let's stop forcing kids to carry the burdens of this disease. Let them be kids and have a healthy childhood. Covid is not the greatest threat to their health and livelihood, misplaced public policies are. Thanks for listening, | Parent/Guardian |
| #04112          | 10-12-21 12:03 PM | no                                                                                     | VACCINE MANDATES | I'm thinking this idea needs to be put on the back burner. Covid numbers in Oregon continue to fall and things are improving every day. Schools have been open safely for well over a month with little to no health or safety issues. These vaccines are new & while proven safe & effective some countries around the world have been hesitating in mandating them as there is just so much that is unknown. This should give us all pause in pushing for a mandate. Schools around the country have been open safely for much longer then our district with no mandates in place. We should look at all these areas as positive examples and not rush into this. A vaccine mandate would not be fair and equitable for all and if equity is truly a mission of PPS then any talk of a vaccine mandate needs to be shelved until we just know more. thanks for your time in this matter A Concerned PPS parent                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Parent/Guardian |
| #04106          | 10-11-21 5:06 PM  | no                                                                                     | Vaccine mandates | I think it absolutely wrong to implement vaccine mandates for for children for covid when the vaccine carries a known risk of potentially life altering myocarditis. This decision will determine how most of the state responds. I'll pull my kids out of school.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |

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| #03962          | 10-7-21 5:24 PM  | no                                                                                     | Vaccine mandates                  | I am uncomfortable allowing my child to take a vaccine that has only been in use for less than a year. The side effects of the new mRNA vaccines have yet to be revealed. All other vaccines have taken many years to prove their safety and efficacy. There are still too many unknown risks involved with this new vaccine. I urge PPS to wait for at least 3 years of clinical observations before mandating any new medical requirements for students. We cannot know yet if the benefits of these vaccines outweigh the risks. Even if the vaccines are "the best" way, there must be other safer ways to protect our children. I implore PPS to consider more options.                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian |
| #03923          | 10-7-21 4:23 PM  | no                                                                                     | Vaccine requirement               | Please do not require vaccines for students. My daughter has had negative reactions to vaccines, which were severe enough to be reported to the Adverse Reactions tracking agency. Members of our family also have been traumatized by doctors who brushed off symptoms that were too hard to diagnose and treat. These doctors blamed their patients for medical issues that the doctor didn't know what to do with. Many people have had long-lasting mysterious health issues after receiving the vaccines and from what we have heard, many doctors do not know how to help these people so they just brush them off or push them out the door. Given our past with many such doctors, we wouldn't wish those possibly negative outcomes for our children for who knows how long. | Parent/Guardian |
| #03938          | 10-7-21 4:37 PM  | no                                                                                     | Vaccine requirements              | Vaccines should not be a requirement for children.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |
| #04033          | 10-8-21 10:52 AM | no                                                                                     | Vax mandate                       | Hello- I am writing because I am deeply concerned about the possible vaccine mandate being considered for students 12 and up. This is an encroachment on individual health freedom and is illogical. If it's already ok for unvaccinated students to attend school, why should that change? It should be a conscious individual decision to attend school irrespective of vaccine status. If the mandate is enacted, I will be pulling my student out of school on precedence, even if she/he is actually vaccinated. Please, do not move forward with a mandate. This will cause extreme stress for both students and parents. Thank you for your consideration                                                                                                                      | Parent/Guardian |
| #04327          | 10-19-21 8:31 PM | no                                                                                     | We do not support vaccine mandate | Hello PPS, Thank you for giving parents an opportunity to voice their opinion. We have two kids in Franklin High School. We DO NOT support vaccine mandate. It should be a family/individual choice. If it is forced then PPS schools will loose students to Online Learning/Home Schooling & etc... Recently Portland Community College has announced that it will not require students to be vaccinated. Please, have families make this choice with their doctors. Thank you!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Parent/Guardian |

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| #03933          | 10-7-21 4:32 PM  | no                                                                                     | No COVID Vaccination Mandates | Please consider NOT implementing any COVID vaccine mandates for students, and rescinding the current COVID vaccine mandates for staff and volunteers.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian, Community Member |
| #04132          | 10-13-21 1:19 PM | no                                                                                     | Covid Vaccine mandates        | Hello, I am a portland area physician and parent. Due specifically to the continued low mortality rate for Covid in school aged children (even with the delta variant), the growing evidence regarding full capacity of vaccinated people to harbor and spread SARS-CoV-2, and especially the known and unknown safety risks of the Covid vaccines in this age group, I vehemently recommend against Covid Vaccine mandates for students. Thank you for your time and consideration. | Parent/Guardian, Community Member |

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| #04087          | 10-10-21 4:17 PM | no                                                                                     | NO VACCINE MANDATES FOR CHILDREN | <p>Dear PPS, I am frankly disgusted that the PPS board is considering a COVID-19 vaccine mandate for children to attend school. I have already withdrawn my children from PPS due to the total lack of evidence supporting the continued harsh requirements on children at school. It is appalling to me that you have even mandated masks outside during recess, though the state has not required this. These restrictions have not been shown to provide ANY benefit to school children, who are overwhelmingly NOT at risk for serious disease from COVID-19. There have been no proper studies done on the effectiveness of masking; data from all over the US indicates no correlation between masking and transmission at school (states with mask requirements do not necessarily have lower disease transmission, etc). Many countries have not ever required masking of young children, or have already removed these restrictions. Similarly, a vaccine mandate for children is illogical and harmful. When children are already at very low risk for serious illness from COVID-19, the possible benefit provided by the vaccine is pretty much nonexistent. Adverse events such as myocarditis/pericarditis are also more common in the younger age groups. Not to mention these vaccines are *still* under EUA. To consider mandating vaccination with no benefit to the targeted population (children), is insane. Adults have all had the opportunity to be vaccinated so who exactly are we supposed to be "protecting" with these increasing overreaches? Children should never have been forced to bear the burden of "slowing the spread". I understand there were initially many unknowns with regard to children at the beginning of 2020, but now we have plenty of data that should reassure us - it is unconscionable to continue to pretend that healthy children are in danger. Coercive mandates most punitively affect those without other options. To conscientiously object to violations of autonomy, bodily integrity, and informed consent requires enormous sacrifices - not everyone can move, change their career or pull their children from school. Those who can, will do so, and what of those families that effectively have no choice here? Shouldn't they be able to make this personal medical decision in a way that centers the health and well-being of their families and their children? I respect anyone that decides that vaccination is the right choice for themselves or their family, due to their personal risk profile. We must all choose how to take care of our health. <del>These decisions MUST be made by individuals in consultation with their trusted care</del></p> | Parent/Guardian, Community Member |

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| #04332          | 10-19-21 9:59 PM | no                                                                                     | COVID 19 Education and Mandate | <p>My name is Lia Himel, I am a ninth grader at Cleveland high school. Many a time have I heard and seen my peers terrified that they will die of COVID 19. It has caused many of them to adamantly endorse the idea of a mandate, which I happen to be opposed to, if only because it is unnecessary. According to the CDC, a total of 469 children between the ages of 5 and 18 have died in the U.S. over the course of the entire pandemic. There are 49.5 million total children in that age group. That is a 0.00094 percent chance that a PPS student will die of the Corona Virus. Most of our students are already vaccinated, which lowers their chance of dying by about 40%, and gives them a new risk of 0.00056. We can infer that many of the dead children already had severe underlying health conditions. Given this information, it is unscientific to believe that we are at any serious risk of death, or in need of a mandate which will violate many children's personal medical rights. We take a much greater risk driving to school every morning. I would love it if students could be shown this data, so that they may then decide whether or not it is still rational for them to be so scared. It took me longer than it should have to find this data, and unless they go looking for it, I think it very unlikely that my peers will come across it on their own. I hope that all those reading this will also check their fear for us students, and make decisions accordingly. <a href="https://data.cdc.gov/NCHS/Deaths-by-Sex-Ages-0-18-years/xa4b-4pzv">https://data.cdc.gov/NCHS/Deaths-by-Sex-Ages-0-18-years/xa4b-4pzv</a> <a href="https://www.statista.com/statistics/457786/number-of-children-in-the-us-by-age/">https://www.statista.com/statistics/457786/number-of-children-in-the-us-by-age/</a> There are my sources. Thank you!</p> | Student  |
| #04246          | 10-15-21 4:46 PM | no                                                                                     | covid vaccine requirement      | <p>I personally think we should not require students to be vaccinated in order to come to school. I know many people with autoimmune disease who don't feel comfortable getting vaccinated due to health risks, and some who don't feel safe with the vaccine yet. That would then force them to do online school. Some students have a bad home environment and school is there only escape. If covid vaccines become a requirement, we would elect to go online because usually vaccines take up to ten years to be fully tested before even trying them out on children, so I don't agree with requiring them.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Student  |

| Dialogue Number | Date Received     | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID- 19? | Subject Line                  | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Category |
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| #04274          | 10-18-21 2:39 AM  | no                                                                                     | Covid Restrictions            | Although a fair amount of people may be unwilling to get vaccinated due to political views, the majority of those I've witnessed who do not yet have the vaccine have needle phobias that severely restrict their ability to get vaccinated. I think maybe making the weekly testing mandatory for those who have not yet gotten vaccinated and provide resources where people can begin working on those fears would be a lot less demoralizing and allow for more students to come to school and learn. 25% of adults in America have these fears, this can't be ignored. Ignorance is a powerful force in the US but those with good intentions, as per usual, have a much smaller voice. Most PPS schools are already outfitted with competent counselors who could direct students toward treatment options, otherwise these pupils will be forced back into isolation and their already existing anxieties will worsen. | Student  |
| #04258          | 10-16-21 11:37 AM | no                                                                                     | Covid-19 Vaccine Requirements | I think that all PPS high school students and teachers should be required to be vaccinated in order to attend in person class. Everyone at a high school age is approved for the vaccine, and therefore there is no reason for them not to get it. If this means making vaccines more accessible by getting some in schools, then make that happen. Students who are not vaccinated pose as a threat to the health and safety of everyone else. Especially because many students won't wear their masks correctly, having a vaccine requirement will make high schools a MUCH safer place.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Student  |
| #04058          | 10-8-21 9:35 PM   | no                                                                                     | No vaccines                   | Don't require kids to have the vaccine to attend school. I support vaccines but not a mandate for all - think of the kids who can't get it and what that means for them                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Student  |

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| #04093          | 10-10-21 10:16 PM | no                                                                                     | Vaccination Mandate for students | I think that vaccines should not be mandated in PPS. I think this because many students and families moved from states requiring vaccines to Oregon so that their students could get to school, without having to worry about getting the Covid 19 vaccine or others. Taking this into consideration, if PPS chooses to require vaccines, you would likely lose students and those with medical conditions who can't get vaccinated for medical reasons would not be able to attend school, which sounds wrong to me. A recent article states that even if youth don't get vaccinated, the majority of them would not be majorly if they got sick, or at least the symptoms wouldn't be as bad as middle-aged or older peoples symptoms, and they would get natural antibodies preventing them from catching the virus again and providing better immunity that vaccines would. Lastly, I think that vaccines should not be mandated by schools, since there are health risks to some people that get the vaccine, and I feel that families should make individual decisions about it based off their students health, medical conditions, and how they feel about their child getting the vaccine. However, I do see the how the staff and school board are concerned about students, staff and families health, and I think that an alternative is recommending vaccines if cases increase drastically. Thank you for reading - PPS student | Student  |
| #04249          | 10-15-21 7:55 PM  | no                                                                                     | Vaccine mandate                  | I as a student disagree with the vaccine I had covid back in April and it's supposed to give you anti body's to it but it should be our decision if we get or not it's affecting many people differently and it isn't right to force someone who has rights to an education but if it becomes mandatory I can say that another of kids won't return to school I see it as protesting if I don't return if it becomes mandatory as I stated before so please don't make it a mandate not going to school impacts ment health and physical health more than teachers know I really really from the bottom of my heart hope it doesn't become mandated                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Student  |

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| #04011          | 10-8-21 12:05 AM | no                                                                                     | Vaccine requirement for 12 and older    | I don't believe the district should implement a vaccine requirement for students 12 and older. I feel like with the way things have been going we will be okay without it. Also, I feel that the district should leave it up to each individual student and their families to decide whether or not to get it. Every one may not be comfortable, and this is where my body my choice sort of comes in. One of the main arguments are that with implementing a requirement, it will keep us in school and keep others safe. But in reality, you can still catch Covid with the vaccine and have to quarantine. And while yes, your chances of being hospitalized and dying are less than the unvaccinated, the death/hospitalization rate is EXTREMELY low for our age group as is. I really hope this mandate does not go into effect, as I feel it will force families to keep their students from attending school. And we've all seen what a positive impact going to school in person has on us students. Especially mentally. - A high school student at Benson Polytechnic. | Student                                              |
| #03904          | 10-7-21 4:11 PM  | no                                                                                     | Covid Vaccination Mandate               | There should definitely NOT be a vaccination mandate!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Student, Employee, Parent/Guardian, Community Member |
| #04054          | 10-8-21 4:16 PM  | Yes                                                                                    | Mandatory vaccines in elementary school | My granddaughter attends grade school in Portland and I'm very concerned that she is safe in her school. It's come to my attention that once vaccines are approved that there is a question about whether they should be mandatory. I strongly feel that they should be mandatory! Just as other vaccines are required, so should the Covid vaccine be. If parents feel they don't want their kids to get it, they can keep them home. We are beyond the time of being tolerant and accommodating. We need to get this pandemic behind us.<br>Thank you Grace Parsons                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Community Member                                     |
| #03906          | 10-7-21 4:12 PM  | Yes                                                                                    | Covid Vaccine Requirement               | Of course students should be required to get the Covid vaccine... they're required to get a bunch of other vaccines already and have been for years, so this shouldn't be any different since it's had FDA approval (at least Pfizer)! Of course VALID medical and religious reasons should give students an out... but not fake exemptions like we're seeing right now. I have three PPS kids all under 12 and I can't wait until the vaccine is approved for them. It will make me feel so much safer about sending my kids to school and not worry about them bringing Covid home to spread around our family. -Jordan Carter SE Portland                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Community Member                                     |

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| #04010          | 10-7-21 11:39 PM | Yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandate      | As a science teacher, I feel an intense drive to help students understand the function, importance of, and the history of vaccines. If we incorporated lessons about this into our biology curriculum for middle schoolers and high schoolers we could educate students about vaccines and dispel an incredible amount of misinformation. I think this educational initiative, coupled with a vaccine mandate for ages 12 and older would be a huge public health benefit.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Community Member |
| #04331          | 10-19-21 9:57 PM | Yes                                                                                    | vaccine requirement  | My name is Smitha Chadaga. I am a hospital medicine physician in the Portland Metro area and live in NE Portland. I am a strong supporter of vaccine mandates for all school faculty, staff, and students. COVID 19 has ravaged our community and as a hospital medicine physician I am seeing unvaccinated patients being hospitalized and suffering. The vaccines we have been given to millions and millions of people and provide an immune response we need to keep our community safe. It is frustrating to hear so much misinformation about COVID 19 and vaccines from our own community. Each family must do what they feel is safest for their family - and what is safest for our community is for all who are eligible to get a vaccine. I strongly support a vaccine mandate for all school faculty, staff, and students.                                                                                                 | Community Member |
| #04015          | 10-8-21 8:00 AM  | Yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Requirements | Hi, I just received the newsletter with the question of requiring vaccines for all children and to have a mandate. I would like to say that I am in favor of this, and would like PPS to require the mandate. Thanks, Matt Guy parent of a Kindergartener and 3rd Grader at Sabin Elementary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Community Member |
| #04065          | 10-9-21 12:05 PM | Yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandate      | Hi, I urge PPS to require students to receive vaccination for COVID-19 in order to continue to be enrolled in school. Historically, proof of inoculation against other diseases was required for enrollment. Vaccination is a relatively old science. Enough time has passed to see that the vast majority of those vaccinated have not suffered side effects. On a personal note, today my doctor's appointment was cancelled, scheduled a month prior, because my doctor and all others were called in to work at the hospital for the foreseeable future due to covid. 25% of cases are now children. 85% of hospitalized covid cases are those unvaccinated. Unvaccinated people are using up resources unnecessarily. Requiring the vaccine to enter school would positively affect our community in so many ways. School is the hub of a community and I urge PPS to be the voice of reason in this difficult situation. Thanks. | Community Member |

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| #03963          | 10-7-21 5:26 PM  | Yes                                                                                    | COVID Vaccinations for students | I am a retired PPS HS teacher who subbed prior to COVID. Although I do believe the schools are doing their best, I have been reluctant to go back subbing. If the district were to require HS students to be vaccinated, I would not hesitate to go back. I think others must also feel this way as I know the schools are having difficulty getting substitute coverage and that makes me feel bad for kids and staff.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Employee |
| #04097          | 10-11-21 9:42 AM | Yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Mandate                 | I think a vaccine mandate is vital moving forward. I've read the staff report and agree in full with all the benefits it describes; I do not think the negatives are enough to outweigh all those positives. The article doesn't even touch on the mental health and social dynamic side of things: students who've described their experience getting vaccinated usually talk of it with pride or excitement or intense relief. Knowing a class is vaccinated by mandate would also help alleviate anxieties for staff too, knowing everyone is protected as they can be. This is especially important given the difficulty in maintaining other preventative measures, especially social distancing, and especially among younger middle school students. As many layers as we try to maintain, classes are very full, and many students stop social distancing and let masks drop the moment eyes are no longer on them. We cannot rely on behavioral management alone; it creates so much more friction between students and staff.<br>Additionally, there already exists in schools a social disparity between the unvaccinated and vaccinated, with parents' political/ideological conflicts seeping into the schoolyard. Equalizing expectations would help nullify this. A mandate would also empower pro-vaccine students to get vaccinated in spite of anti-vax parents. | Employee |
| #04221          | 10-15-21 8:18 AM | Yes                                                                                    | 12+ Vaccinations                | I believe that in the same way other vaccinations are required for students to attend school, a COVID vaccine should be required for all students who are eligible to get one. It will help keep everyone in schools safe, especially those who are unable to get the vaccine due to medical reasons. By keeping students and staff safe, we are also helping to protect not only their families, but anyone they meet. This is essential to protecting the community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Employee |
| #03934          | 10-7-21 4:34 PM  | Yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandate for students    | Of course there should be a vaccine mandate for students. This is a no-brainer! PPS already requires numerous other vaccines to attend school. A covid vaccine is no different. Do the right thing to keep our students and staff safe.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Employee |

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| #03911          | 10-7-21 4:15 PM  | Yes                                                                                    | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19? | Absolutely yes. It's been past time for a vaccinate mandate. One big lesson Covid has taught us is not enough people will voluntarily get the vaccine. In order for us to eradicate covid-19 the vaccine must be mandated for everyone who is medically capable of taking it. Every single student who attends PPS is required to have several vaccines. The U.S. Military has like 17 vaccine requirements. It's time for us to step up and do the right thing. Mandate the covid vaccine. Eradicate the virus. Move humanity forward and back to normal. Thanks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Employee, Community Member                  |
| #04027          | 10-8-21 10:04 AM | Yes                                                                                    | Require COVID vaccination for students                                                | Hello, I am a PPS Teacher and the parent of two PPS students, 5th & 7th grade. I am in support of required student COVID vaccines for all of those who are eligible. In this public health crisis, the best response is to be vaccinated. Adding the COVID vaccine to our list of other required vaccines is the smart and safe thing to do to keep all of our students safe. I work in a school with a Medically Fragile program and some of these students are unable to get vaccinated. The more of us around them that are vaccinated help to keep these students safe. In addition, higher vaccination rates will keep more students in school and require less quarantining missed school days. After last year, we need all the in-building seat time we can get! Please require the COVID vaccine for all eligible PPS students. Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. | Employee, Parent/Guardian                   |
| #04009          | 10-7-21 10:23 PM | Yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandate                                                                       | I am so relieved and happy that pps is considering student vaccine mandates.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Employee, Parent/Guardian                   |
| #04333          | 10-20-21 5:51 AM | Yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandates                                                                      | I 100% support vaccine mandates for PPS students. This will ensure we are doing all things possible to make our schools safe and that they remain ope . It is difficult to follow all the safety and mitigation procedures as I have seen first hand in many schools. We also know Covid safety fatigue is a real thing and over time students become lax around safety precautions. We require it for staff to keep kids safe. Let's require our families to partner with us and get their kids vaccinated. Covid will soon be endemic and something we will always have to contend with. Side with science, keep schools open and safe as possible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Employee, Parent/Guardian, Community Member |

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| #04111          | 10-12-21 9:39 AM | Yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Mandate            | As a PPA parent I want you to know i fully encourage the district to require Covid19 vaccines for all PPS students when they are eligible and FDA approved. Much like Measles, Polio, Varicella, and a host of other dangerous viral and bacterial conditions vaccination is the safest and easiest way to ensure the health and safety of our children. I would encourage the school district to wait until full FDA approval is granted before requiring the vaccine in order to insulate the district against litigation. With that said, I will be getting my kids vaccinated under a EUA as soon as they are eligible and would hope the district will encourage parents to vaccinate their children as soon as they are eligible. Vaccination clinics held at the individual schools should also be considered to help parents meet the requirment without having to take additional time away from work. Also, I haven no problem with medical and religious exemptions so long as they are vetted to ensure a true medical concern or long held religious belief. | Parent/Guardian |
| #03902          | 10-7-21 4:10 PM  | Yes                                                                                    | COVID Vaccine requirement  | I am the father of a junior at Grant HS who is nervous each and every time he steps foot in school. This is not conducive to learning or to a positive HS experience. we strongly support a vaccine mandate with the exception of qualified medical exemptions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #04062          | 10-9-21 7:20 AM  | Yes                                                                                    | Please require vaccination | Our high school-aged son has been vaccinated since June. He wanted to get the shot just like we had to be safer from the risks of contracting COVID-19. Public schools have long required vaccines of such nature to reduce the spread of many deadly and/or debilitating diseases. It's time to do the same for COVID, especially now that at least one of the vaccines (Pfizer) has been approved by the FDA. I know I'm only one voice but I can assure you that many other parents feel this way and just haven't shared it with you. Thanks for this opportunity to share my thoughts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04064          | 10-9-21 9:46 AM | Yes                                                                                    | Requiring covid vaccine                                 | Yes please require students 12 and up to get vaccinated to participate in in-person learning. Im getting an email almost every day from the 2 schools our kids go to that another student has been testing positive for covid. That is a lot and at that rate the schools might need to be closed again which would be a travesty. Plus we want to stay healthy! Our kids are so much happier learning in-person and that should not be sacrificed. One of our kids actually got diagnosed with catatonia during the distance learning and is now on medication. She desperately needs the stimulation of in-person. If a student and their parents want to participate in- person than they can keep their school community safe by getting vaccinated! If they wont get vaccinated than they can have an option to learn from a distance. Please make this happen. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04055          | 10-8-21 5:24 PM | Yes                                                                                    | Comment on whether to require COVID-19 vaccination      | Hello, As the parent of a ninth-grader and member of the community, I strongly support requiring COVID-19 vaccinations for all students age 12 and up. I feel this decision is based firmly in science, and will provide the best chance for schools to continue meeting in person, which in turn provides our students the social, emotional, and mental health supports they need. Thanks for your thoughtful analysis of the subject and for the <u>opportunity to comment</u> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Parent/Guardian |
| #03908          | 10-7-21 4:13 PM | Yes                                                                                    | potential vaccine requirement for ages 12+ students     | Yes please! School remains our greatest concern and likely risk factor for catching COVID. Though we are all vaccinated, I'd like to reduce the chances as much as possible that COVID comes home from school, and there have been several reported cases in our school this fall. This is common sense and should not be controversial.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Parent/Guardian |
| #04022          | 10-8-21 9:12 AM | Yes                                                                                    | Students should be required to get the COVID-19 vaccine | The COVID-19 vaccine, once it's approved for children (even on an emergency basis), should be required just as other vaccines are required. There's no reason to apply a more lax standard to this medical directive, other than political reasons, which should not be considered. Schools have a responsibility to protect the safety of the children in their care, and to follow standard health guidelines. Thank you.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian |
| #03943          | 10-7-21 4:43 PM | Yes                                                                                    | Vaccines                                                | I strongly support mandatory vaccines for PPS students.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Parent/Guardian |

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| #03941          | 10-7-21 4:40 PM | yes                                                                                    | In support of mandatory COVID vaccine for students age 12+      | I'd like to share my support of a proposed policy to require students age 12+ to be vaccinated for COVID after FDA approval is granted for those vaccines. Despite the hue and cry over COVID vaccines from some quarters, this is not a radical policy. It is, in fact, the existing policy of requiring other vaccines for all students. The standard exceptions that are in place for vaccines should be continued. PPS has spent exceptional resources trying to make learning safe in the absence of vaccines for some of its students. It makes sense to require that all those who are eligible for such vaccine in the PPS community have the most effective safety measure of all: the COVID vaccine. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04005          | 10-7-21 8:54 PM | yes                                                                                    | All eligible students should be required to get a COVID vaccine | Vaccines don't just protect the individual, they protect the community. The 3 COVID vaccines available in the US have been tested on hundreds of millions of people and have been proven both safe and effective. The only way we are going to get beyond the pandemic is through broad-based vaccination. Mandates like the one PPS is considering have been shown to be effective, resulting in 90-95% compliance. They are the right thing do to for our students and our community. I urge the Board to vote in favor of requiring COVID vaccinations, just as they have for other community diseases like measles, <u>smallpox</u> , and polio.                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #04063          | 10-9-21 7:48 AM | yes                                                                                    | COVID vaccine mandates for 12 and older                         | Requiring students to be vaccinated against communicable and deadly diseases is not new. Yes, all students 12 and older should be required to be vaccinated just like they are for MMR, Polio, Pertussis, and more.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Parent/Guardian |
| #03984          | 10-7-21 6:50 PM | Yes                                                                                    | COVID                                                           | Yes require vaccination of eligible students with medical waver process - just like all other vaccines. Protect the vulnerable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian |
| #03996          | 10-7-21 7:44 PM | Yes                                                                                    | COVID requirement for PPS students                              | I 100% support this. Why wouldn't we? There's other immunizations that students are required to have, or to submit a religious or medical exemption. I truly don't understand how/why COVID would be any different, given the immense disruption distance learning and quarantine has had on families. Let alone the death toll COVID's had on our country and state.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04224          | 10-15-21 8:32 AM  | Yes                                                                                    | Covid Vaccination Requirement | Given the vaccination is approved by the FDA and is deemed safe and beneficial by the scientific community, requiring vaccinations for kids going to public schools makes a good deal of sense. Educating the population thoroughly on the vaccination and reasoning for it is necessary to get the greater community to buy into it and is very important as well. This includes a simplistic email and form giving all parents the resources they need to have their child get the vaccine and the reassurance that if something does go wrong, they will be supported. A simple pamphlet debunking common vaccine conspiracy myths and how that pertains to this vaccine in particular would be welcome. Historical precedence in regard to vaccine mandates is also highly educational to many in this younger generation who are now parents of children. A simple statement in regards to the amount of the population already vaccinated is a useful tool in helping people have a greater understanding as to community stance. Also, why not illustrate what schools could look like after we vaccinate the majority of the population? Could there be more older community members willing to work in the school or drive buses? How can this affect your teacher, your neighbor, in a positive way? | Parent/Guardian |
| #04023          | 10-8-21 9:21 AM   | Yes                                                                                    | COVID vaccination requirement | PPS should absolutely require the COVID vaccine. This is not a new concept. PPS already requires students be vaccinated against 11 over diseases including hepatitis, measles, and chickenpox, none of which are part of a current pandemic. This is the most important vaccine that a school should be requiring right now. A student can always make an exception for why they shouldn't be vaccinated, but it should be on the student to request exemption, and not the school to simply hope people make the right choice. If even one death arises secondary to being at in-person school, that blood will be on your hands if you choose inaction.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Parent/Guardian |
| #04215          | 10-14-21 10:49 PM | Yes                                                                                    | COVID vaccine                 | Other important disease preventing vaccines are required to attend public school, and presently COVID is the most concerning illness. Thus, shouldn't it also be required.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Parent/Guardian |
| #03969          | 10-7-21 5:45 PM   | Yes                                                                                    | COVID Vaccine                 | Hi, I just wanted to send my support for requiring the COVID vaccine for all students once it is fully approved safe for children. It is important to keep our communities safe including classmates, teachers, administrators, etc. Once the vaccine is available and we have reviewed all information about the safety of the vaccine we will be having our kids vaccinated as our doctor recommends. We support the school in making policy to keep our kids safe.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian |
| #03907          | 10-7-21 4:13 PM   | Yes                                                                                    | covid vaccine                 | As a response to the town hall query- Yes. Students need to be vaccinated to attend PPS. No exceptions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04324          | 10-19-21 8:00 PM | Yes                                                                                    | Covid Vaccine Mandate | Hello, My family and I are in support of a covid vaccine mandate. It is the best thing the district can do to keep our kids safe. thank you, Justina Lynch                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #04323          | 10-19-21 7:55 PM | Yes                                                                                    | Covid vaccine mandate | I was in the listening session today for Cleveland, but did not speak because I hadn't signed up earlier, and also I was reluctant to speak up publicly. I didn't expect so many speakers would be against the mandate. . . I am wholeheartedly in favor of a vaccine mandate for all students who are eligible. We have a 9th grader at Cleveland who had 2 disrupted years of school. We would love for her to be able to go to school without a mask :) I noticed that there were no people of color that I saw on this Zoom meeting, and as a person of color, I would hope that you would take care to make sure all types of people are represented in your decision making. Thanks for the opportunity to speak to you directly. Carolyn Choi | Parent/Guardian |
| #04185          | 10-14-21 4:53 PM | Yes                                                                                    | Covid vaccine mandate | Yes!!! Do it. Mandatory Covid vaccine for 12 and up. Other vaccines are mandated to attend public schools. Covid vaccine shouldn't be any different. Go, go, go!!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Parent/Guardian |
| #04122          | 10-12-21 9:09 PM | Yes                                                                                    | Covid Vaccine mandate | I am absolutely in support of a PPS student vaccine mandate. As a PPS parent and pediatric healthcare provider, I believe a vaccine mandate is essential to keeping our kids in school, protected, and healthy. This should be viewed no differently than other vaccines which we mandate in schools and see as critical to public health.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #04036          | 10-8-21 11:24 AM | Yes                                                                                    | COVID Vaccine Mandate | I fully support PPS requiring all students 12 years and older to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Please implement this policy.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04030          | 10-8-21 10:36 AM | Yes                                                                                    | COVID vaccine mandate | I am wholly in favor of a COVID vaccine mandate for all students who are eligible for the vaccine. Oregon law already requires a large number of routine childhood vaccinations for students to attend school, a policy which is designed to protect students and their families from infectious diseases. Adding the COVID-19 vaccine to this requirement seems obvious and necessary, as COVID is currently circulating in Oregon and is highly infectious. Including a requirement for COVID vaccination for students 12 and older will protect not only younger students in schools who are not yet eligible to receive the vaccine, but family members and other community members who may have serious underlying conditions which would make a COVID infection considerably more dangerous for them, even if they are themselves vaccinated. Students, spending as much time together indoors as they do, even with safety precautions in place, could easily become serious vectors for infection. We know that the COVID-19 vaccine is incredibly effective in not only protecting the immunized person, but in protecting the larger community. It has been administered safely around the world and is an obvious and critical tool in reducing the local and global effects of the pandemic. If a vaccine mandate in school works as well as it appears to be working across workplaces and industries, it is worthwhile to implement, especially if PPS can provide ample opportunities for all students (including historically underserved populations) to easily receive the vaccine. It seems like an obvious choice and I sincerely hope PPS won't be swayed by angry community members armed with misinformation and ignorance. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04020          | 10-8-21 8:39 AM  | Yes                                                                                    | COVID Vaccine Mandate | I am in favor of a mandate for all eligible school aged kids. The vaccines are the best way to get us out of the pandemic, and mandates have been proven to work as an effective tool against other communicable diseases. The PPS board should keep their promise to follow public health authorities' advice, and have a mandate for the COVID vaccine for kids just as they have for PPS employees.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Parent/Guardian |
| #03971          | 10-7-21 5:47 PM  | Yes                                                                                    | CoVid vaccine mandate | Thank you for the upcoming discussion of mandated vaccines for students. As a PPS parent of middle and elementary schoolers, and a physician in our community, I am proud of the steps PPS is taking to ensure safety of our students and community and fully support requiring vaccinations of students for in person learning.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Parent/Guardian |

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| #03959          | 10-7-21 5:10 PM | Yes                                                                                    | COVID vaccine mandate | Our family wholeheartedly supports a district wide COVID vaccine mandate for all eligible students and staff (currently ages 12 and up, and should expand to encompass the younger age ranges as vaccines win pending age range FDA approvals.) Arguments against a COVID vaccine mandate are based on politics and conspiracy theories, rather than common sense, science, logic, and reason. As educators, community members, and families, we should be setting positive examples in favor of the latter. The only thing more important than the classroom and social educations of our students is their health and safety - the prime motive behind a vaccine mandate. Students and parents nationwide are used to vaccine mandates to protect the population from other diseases, and have been for decades. A COVID vaccine mandate would be no different - or logically, should not be so considered. It is interactive that the school district, parents, and students resist falling prey to baseless conspiracy theories, debunked pseudoscience, internet rumors, and deliberately misleading extremist political rhetoric and do the right, responsible, and logical thing in instituting a district-wide COVID vaccine mandate for all eligible students and staff, effective as soon as possible. | Parent/Guardian |
| #03912          | 10-7-21 4:15 PM | Yes                                                                                    | COVID VACCINE MANDATE | Assuming that child safety is a high priority for PPS, a COVID vaccine mandate is necessary. Any reasonable person who looks at the data would get a vaccine every time. How much more information does a person need that this vaccine can keep him/her/the child out of the hospital and prevent dying? Of the more than 670,000 Americans who have died of COVID-19, very few have been vaccinated. Any medical product that has a positive effect can also have a negative effect. Vaccines are no different. The influenza vaccine, for example, can cause Guillain-Barré syndrome – a rare neurological disease that can be quite severe and arises in about 1 per million people. The rotavirus vaccine is a rare cause of intestinal blockage that occurs in approximately 1 in 70,000 recipients. But viral infections themselves also cause these negative effects – and much more commonly. There are no risk-free choices. That is always true for any medical therapy. There are just choices to take different risks. Your job is to take the lesser risk for our children - which is vaccination.                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |
| #03900          | 10-7-21 4:08 PM | Yes                                                                                    | Covid vaccine mandate | Covid vaccine mandate should be like all other vaccine mandates students are required to have before attending school. I strongly support the student vaccine mandate!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04210          | 10-14-21 9:56 PM | Yes                                                                                    | COVID vaccine mandate for children  | I am 100% in favor of a vaccine mandate for our children. This should be treated like every other preventive vaccination already mandated and should be implemented as soon as possible as an essential part of managing this public health emergency. As a health care professional who was closely involved in the vaccine mandate at my hospital, I have seen firsthand vaccination rates increase in response to the mandate (from approx 75% to 96% over 3-4 months!). Yes, mandating vaccine is not without its challenges but it is absolutely doable and should be the next step in increasing vaccination rates among our students to reduce transmission and prevent complications from infection. This is ultimately the best way to reduce the risk to children, staff and vulnerable community members and is the key to "getting back to normal." I'm also writing this from the perspective of a parent with three children in PPS schools, two not yet eligible for vaccination. I so look forward to the time when they can remove their masks, sit close to other children to learn together, and to not feel afraid when someone coughs across from them. But for this to happen, everyone that can be needs to be vaccinated. I hope school leadership choses to mandate COVID vaccine for children when vaccinations are officially FDA approved and finds the reasoning not difficult given the precedent already set with our current vaccine requirements. Please stand on the side of protecting our children and our vulnerable community members. Thank you for your time. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04134          | 10-13-21 1:24 PM | Yes                                                                                    | Covid vaccine mandate for students  | Absolutely yes, PPS should require students to receive a Covid vaccine when eligible. Students are already required to receive many vaccines to attend PPS. Covid is more widespread and more deadly than any other communicable disease right now. The vaccine is safe and widely available. Teachers and staff are currently required to be vaccinated against Covid. Why wouldn't you require students to be?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Parent/Guardian |
| #04077          | 10-10-21 9:36 AM | Yes                                                                                    | Covid Vaccine requirement           | As a parent of 2 school age children I fully support PPS in requiring a Covid vaccination for all eligible students. Mandatory vaccinations keep our kids and our communities safe.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Parent/Guardian |
| #04192          | 10-14-21 5:22 PM | Yes                                                                                    | COVID vaccine requirement in school | We support updating the vaccine requirements for participation in public school to include COVID vaccine as it becomes both FDA approved and recommended for each age group. We want our kids to be as safe as possible in school, including from emerging easily transmissible preventable infectious diseases. I am glad that polio and measles are breakthrough infections that I don't worry about them catching at school because I know those vaccines are required for school participation. We can add COVID to that list.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |

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| #03979          | 10-7-21 6:35 PM  | Yes                                                                                    | COVID Vaccines                   | COVID vaccines should be mandatory for all Children who can receive them.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Parent/Guardian |
| #03982          | 10-7-21 6:42 PM  | Yes                                                                                    | Covid vaccines for kids          | I support required Covid vaccine for elementary, middle and high school students.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Parent/Guardian |
| #04047          | 10-8-21 2:32 PM  | Yes                                                                                    | Covid vaccs REQUIRED!            | Everyone shed 12 and up SHOULD BE VACCINATED!!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |
| #04148          | 10-13-21 6:15 PM | Yes                                                                                    | COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement | I'm the mother of two Grant HS students (both vaccinated as soon as it was available) & the neighbor to many more PPS kids. I FULLY support requiring the COVID-19 vaccine to attend school for ALL students. Not only does this approach keep children safe, it protects teachers, administration & elderly/ill folks within Portland.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Parent/Guardian |
| #04014          | 10-8-21 7:24 AM  | Yes                                                                                    | Covid-19 vaccination requirement | Yes, I do think PPS should require vaccination for eligible students.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #04181          | 10-14-21 4:42 PM | Yes                                                                                    | Covid-19 Vaccine Mandates        | I will not be able to attend the upcoming meetings regarding the discussion of vaccine mandates, however I would like to offer my input. I am 100 percent FOR Covid-19 vaccine mandates in schools for all staff, volunteers, students, and any other pertinent parties. I will be extremely disappointed if vaccine mandates are not implemented. The only way to get back to somewhat normal life is for these mandates to happen as quickly as possible, and for all science-based recommended safety measures to be followed. We must deal swiftly and directly with this huge public health crisis, doing everything we can possibly do to keep the virus at bay and protect our families and our economy. Please, please don't hesitate to instill these mandates, and please don't give opt outs for them. Mandates have been proven to work and the vaccines have been proven safe. Thanks So Much! Jenn Dawson, mother of 8th grader at Sunnyside Environmental School | Parent/Guardian |
| #04180          | 10-14-21 4:37 PM | Yes                                                                                    | Covid-19 Vaccine Requirement     | I fully support requiring kids 12 and older be required to get the Covid-19 vaccine in order to attend school. At least until the younger kids can get the vaccine!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Parent/Guardian |
| #04178          | 10-14-21 4:34 PM | Yes                                                                                    | COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement     | Our family is fully in favor of making the vaccine a requirement for students 12+ (and once the vaccine is approved for younger children they should be included as well). Other vaccines are required and we feel like this should be no different. Thank you for opening this up for comments.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04319          | 10-19-21 7:13 PM | Yes                                                                                    | COVID19 vaccination group session - submitting Let's Talk instead | Wanted to add my voice but can't attend tonight. I am 100% for requiring all those 12 and up to be fully vaccinated. Once those 5-11 are eligible, give a few months and make that a requirement too. So many vaccines are already required to attend public school, this is a new requirement. That is all. Thank you! Kari Klein Berens 971-330-7375                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Parent/Guardian |
| #03913          | 10-7-21 4:17 PM  | Yes                                                                                    | K-12 Vaccination Mandate                                          | I support and agree with a mandatory requirement for all K-12 students, especially high school students, to be fully vaccinated for Covid-19 in order to attend in-person school. Responding to equity issue addressed in your recent board meeting. My response: Vaccinations are free; children are required to be vaccinated for other illnesses; vaccination clinics can be offered at school so parents don't have to lose time at work. In recent studies, the most vulnerable for Covid-19 complications are people of color, lower income, and those with health conditions caused by poverty. Support these students!                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |
| #03920          | 10-7-21 4:21 PM  | Yes                                                                                    | Keep kids safe: Vaccines for students should be mandatory         | We have mandated vaccines for many years. And that was when we weren't in the middle of a global pandemic that has killed over 700,000 in the US alone. Pediatric cases are on the rise all over the country. Students should be required to be vaccinated against Covid. The vaccine is free and abundant. You can't bring weapons to school and you shouldn't be able to bring your unvaccinated covid risk to school. We need to keep all children safe, so all students should be required to be vaccinated. It's unreasonable to ask people to put their lives at risk by being around unvaccinated people just so they can get an education. Keep our kids safe; require Covid vaccination for students. | Parent/Guardian |

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| #03946          | 10-7-21 4:52 PM   | Yes                                                                                    | Mandated COVID Vaccine                      | Dear PPS, I am writing to encourage you to make COVID-19 a required vaccination for the school district. Vaccines were created to protect communities from dangerous diseases, and COVID is no exception. The fact that more than 600,000 Americans have died of COVID-19; that 1 U.S. child loses a parent or caregiver for every 4 COVID-19-associated deaths (Pediatric Journal); pregnant women have a 70 percent increase risk of death; and the general population has seen in an increase in hospitalizations and deaths with children making up a larger section of that number; and 40 percent of people infected with COVID are asymptomatic are all reasons for why this vaccine needs to be mandated. To not make the COVID-19 vaccine a required vaccination is putting the health of our community at risk. It is based in bad sciences and political vitriol that puts our most vulnerable communities in danger. I look forward to see the requirement placed on our schools, the availability of resources to educate parents and caregivers on the vaccine, and spaces provided to vaccinate children. Thank you, Leah | Parent/Guardian |
| #04078          | 10-10-21 10:21 AM | Yes                                                                                    | Mandated vaccinations for 12 yrs old and up | As a nurse and parent working in our healthcare system throughout this time of COVID, I would like to state my support for mandated vaccinations for children 12 yrs old and up. I would like to make sure accurate resources for information are readily available to our community to understand the science specifically as it relates to both the COVID vaccine and how vaccines work in general. I would be more than happy to speak on this subject as a parent/healthcare worker or to give statement to press, etc. Feel free to contact me. Thank you as always for the extraordinary work that you have done during the pandemic. Nora Auston ( mom of a student at Laurehurst in the 7th grade)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Parent/Guardian |
| #04119          | 10-12-21 5:57 PM  | Yes                                                                                    | mandated vaccines                           | Yes, I think PPS should require vaccines for kids age 12 and older who are now eligible for them. I think PPS should require them for all middle school kids (6-8 grades), as well, once that age group is eligible to get them. It's the best way to make sure learning continues uninterrupted and keeps all kids, and our community, safe from COVID. Thanks. (You don't have to reply to this message. I just wanted my opinion counted as you consider your decision.)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Parent/Guardian |
| #04200          | 10-14-21 6:34 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Mandatory COVID vaccine                     | I would like to voice my support for a mandatory covid vaccine for all children who can now receive the vaccine and attend PPS schools. My older son who attends Creative Science School is vaccinated. My younger son who is now only 6 yrs old will be vaccinated as soon as we are able. Thank you for setting up this communication channel. I appreciate the willingness to hear the concerns from your community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04081          | 10-10-21 1:22 PM | yes                                                                                    | Mandatory Covid Vaccine | My hope is that PPS will require the Covid vaccine in the same way other childhood vaccines such as DTap, MMR, Polio, Hep A/B, etc. are required, for the health and safety of all children.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian |
| #04061          | 10-8-21 10:43 PM | yes                                                                                    | mandatory COVID vaccine | Hi - I'd like to express my support for requiring all students 12 years and older to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Historically, all other potentially deadly viruses/diseases have been eradicated through vaccine. Many of those vaccines are required of students today. We should listen to health professionals and science, and do our part to eliminate COVID as quickly as possible... and this includes requiring students to be vaccinated.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Parent/Guardian |
| #03953          | 10-7-21 5:04 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Mandatory Vaccinations  | <p>I strongly support mandatory vaccination. We require vaccination for chicken pox, so why not COVID, a deadly disease that is ravaging communities of color? For some reason, it became political, and there is a bunch of misinformation/distrust. But the bottom line is that it is arguably more safe than vaccines that are already mandatory, and It's so important right now to stop the spread of the Delta variant. Here is more on why making this mandatory is so important from an equity standpoint -- and note that currently, it's *white* people who are refusing the vaccine:</p> <p><a href="https://www.oregonbusiness.com/article/health-care/item/19343-bridging-the-gap">https://www.oregonbusiness.com/article/health-care/item/19343-bridging-the-gap</a></p> <p>"COVID-19 has brought Oregon's racial health care disparities into stark relief, but the gap in outcomes isn't new. According to a 2020 report from the Center for American Progress, people of color were more than twice as likely to develop chronic health conditions like diabetes, asthma and hypertension; lack medication for mental-health conditions; and suffer from obesity compared to whites. And in Oregon, Hispanic patients make up 20% of Oregon's COVID-19 cases, despite being only 13% of the state's population, according to data from the Oregon Health Authority. Black Oregonians have double the infection rate of whites, and the infection rate for Asian Americans is nearly triple. "The racial divide was evident at the start of the pandemic, when the pandemic peaked — and now as people are being vaccinated," says Serena Cruz, executive director of the Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, which operates five primary-care clinics in Washington and Yamhill counties. [Ed. note: Cruz has since changed employment.] In addition to having a higher COVID-19 positivity rate, nonwhite people are less likely to have health insurance."</p> | Parent/Guardian |

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| #03909          | 10-7-21 4:14 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Mandatory vaccinations for in-person attendance    | Yes, I think vaccinations should be required for all students who are eligible to receive them, currently 12 years old and up. Students who are unwilling to get the vaccine can participate in distance learning. That way we don't all have to go back to distance learning if the pandemic gets worse. I don't need a response - just want to voice my opinion.                                                                                                      | Parent/Guardian |
| #04006          | 10-7-21 9:33 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Mandatory Vaccinations for Students 12+            | Yes, I do think you should make vaccinations mandatory with no exception for religious beliefs and stringent requirements for medical exceptions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Parent/Guardian |
| #04001          | 10-7-21 8:15 PM  | yes                                                                                    | mandatory vaccines                                 | I'm a family physician. The data is clear that the covid vaccines are safe, effective, and tolerable. this is 2021 and we should be basing our decisions on evidence and not fear and ignorance.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Parent/Guardian |
| #04133          | 10-13-21 1:21 PM | yes                                                                                    | Please mandate Covid vaccines                      | I know that many loud parents spoke at the School Board meeting on 10/12/2021 against mandating vaccines. I urge PPS and the school board to follow the science and mandate vaccines. Do not place the burden of others' poor choices on disabled, immune compromised, and medically fragile children. Do not give in to parents who are spreading misinformation. Please help stop the spread of COVID by mandating vaccines. Thank you, Dr. MLK Jr. Elementary parent | Parent/Guardian |
| #04094          | 10-11-21 8:21 AM | yes                                                                                    | Please Mandate COVID Vaccines                      | I fully support the staff recommendation in the September 27th memo to Superintendent Guerrero to implement a vaccine requirement for every student who is 12 years and older. I also encourage you to adopt the same requirement for all students age 5 and older as soon as the vaccine is available to them. Thank you, Betsy Bridge Parent of a second grader at Cesar Chávez K-8 School                                                                            | Parent/Guardian |
| #03935          | 10-7-21 4:35 PM  | yes                                                                                    | PLEASE MANDATE VACCINES                            | The only way out of this pandemic is by wide adoption of the safe and effective vaccines. We need to get kids vaccinated as soon as approved. We already require other vaccines and if we didn't do the same with this vaccine it would be lending credence to the misinformation about it, as well as prolonging the pandemic and endangering our children.                                                                                                            | Parent/Guardian |
| #04187          | 10-14-21 4:57 PM | yes                                                                                    | Please mandate vaccines for all eligible students. | Like all other vaccines required for children to go to school, please mandate the covid19 vaccine for all students eligible to receive the vaccine. Vaccines are safe, free, and readily available. Thank you, Christine Carpenter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Parent/Guardian |

| Dialogue Number | Date Received    | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID- 19? | Subject Line                                                                 | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Category        |
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| #03965          | 10-7-21 5:30 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Please require vaccination for all eligible students without a health reason | Our BI-POC friends in intergenerational families have been forced to deal with a lack of services in online and a lack of safety in- person. As a family who is strongly committed to public health and safety as well as public education. We urge you to require vaccinations for all eligible school students, especially COVID. Our son is currently in OLA for PPS and we WANT to return to PPS IN PERSON, but have health issues that prevent that without our son and his classmates vaccinated. We will not return in- person if a vaccine mandate is not enforced. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04154          | 10-13-21 8:33 PM | yes                                                                                    | Please require vaccination for all students                                  | Vaccination is a matter of public health, not an individual decision. Please require that *all* students be vaccinated as soon as their age group is eligible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Parent/Guardian |
| #04197          | 10-14-21 5:39 PM | yes                                                                                    | Please require vaccination for all students and staff                        | I want to register my support of a Covid-19 vaccine requirement for all staff and students age 12 and up. Once vaccines become available for younger students this should be a requirement for them as well. Exemption should only be allowed for health reasons, with approval from a licensed physician. And those who are not vaccinated should be tested by school health staff twice a week. Thank you.                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian |
| #03975          | 10-7-21 6:15 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Please Require Vaccination!                                                  | Please require vaccination for all eligible PPS students. We require multiple other vaccinations for attending school and this should be no different. Our teachers, kids and families all deserve a safe place for school and work.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Parent/Guardian |
| #03997          | 10-7-21 8:04 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Please require vaccinations for students 12+                                 | We know its safe, we know it's effective -- please require the vaccine, so our kids can stay in in-person learning. We also know that all kids suffer when they can't be in schools -- and that it's worse for kids from disadvantaged households. If you're concerned about health, safety and equity for PPS kids and families -- require vaccines. And make sure everyone knows they're<br>(1) Free to EVERYONE -- not just people with insurance, and (2) you don't have to be a citizen or have green card. Vaccines are open to everyone.                             | Parent/Guardian |
| #04202          | 10-14-21 7:04 PM | yes                                                                                    | Proposed Covid-19 Vaccine Requirement                                        | Hello, I'm writing in to say that I fully support a vaccine requirement for all students 12+, and younger students once it is available. Also, I want to add how much I appreciate everything teachers and staff are doing in this difficult time. You are angels!! Our son's energy and curiosity has been through the roof since returning to in-person school.                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #03960          | 10-7-21 5:11 PM  | yes                                                                                    | PSS Vaccine Mandate Students                                                 | Once a vaccine is approved by the FDA for 5-12 (not just emergency use) I think it should be mandated just like any other vaccine is (eg: polio, rubella, measles, etc.)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |

| Dialogue Number | Date Received    | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID- 19? | Subject Line                                             | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Category        |
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| #04211          | 10-14-21 9:56 PM | yes                                                                                    | Re: covid vaccine requirement for students 12 and older  | The burdens of the covid pandemic have disproportionately impacted children in Oregon, who in large part were not able to attend school as they should have for 18 months. I strongly oppose any vaccine mandate that would result in children of any age not being able to attend school in person, or any measure that would result in a penalizing children who are not vaccinated (such as weekly nasal testing). Children under 18 yo cannot make the decision to be vaccinated on their own or without undue pressure from their families. Therefore, children should not be held to account for the decisions of their parents. As a physician, I am generally in favor of vaccination for many diseases and am looking forward to covid vaccination for my own child , currently under 12, when available. Despite being a strong proponent of vaccination for covid, and a supporter of vaccine mandates for adults who are able to make their own decisions regarding their care, I cannot condone a vaccine mandate for children who would be penalized for the decisions of adults and potentially lose even more of the in-person educational and social support that it is the responsibility of our society to provide for them. Sincerely, Katharine Barford, MD (no response required) | Parent/Guardian |
| #03942          | 10-7-21 4:43 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Required covid vaccinations                              | I fully support requiring covid vaccinations for students 12 and up. In fact, when the age range is increased to include 5-11 year olds, I hope this policy will be extended to them. We already require vaccines to attend school, this isn't any different. People can still get a medical exemption if necessary.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |
| #04129          | 10-13-21 9:50 AM | yes                                                                                    | required covid vaccines                                  | I read there will be discussion about requiring all eligible pps students to have the COVID vaccine. I agree with the requirement. In person school is essential. The way to ensure this essential experience is to do everything possible to reduce disruptions from COVID. We have a powerful tool - and that is vaccines for all. Anything less is irresponsible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |
| #04021          | 10-8-21 8:46 AM  | yes                                                                                    | requiring all students that are age 12+ to be vaccinated | Yes, please require it.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |
| #03967          | 10-7-21 5:40 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Requiring Covid 19 Vaccination for ages 12 and up        | YES! Of course you should require vaccination for kids 12 and up! NO BRAINER! Thank you for listening, Amelia Palmer Hansen (parent of a HS sophomore)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Parent/Guardian |
| #04026          | 10-8-21 9:51 AM  | yes                                                                                    | Requiring Covid vaccinations                             | I am writing to say: I am 100% in favor of requiring Covid vaccinations for all students as soon as possible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |

| Dialogue Number | Date Received     | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID- 19? | Subject Line                                | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Category        |
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| #03986          | 10-7-21 7:00 PM   | yes                                                                                    | requiring Covid vaccinations                | As a physician and mother of three PPS students I strongly encourage (beg even) you to require COVID vaccination for children. We currently require many vaccinations for children to attend school and there is no reason to allow politicization to cloud what is a clear public health issue. Vaccine mandates work. Please help our community emerge from this scourge. Please help keep our children safe. - C McCormick, MD MPH                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian |
| #04053          | 10-8-21 4:12 PM   | yes                                                                                    | Requiring COVID vaccines for PPS enrollment | Thanks for invitation to comment, per recent email. I'm a parent of middle-school and high-schooler at PPS. I feel Covid vaccinations should be mandatory to attend classes in-person. I appreciate religious and medical exemptions. Suggestions: Any of those exemption claimants need to prove they have not had vaccines of any other kind in the past, then participate in school via online options or pay for their own daily testing. Any indoor activities should require proof of vaccines, for all attendees.<br>PPS should continue to host on-site vaccine clinics, to promote accessibility--it's terrific. Variants will continue, surges are likely. Covid is a public health issue, not an individual illness. Schools are institutions and like state/federal/local employers (and private companies) can do their part to ensure health of taxpayers and economy, while keeping vulnerable (community at large, littlest siblings, immunocompromised uncles, even vaccine-hesitant familiars) better protected. Thank you for opportunity to comment. No response expected. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04183          | 10-14-21 4:46 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Requiring Covid-19 vaccination (H*ll Yes!)  | My husband and I absolutely support a Covid-19 vaccine mandate for all eligible students (with medical and religious exemptions allowed if applicant can prove a need). Our family (including high school child) is fully vaccinated, and we feel this is an important way to protect other vulnerable members in the wider community. Thanks, Rebecca and Evan Holt Ida B. Wells family                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Parent/Guardian |
| #04109          | 10-11-21 10:14 PM | yes                                                                                    | Requiring COVID-19 Vaccinations             | Yes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #04205          | 10-14-21 8:25 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Requiring vaccination for 12+ students      | I am in favor of requiring vaccination of students age 12+ in PPS. We could all move back faster to some sense of normal in the high schools if everyone was vaccinated. Things like no lockers and outdoor lunch, and of course wearing masks all the time, are still weighing on students even if it doesn't look apparent at school. They miss things like dances and other social outlets, that is a big part of the high school years. Thank you, Krista Hofmeister (parent of two students at Cleveland HS)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Parent/Guardian |

| Dialogue Number | Date Received    | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID- 19? | Subject Line                                                                                            | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Category        |
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| #04029          | 10-8-21 10:34 AM | yes                                                                                    | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19?                   | The district already requires other immunizations and has done so for years with >90% vaccination rates. There is no difference between those and the Covid vaccine or why it shouldn't simply be added to the list of required vaccines. Access is a non-issue since the Covid vaccine is even easier to get than others as there are free clinics at the schools themselves.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |
| #03945          | 10-7-21 4:44 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19?<br>Join Us to Sha | As a parent of an immune compromised high school student who does not qualify for vaccinations, therefore relies on "herd immunity", to function fully in society and public education, I strongly agree to requiring vaccinations for all students 12+ and adult educators in direct contact with students. As a community member, I strongly agree to requiring vaccinations wherever we legally can, to protect each other, and prevent discrimination against our medically vulnerable peers.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |
| #04074          | 10-9-21 8:36 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Student Vaccination Mandate                                                                             | We are writing to express our wholehearted support for a student vaccination mandate for all vaccinate-eligible students. We have three students in Portland Public Schools - two high school students and a middle school student, all vaccinated - and we want them to stay in in-person school, safely, enjoying all the benefits of in-person education and socialization. We also know that vaccination is the most effective way to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and that evidence shows that mandates are effective in increasing vaccine uptake. This is the right thing to do for all students, to ensure that they can continue to enjoy full-time, in-person instruction, and for the safety and well-being of the community we live in. We would further encourage the school district to support and pursue a legislative agenda that requires that any and all vaccination exemptions for students and the adults they interact with be science-based and supported by rigorous scientific review. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04068          | 10-9-21 1:51 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Student Vaccinations                                                                                    | We support requiring all students over the age of 12 having the Covid vaccination in order to attend school. With exemptions for those who have medical exemptions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Parent/Guardian |
| #04204          | 10-14-21 7:52 PM | yes                                                                                    | Student vaccine mandate                                                                                 | We are a pro-vaccine mandate household. We have elders in our extended household. A high-risk immediate family member and workplace high risk ( elder community ) We require other vaccines, we should require covid too. Thanks,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04024          | 10-8-21 9:23 AM | yes                                                                                    | Student Vaccine Mandate - I Strongly Support | Hi there - I it unlikely I will be able to attend the town hall on the vaccine mandate. I want to put my voice out there though - I am STRONGLY in favor of requiring COVID-19 vaccination for all students 12 and over. I also encourage PPS to expand this requirement to all students, once they are eligible to receive the vaccine. Thank you! Nick Addison (parent of student at Da Vinci Arts Middle School) (503) 200-0341                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Parent/Guardian |
| #04049          | 10-8-21 3:04 PM | yes                                                                                    | Student Vaccine Mandate for In-Person School | Dear PPS Board & Administration, We are writing in SUPPORT of a district-wide student vaccine mandate to protect our child against COVID-19 and its variants. We were quite dismayed that PPS did not take more bold, swift and decisive action to protect the district's children in the lead up to the 2021/22 school year requiring teachers and staff to be vaccinated and were worried about his safety just with the numbers of staff he's exposed to. Given how easily transmissible this virus is and the sheer number of students he's surrounded by and in such close proximity indoors with regularity, we don't understand how this is even up for debate. Not only should it not be up for debate, it should be required within 30 days of its approval by the CDC and FDA so long as vaccine supply levels are available to support. The vaccine is safe. It's overwhelmingly effective. And we have decades of precedent history in this country of requiring vaccines against some of the most contagious and/or deadly diseases that pose risks to our children, including our most vulnerable student populations with severely compromised health conditions who deserve to attend our public schools with assurances that everything is being done to the best of the district's ability to protect them against needless exposure. We couldn't even enroll our child in PPS without providing proof of his vaccination record. The COVID-19 vaccine should be no different and any measures allowing for an "opt out" should be rigorous and scrutinized for only those who are the most immune-compromised or otherwise have some serious physical condition that prohibits them from being able to receive. Portland and Oregon is often first or among the first to the lead the nation on so many important and progressive measures that ensure the health, safety and livability of its residence. Few matters seem as important or urgent to demonstrate strength, leadership and a commitment to than this grave threat to the health and safety of our children. We implore and encourage you to quickly and decisively enact an all student vaccination mandate to protect our children against COVID-19. We eagerly await and appreciate the announcement in the coming weeks. Best regards, Stacy Day and Brian Strayhan | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04195          | 10-14-21 5:33 PM | yes                                                                                    | Support for Mandating Vaccines for all eligible students | Hello- As a public health professional and parent to 2 PPS students, I am 100% supportive of a District vaccine requirement for students. I also support exemptions only for valid, medical conditions. This will keep ALL kids - particularly those with actual medical conditions - safe and in school. Thank you, Grazia Cunningham                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Parent/Guardian |
| #04186          | 10-14-21 4:56 PM | yes                                                                                    | Support for vaccine mandate                              | Just writing to express my support for a vaccine mandate. My son is a 3rd grader at Rose City Park Elementary. Also, I am opposed to religious exceptions, especially if the leaders of that religion come out in favor of the vaccine. As soon as the vaccine is available for younger kids, I will be getting one for my son. Thanks for all of your efforts!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian |
| #04032          | 10-8-21 10:48 AM | yes                                                                                    | Support of Covid Vaccine Requirement                     | Hello PPS, I am the parent of a 2nd grader at Rieke Elementary. I want to support a vaccine requirement for Covid for all students as it becomes available. This is in-line with your existing policy 4.10.011-AD requiring vaccination for a number of other illnesses. The public health risk of Covid is high enough to warrant inclusion on the list of required vaccines. As a City Employee, I am required to be vaccinated and I think this is also appropriate for school attendance. Additionally, as a parent, I would feel much more comfortable sending my daughter to school if students are vaccinated. This will also hopefully allow the district to stop requiring masks, distancing and contact tracing over time. Thank you. Adrienne Aiona | Parent/Guardian |
| #04045          | 10-8-21 1:50 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Town hall on student vaccinations                        | I'm unable to attend the town hall on student vaccinations. I wholeheartedly support that students who are able to be vaccinated to be required to be vaccinated to attend school. It's for the best of public safety and education.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #04104          | 10-11-21 1:50 PM | yes                                                                                    | vaccination mandate                                      | All students should be required to submit proof of Covid vaccination, just like they do for everything else they are vaccinated against. This is a world wide health emergency, and only by everyone cooperating can we overcome it. I'm only writing to show support, so you know where parent's thoughts are on this. Hope I'm in the majority by a long shot.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Parent/Guardian |
| #04090          | 10-10-21 6:45 PM | yes                                                                                    | Vaccination requirement                                  | I strongly believe that PPS *should* require all students 12 years and older to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Vaccine mandates are working—to bring down cases, keep hospitals from being overloaded, and keep students in classrooms. If unvaccinated students and their parents need to feel inconvenienced in order to do what is best for public health, so be it. Otherwise, the rest of us bear the burden of quarantines and ineffective remote learning, and PPS staff has to endure unnecessary risk of exposure.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04253          | 10-15-21 9:59 PM | yes                                                                                    | Vaccination requirement for students | I support covid vaccination requirement for students 12 and older. When vaccination is approved for younger students, the same should apply to that age group. Medical exceptions and (proven) religious exceptions should be allowed. These students have weekly testing. Vaccination requirements are not a political issue. This is a public health issue, same as requiring other vaccinations for children attending school.           | Parent/Guardian |
| #04251          | 10-15-21 8:36 PM | yes                                                                                    | Vaccination requirements for 12+     | DO IT. Yesterday. Thank you.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian |
| #04043          | 10-8-21 1:41 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine                              | Yes children over 12 should be required to be vaccinated.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Parent/Guardian |
| #04206          | 10-14-21 8:26 PM | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Mandate                      | I am fully 100% supportive of a vaccine mandate. Please, please, please move forward with requiring vaccinations for all eligible students, staff, visitors - everyone. For the health and safety of our community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Parent/Guardian |
| #04123          | 10-12-21 9:55 PM | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Mandate                      | Hello. I'm the father of both a 3rd grader and 6th grader at PPS schools. For the good of both the community at large and the health of all of our children, I highly recommend a COVID vaccine mandate for PPS students once the vaccine is available to all children. Vaccine mandates are nothing new to public schools, and are a proven way to stop community spread of dangerous diseases. Please don't let politics eclipse science. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04034          | 10-8-21 10:54 AM | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandate                      | I am in favor of vaccine mandates for students.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Parent/Guardian |
| #03998          | 10-7-21 8:04 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Mandate                      | I strongly support a vaccine mandate for public schools. It's in the public's best interest and we mandate other vaccines for children to attend school.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |
| #03970          | 10-7-21 5:46 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Mandate                      | YES!!!! Very much in agreement with a vaccine mandate for kids 12 & over (and kids 5 & over once approved)!! Our family supports this 100% - same as other required vaccines for going to public school.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |
| #03952          | 10-7-21 5:02 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Mandate                      | I am writing to voice my support for a COVID vaccination for all students aged 12 and over. I am the parent of two children who attend Franklin High School, Eli and Claire Rinehart. Kristin Schuchman                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Parent/Guardian |
| #03901          | 10-7-21 4:09 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandate                      | Is this really even a question? Why is this up for debate? There are plenty of other vaccine mandates children are supposed to have to attend public school, the covid-19 vaccine is no different. If PPS does not require covid vaccines of students, this will likely change where we choose to send our child to school.                                                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |

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| #03974          | 10-7-21 6:10 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandate for students       | On behalf of my family, and all families that have underlying health concerns, younger children or other vulnerable people in their households - I implore you to require vaccines of eligible students. Just as public schools require other vaccines for attendance, we ask that you do the same for the COVID vaccine. Thank you                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian |
| #04329          | 10-19-21 9:39 PM | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandate for students YES!! | Dear Pps, Please implement a student vaccine mandate for COVID. We already have a long list of required immunizations, and this is important to keeping all of us, including our kids, as safe as possible. Families who don't want to participate in the group assignment of the world trying to quell Covid and end a global pandemic can keep their kids at home or go to a private school that doesn't believe in science. Thank you! Mary Milstead Current PPS Parent of: 8th grader (who is fully vaccinated) and two 4th graders (who will be ASAP!!) | Parent/Guardian |
| #03985          | 10-7-21 6:52 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandate on 12+             | Mandating vaccines is important for public health and needs to be part of our the management of Covid. There is historical precedent for mandating vaccines - they are safe and effective - and need to be required for all students who are currently eligible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Parent/Guardian |
| #04069          | 10-9-21 2:40 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandate over 12 years old  | I'm looking forward to learning more about the vaccine mandate for kids over 12. I hope that PPS is treating this immunization like all others, where parents have to show proof when registering. As a parent, I have greatly appreciated PPS COVID response and know no decision is an easy one during this time. Thank you for all you do!                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian |
| #03917          | 10-7-21 4:19 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Mandate— YES!!!!           | School children should be required to be vaccinated against Covid-19, just like they are for many other diseases. So-called "religious" or "philosophical" exemptions should not apply. Permitting a preventable deadly disease to run through society is equivalent to manslaughter, no religion or philosophy condones that— nor should such excuses be applied to vaccinations. Please show educated leadership on this issue and mandate vaccination of all students.                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |
| #03973          | 10-7-21 6:02 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandate.                   | Yes. Just add the safe and effective COVID vaccine to the existing list of required vaccinations for attending school. Public health is paramount.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #04328          | 10-19-21 9:04 PM | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandates                   | Hi there, I was unable to attend meeting but found out here is a vocal minority trying to convince you not to have vaccine mandates. Please keep that in perspective: they are loud but tiny. I am pro vaccine mandates as are most parents in PPS. I am in Astor district. Thank you, Becky Jo Johnson                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04320          | 10-19-21 7:28 PM | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandates              | Dear school board members, I attended a listening session around the proposed mandate. I'm a parent at Creston. I'm strongly in favor of a COVID-19 vaccine mandate for students and of vaccination events at schools. Additionally, I would like to see culturally specific vaccine education at all schools in the district in the lead up to a mandate or approval for vaccines for younger kids. Evidence shows the vaccine (all/any) is really effective at preventing severe illness and that it slows transmission. I think it's important that we weigh the real risk of severe illness (e.g., long COVID) and the ongoing ravages of this pandemic against the much smaller risk of vaccine side effects. My mother in law got COVID in April of 2020 and got severely ill. What we wouldn't have done for a vaccine then. She survived but many of her patients at the long term care facility didn't. This virus is heartbreaking. But the difference between now and April 2020 is that we now have really really safe and effective vaccines. Let's use them. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04179          | 10-14-21 4:35 PM | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Mandates              | This message is just to express strong support for COVID-19 vaccine mandates for students 12 and older. California has already done it ... PPS should join them! Please!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Parent/Guardian |
| #04067          | 10-9-21 1:36 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Mandates for Students | I believe vaccine mandates are fair and essential - for both students and employees. We do not take vaccines to protect ourselves, weighing risk and benefit only for our isolated selves. We take them to protect our communities, for the students who are immunocompromised, have underlying conditions, have vulnerable caregivers or siblings at home. We, as a community, owe this to our most vulnerable. Everyone who medically can vaccinate should. Those who choose not to are of course, free to choose so. However, it is they and not the vulnerable without choices, who should be excluded from the community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04091          | 10-10-21 9:02 PM | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Requirement       | I fully support and advocate for PPS implementing a vaccine requirement for eligible students against COVID-19. Currently, there is an EUA for children 12 & older. Hopefully, an EUA will soon be extended to kids 5-11 years old. As vaccine approvals extend, I would explore PPS to extend requirements, as well. Similar to the vaccine requirements for employees, vaccines help keep students, faculty, employees, and the community safe. This far, the vaccines have proven to be exceedingly safe. Although there is myocarditis in adolescents and young adults (mostly male) after vaccination, this has been mild and self resolving. Furthermore, the incidence and severity of myocarditis after vaccine is far less than myocarditis after infection. As with all vaccines, the intention is not only to protect the individual but also the community around them. Requiring vaccination will help to protect our most vulnerable children who are immunocompromised or otherwise at high risk of coronavirus infection. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04044          | 10-8-21 1:48 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Requirement       | Please make vaccinations mandatory for students who are of age, just as employers and other public entities are doing. Our family is 100% in support of this mandate--particularly in our kids' crowded schools.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian |
| #04013          | 10-8-21 7:14 AM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Requirement       | Please institute a COVID-19 vaccination or exemption requirement to align with all other prior vaccine requirements in schools.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #03925          | 10-7-21 4:26 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Requirement       | Please do require vaccines for all students 12 and up. There is no reason not be vaccinated and those who choose not to have their children vaccinated are endangering their children and all other PPS children and families. Thanks!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |
| #03958          | 10-7-21 5:10 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine requirement - YES | I fully support requiring all eligible individuals, including students, be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. We require other student vaccines, this is no different, and arguably even more important.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Parent/Guardian |
| #04070          | 10-9-21 4:48 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine requirements      | My son attends Benson High School. I feel it is imperative that PPS mandate vaccines for all students that are eligible to receive them. This is really the only way we will beat this virus and protect our children. Unvaccinated people continue to feed this virus causing it to produce more variants.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Parent/Guardian |
| #03993          | 10-7-21 7:20 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine requirements      | I am a PPS parent of a kindergarten student and I fully support requiring students to get COVID vaccines to attend school. I will certainly be getting my kids vaccinated as soon as they are eligible. Thank you, Kim Taylor                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Parent/Guardian |
| #03930          | 10-7-21 4:30 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine requirements      | I am a PPS parent and a public school educator in a neighboring district. I 100% support vaccine mandates for students of all ages with an FDA approved vaccine.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian |

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| #03914          | 10-7-21 4:17 PM   | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Requirements for Children | I am very supportive of PPS requiring the Covid vaccine for eligible students. The state of Oregon already currently requires 19 doses of 8 different vaccines to attend school, why would the prevention for a prevalent, highly transmissible, and deadly virus be excluded? Don't let politics and the fear of a vocal minority deter you from making the right decision on this. While you are at it, it might be time to require annual flu shots for all children and staff as well!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Parent/Guardian |
| #04322          | 10-19-21 7:41 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccines                          | Covid vaccines should be mandated for eligible children. Mandates work. Vaccines work. It's ridiculous that this hasn't already happened. It is our responsibility to protect vulnerable populations, and this this the most important way to do that.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian |
| #04270          | 10-17-21 7:29 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccines for students             | As a parent of an 8th grader, my husband and I would love to see PPS adopt a policy of mandated covid vaccinations for all eligible students. We feel lucky our daughter is old enough to have hers, but the risk of close quarters and indoor schooling means many students and their families are at risk. In order to get back to some reasonable sense of normalcy we must demand that as many citizens as possible get vaccinated. This includes students as the vaccines for all ages become available. It's the only path forward to <u>protect out students.</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Parent/Guardian |
| #03915          | 10-7-21 4:18 PM   | yes                                                                                    | Vax Mandates - YES                | I support vaccine mandates for eligible-aged children.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian |
| #04300          | 10-19-21 10:37 AM | yes                                                                                    | We Support Vaccine Mandates!      | My daughter must have a vaccine for chicken pox, mumps, measles, rheubella, and many other vaccines to go to public school. Our BIPOC family urges you to be consistent and mandate the Covid-19 vaccine as well, since it is spreading in the community and is the most pressing health threat to PPS students and families. We have one parent who is a health care worker and both parents have underlying conditions. It is critical that we be consistent with policy (mandated but allow for medical/religious exemptions) so that the virus does not mutate and make all vaccines ineffective, to prevent future closures and ensure the safety of the most vulnerable in our community. This is part of equity- to protect everyone from Covid-19 as best we can.<br>Thank you! Jennie Greene | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04025          | 10-8-21 9:31 AM   | yes                                                                                    | Why should COVID19 be any different than other vaccination requirements? | It's already been determined that childhood vaccinations are critical to public health and safety to the point that they are required to attend a public education institution. Why would we not include COVID-19 in that requirement? On that note. I do not understand why the exclusion deadline for vaccination verification is in February. What is the point of vaccination requirements if children spend half the year together before anyone enforces the requirement? Jennifer Park Mom to 5th grader Penny Park at ACCESS @ Vestal | Parent/Guardian |
| #04191          | 10-14-21 5:12 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Yes to covid19 vaccines                                                  | Mandatory vaccines were a thing back when smallpox was killing and injuring thousands of ppl. Why is now any different? Vaccinate the kids. Thanks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #04277          | 10-18-21 8:25 AM  | yes                                                                                    | YES to vaccine mandate                                                   | I support a vaccine mandate for eligible students. Thank you. Ramona                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian |
| #04196          | 10-14-21 5:34 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Yes- please require vaccinations!                                        | I'm writing to urge PPS to require vaccinations for all eligible students. Vaccinations will keep our students and teachers safe allowing our students to continue to stay in school. Many vaccinations are required for attendance - this should be added to the required immunization list.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |
| #04321          | 10-19-21 7:30 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Mandated coronavirus vaccine                                             | My son Ronan Denning who attends Roosely high school is in favor of a vaccine mandate, just like every other vaccine for a contagious disease.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Parent/Guardian |
| #03927          | 10-7-21 4:28 PM   | yes                                                                                    | COVID vaccine should me mandatory                                        | Hello, The COVID should be mandatory for all PPS students. Much like the traditional vaccines, the COVID vaccine will insure that all members if our community are safe and healthy. Additionally, a highly vaccinated school population will insure that our most vulnerable students maintain access to their school and it's services. Thank you                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #04237          | 10-15-21 12:51 PM | yes                                                                                    | Proposed COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement for Students (Age 12+)             | Full support from PPS parent of not-yet-12-years-old children. Please implement this. It is the same as other vaccines required.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Parent/Guardian |
| #03992          | 10-7-21 7:19 PM   | yes                                                                                    | require Covid 19 vaccination for students!                               | The best way to keep our students safe and Covid transmission down is vaccination! Require vaccines!!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04031          | 10-8-21 10:43 AM  | yes                                                                                    | Require Vaccination                            | Covid vaccination for all eligible students and staff is extremely important. Vaccination for many previously dangerous and deadly diseases has been required for school attendance for decades. Taking care of children, teachers, staff, families, and the greater community is all of our responsibilities and civic duties, let's keep up the American way of requiring Covid vaccination for all eligible students.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Parent/Guardian |
| #04201          | 10-14-21 6:55 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Yes to Vaccine Mandate for Students            | As a parent of two children (ages 9 and 13), I highly support implementing a vaccine mandate for students. While science clearly demonstrates that children have a lower risk of severe cases of COVID, they remain a large potential reservoir of disease in our community. This puts everyone, including our teachers, staff, and extended families at significant risk. A vaccine mandate reduces that risk significantly. I appreciate the role PPS has played in partnering with MultCo PH to provide equitable access to vaccines and trust that PPS will continue to do so as the 5-11 age children become eligible for vaccination.                                                                                                                                                    | Parent/Guardian |
| #03956          | 10-7-21 5:07 PM   | yes                                                                                    | Please Require the Vaccine!                    | Please require the vaccine for all children and get rid of religious and philosophical waivers. Legitimate medical waivers are of course acceptable, but the best way to protect our children is to mandate the vaccine. Thank you, Lynnae Burns                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Parent/Guardian |
| #04080          | 10-10-21 12:26 PM | yes                                                                                    | PLEASE Mandate Covid Vaccines for ALL Students | Dear PPS, PLEASE mandate that all eligible students be required to receive the Covid vaccine. We already require vaccinations for all other childhood illnesses, and our only way out of this pandemic is through vaccines. By not mandating the vaccine, you are taking away from students' and families' abilities to stay safe and healthy. This would be an infringement on personal rights. Students who are medically fragile have suffered tremendously during this time and by vaccinating all students we can more safely invite medically fragile students back in to classrooms. If people refuse to be vaccinated, they can stay home. Their selfish and fear-driven decisions should NOT impact the lives of everyone else who believe in the greater good and listen to science. | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04345          | 10-20-21 10:48 AM | yes                                                                                    | Student Covid Vaccine mandate | I'm the parent of an 11th grader at Roosevelt. I strongly support requiring the Covid vaccine for students. Adding the Covid vaccine to the long list of immunizations already required by PPS is a common-sense measure that promotes public health. Left unchecked, the virus will continue to mutate into evermore virulent strains which will increase the risk of severe disease or death in children and adults. The only way to get it under control is to mandate the vaccine. We've seen the efficacy of mandates in increasing vaccination rates. I attended last night's PPS listening session, and was dismayed to see the majority of parents in attendance were not only opposed to a vaccine requirement, but used the venue to spread discredited disinformation. I suspect that the majority of PPS parents are in favor of a vaccine mandate, but are not being incited to overwhelm school board meetings with conspiracy theories. Parents are of course free to make choices for their children, but their choices should not endanger the health of the larger student body. If they choose not to vaccinate their children against Covid, then they must face the consequences of their choice. I have chosen to vaccinate my child because I believe in science and I believe in public health. Those of us who are eligible for the shot have a civic duty to protect those who can't receive the vaccine - either for health reasons, or because they're under 12. I hope you'll follow the science and the advise of public health experts, rather than be bullied by a vocal, misinformed minority. Please add the Covid vaccine to the list of vaccines required at PPS. Thank you. | Parent/Guardian |
| #04342          | 10-20-21 9:24 AM  | yes                                                                                    | Covid Vaccination Requirement | Children must be vaccinated for all other easily communicable diseases, except flu, in order to remain in school. Every year we've had to provide proof of vaccination for our child to remain in school. We are in the middle of a GLOBAL pandemic for which there is a vaccine. There should be no debate. Vaccination for Covid should be required for all ages approved by the FDA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian |
| #04004          | 10-7-21 8:53 PM   | yes                                                                                    | COVID Vaccine                 | Adding the Covid-19 vaccine to the list of required vaccinations to attend public school seems reasonable and a prudent safety measure for not only my daughters' school but the greater community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Parent/Guardian |
| #03999          | 10-7-21 8:11 PM   | yes                                                                                    | Covid vaccine                 | Please mandate the vaccine for all students after approval. I have lost my job due to my child being unpredictably in and out of school in the last two months because of covid. We have lost so many people. Please do what you can to ensure the safety of our kids and communities. It's essentially that we can all get vaccinated                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |

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| #03981          | 10-7-21 6:42 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Covid vaccine                                     | I'm writing in support of adding the COVID vaccine to the list of vaccines students are required to get when it is FDA approved. It has already been established that vaccine requirements in public schools are an important part of preventing infectious diseases from spreading and it only makes sense to update the list of vaccines from time to time. Thank you.                | Parent/Guardian |
| #03903          | 10-7-21 4:11 PM  | yes                                                                                    | COVID vaccine                                     | Yes, the schools most certainly should require the COVID vaccine for age appropriate students. The schools require it for other vaccines. To not require it for COVID, in my opinion, is negligent and reckless.                                                                                                                                                                        | Parent/Guardian |
| #03947          | 10-7-21 4:52 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Covid vaccin                                      | Yes, I strongly agree with a vaccine mandate in PPS for ALL persons 12 years and older.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Parent/Guardian |
| #03916          | 10-7-21 4:18 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Covid vaccine mandate                             | Many approved vaccines are already mandatory for students. Covid vaccine is approved. Significant community transmission of Covid is currently occurring - more than for any of the other conditions. Why would Covid NOT be mandatory? Without a good reason, based in reality and science, Covid vaccine must be mandatory.                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #03983          | 10-7-21 6:48 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Covid vaccine requirement                         | I 100% believe all students and staff should receive the Covid vaccine. I'm not sure I have the patience to sit through the Town Hall meetings about this but I wanted to share my thoughts. - Parent of current Grant HS sophomore                                                                                                                                                     | Parent/Guardian |
| #03966          | 10-7-21 5:35 PM  | yes                                                                                    | I support Vaccine Mandates for students           | I support Vaccine Mandates requiring all students 12 and up to be fully vaccinated against COVID 19. We already have been requiring life saving vaccines in schools for a very long time. This is another life saving Vaccine that has been proven to be safe and effective. We need to do whatever we can to end this Pandemic and to keep kids safely in in-person school. Thank you! | Parent/Guardian |
| #04278          | 10-18-21 9:02 AM | yes                                                                                    | Just like other vaccinations                      | I fully support a required COVID vaccination for eligible students and can't think of a reasonable scientific-based reason not to do so. Thank you for keeping our students safe.                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Parent/Guardian |
| #04241          | 10-15-21 2:48 PM | yes                                                                                    | Mandating Covid vaccines for students 12 and over | I strongly believe that to keep other students and staff safe, we need to follow the same vaccination requirements for Covid that we have for other vaccines like Polio, measles, etc. Thank you.                                                                                                                                                                                       | Parent/Guardian |
| #04075          | 10-9-21 9:21 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Mandatory COVID vaccines make sense               | Hello, I'm a PPS parent and while I won't be able to attend the upcoming town halls, I wanted to share my position in support of mandatory COVID vaccines. Thank you, Lizzie Rubado                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Parent/Guardian |

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| #04082          | 10-10-21 1:50 PM | yes                                                                                    | Mandatory vaccination for COVID                              | Please make this policy. It's already too easy for parents to opt out of vaccinating their children for other highly-transmissible diseases; COVID is too dangerous to be optional. Providing vaccine access on-site for students and their families is likely to help address equity issues.                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Parent/Guardian |
| #04222          | 10-15-21 8:23 AM | yes                                                                                    | Please mandate vaccines for students 12+                     | I am a PPS parent of two high schoolers writing to urge PPS to require COVID-19 vaccinations for all PPS students age 12 and older. Please take this important step to protecting our kids and our community!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Parent/Guardian |
| #04189          | 10-14-21 5:00 PM | yes                                                                                    | Proposed COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement for Students (Age 12+) | Do it and make it clear. All students should be vaccinated ASAP and have a place provided to make it happen that is accessible. Exception by written medical doctors note. (This form is very hard to use.)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian |
| #04018          | 10-8-21 8:20 AM  | yes                                                                                    | Student Vaccine Mandate                                      | I support a mandate for all eligible students to be vaccinated in order to attend in-person class.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Parent/Guardian |
| #04228          | 10-15-21 9:38 AM | yes                                                                                    | Vaccination requirement                                      | I strongly support requiring student (and staff) COVID vaccinations. This is a pandemic, unlike the other vaccinations often discussed that are preventative for other things and are of a lesser consequence today. It is unfair to allow unvaccinated students or staff to mingle with those who choose safety. No response, please. Just weighing in.                                                                                                                                             | Parent/Guardian |
| #04008          | 10-7-21 10:09 PM | yes                                                                                    | Vaccination requirement                                      | Given the health risk and disruption caused by Covid 19, I think it is very reasonable to require students 12 and older to be vaccinated. By all means, when risk levels have decreased again after this delta variant surge, if the choice is between requiring masks for everybody or requiring vaccinations, the choice should be to require vaccinations so that students, who have already had to bear the brunt of social isolation, can get back to normal social interactions without masks. | Parent/Guardian |

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| #03936          | 10-7-21 4:36 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Mandate                           | I fully support adding the COVID-19 vaccine to the mandated vaccines our kids have to be given prior to entering school in the school year once they are made available for all school-aged kids. I have two children aged 8 and 11 in both elementary and middle school. While all the adults in our home are vaccinated it is extremely stressful that our kids are not. Our oldest has had to use an inhaler with some breathing issues that are sporadic. We have no idea how this virus that impacts lungs would interact with him. Once they are available I hope we can send them to school without masks safely because they are all vaccinated. But without a vaccine mandate, the masks must remain. Our kids should be safe from COVID like they are from mumps or measles or polio, all eradicated by mass vaccination. | Parent/Guardian |
| #03932          | 10-7-21 4:31 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Mandate                           | It is very important to mandate vaccines for those who can take it. We need to protect both school she children and the community at large. It is no different than requiring other vaccines for school except this one is more important.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Parent/Guardian |
| #03919          | 10-7-21 4:20 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandate                           | Yes to covid vaccine mandate and promoting children's and public health. My husband and I - and our three pps children- agree. Thank you!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #03990          | 10-7-21 7:10 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandates                          | I'm a practicing physician and surgeon in the area who has had to turn away patients for lack of hospital beds due to overwhelm from the unvaccinated and acutely ill, i fully support this mandate. My elementary aged students will be getting it as soon as it is available. They understand the value of protecting our own health AS WELL AS the responsibility we have as a society to protect the other members of our community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Parent/Guardian |
| #03910          | 10-7-21 4:14 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Requirement                       | Yes, we should absolutely require the COVID vaccine just like we do all the other vaccines - for all children eligible. Let's keep these kids safe! Please don't cave to political pressure on this one. It should be just like all the other vaccines we require our kids to have in school.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Parent/Guardian |
| #04184          | 10-14-21 4:48 PM | yes                                                                                    | Vax mandates and Masking for young ones   | Please make a vax mandate for kids that are age eligible for the vaccine. Please relax the masking requirements for outside (extremely low risk environment) and inside for the younger kids (extremely low risk of death, or complications if they get the bug). The youngest ones most of all need to see each others faces to develop socially. I worry that appeasing the anxious parents is going to harm this entire generation of kids from important soft skills.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Parent/Guardian |
| #03987          | 10-7-21 7:04 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Yes! Mandatory vaccination for attendance | Unless exempted to the CDC standard. We need to tamp this mess down, just like varicella, measles, mumps, rubella, hpv. Do it! I want my kid and all kids as safe as possible!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Parent/Guardian |

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| #03926          | 10-7-21 4:26 PM  | yes                                                                                    | ould PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19? | Yes. All students should be required to be vaccinated for Covid-19.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Parent/Guardian, Community Member |
| #03944          | 10-7-21 4:44 PM  | yes                                                                                    | mandating Covid Vaccines                                                            | I am a primary care physician in Portland and the the parent of a son at Cleveland High School. I feel strongly that PPS should require Vaccination against Covid for all students old enough to be elegible. Sincerely, Louise McHarris, D.O. Fanno Creek Clinic                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Parent/Guardian, Community Member |
| #03905          | 10-7-21 4:12 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Student Vaccination should be required                                              | This is a public health issue, exactly like other vaccines that have saved countless lives and suffering. While I don't believe it should fall to the individual school districts to determine this, I am strongly in favor of a vaccine mandate for students. With the impending approval of 5-12 year-olds, nearly every PPS student should be eligible soon and this will be an important way to cut down the transmission of this disease. Thank you, Ryan Mottau, PPS Parent and Guardian of three kids in two schools.                                                                                                                                                            | Parent/Guardian, Community Member |
| #03976          | 10-7-21 6:19 PM  | yes                                                                                    | vaccine mandate                                                                     | I am a parent to 3 PPS children and an ER doctor service working at a local hospital. I would like to strongly support a vaccine mandate for children ages 12+ as soon as possible for all of PPS, and for grades K-12 as soon as the vaccine is approved for children. The vaccine is safe, it is effective, and it is the best way to let our kids finally get back to a safe school year where they can confidently interact to build connections, work in groups, have engaging extracurricular programming. Please stay on the side of science and public health and require this vaccine. Thank you for your efforts towards evidence-based safety thus far during this pandemic. | Parent/Guardian, Community Member |
| #03972          | 10-7-21 5:47 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine mandate for students                                                        | I urge you to require Covid vaccines for those students who are eligible to be vaccinated. Unfortunately, we know there needs to be a mandate in place for all (or almost all) persons involved to follow through. Our schools are overcrowded and students and staff spend hours and hours a week together in close quarters. Students should be vaccinated! Students are required to be vaccinated against other diseases. It is just common sense. We want our schools to remain open, and our students and staff to stay healthy.                                                                                                                                                   | Parent/Guardian, Community Member |
| #04288          | 10-18-21 3:07 PM | yes                                                                                    | covid 19 vax mandate                                                                | Personally I think it would be great to have a mandate. I think that if people are not taking the necessary requirements to protect others from getting sick, then they have no business going to school and endangering the lives of others.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Student                           |

| Dialogue Number | Date Received    | Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID- 19? | Subject Line                          | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Category |
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| #04248          | 10-15-21 5:24 PM | yes                                                                                    | COVID Vaccine Mandate                 | In my opinion, it should've been mandated before school started. Every week we get at least one email about a new case, and students all around me have anxiety that there's going to be a lot more. This is the LEAST we can do to make sure there isn't an outbreak that would force schools to shut down. I don't know why PPS hasn't done this sooner—is it equity concerns? When there's an outbreak, instead of the few students 12-14 years old who can't get a vaccine without parental consent, every single student will be forced to do online school (which was a terrible experience). | Student  |
| #03961          | 10-7-21 5:12 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Covid Vaccine Mandate                 | Hello! I am the parent of a 7th grade student at Tubman. I will not be able to listen in on the vaccine mandate discussions, but I wanted to voice my strong support for mandating Covid vaccines for all eligible students. Additionally, I would support intense scrutiny of religious and medical waivers, as the potential for abuse is high and the consequences of having unvaccinated pockets of students could be dire. Thank you for offering this option for communication!                                                                                                               | Student  |
| #03989          | 10-7-21 7:07 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Covid vaccines for students           | I and my classmates would feel much safer if everyone had to have a Covid vaccine. It would make our schools safer and better C Hudson, age 8                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Student  |
| #03988          | 10-7-21 7:05 PM  | yes                                                                                    | mandatory Covid vaccines for students | as a 5th grader at ACCESS I am asking you to require students to get their Covid vaccines. With all the Covid precautions you have already put in place you should also require Covid vaccines for students. This would add another layer of Covid precaution and may allow us to get rid of some precautions that make learning more difficult (such as decreasing social distancing during lunch or in lines) -Declan Hudson, age 10                                                                                                                                                              | Student  |

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|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| #04291          | 10-18-21 7:27 PM  | yes                                                                                    | required covid-19 vaccinations | This is in regards to the "Listening Sessions: We Want To Hear Your Voice On Proposed COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement for Students (Age 12+)" being held on October 21st. I heavily encourage you to require these vaccinations as for students 12yrs old and up. This will not only reduce the amount of positive cases in schools, but the risk for students with immunocompromised family members. Having school-wide vaccinations will create a safer and more hospitable environment to learn in. I believe that students should continue to follow Covid safety protocols in addition to the required vaccinations. This is not a steep step to take as the Portland Public school system, but it is a tremendous stride towards the recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic as a whole. This is not about a parent's opinion or a student's inconvenience; this is about the safety and well being of everyone we interact with. I strongly urge you to make the best decision for our health. Please make vaccinations a requirement. Thank you so much for your consideration and I hope you have a lovely rest of your day. Best, Student from Grant High School | Student  |
| #04272          | 10-17-21 11:08 PM | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine Mandates               | I feel it would be very beneficial to put in a mandate for students, it would make me and many of my peers much more comfortable in schools :) Those who are not vaccinated should not have to pose a threat to others and themselves in schools.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Student  |
| #04337          | 10-20-21 8:45 AM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine requirements           | I feel like this is a good idea coming from a student. Because it makes me as a student and an athlete feel more comfortable in the school. Although i do understand some peoples not being able to get vaccinated due to other health reasons so i believe a vaccine requirement or a negative test provided by the school can make more people be safer and hopefully less covid cases.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Student  |
| #04260          | 10-16-21 2:31 PM  | yes                                                                                    | COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement   | I was going to fill this space with vaccine statistics, telling you why vaccine mandates keep communities safe, how effective they are, etc. But you already know all that. What you might not know is that, as a student, vaccine requirement would mean a feeling of safety and security in our learning environment. It means that when I walk past a kid who's not wearing their mask properly, I can ask them to pull it over their nose, and not have to also worry that now I may have been exposed to COVID, and I may be exposing my peers and getting the 150-student choir program shut down completely (because, the people who wear their masks improperly are the ones who get COVID more frequently). If we knew, walking around the insanely overcrowded halls, that every student around us was without a doubt fully vaccinated, it would ease so much of our stress and make our learning environment so much more comfortable. Please, please, require vaccines for students.                                                                                                                                                                   | Student  |

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|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| #04287          | 10-18-21 12:42 PM | yes                                                                                    | required vaccinations for 12+ | I absolutely think that kids 12+ NEED to have covid vaccines. I'm in high school and I see SO many people with their masks under their nose, under their chin, or just not with it on at all. Its really scary, especially when teachers don't say anything about it. I don't want to get covid and I don't want my friends to get covid because someone is being stupid and putting others at risk. | Student         |
| #04252          | 10-15-21 8:56 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine requirement           | My daughter is in kindergarten at Chief Joesph Elementary. When the Covid vaccine is approved for 5 years and up I will be getting her vaccinated. I fully support a Covid vaccine mandate just as PPS has a vaccine requirement for all other childhood illnesses. Thank you.                                                                                                                       | Parent/Guardian |
| Email           | 10-21-21 7:36 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine requirement           | "There should be a vaccine mandate. Having everybody vaccinated would make things a lot easier on us. It would help kids like John by putting pressure on the parents."                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Student         |
| Email           | 10-21-21 7:36 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine requirement           | "They should have a vaccine mandate."                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Student         |
| Email           | 10-21-21 7:36 PM  | yes                                                                                    | Vaccine requirement           | (Upon being told that some parents are upset that their "choice" would be taken away around vaccines) "It should not be a choice! Parents should have to vaccinate their kids! John didn't get to have the vaccine because his parents are Republicans. That's not fair!"                                                                                                                            | Student         |

**The following is a transcript of the Zoom listening session for students on October 21, 2021:**

Speaker 1:

Cleaning and disinfecting of all services, operated ventilation and air filters, and required vaccinations for all staff, contractors, and volunteers. We know this is a highly sensitive and personal issue, which is why we want to hear from you, the students. And that's because many school districts around our state were discussing the possibility of requiring all vaccines for students 12 and up.

Speaker 2:

Please know that as a community, we value each individual belief and principle. That is why we will not tolerate disrespectful, harmful comments. We will have to stop at six and we will get through as many comments as possible. If you do not get to all, you can share your comment in writing using Let's Talk connect forum, which is available at [pps.net/contact](https://pps.net/contact). Following tonight's listening session, the board will discuss at the October 16th board meeting on merits, consequences, and impacts of the COVID vaccine requirement. If the board decides to move forward with a vaccine requirement, we should consider and vote on a student vaccine requirement at the November 2nd board meeting.

Speaker 1:

Please know that this meeting is being recorded. And now, we'd like to transition to the most important part. Which is what you think. We're going to follow that by two questions. If PPS chooses to require our students 12 and up to be vaccinated, how will it impact you at school and your school experience? And the second question, is that if PPS requires students 12 and up to be vaccinated against COVID-19, what resources and supports are the most essential to you as a student? Now, I'm going to turn it over to Shanice.

Shanice:

Thank you for helping us start off this evening Alexander and Danny. And we can start maybe with the raise hand feature. If you have a question, comment, or response to those two questions that were just raised, feel free to indicate that by raising your hands or hopping in. We have a good enough group where you can also hop in if you'd like to. And I just noticed our superintendent just joined us. Welcome superintendent, [inaudible 00:03:01].

Superintendent Guerrero:

Good evening, everybody. Hi Shanice. And it's nice to see so many students turning out. I'm very interested in hearing your perspective, so I'm here to listen and really want to hear what's on your mind on this important topic and question that I know our school board is thinking about. So thank you for making time.

Lily Stewart:

If no one else has anything, I can start out. So I don't have anything prepared, but my name is [Lily 00:03:37] Stewart and I am a senior at Grant High School. I use she/her pronouns. And I watched some of the discussions from Tuesday night and took issue with them. I personally support vaccine mandates for students in our schools for all eligible students. And I have spent the last few months living with a family member that's been going through cancer treatment among other things and being around immunocompromised people. I felt really lucky to be able to go back to some of the programs at school that I appreciate most, like our choir program. But realistically, at Grant this year with such significant overcrowding, there isn't room to social distance at school. And when it rains and people have to eat

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inside the buildings, there isn't sufficient space. And no matter how much ventilation or contact tracing the school does, it's still going to put students at risk.

Lily Stewart:

And I'm mandating vaccines, that significantly decreases the risk for all students involved. The Pfizer vaccines that are approved for ages 12 and up, have an extremely high efficacy rate relative to the potential side effects. And even there, the incidents of rare side effects is extremely low. So listening to a lot of parents who don't really spend time in our schools, talk about how many problems they have with mandating vaccines seems... Obviously, I respect their opinions and they all want the best thing for their children. But for me to be able to go to school, participate, feel safe, and know that the school is doing everything possible to keep my safety and that of my peers in mind. Knowing that the people around me are vaccinated is not only a significant boost in my level of comfort going to school, but also in the practical safety of doing that.

Superintendent Guerrero:

Thank you, Lily.

Abigail:

Hi, my name's Abigail and I do OLA online. So as far as public school goes, it doesn't really affect me as much as it does for probably all of you. But I do think that students should be required to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Because when you think about it, the chicken pox, mumps, and measles required vaccines, and people don't have an issue with those. So why should a COVID-19 vaccine be any different than any other ones? It all keeps us safe. It makes it so then it limits the risk for us and possibly everyone else. And if these three are acquired and you're okay with your child having these three, if not more vaccines, then you should be okay with having a child take the coronavirus vaccine. Seeing as how it is approved for ages 12 and up I think, and possibly getting approved for even younger ages.

Shanice:

Thank you Abigail for your comments. I noticed [Francis 00:08:07] raise their hand a moment ago. Did you have a comment to share?

Speaker 3:

Hello?

Shanice:

Hi.

Speaker 3:

Hi, I'm Francis mom. She is here, but I just wanted to say that we could not RSVP to this event on any of the emails and I'm afraid that nobody else could either. We went to the Tuesday night meeting and there was a RSVP link for that. But this, there was none. I had to call you guys a few times to even get on here. And I was just wondering if you knew anything about that, because it seems like nobody's here. It's a little unusual. I'm worried that the kids aren't being represented.

Superintendent Guerrero:

I think this is a student only meeting.

Speaker 4:

Also, I had a problem RSVPing myself.

Speaker 3:  
Yeah.

Shanice:  
Thank you for your question. I know we utilize a tool called school messenger primarily to reach students and had some other channels we wanted to utilize as well. And thank you for sharing your feedback around that. And know it's important for folks to have an opportunity to express their feedback. And will I think have some space, especially on our Let's Talk platform for folks to express comments and concerns that are outside of these spaces as well that we want to be taking into consideration before kind of thinking of this big decision. And can share that link in the chat again for folks to have available as well.

Speaker 5:  
I did have one thing that I was just personally wondering. So obviously, we know that we've started this process and we're looking into it. I was wondering how far the district wants to push this idea. I'm personally pro vaccine mandate. And I'm wondering how much kickback is the district willing to take from parents or students alike before they kind of shut down this idea? Or is this definitely something that's a priority? And the goal would be to get it, get the mandate through.

Shanice:  
I'll start responding to that question and maybe superintendent [inaudible 00:11:02] could support me there. But I know it's really important to have these spaces before a decision has been made, and I think there's a reflection on how important it is to have a student only space to express your priorities and concerns around what the mandate would mean for your experience. And so I think that this feedback you're providing tonight is really important for us and having that in addition to these other spaces we are holding, is going to play a role in how we think about the mandate in our metrics. I think that are locally kind of informing how we create protocols like social distancing and mask wearing. I think we're going to have an influence on this decision as well, but I think that this is, especially important for students like you all, expressing your voices about what this means for you, I think, is going to be taken into consideration from folks as we make that decision.

Superintendent Guerrero:  
I think you're asking the key question. So it's a public health issue. It's a school policy issue. There's some operationalization that would need to happen, and we know that there's a variability, a wide spectrum of opinions and perspectives on all of this, and there's even debate about what the facts are on some of this in people's own understanding. So the good thing is we have an elected school board who has to contend with issues like this. And when it is a big topic like this, we want to make sure our stakeholders have a chance to chime in. And so folks have been continuing to send their input or expressing their opinions. We opened up these spaces to hear directly. And to the point earlier, you're the students on campus and we should hear what you have to say directly as a specific audience. And board members should have to weigh that perspective as well.

Superintendent Guerrero:  
And to answer your question, there's not an assumed sort of path forward here. There's been no preconceived road that I understand, that we intend to take. It really is an open question right now. So it will be very interesting to hear the board discuss this topic and to capture all the themes and the notes

that we heard from these listening sessions plus the other input that people weigh in on. And to hear if there's consensus from our school board about how to move forward or how restrictive they want to be about a mandate expectation. A board could just say, "We think it's important students have it and we highly encourage you to," and not make it a mandate. Or all the way sort of more restrictive to say, "You can't set foot on campus unless you have the vaccine."

Superintendent Guerrero:

So by statute, we know that the state level state board of education has a process for making immunizations compulsory. And that's a pretty lengthy process. And I don't think they're planning to take that question up for probably at least a year. But it doesn't preclude in my understanding, a locally elected school board from being more restrictive than even a state board of education. A state board has to contend with an entire geographical state that's going to have a lot of varied opinions and perspectives on this. And so that's the beauty of public education, is you have local school boards that have the prerogative to make that decision in whatever way they want to make. So there isn't a set direction where we expect this to go, but we're definitely hearing themes emerge. I know that in the group of parents that I heard the other night, that there was a majority opinion against a mandate and people wanting, as parents, the ability to make those choices for their students with the consultation...

PART 1 OF 4 ENDS [00:16:04]

Superintendent:

... make those choices for their students with the consultation of their doctors as the parents. And that's why it's a little interesting to hear from you as students directly to say, "Well, my body, my choice," also in some regards. And I think, for me to be in an environment on campus, I would feel safer if, but even among students, there probably isn't a monopoly of opinion on this. And that's why we want to hear what your talking points are so that we can try to capture those and weigh those in any kind of policy decision that the school board might want to make.

Superintendent:

Do I have my personal opinion about it? Look, I've had both my shots, a booster, and a flu shot, and every other immunization. As from my perspective, this is a public health issue, and yes, there's a degree of personal choice, but I'm a public figure, and I'm always among people and among students, and in schools. And it's a measure, I think is important for me to take to protect myself, my family, and the broader community that I interact with.

Lily:

Yeah. I know I already talked, but I have to head out in just a couple of minutes, and I had a couple things to add and a couple questions. One of them, and this, I don't need an answer right now, but has the district conducted any numerical polls of families or of students on whether they're in support of a vaccine mandate? Because while I know that there were a significant lean toward parents that were against the vaccine mandate at the meetings on Tuesday, based on nearly all of the conversations that I've had with my peers at school and the sentiments that I've heard from their families from them, I've heard a significant lean to the contrary, to people that support vaccine mandates, and in terms of precedent and legality, and all these things that say, like, "Here's a decision that has been shown to make education safer," like the Los Angeles Public School District, biggest school district in the country, has mandated vaccines for students that are eligible to receive them.

Lily:

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And there are medical exceptions. And I absolutely believe, if for people with a medical reason, that they cannot receive the COVID vaccine or a religious one that is deeply held, then mandating vaccines with appropriate exceptions benefits everybody, because it means that the other students that they're in class with are vaccinated, are protected, are less likely, even if the risk isn't zero, but they're significantly less likely to spread the virus to immunocompromised peers, which I think is a net benefit for everybody.

Lily:

And then looking at the legality and the constitutionality, vaccine mandates have been upheld by the Supreme Court as being constitutional time and time again. And though there are certainly divided opinions on the issue, going all the way back to the smallpox vaccine, vaccines have been a consistent measure that has been used to promote public health. And there are certainly complex histories behind, especially among early vaccines. A lot of the research and a lot of the testing was done in a way that was very racist and inconsistent with standard scientific practice. But these vaccines are new. They're well-researched. They're fully approved by the FDA. The Pfizer vaccine has been granted full approval. It's not even Emergency Use Authorization, it's fully approved. And so, I think I'll just leave it with that, that it's not just, should we? But, can we? And the answer to, can we? is yes.

Speaker 6:

Lily, to that, a follow-up question I would have, if you currently don't feel that the current measurements of PPS policies keep you safe within COVID, do you feel like the added measurement of a COVID vaccine would make you feel more safe in school?

Lily:

Absolutely, yeah. I think I can see ways in the school that the school is trying to keep me safe. And I think for the most part, I feel relatively safe attending school, but I would certainly feel safer knowing that my peers were vaccinated.

Xander:

I will add, sorry, my voice is a little rough today, that to tell your peers that this isn't the only opportunity to share your voice. I know I'm very pro-vaccine mandate, and we have this thing called public comment at every board meeting. There's a board meeting coming up this Tuesday, and then in two weeks from then, [inaudible 00:21:33] November 2nd, where they're going to possibly vote on this mandate. Tell your friends to get out, sign up, send an email to [publiccomment@pbs.net](mailto:publiccomment@pbs.net). I believe that's it. I've been at every board meeting since early August, speaking about this. And, like you said, Lily, every single student I talk to is all for the vaccine mandate. And it's the parents who aren't the ones sitting in school all day who don't like it, so let's get these students out there.

Xander:

I encourage you to speak at this Tuesday's board meeting to all the board members. I don't actually see any board members here today, which is unfortunate, but, oh, well. Tell your friends that you can speak at the board meeting, just encourage your peers to share their opinions on a broader scale, because you're right, all the people, all the parents who are coming out are not in support of it. And it sounds like I haven't talked to a single student today, or seen a single student who's been against it. I would just like to add that.

Lily:

Absolutely. Thank you.

Superintendent:

Shanice, I think Sandra Kim has their hand up.

Shanice:

That's right. Sandra, would you like to provide some thoughts for response to that question?

Sandra Kim:

Yeah. Well, I have a statement prepared, but I also wanted to say that the vaccine has not been fully approved for students, for children that are ages 12 to 18. It's only been approved for emergency use. Yeah, my name is Sandra Kim. And before I start, I want to say that I'm fully vaccinated, and I support other people getting vaccinated. However, I don't support a vaccine mandate. Forcing teens to receive a vaccine that has been only approved for emergency use is not ethical. And there's evidence that the vaccine can cause significant health problems for some teens. If a vaccine mandate is required for students who are not ready to get the vaccine, will their free public education be taken away?

Sandra Kim:

The science shows that although the vaccine can prevent severe illness, vaccinated people can still get the virus and spread it to others. We also know that in adults, Pfizer's effectiveness reduces after six months. If this is true for teens as well, students who are vaccinated, when it was first available in May, begin losing protection starting in December. Because of this, if you decide to mandate the vaccine, you'll also need to mandate booster shots.

Sandra Kim:

At a board meeting over three weeks ago, I spoke about how COVID safety protocols at my school were not being followed. Absolutely nothing has changed since then. And many students, like myself are still eating lunch in the rain. We know that COVID vaccines don't work in isolation, but are most effective when combined with other safety protocols. If the COVID vaccine is mandated, I am scared that students and staff will get a false sense of safety, and the already loose safety protocols will become even more lax. Waning vaccine effectiveness and minimal enforcement of safety protocols make a dangerous combination, especially before the winter holiday season.

Sandra Kim:

I am in support of vaccinations. However, a vaccine mandate is not the solution. Mandatory randomized testing every week is a more effective strategy in preventing the spread of COVID-19 in schools. Randomized testing can identify many asymptomatic cases that would otherwise be missed. A vaccine mandate may do more harm than good. Testing and masking may be our best way to manage and minimize the spread of COVID-19 while making sure we aren't excluding students from school. Thank you. I also wanted to say that I don't think that this meeting is accurately representing all of the opinions of the students. Thank you.

Shanice:

Thank you, Sandra for providing your comments. I know there's some other folks here who haven't had an opportunity to share yet, and want to provide that space, and you can always hop in, or use the [inaudible 00:26:02] feature to indicate if you have something to reflect on or have something you might have prepared to share.

Speaker 8:

I've [inaudible 00:26:26], just a moment here, but I think something that definitely should be addressed about getting student engagement is that this cannot be the end of doing that. And I know that we have more information on Let's Talk, and I think that's great. Maybe that's something that us at DSC could work on, getting more student engagement. I think, obviously, that's been shared already, that this is not enough. People are not getting enough information about this.

Speaker 8:

And then I also think a lot of the students that this will affect have that privacy and already have that independence in what their treatment should be. And I think that's really important to take into account. I think it was already previously said, a lot of people, a lot of parents, specifically, are coming in against this. And obviously, we do have students, too, but I think it's important to take into account majority student voices, because this is something that will affect directly the students that obviously we're enforcing this mandate upon.

Speaker 8:

I think that's the most important thing, getting that student engagement and ensuring that students feel happy and ready to move forward with this, rather than just having parents explain why they don't want their kids to be vaccinated. And Sandra is putting that in the chat. I think students should definitely be centered, and their voices thereof, because they're the people that will be affected, and they're the people that have to go to school every day.

Shanice:

Yeah, I agree that there should definitely be some additional steps we take to make sure students know how to express comments, and appreciate your kind of offer for help on that from the DSC's side as well. And 100%, I think that centering the voices of students in our decision-making is important. And having that, having folks really contend with what students are asking and sharing is definitely, I think a part of this process, and appreciate you for being here. And we'll, I think be able to take what we've learned today and be able to make adjustments as necessary to make sure students know how they can express their opinions.

Speaker 9:

Yeah, I think this probably should be a continuous discussion or an open forum because with the thousands of students in PPS, and this town hall meeting has 12 participants, half of whom are staff or student leaders. I think this probably needs to have more representation.

Xander:

I do have a question for Chanice, superintendent, and Jackson. Were board members invited to this or encouraged to attend this? I know several of them attended the Tuesday meeting with parents, but not... Maybe I'm wrong, but I don't see any board members on this call right now.

Speaker 7:

Yes. Thank you, Xander. I know the board is definitely highly invested in what students are sharing with us, and know that public meeting law will trigger certain things when board members are present at engagements. And so, we wanted to make sure that students were able to access this space without any restrictions or the presence of other folks, that making it public in the media.

Superintendent:

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I also wasn't sure, Xander, so I actually asked at the start of the meeting. Board members weren't explicitly invited to attend this student listening session. I know that they're anxious to hear what the themes are or what the range of perspectives were, but they weren't necessarily invited to participate here.

Xander:

Thanks for sharing. That is a little bit unfortunate to hear because I think the goal of a town hall is to talk to the people who are, at the end of the day, making these decisions. The president of the United States doesn't have a town hall without the president. I appreciate you, superintendent for being here a lot. It's great for you to listen to us. Thank you for being here.

Superintendent:

It's important to hear from our students directly.

Shanice:

Yes, thank you, superintendent for being here. And I also want to add that a transcript of the session will be shared directly with our board members. And so they're definitely eager to listen and hear what folks are sharing in this space in addition to these additional steps we need to take to hear more voices from students.

Shanice:

Hear more voices from students.

Xander:

I do have to head out right now, but thank you all for attending. And I think this is going for another 25 minutes or so. So I hope discussion is lively. Thank you Shanice, Danny, Jackson, and superintendent.

Thank you.

Shanice:

Thank you, Xander.

Speaker 10:

Hi, I actually have a question. I was wondering that if you do mandate vaccines, will you also mandate booster shots?

Superintendent Guerrero:

Well, that's a good question. Because I think we're all actually anxiously waiting to see from what we know at the end of the month, some further decisions about the authorization of the vaccine. And I don't think we have any confirmation around whether a regimen of a booster shot would be something expected of this age group also. We know that the dosage is going to be smaller, so I don't know what that means for a booster. But it's a good question that we'll certainly be asking our health authorities as well.

Shanice:

Thank you, superintendent Guerrero. And I'm seeing, I believe Sandra's raised hand was from before. But if not, please, correct me. And Nathan, I'm also seeing you with a raised hand if you'd like to share thoughts.

Nathan:

Yeah. I just have a few comments and also a question. So I want to start by saying that I'm not opposed to the vaccine. I believe that it does a very effective job at minimizing symptoms, hospitalizations, and death. I am however, quite hesitant about a vaccine mandate for the COVID vaccine in schools. I think that getting the vaccine should be a choice made by the students, their parents, and their physicians and that it's not a choice that the schools should be making. I also wanted to point out that I think it's curious that we're comparing the COVID vaccine to other vaccines that are required. Because the other vaccines that are required, they don't have breakthrough cases. Whereas with the COVID vaccine, there have been shown to be breakthrough cases. And so I also am not sure that calling the COVID vaccine an immunization is correct or accurate. And then also just a quick question I had, if they do go through with the vaccine mandate, how is that going to affect the safety measures that are already in place, like masking, social distancing, things like that? Thank you.

Shanice:

Thank you, Nathan for sharing your comments. And I think an answer to that question in terms of what our current kind of mask wearing, physical distancing, and screen testing, I believe is definitely still a part of our practice with a vaccine mandate if that were to happen. And that there would definitely be, I think, practice and safety measures, especially if folks have any positive cases in schools. And it definitely will be important for air filtration and a number of pieces to be present, and how that will shift and change, I think there's a likelihood that it may be tweaked. But I think we'll be able to learn more about what that looks like as we kind of explore board meetings with updates on just the COVID practices in our schools. But if I'm missing something, please add something there.

Superintendent Guerrero:

I would just say Shanice, we've tried to be really consistent about health and safety measures being based on our Multnomah county public health authorities recommendations, as well as our medical advisory team. And if they suggest things that would be helpful, we've implemented them. If they were to say, "Guidance is changing if you have guarantees of a level of vaccination, then we would consider that." But I wish I could answer your questions, because they're good questions. I just don't know right now, we would have to consult with the health experts.

Shanice:

Thank you. And I know towards the beginning of our time, we asked two kind of overall questions. If PPS requires students 12 and up to be vaccinated against COVID-19, how would it impact you at school? And with that vaccine requirement against COVID-19, what resources and support do you think are important to have in place? [Quinn 00:38:39], you have your hand raised.

Quinn:

Hi, I got here a little bit late, so I'm not sure if this question was answered already. But I was wondering, there's like a lot of people who have health problems or conditions, or like need a religious exemption for the vaccine. So if those people were not able to get it or choose not to, how would they attend school? Would it be an online situation or would they still be able to go to school without the vaccine due to their exemption?

Shanice:

I think that's an important question and there could be a number of different options that our board might contend with that might mean highly encouraging maybe, the vaccine. Or then on the other side,

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a more restrictive option of having that mandate for students to be able to go to school. And so insight too, on what that would kind of look like, what that should look like. I definitely welcome and I think I'm not sure what that reality could be given we will be able to sort of contend with how restrictive basically the vaccine mandate could be in the school system. And so if there is insight too, on what should be in place, especially for folks to have an option... And I know that there can be scenarios where people have exemptions, especially folks for medical reasons or religious reasons might have have an exemption. And so that could be another way that looks as well.

Quinn:  
Okay. Thank you.

Speaker 11:  
Sorry. There are current exemptions for vaccine mandates that we have currently, correct? Right, that's what I...

Superintendent Guerrero:  
For employees, because those are the only groups that we've put a mandate for, which actually was by governor executive order. But there is a religious exemption and there is a medical exemption for adults. So those would probably be two exemption areas to consider. In the state of Oregon for general immunizations, there's also another third category of exemption. So that would be something else to consider as well.

Quinn:  
Are the employees allowed to have a religious or medical exemption or have any of them been granted at all?

Superintendent Guerrero:  
Yes. So we definitely have employees who've requested and had approved in most cases, a medical exemption, 0.4% of our 7,900 employees. And then we had another 2% of employees who requested a religious exemption. So if it was a sincerely held belief, religious belief, then we went ahead and granted that as well.

Quinn:  
Okay. Thanks.

Shanice:  
Thank you Quinn for your comments and your question. And yes, I know it's about 5:16 and want to be able to just share that questions again. With that mandate, how that might impact you just at your day to day experience at school and what we need in place if that decision were to be made. And know we have an opportunity to connect with additional students after tonight to make sure we are hearing more feedback, that response to these very same questions. And also thank you all for sharing your perspectives and experiences. It's not easy and it's personal to share your stories, and just experience about what this will mean for you. And so I'm thankful for you all showing up today and providing your comments already. Abigail, would you like to share?

Abigail:  
I know I already stated this earlier, that I'm lucky enough to do online, school from home. But I do have a younger brother who does go to public school and I feel like a mandate would help a bit. So I'm not as

worried of him potentially getting sick or something worse. And I feel like it would make a bunch of students as I already said, feel safer being able to attend school, even with the safety precautions of the six-foot distance, the mask, and everything else. But I also wanted to add that if we do do randomized testing as well, because the symptoms are pretty similar to other things, then I feel like it would bring out maybe some false positives.

Abigail:

But if students get the vaccine, I know it doesn't completely prevent people from getting COVID-19, but it definitely makes the risk way less dangerous if that makes sense. And I can definitely see both sides of the argument where some people don't want to get it because it shouldn't really be a mandate and be a choice. But there's also the other side like me, that agree and it would make it safer for everyone. And if I could add a question, I know you said you had a meeting with some parents who were heavily against it. Could we possibly know what the arguments were for being against it above medical or religious reasons?

Shanice:

Thank you, Abigail for sharing again. And to kind of answer your question, first I do want to say it's a really complex, issue that we're talking about. And we kind of know that...

Shanice:

We kind of know that the tone from our parents, especially from the listening session, were that folks were invested in that choice. But I know from attending board meetings, that there's definitely folks who have different opinions and a number of teachers who might be in support of a mandate. And are in the schools just like you are, and reflecting on the impact of that for first students and them as well. And so I think there might be some kind of unique circumstances where the vaccine might complicate a medical issue for a student and even for staff. And in those kind of unique circumstances, I think are something that folks know that are possible, we might will contend with. And, and so hopefully that answers your question.

Shanice:

I know vaccines are a common practice and there could be... And especially a religious practice and religious reasons why folks won't take the vaccine. But I know that there are folks who represent a variety of opinions and know that especially in spaces like this, that we're able to hear that folks express how it will work for them and who don't work for them. But appreciate the feedback that you're sharing tonight around your experience, especially with how you access school and how your siblings kind of access school, and that impact for you. I see some additional hands raised as well, and [Sondra 00:50:45] and Quinn. Maybe Sondra can go first.

Sondra:

I just wanted to say how a vaccine mandate would impact me going to school. I think that a vaccine mandate... In school normally, every single day, many safety protocols aren't being followed. Like I see so many people with their masks off, there's no social distancing in indoor lunch. And I think that if there's a vaccine mandate and if everybody in the school would be vaccinated, it would make everybody have a false sense of safety. And it would make people less likely to follow the safety protocols and less likely to enforce them too. So I think it would make me really uncomfortable being in school. And I'm already not super comfortable being in school, but I think it would make me feel less safe. And also, my sister is immune compromised.

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Shanice:

Thank you, Sondra for responding to that question and also sharing your experience about your school day to day and your family. And I appreciate you bringing that into the space. Quinn, did you have something that you would like to share as well? And I also want to welcome Miranda who joined us. Hi, Miranda. We are reflecting on a couple questions and they are just around if PPS requires students 12 and up to be vaccinated against COVID-19, how would it impact your experience at school? And with that same vaccine requirement, what kind of resources or support needs to be in place to support you?

Quinn:

Is it okay if I ask my question?

Shanice:

Yes, Go ahead.

Quinn:

I was just wondering if you guys have found any information about adverse events due to the vaccine, or if there's been any like negative effects of the vaccine? Like if the school has reported that or seen anything happen like that?

Shanice:

I can definitely reflect on that at a higher level. I know we have been working really closely with health advisory panel that's really comprised of health professionals in addition to this work and support from our Oregon Health Authority. And I think our understanding of how the vaccine impacts people in real time is kind of available as well for viewing, if you're interested in sort of those discussions or spaces that we've had at our board meeting. But I know we're kind of able to hear updates because the FDA, I know is working through approving different age groups for the vaccine. And that information, as we understand and learn it, kind of gets presented to our leaders in the school district and publicly at our board meetings. And so the details of how to access it and both how it's impacting us on a local level, is information that's important for us.

Quinn:

Okay. Thank you. I was just wondering, because I know somebody who had a really bad experience when he got the vaccine and he had like no underlying conditions. So I was just wondering if anything had been reported throughout the school district or anything like that. But thank you.

Shanice:

Well, thank you Quinn for sharing that, and know that that experience is important to lift up that it's not the same for everybody. And thank you for bringing that reality here into this space, too. Miranda, I see that your raising your actual hand. Would you have something to share as well?

Miranda:

Yeah, I don't know. I've been thinking about vaccine mandates and it was something I was wondering if the school is going to do for a while. Because I know as somebody who has health conditions that might put me at higher risk for complications for COVID and as somebody who has family members who also have health conditions that put them at significantly high risk for negative results with getting COVID. I'm already vaccinated and most of my friends and family are as well. And it would definitely make me personally, feel a lot safer and more comfortable being at school. Because I know there's a lot of things on a district [inaudible 00:56:39] level, we can't control. Like, exactly how well adherence is to distancing

and air filtration in the classrooms, a lot of that everyday execution of those protocols. But I do think vaccine mandates are a promising way to support the health of our students and families.

Shanice:

Thank you, Miranda. Thanks for joining us and sharing your comments. I know we had a really good discussion and some ideas on next steps as well. And just feeling appreciative for you all taking the time. Apparently, the sun is looking like it's setting later these days, but still five. But appreciate for taking the time to be here and sharing your comments. And Danny and other members of our district student council as well, for your support tonight.

Shanice:

And just generally, of elevating student voice on this important issue. I want to make sure too, that Let's Talk feature, both to reach the student council and to share comments about a vaccine mandate is something folks know is available to you as students to share feedback. And we got some work to do as well with making sure other folks know that as well. And I think with that being said, I know some folks potentially... Max or [Macario 00:58:40], hopefully I'm saying your name correctly, might not have shared yet. And you might be in a listening mode today and that's actually just fine if you are. But want to make sure you have the space to share anything on your mind that you might have to bring with us before we close.

Superintendent Guerrero:

Well, I really appreciate hearing all of your varied perspectives, very valid opinions, and feelings that you have. It's important to hear them. I think Sam D said in the chat... I'm a Spanish speaker, but my French [foreign language 00:59:28]. So I'm doing okay and I hope you're all doing okay these days, because there's a lot going on and everybody's feeling it no matter what your age group. So thank you guys for hanging in there, we're all trying to stay focused on teaching and learning, but making sure you're feeling okay too. I don't think the intent is to add any more stress or pressure. Our only goal is to keep people safe and there's a variety of ways of doing that. And I think this is an important community conversation that very much impacts on your daily lives. So appreciate you sharing tonight.

Quinn:

Thank you.

Shanice:

Yes, thank you students for joining us and superintendent Guerrero for joining us as well. And the transcript of tonight will be shared with members of our board and also with folks across our system, so we are able to contend with your feedback and before making this important decision. So thank you for being here tonight and please utilize Let's Talk if you have anything else to share or want to reach back out to us.

Superintendent Guerrero:

Goodnight everybody.

Speaker 12:

Quickly, I just have a quick question. I know this meeting is being recorded. Is there any way to view some of the previous ones, like the adult one that was on Tuesday?

Shanice:

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That's a great question. They're going to be posted. I believe there's a 24 hour or so window in between. They are going to get to our website, but our board really houses information from all of their public meetings on their website. And so that's a place where you are able to find the recordings of the previous sessions.

Speaker 12:  
All right. Thank you.

Miranda:  
Yeah, thanks so much for holding this.

Shanice:  
Thank you all.

**END [01:01:56]**

**The following is a transcript of the Zoom listening session for Grant, McDaniel, Jefferson and MPG families on October 19, 2021:**

Courtney Westling:

That's a resounding... going to kick us off. Good evening, everybody. My name's Courtney Westling. I am the Government Relations Director for Portland Public Schools, and I am going to get us kicked over to the board in a second. But we just thank you for being here and joining us tonight to share your thoughts as a proposed mandate on the COVID vaccine is being discussed for 12 and older.

We're going to have some ground rules that I'll let our board discuss with you, but I want to just welcome you, thank you for being here and taking time out of your evening. I can hear my own kids in the background, so I appreciate it. I'm going to ask Chair DePass to get us started. Or actually, I'm sorry, I'm going to have our board members introduce themselves first and our staff introduce themselves first and then we'll get started. I'm sorry. I always skip the important part. So maybe Chair DePass, you can start? And you are muted.

Speaker 1:

You're muted.

Courtney Westling:

It happens every time guys. Somebody's got to be the first one.

Michelle DePass:

Someone has to start falling forward first. Hi, everyone. My name is Michelle DePass. I'm the Board Chair this year. I'm interested in being here, and my role here today is to listen. I'm a PPS parent and I'm a product of PPS, as well, and have lived in and around the district all of my life. Thanks. I'll turn it over to my colleague, Director Hollands.

Gary Hollands:

Hello. Hello, everyone. My name is Gary Hollands. I'm a newly elected Director of PPS. Once again, I'm here as well just to listen and learn from the community on this very important topic. Lifelong Oregonian, got web feet, and so I'm just really excited to hear what our community has to say.

Courtney Westling:

Okay. Thank you. Dr. Byrd, do you want to introduce yourself?

Shawn Bird:

Hi. Good evening, everyone. I'm Shawn Byrd. I'm the Deputy Superintendent of Instruction and School Communities. I'm also just here to listen. Thank you.

Courtney Westling:

Great. Thank you. And Roseanne, I think you're the last staffer that needs to tell people who you are.

Roseanne Powell:

Thank you. I'm Roseanne Powell and I'm the Board Manager.

Courtney Westling:

Great. Thank you. I'm going to have Director Hollands get us started and share some of the, why we're here and then we'll move into all of your comments. We're going to do the best we can to get everybody

heard. So, we're going to move pretty rapidly and we will have to tell you when your time is getting near the end, but I'll have our directors lay out some of the ground rules. Thank you.

Gary Hollands:

Thank you, Courtney. So as you guys all know, our number one priority at the school district is to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our students, family, and our staff, which is why we have worked hard to implement safety measures across the system to safely open schools this fall. To date, as best as we can, we've tried to implement safety measures, including mask wearing, physical distancing, screening, testing, isolation of quarantining individuals with positive cases of folks that have been in close contact, regular hand-washing, of course, cleaning and disinfecting, in between, tried to upgrade our ventilation and air systems, and of course, we're requiring all our staff, volunteers, contractors, coaches, to be vaccinated. Like many districts around Oregon and U.S., We are discussing the possibility of requiring vaccines for students 12 and up.

Now, we know this is a personal and highly sensitive issue, which is why we want to hear from you guys and want to hear from as many of you, in the time that we have allotted. We know that we're not going to be able to hear from everyone, as there is a lot of people who wants to weigh in on this, and rightfully so. We're going to just ask if you guys can limit your comments to two minutes and then staff will time you and let you know when we need to end. Staff will let you guys kind of know when you need to end, so we can move on to the next person.

Again, we're just here to listen. We're not here to try to debate and find out what's going on and all that. It's literally just for us to listen to what you guys have to say. So it won't be like a question and answer session. It'll mostly just be for you guys to let us know where you guys are at about this decision of mandating vaccines for our kids or not. That's all I got to say. We'll move on to Ms. Chair DePass.

Michelle DePass:

Thank you, Director Hollands. Hi, everyone. Please know, that as a community, we value each individual's beliefs and principles. We've heard and seen from school board members across the country and even in Oregon, that vaccines, masking and COVID response are difficult topics. So, I want to acknowledge that fact, and also mention that we will not tolerate disrespectful or hurtful comments. If you express disrespect, we will have to mute you, especially, if you interfere with another's inability to listen and share their comments. We'll have a hard stop at 8:00, and we'll get through as many of your comments as possible. Again, we value your input. This is a listening session for us, so we can make our decisions more informed. If we do not get to all of you, you can share your comments in writing, using our Let's Talk contact form, which is available at [pps.net/contact](https://pps.net/contact).

Following tonight's listening sessions, the board will have a discussion at the October 26th meeting on the merits, consequences and impacts of a vaccine requirement. If the board decides to move forward with a vaccine requirement, we would consider and vote on a student vaccine requirement at the November 2nd board meeting. Please know that this session is being live streamed and recorded, and during your two minutes, we welcome your opinion on these two questions or would ask for your opinion. Again, if you, if you can wrap up sooner than two minutes, we'll have time to hear from more of your neighbors.

We're asking for your opinion on these two questions. If PPS requires students 12 and up to be vaccinated against COVID-19, how will it impact your students' experience at school? And two, if PPS requires students 12 and up to be vaccinated against COVID-19, what resources and supports are the

most essential to support your student. I'm going to turn it back to Courtney now, to get us started, and thank you for being here.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you, directors. Appreciate the intro. So we're going to get started. I'm going to go based on when people RSVP'ed for this meeting, just because I want to do this in a way that makes sense to me, and I hope that works for everyone. I also want to let you know that I think there are some members of the media here. They're just listening. This is an important topic. So, I just want everyone to be aware of that fact. So we will get started.

I'm going to try to put the questions up on a share screen, but it's also kind of tough to juggle looking at Google list. So I'll try to do my best, but let us know if you need the questions repeated and again, thank you for being here.

Okay. So, the first person I have on my list and I didn't see him in the room. So, if it's a minute or a few seconds and I'm not hearing from anybody, we'll move on. I have Steven Dell [Guidicca 00:08:00], I think I said that, right. Hopefully.

Roseanne Powell:

I don't see him in the room.

Courtney Westling:

Yeah. I don't see him. Okay. We'll move on. So next I have [Kara Eckhardt 00:08:11] . And of course, sometimes people RSVP and then things come up. So, it's okay. We're just going to keep moving. Kara? Okay. Jenny [McClister 00:08:25] .

Roseanne Powell:

I don't see her either.

Courtney Westling:

Rachel Hall I saw. But I'm not seeing her now, so we'll move on. Jennifer Blankenbaker.

Roseanne Powell:

I see Jennifer and she's on mute.

Jennifer Blankenbaker:

I'm just here to listen.

Courtney Westling:

Great. Okay. Thank you very much. Thanks for letting us know. Andy [Rontal 00:08:59]. I did see Rachel Hall and I want to give her a chance to...

Roseanne Powell:

I think Rachel's unmuted.

Rachell Hall:

I here to listen, also.

Courtney Westling:

Okay. Thank you. Okay, Richard, you're up. Richard Pitcairn.

Dr. Richard Pitcairn:

Hello there. My name is Dr. Richard Pitcairn, and boy, this is going to be a really fast two minutes. I'm going to have to talk pretty quick here. First, I want to acknowledge that the COVID vaccines have a really good benefit for the at-risk population in keeping them out of hospitals and from worse things happening. There was recently a faculty staff from HSU that was on CBS news on October 14th. The subject matter was American's Broken Relationship with COVID Math. And the bottom line is... what they were stating is, COVID is pretty much age driven. So, young children are simply not at the risk doctors that elderly are. With that, kids respond, like they do with other respiratory illnesses, and they do quite well.

This morning on OPB, OHSU is having an outbreak in their fully vaxxed both staff and students. The University of Oregon is having an outbreak and their students are at 96.3% vaccinated. If you look at Israel, you'll see the fully vaccinated people are having a lot of problems. The vaccine is awesome, but I don't think it belongs in our children as a mandate. They call these a leaky vaccines, meaning they decrease severity, but they still do not stop transmission.

The CDC published a paper on a town in Massachusetts where 74% of their outbreak was in the fully vaccinated. The other 26% were in a mixed status. The CDC also is acknowledging that vaccine vaccinated people with COVID carry the same viral load in their nasal pharynx.

What else do I have for you on that? Oh, well, I guess, there's a risk. Vaccines carry a risk. That's just a reality. There's a woman who just passed away. Her name is Jessica Wilson, age 37 up in Seattle leaving two young girls without a mom. A 16-year-old was just reported. She died one day after her Pfizer vaccine. A 15 year-old-boy died six days after his Pfizer vaccine, they did an autopsy and it showed bleeding in his brain and heart damage. And so I think today's discussion should also recognize that five-year-olds are around the corner in this. If we make a policy right now, they're going to be next. I think this should be a student-centered discussion and I think the reality is, this is more adult centered. This is to protect the adults, the elderly, the comorbidities, the teachers. Our children don't need this to survive it. They just simply don't. So, I think it would be a travesty-

Courtney Westling:

Thank you. Sorry that we can't keep going. Appreciate your feedback. Catherine Potter.

Catherine Potter:

I'm here. Can you hear me? Yeah. Okay. Hi, I'm a parent of a grant student and I'm just here to express my support for vaccinations for the 12 and older. I'm not speaking about the younger children, but for the 12 and older, I think there is good evidence that vaccines are good for our population and that the more people we have vaccinated, the better for all of us. Thank you.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you, Catherine. And just to clarify everyone, we are speaking to the question of vaccines for 12-years-old and up. So I just want to be really clear. Next is Myles [Ellenby 00:12:48].

Miles, are you going to speak tonight? Miles Ellenby. We can come back. Rafael Hernandez? Erin Snyder?

Erin Snyder:

Hi there, I'm a parent of a student at Jefferson, **and I just wanted to say that I strongly believe that the decision whether or not to vaccinate is a personal one, and it shouldn't be something that the school**

**forces onto our kids.** I think it's an extremely polarizing and divisive topic, at the moment. And I'm afraid for how my daughter and her friends will be able to interact and discuss what's happening, if a set of kids are then not going to be in school, if that's the case, if they decide that they don't want to take the vaccine.

I'm just really worried and scared about what's going to happen if it is a mandate, and I just think, if the kids have already been in school part of the year last year and already now, why not just continue the way it is, it should be a personal decision. Thank you.

Courtney Westling:

Thanks, Erin. Phillip Johnson. Crystal Ball. Catherine Gentle.

Catherine Gentle:

I'm here. Hi. Thank you. I did speak at last week's board meeting. I do want to quickly say, I really appreciate everybody's effort and have great sensitivity to the fears that a lot of people are feeling right around this subject matter. And I do want to support the previous parents that expressed concern regarding the vaccinating of children to protect vulnerable population. **I have a great concern about that.** I also have a great concern regarding mandating something that should be a personal choice, which there still are a lot of unknowns and lots of questions and lots of data points that raise further questions.

My fear is that this would advocate a one size for all. It would add further division. It would impact our family. We would need to consider leaving the district, if this were to pass.

I just can't support school intervening and medical measures when this should be solely purely done between our trusted professionals. Everything feels so rushed. If we could have more dialogue and spend some more time to talk about the true risks to our kids, early treatment options, and actually dedicating resources and time to promote programs that really talk about prevention and what we can do to be empowered as a community today. Not wait for a vaccine. What can we do today that would really aid and by us some time, so that we can have further robust discussion on this topic.

But I cannot support a requirement in a public school where you're tasked to represent a very diverse population. And we don't know the medical conditions of every person. We don't know their religious beliefs. We don't know viral loads in people. We don't know other, undiagnosed situations. We would be putting the school district at great liability. And that's the problem, as well. There is no liability. It would fall solely on the burden of the families to pick up the pieces for any adverse events and there are many-

Roseanne Powell:

We're at two minutes.

Catherine Gentle:

Thank you. Thank you.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you, Catherine. Next is Sarah Hayes. Amelia Palmer Hanson.

Chris:

Hi. We've got Amelia and Chris. Amelia asked me to start, and then she might chime in. Immunization mandate is nothing new for a public school system. This vaccine has been fully vetted. **So, we fully support having the vaccine mandate.** The benefit for our child and other children is a decreased risk of isolation, of kids having to quarantine, of teachers getting sick, of kids getting sick.

I understand the anecdotes that the earlier doctor said, but I support the science that PPS is looking at for this mandate. I think it's a benefit for our child and at Madison High School. And for many others.

Amelia Palmer:

I'll just add that this is a no-brainer, and I can't understand why we are having such a controversy about this. We already vaccinate our children for MMR and all these other things. This is just a no-brainer. **We should protect our children by having the vaccine.** It's McDaniel High School that are our student goes to.

Chris:

Yes. Thanks.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you. I see somebody's hand up, and I can't acknowledge that. If you're on the list, I will allow you to speak when we get to you. Otherwise, we'll encourage you to submit written comment, or if we have time at the end, I'll of course, offer it. I just want to be clear. Next is Margo [Manson 00:19:17]. Melinda Proud. Or maybe it's Prond. Sorry. Eric Lambert. Saw that one.

Eric Lambert:

Yes. Thank you. Yeah. As a person who actually is immunocompromised and booster vaccinated, I just have mixed feelings. When I think we really look at this from a public health lens, we need to look a little bit more holistically about more than just protecting the most vulnerable populations, like myself.

I think that the fallout from students missing school or alternative, educational measures having to be implemented from people unwilling to take the vaccine, is something that really needs to be weighed heavily. I honestly would say that, we're better off trying to encourage people to get the vaccine, if they feel it's appropriate for them, **rather than mandating it.**

Courtney Westling:

Thanks, Eric. Brendan McCool.

Brenda McCool:

Yeah. Let me put my video on, if I can, let me see here. Maybe I won't be able to put my video on. Can you hear me?

Courtney Westling:

We can.

Brenda McCool:

Okay, great. So I'm a physician as well, and there're several points I'd like to make. Number one, is when we talk about science, we really need to just look no further than the CDC and the VAERS website. You can get all the statistics on [openvaers.com](https://www.openvaers.com). Since this vaccine has been allowed, there have been nearly 800,000 COVID vaccine, adverse events reported. There's been 16,766 COVID vaccine deaths reported. Now that's out of 25,799,000 total deaths for all vaccines ever given over a 20 year period.

This is not a safe vaccine. This is not accounting for the children. Once we start incorporating them into the picture, there is no liability. There is no recourse for the children that will be injured, and that will die from this vaccine. A UC Davis report done by Hogue scientists, reported that...

Brenda McCool:

... report done by [inaudible 00:22:01] scientist reported that children are more likely to be hospitalized with myocarditis from the vaccine than from COVID, so it's just a huge risk for our children. I am treating vaccine injured children in my practice now. I have one that is on a heart transplant list at Doernbecher's. He's 16 years old. And I have another young gal who is having major menstrual issues that she never had prior to vaccination. We know this travels. The spike protein travels to the brain, the heart, the ovaries. There are no safety studies on this vaccine.

There is no safe safety board. This is not safe for our children. I think there are much better ways to protect our vulnerable, than risking our children. And I also just want to say that the current policy for quarantining unvaccinated kids and letting vaccinated kids, if there's an exposure, come to school is completely... That just doesn't make sense at all because we all know that this vaccine does not prevent transmission. It does not prevent infection. It just prevents severity of the illness. And children are very unlikely to have a severe illness from this given their innate immune systems. And-

Courtney Westling:  
You're at two minutes.

Brenda McCool:  
Okay. Thank you.

Courtney Westling:  
Thank you, Brenda. Rachel O'Rourke?

Rachel O'Rourke:

Hi. Yeah, just one second. I'm going to pull up my notes here. My name's Rachel O'Rourke. This is my husband Quinn. We of three students in Portland Public Schools, a freshman at Grant, a senior at Grant, and a sixth grader at Harriet Tubman. When it comes to the topic of school mandates for the COVID vaccine, I believe that we need to discuss the risk versus reward of the vaccine in order to determine if the mandates are the best solution. Let's start with the reward of getting the vaccine for children under 18. Studies are indicating that vaccinated individuals, regardless of age, may reduce transmission, though, how much is yet to be determined. However, even if transmission is reduced, vaccinated people can and still are spreading COVID, as seen in countries such as Israel, as somebody mentioned before.

Another benefit, our children who are at higher risk of hospitalization may have a reduction in the severity of symptoms. Let's talk about their risk really quick of getting the vaccine. As she mentioned before, recent U.S. researchers have found that boys 12 to 17 with no underlying health conditions are four to six times more likely to experience vaccine induced myocarditis than they are of ending up in the hospital with COVID. The most updated VAERS information shows in just 12 to 17 year olds, 21,652 total adverse reactions, including 1,304 rated to serious and 24 deaths. We also have no idea how this is going to affect our kids long term. Let's talk about the risks of our children getting COVID. The current COVID fatality rate for children under 18 is 0.007.

Healthy kids are likely going to breeze through this, so there is risk and there is a reward. However, we need to weigh out those risks and I think it needs to be a family decision. Now I do want to talk about real quick about how we are currently handling the outbreaks. Our oldest son, who is a senior, recently contracted COVID from school/football. He had received his first Pfizer dose about two weeks prior. As a healthy young person, he quickly recovered. Nobody else in our house got the virus. None of

us. All other four of us are vaccinated. It was very interesting to see though how the schools handled the outbreak. If the student is exposed to COVID and is vaccinated, they can go right back to school. If the student is exposed-

Speaker 2:

Your two minutes are up, Miss O'Rourke.

Rachel O'Rourke:

Okay. Well 20 days, my kids are missing school because they're unvaccinated with two negative tests.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you, Rachel. I'm sorry. I have to keep moving. Shauna Noon?

Shauna Noon:

Hi. I didn't realize I was on the list. I have a daughter in the Japanese Immersion Program, and currently going to Mount Tabor in sixth grade. And so she is just getting to almost to the age where this would be affecting her. She's 11. She's going to be 12 next year. **And I am not in support of the vaccine for 12 and up. I feel so strongly against that mandate that,** I think the question was, how will that affect us? And we will not continue with Portland Public Schools, and it would be a shame that she would have to be out of the program. Really, we don't the long term effects of the vaccination. And if we were talking about a vaccine that was a sterilizing vaccine, and you said that people would not be able to get it or spread it, then we would definitely look harder at it for our children.

But I think the risk, reward, like the last person said, is not there. We don't know the long term effects of vaccination. And a lot of kids that have had it and have natural immunity, that's what their immune systems are supposed to do. And giving the vaccine, I feel like is going to interrupt their immune systems, and it's just not for us. And I really feel like it can't be compared to the measles, or the mumps, or polio, or any of the other vaccines. And we happily give our kids that, but like I said, it's too new. I don't think that that age group is a high risk factor. And I am not in support of the public school telling me how I should care for my 11 year old daughter.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you. Deborah Weston? Westom? Danielle Bristo? Okay. I think I see Emerald Mansfield with a cute little kid on her lap.

Emerald Mansfield:

Yeah, maybe if you can come back to me, if I can occupy her with something else because I'm sure I'm not going to be able to say much with her here. She's chatting away, but I do have a lot to say, so please come back.

Courtney Westling:

I will make a note and I will come back to you. Justin McBurnett?

Justin McBurnett:

Yeah. Hey. Yeah. I have two children in the Portland Public School system, one at McDaniel and one at Roseway Heights. And I would like to say, focusing on children, we have our kids in school for education. And I think that one of the lessons of the education is to learn from our mistakes and actually be present with each other. I notice sometimes it seems like this is all just being pushed through and the deliberations are already done. I've heard people say things like, "This is a no brainer," and I think a lot of

what we've done in our society indicates that people are just assuming that things are great because science says so. Well, the science isn't settled. They've been working on this vaccine for years. And with that in mind, there's evidence that shows it may not be safe, but that evidence isn't being shown.

And there's that saying, "Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me," so we need to teach our kids to look more closely at things. Now, I'm not going to get into the science that other people have. If you really want to know the possible side effects, you can find out, but you have to first make the assumption that maybe you need to take more time doing so. There's public relations firms who work for these corporations who make sure that less information is getting out in the mass media, so it's not a conspiracy. It's just a fact. Look what happen with DDT. Let's get rid of malaria, spray our children, spray our public places and beaches with DDT. It'll be great. We'll get rid of malaria. Oh, whoops. Long term side effects is, causes a lot of problems. Oh, how about RoundUp?

That was all approved just like DDT was right. Okay. Now we find out RoundUp is causing answer. Okay, so let's learn from our mistakes. My daughter almost died from Kawasaki's disease, which is very similar to some of the effects of COVID, and I don't feel comfortable with her taking this vaccine. Okay. It hasn't been thoroughly researched. Some of the research has indicates there's going to be problems. Knowing that, you want to ask, if you're already planning to put this vaccine mandate into effect, my daughter's not going to go to school in PPS and neither will my son because I'm going to protect them. Okay. Now, don't think that I don't want the protection of other people. Vaccines is not the only way to do it in this instance. Okay. So-

Courtney Westling:  
Thank you, Justin.

Justin McBurnett:  
Thanks.

Courtney Westling:  
Thank you. Jenny Lind? Jenny, feel free to unmute, if you want to speak. Otherwise, we'll move on.

Jenny Lind:  
Hi. Hi there. I didn't know that I would be talking, but I'm happy to. And I'm going to echo another father. I am immune compromised and I had a booster. I also realized that this is a very divisive issue and very emotional. I think it's really hard to know what the right step might be. That being said, I am pro-vaccination and I am pro-mandate for the school's for 12 and up. I have a 13 year old at Beaumont Middle School. I am not aware of the science for younger kids, and I do understand the hesitancy for mandating that element of the education system. But I think that for in the middle school and high school, it is pretty important to have the kids be in there safely. Thank you.

Courtney Westling:  
Thanks, Jenny. Shelly Langdon?

Shelley Langdon:  
Yes. Hi. Thank you. I want to explain why I oppose the mandate for all eligible students to be vaccinated in order to attend school. It has already been mentioned, there's not enough data to demonstrate safety nor efficacy for this shot for young children. And by contrast, we now have a good amount of data to show potential harm to older kids, and adults, and to teens, particularly by way of myocarditis at the very least. You can't presume to know each child's health situation and whether this shot is a good

choice for them. Because the drug companies cannot be indemnified if there is harm, is the district willing to take responsibility for any harm that might come of mandating a medical product?

Because the responsibility should fall to them. Moving forward without a mandate allows families who are on board with this product to make that choice for their children. Issuing a mandate takes that choice away from families who are not on board with this shot. In terms of how this would affect my family, I have one child, he's a third grader at Portland Charter School, and this is the third school that he's attended so far in the district, and he's finally very happy and very is successful. If a vaccine mandate was issued, we would be leaving the district. And that feels like a real shame and and a real missed opportunity for him to continue experiencing success at school. Thank you.

Courtney Westling:

Thanks, Shelley. Stephanie Savali? Tiara Salmon? Molly Simmons? I think I saw her.

Jeff:

Hi. I'm Molly's husband, Jeff. I just wanted to say, **if this mandate takes place, I have three kids in Portland Public Schools that I would have to pull out.** I just don't support the mandate. I believe in personal choice and I have several reasons. The vaccines don't stop transmission or infection. Even the CDC is admitting this. The vaccines pose a greater risk to kids than COVID. And we know about myocarditis and there's other dangers out there. We don't even know about the long term effects. I also worry about a lot of the vaccines are just one shot and then you're immune for life. These aren't sterilizing immunity vaccines. And I just don't want my kids taking boosters for their entire time while they're in school. Also, the vaccines, I believe for under 16, aren't even FDA approved still under the UA. And I just feel like we're rushing into this. I don't feel like kids should be used to protect adults, especially when the vaccines are available to anyone that needs it. And that's about all I have. Thank you.

Courtney Westling:

Thanks, I think you said Jeff. Thank you, Jeff. Ry Baird? Deanna Schindler-Oard? Okay, Paul Papak, I see you next to me on the screen.

Paul Papak:

Thank you. I am next to you on the screen. I don't want to repeat all the comments that have already been made. And I thank all the people who've spoken. **I too am against the vaccine mandate.** I've written the board with my comments, many of which echo what's been said here, so I'm going to limit my comment to just one topic that I think is relevant. And that is, we've been talking about whether the vaccine protects against infection and transmission, which seems to me to be a major reason for why PPS is considering a mandate. If you can stop the infection rate and the transmission rate, fewer cases in the school, fewer cases go home, et cetera.

And I think the CDC throws around numbers that suggests four or five times as many unvaccinated people get the virus as do the vaccinated, but I think those numbers are confounding. And I just want to point to a study that came to my attention just a day or so ago that's been published in the European Journal of Epidemiology by a couple of Harvard professors. This study was at Harvard. And the subject is, topic is, increases in COVID 19 are unrelated to levels of vaccination across 68 countries and 2,947 counties in the United States.

And what the authors of that study did was compared places like Iceland and Portugal who have 90% plus rates of vaccination, with Thailand and South Africa where they have 10%, and found that the COVID rates are much higher in the vaccinated countries. Similar, in the United States, in the 2,947 counties, many of the higher vaccinated counties had higher rates of COVID. And if we're not protecting against transmission and infection in Portland Public, then I think the underlying basis for the mandate

disappears. And now, the cost benefit analysis is, do the kids really benefit from the vaccine? And it's clear. It seems to me it's pretty clear that they don't, that they get through COVID pretty well. And what are the risks? And we've pointed out the risks in myocarditis and other-

Courtney Westling:

Mr. Papak, I'm sorry. We have to move on, but thank you.

Paul Papak:

Thank you.

Courtney Westling:

Spencer Silar? Krista van Englen? Engelen?

Paul Papak:

Krista van Englen is my wife.

Courtney Westling:

Oh, okay.

Paul Papak:

I could do two more minutes to my time, but she's on another Zoom meeting, so I'll just have to say she's not available.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you for yielding her time. Nazanin Mansouri?

Nazanin Mansouri:

Hi. I apologize first that I don't have video. I agree with most of the parents who spoke here tonight. And even though I'm not in the field of medicine, I'm an engineer, but I have been a researcher for many years of my life and I have followed this. Any study that I could get my hands on, I have looked through and tried to make sense of it, so it did not seem no brainer to me. And I want to point out that our child goes to Lincoln. We couldn't attend that meeting because it's overbooked and we are here to speak, but we have had five cases of individuals in Lincoln since the beginning of the school year. I think this is a minimal thing. I have seen kids that they got COVID and recovered within days, within four or five days. High fever and discomfort, but they tolerated it very well.

As opposed to that, we talk about all of these side effects that I think we just have to weigh in and figure out what makes, in our conscious, in our heart, what we are comfortable with the risks that we expose our children to. And unfortunately, my child is really, really devastated. She's a 4.0 student. You have parents that both have PhDs, but I want my kid to be healthy. I want my kid to be alive and I don't feel comfortable with these risks. And if it comes to choosing between her education and her... I will move somewhere else. And I know it is going to be hard, but I wanted to say that. And it appears to me, you're trying to fix a nonexistent problem because five cases. That's very well contained. I don't see the reason for mandating for everybody, and getting the choice from all the parents, and thinking that the school knows better.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you. Thank you, Miss Mansouri. Taes Lomax? Taes? Taes? Julia Causey?

Julia Causey:

Hi, thank you. So I have four kids in Portland Public, two at Grant and two who at Alameda, and I'm against this mandate. One of our Grant High School students was in a group that was exposed. And because he was not vaccinated, he was sent home for 10 days where he couldn't complete school. And his friends were all texting him, "Where are you? What are you doing? What's going on? Do you have COVID?" And he was trying to lay low because he was worried about the ramifications of his friends knowing. And when he came back out to school, they all put two and two together, and he was outed, and he was bullied, and harassed on his first day back, which was yesterday.

And it's not okay. But the big issue is, the people he was exposed to were students who were vaccinated and they spread it to him, but he didn't get COVID. We've tested him three times. He was negative. No symptoms or nothing. And so he stayed home for 10 days doing nothing. He's perfectly healthy, happy as a clam, but if you were in that exposed group and you were vaccinated, you got to go back to school without being tested. That makes no sense. Why is not every person who is exposed mandated to be tested before you return to the school? That doesn't make sense.

Julia Casey:

Before you return to the school. That doesn't make sense. In addition, why can he, who has zero symptoms, healthy as can be multiple days in a row of negative tests, five days in a row, let him go back to school. He needs to be in school. They need to all be in school and this makes zero sense and the bullying and the harassing, because now every kid in high school has figured it out is not acceptable. And I will not be able to keep my four children in Portland public schools if these mandates come down. There's absolutely no way and it breaks my heart. And I'm finished.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you, Julia. Lincoln Wheeler. Andrea Hafelt. I know some of these names I'm not seeing, but sometimes they're disguised in other names or the other person in the family. So I just want to make sure. Lori Geller and Greg Nye, I think I saw Greg.

Greg Nye:

Yes, okay, I didn't realize I was even on the list. I wasn't even ready.

Courtney Westling:

You're on the list and you've got two minutes if you want it.

Greg Nye:

Excellent, I will take my two minutes. I am a grandparent. I am a physician. I am also a medical researcher. I have published peer-reviewed publication on these vaccinations. And the publication, we went through a long list of potential unintended consequences of these vaccinations. And at the time that we published it, that was back in May of this year, it never occurred to us as we were doing our research that this could possibly end up being mandated for kids. This whole drive is being fueled by just a pretty extreme misperception of risk and it's too much to go into in detail, but the data is easily available that the population that we're talking about vaccinating here is not at risk for severe disease or death. It's not as though it never happens, the idea of trying to achieve a zero COVID world is not... That's not a rational policy, but the risk to these kids is very low.

The possible consequences that we're putting on these kids is really astounding and I'm attaching the paper that we published and there are others out there in a comment that I am submitting to the board, but really it includes autoimmune disease and cancers and a number of other... And these aren't really just hypothetical, there are very well established ways that this could be happening with

these vaccinations that we're doing in these kids. And it is really unconscionable to me that we would be vaccinating these kids and putting them at risk for-

Courtney Westling:

And Greg, Mr. Nye, I'm sorry. We have to move on, but thank you. And we've reshared the questions on the screen, just because I think we want to stick to the questions that we're asking tonight. So I'm going to move on to Jessica Colbert or Colbert. T Tarver.

T Tarver:

Yes, in response to your question, how will it impact my students experience? My family has already been impacted. I have three children within Portland public, and I totally, totally do not trust anything about PPS process of there are protocols right now with COVID being that I see the numbers of outbreaks in the schools and I'm sorry, but y'all traumatized me with that lead in the water and the radon and every other toxin that you guys have had around our kids in the last few years. So my kids are actually in the online program. And so my family's already been impacted because I have one that did not get in and so has been already pushed out despite there not being a vaccine mandate. And so for me, what I foresee in the future is more students being pushed out. You guys already have over 600 students on your wait list that haven't got in yet.

So you're already running a couple a tiers of separate and unequal schools. The education that my children are getting in your online program definitely was not thought out very well. We are definitely not getting the type of education that they would be if they were in school. Last I recall, you guys had a commitment to students of color, and I'm not being able to tell that. There's no advanced classes, there's very limited CTE, I have one that's a junior getting ready to graduate, doesn't have very many credits that she needs, but can't get advanced classes that she needs. Can't get dual credit, can't get AP classes, so I'm kind of having a problem with that too. So when you guys are implementing these, please look at the consequences because some of our families are already suffering because of the choices that you guys are making willynilly without planning first.

So pretty much this year, I'm counting as another loss of education for my kids, which really sucks because they deserve a good education just like every other kid whose family chooses to go into the building. I feel like we're being punished because we're not going inside the building. And that's something I'm hoping if there's some attorneys or other parents that want to rally, we need to do something because all of our kids are not being educated. We're not getting the type of education. We're not getting access to resources that students in the school building are getting and so you guys are already punishing us, those families who don't want to get the vaccination, those who don't trust you with good reason-

Courtney Westling:

Thank you very much, Miss Tarver we have to move on, but I really appreciate it. Jasmine Gady. Maya Van Geldren. Maya, I can see, there you go.

Maya Van Geldren:

I'll yield my time. I didn't realize I was going to speak.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you, Brooke Ferrell. Anthony Mastrid. B-E-A with the last name with an a. B-A.

Bea:

Hi, that's me. Can you hear me?

Courtney Westling:  
We can.

Bea:

Great, I just want to say first, thank you to everyone who has spoken with all of the concerns and all of the data and all of the risks. So I don't need to repeat all of that, but I'm in full agreeance and understanding that there are great risks. I feel that the school district is absolutely rushing this decision and not taking into account all of the various things, whether it be people's... Their family decisions and beliefs, their religious beliefs, their medical issues, all the various things. I have four children in PPS schools who I will remove from school if there is a mandate, I'm not in support of the mandate. I believe it is a family choice. I think that we really do need to look at the vers data. There has been some real harm cause to all age groups, definitely the 12 to 18 age group is huge in that.

So I would encourage anyone to look at the adverse event reporting system that is a CDC maintained website, and really look into that. An online, like the last person just said, an online program is not equal, will not be equal, and there's a lot of kids who are on that waiting list who won't be receiving the same kinds of things as kids in school will be. I've also, as another parent echoed, have heard of a lot of bullying and singling out of kids that are not vaccinated and I think that's completely intolerable just as any other form of bullying or profiling is in our system. And I'm not sure why us parents and administrators and teachers are allowing this to go on. I think that's a real issue that needs to be attended to let me see if I have anything else. Wow, thanks everybody for all you've spoken. Yeah, personal choice please. Family choice, do not mandate this vaccine. Thank you.

Courtney Westling:  
Thanks Bea. I have an M, initial M Reed, R-E-E-D. Amber Bailey.

Amber Bailey:

I just wanted to kind of chime in. Everyone's already given the data. I have a senior at McDaniel High School and a freshman at Jefferson. I am not for mandating this for my children, especially for my boys and our family has already been affected. One of my sons already had COVID, he's feeling much better. He's back on the foot football field, but unfortunately I will not be able to attend his senior night this Friday because I am not vaccinated. So it's having a major impact on not only my children, but my family. So I am not for the mandate. Thank you for this time.

Courtney Westling:  
Thanks Amber. Vesna Devonovic.

Speaker 3:  
Can you take your questions down so we can see the speakers?

Courtney Westling:  
Yeah, thank you. Yeah, we can just wanted to remind everyone what we were hoping to hear about. Thank you.

Bea:  
Nobody cares about the stupid questions.

Courtney Westling:

Sorry, Vesna Devonovic. Daniel Harvey.

Daniel Harvey:  
I yield my time.

Courtney Westling:

Thanks Daniel. Lisa Scudamore, Scudamore. Okay, and then last on my list is Tracer Johnson. Okay, so what I'm going to do is I want to go back to Emerald, because I know that she wanted me to come back to her. So see if that works for her now.

Emerald:

Hi, yeah. Thank you. Can you guys hear me? Yeah, I'm also a physician I've been following all the data the Oregon health authority puts out and looking and reading articles on PubMed, all the research and everything. And that the information that is portrayed in the media does not match the science. And I just want to point out that we, as a culture, mandating a vaccine that really COVID is not that deadly. Overall case death rates are 0.82% during this Delta spike that we're currently having, which is barely more deadly than influenza. And I think the mandate is uncalled for, and really it's a very, very new vaccine. COVID is not a huge risk for children. They don't have the ACE receptors that the virus needs to get into the cells. And we've seen a lot of damage from the vaccine. If you look at the CDC wonder data, 30 years of vers data, there have been 10,000 deaths or so following vaccination. In just a short 20 months, we've seen 8,000. So almost just as many just from the COVID vaccination.

We have no idea what the long term effects of this vaccine is going to have on our children. There no long term studies. This is an experimental vaccine and our children are not to be experimented on. They need to be protected. It's really, really sad what's happening to people in terms of all of the adverse events, the disability and the death is happening following CDC vaccination. And the young adults we've seen one and nine young adults who receive the vaccine have adverse events and these kids are at low risk of getting COVID. If they do get it, they're not going to die from it. The death rate in children is practically zero. And like any medicine that people receive, it should be a choice and the district needs to honor. If they do have a mandate, they need to honor the Oregon law that allows religious, philosophical, and medical exemptions that are on par with what we've had before and not the CDC medical exemptions.

We need to honor this as a choice and we need to protect the health of our children because we have no idea what this is doing. The spike protein that the vaccine teaches your body to make causes inflammation and damage in all of our tissues and the heart and the pericarditis and myocarditis and pericarditis are side effects that we are seeing from the vaccine and-

Courtney Westling:

Emerald, I have to move us on and I want to get everybody... Thank you and I want to focus back on the questions at hand. I also, you have-

Amber Bailey:

Oh, I will also be removing my child from PPS if it is a mandate.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you. I appreciate that. I think I'm going to go to those two that have raised her hand. If you want to use the raise hand function since we have additional time, but I don't have additional people on my list. So I'm going to start with Carey Spradlin, who I saw raise her hand first.

Carey Spradlin:

All right, thank you everybody for all of your thoughts. I just wanted to try and answer the two questions first, like what would the impact be to the students experience? And we would consider seriously removing our two children from the school system if the mandate did come down, just concerns about personal choice and health and integrity of our kids. And I also think that there is a real risk of harassment and bullying. And my sixth grader has already expressed fear about sharing any information with her friends or others about her status of vaccination or her family's status vaccination, because she's worried about being ostracized. So I think that's a real concern that is I don't think being taking very seriously and I would encourage the school district to really look at that and the resources and support, I don't think that that question is framed in a way that addresses the concerns of the parents here.

So that's very hard to answer because we want our kids to go to school and we, really like Portland public schools and they're getting a great education. So we don't need anything. We need not to be coerced into doing something we don't believe in. I also just wanted to note that the Nordic countries, Iceland, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, have paused the Moderna vaccine for anyone under the age of 30 because of the risks, the potential risks and trade offs given the risk of myocarditis for those folks. And then if I think about, I just wanted to note, I feel like we need to be really careful of insinuation and dehumanizing language that people are throwing around. Like, "It's a no brainer, just do it," insinuating that people that aren't agreeing with the CDC recommendations are not thinking or stupid. And that is the root of why our kids are getting bullied and harassed because of how parents are addressing this with their kids. So that needs to be addressed in this meeting. And we can't let stuff like that go.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you. Adrian Nunez.

Adrian Nunez:

Yes, can you hear me?

Courtney Westling:

We can.

Daniel Harvey:

So I just wanted shortly, I just wanted to raise my hand, answering the questions that definitely we are against the mandate. We do not believe in the mandate. How it will affect our family, we definitely will take our daughter out of the public schools and move to another district to be able to find out some or maybe a homeschooling or find another solution that they will definitely affect education. As all the parents have mentioned it before, besides all the risks that this vaccine has that we know, and all the unknowns that we don't know, we are seeing that it's doing a division in the community. We just want to join the communities. We do not want to divide communities. We are just actually making people fighting to be able to bullying, to be able to have issues based on that one.

So this should be a personal decision, should be a family decision and should be private. It should not be said outside. It should be completely private in the families and people be able to keep it to themselves. It shouldn't be discussed. It should be... They say it's not public, but as other parties has mentioned it, immediately, the kids they know. They put one to one and they put it together, they figure out why the kid is not coming to school, why he's taking longer to come to school. So they figure out all of this information. So it should be make it private and it should be a decision of the parents and again, I'm against the mandates. Thank you very much.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you, Adrian. I see Andrea Nelson's hand is up.

Andrea Nelson:

Hi, yeah. Thank you. I feel like the questions that were put up on the screen confirm my suspicion that the decisions already been made, just the way that those were phrased and the announcement that came out last week that parents can't go to their kids' football game outdoors if they're not vaccinated, that leads me to believe the decisions already made. But anyway, I had written down a bunch of my thoughts before I saw those questions. I think the doctors and the parents, here that have articulated so much better than I was prepared to about how I feel very strongly against the mandate for children. It is not safe and effective for everybody and nobody knows the long term effects. And I can't believe that's not brought up more, nobody knows the long term effects.

And yes, immunizations have been around for a long time and my kids have had all of them, but they've had years and years of study. And there are safety tests on those. I don't believe there have been safety tests on these. So it's just upsetting to me to think that our kids are not going to be able to go to public school if they're not vaccinated and I'm glad that people also brought up the discriminatory practice of the current vaccine mandate rules. It's just one more thing that makes no sense to me how vaccinated people are spreading it to other vaccinated people, but unvaccinated kids have to stay out of school with no online option for 10 days.

So I just find it upsetting and I don't understand what problem we're trying to solve here by excluding unvaccinated children from school. Because I think it's widely known now that we're all going to come into contact with COVID-19 whether we're vaccinated or not and we know vaccinated people are also transmitting it. So what problem are we trying to solve here? It just feels very discriminatory and exclusive to me and I care about my community. I want people to be safe and I'm glad people have the choice to have the vaccine if that's what feels right to them. But to me it just feels like such a personal private medical decision. Thank you.

Courtney Westling:

Thanks Andrea.

Director Hollands:

Hey Courtney, let me just... I just want to address one thing. So the decision has not been made. So I want to make sure that everybody understands that, that the decision to vaccinate or not has not been made. This is not just a show pony get together or listening session. So I just want to make sure that we're getting the right information out. The decision has not been made and that's why we want to listen to what you guys are saying. So we can take all that in consideration. Thank you.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you, Director Hollands. I was going to-

Speaker 4:

And thank you for saying that. I also wanted to address the questions and I'm a person that writes surveys. And so I'm very sensitive to about how questions are worded. And I agree with the commenter that said the questions could have been, they could have been written in a way to elicit more open ended conversation. So that's not to throw anybody under the bus, but just...

Michelle:

... Open ended conversations, so that's not to throw anybody under the bus, but just to acknowledge that you're not crazy. That was my thought too, about those questions. Again, we use those just to start the conversation and no one on the board, myself and director Hollands have made any decisions up, which is why we're having this listening session tonight and two others happening concurrently as well. So we're here to listen.

Speaker 5:  
Thanks.

Courtney Westling:

Thanks director. I'd like to hear from others who have not been heard yet. So if you have comments, please raise your hand. I just want to make sure that we're giving time to people who haven't been heard. I think it's Anna [Samintel 01:06:49].

Anna:

Yes. Hi. I am realizing how tender this topic is to everybody and I'm trying to step back and give it space and think of things separate from, I think, all of the medical piece. And I've talked with many internists in Portland asking questions and stuff, and they are all in support of mandating. However, I think that the board is going to be getting their information from professionals in the medical community. So I was trying to think about things from the perspective as a retired teacher and as a parent and a volunteer. And I was really thinking a lot about the view of equity. And when I look back, I've worked in PPS since 1999, and I've seen a lot of students struggle and equity has been work that's needed to be done all along.

And I think that the foundation that we need, I mean, there's so much to do, but the foundation that's needed for equity is to have kids in school and consistently, and to have teachers in school consistently. And I believe that a mandate for the vaccine would help with this, if you're following the CDC guidelines. And so for me, my heart is thinking about all of the kids who fall through the cracks. And if we don't even have that foundation where they have consistency of being in school with teachers there consistently, I think we know who will fall through the cracks and be hurt the most. If we look at this through a political view I think that, that will harm more children. So I'm really hopeful that the board gathers solid scientific information and makes a decision based on equity. And keeps-

Courtney Westling:

Thank you, Anna. Thank you. Are there others who have not yet spoke tonight? I'd like to make sure to give you a chance before we go back to those who have already spoken.

Speaker 5:  
Hello?

Courtney Westling:

Oh, sorry. Director, did you say something? Oh, okay. I'm just hearing things. I see Mr. Rachel O'Rourke. That's technically a different person, so go ahead.

Rachael O'Rourke:

Correct. Can you hear me? Okay. Hi, I'm a parent of two students at Grant and one at Harriet Tubman. That's a great word actually, consistency. Yes. That's my biggest problem, is consistency. We have a giant group of kids at these schools who are vaccinated, who don't have to stay at home if they have symptoms, but kids who aren't vaccinated have to quarantine. If we want consistency, then we need

testing. We now have parents and we now have fans who want to go to sports, who want to go to sports organizations who can't, unless they provide vaccination or negative tests.

Why aren't everybody providing negative tests? If we want to slow the spread, then everyone should have negative testing. Vaccinated people are getting sick, vaccinated people are getting ill. This is ridiculous, so if someone wants consistency, then we should do consistent testing. If we really actually want to control this, otherwise we're wasting our time. And the answer to your question is, yes, our kids will not be going to PPS if this is going to be mandated because it's just not... The math doesn't work out. That's all I have to say.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you. Justin, I'm not trying to ignore you. I just want to make sure that I'm offering space for others. Adriel Person.

Adriel Person:

Hi. So I guess my concern is simply that along with consistency there, we haven't mastered the basics yet of the testing, getting information back in a timely manner. By the time students are identified as COVID positive, so much time has passed that they have oftentimes, and I know this from experience with my niece who goes to Grant, exposed several people that may or may not have symptoms, which means they may or may not have been tested. So for me, before we could even mandate which by the way, I am totally against. Not enough research, not enough history, not enough of a lot of things in order to require our youth to be put in a situation where they could potentially have long term medical effects.

But before we could even cross that line, I believe that we need to be able to master the very basics of making sure that our spaces, where our students are, is safe. Making sure that all of the things that we would need to do to make sure students who are impacted, whether they're exposed or COVID positive or anything really even flu, that we have a system that will help mitigate exposure in real time. And right now, I mean the COVID dashboard hasn't even been up to date. So I just don't feel like we've gotten what we needed to do fundamentally before we can move on to a mandate for vaccination for our youth.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you, Adriel. Adriel. I see Janwyn [Toya 01:13:18] Blazer.

Eddie Blazer:

Yeah. Hi, that's my wife. So I'll speak for the two of us. My name's Eddie blazer. We've got two kids in the Grant system. I don't think there's anything more that I can add here, but in terms of answering those two questions, we would consider not sending our kids to PPS. And the impact that, that would have on us is that we need to find some sort of alternative education. I also want to just point out that I don't think a mandate would have the desired effect, based on what we're seeing with other schools that have near 99, near 100% vaccination. They're still having outbreaks. They're still having issues. So again, not sure that this would have the desired effect. That's really all I have to say. Thank you.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you, Eddie.

Michelle:

And may I add that, that dashboard I've been told is updated four times a day and I would wonder if staff could follow up just to make sure that is happening four times a day. My understanding is that it was automated, but I don't know if somebody can speak to that.

Speaker 5:

Well, I can follow up with that.

Michelle:

Thank you.

Courtney Westling:

Okay. We have 12 minutes until our hard stop. So I see Justin's hand up, but oh, wait. I got another hand up. Justin I will get back to you. [Tierra Salmon 01:14:50].

Tierra Salmon:

Thank you. Yeah. My name is Tierra Salmon, and I just wanted to comment. I first want to give gratitude to [Amber Lee 01:15:03] for letting me know this was going, because when I RSVPed, I did not get an email. So what I wanted to share in this space, and I'm glad to be here so that I can share in this space was that, our medical system lacks informed choice a lot. And if we're going to be talking about mandates, I think that it's really important that we also talk about informed choice. We're not making it a point right now to educate our youth, to then be asking to mandate consent over injecting something into their bodies. And whether our children would choose that or not, we're just not even taking that into consideration.

So I think what I wanted to bring up is the idea of informed choice. Having our kids be well educated, having some info sessions and only choosing to inject them with things that they have enthusiastic consent around. And this could be a great opportunity for our scientists, for our future doctors and biologists and future researchers to do some research around COVID and around vaccines and around pandemics and get them involved because they are our future. So that was my biggest push is can we involve their minds before we make decisions about their bodies?

Courtney Westling:

Thank you, Tierra.

Tierra Salmon:

Yeah. Thank you.

Courtney Westling:

Okay, Justin. Going back to you.

Justin McBurnett:

No, thanks. I really appreciate it. And I know everybody has the best intention in mind and I think whether you're for the vaccines or not for them, it shouldn't be considered a political matter, although it's been politicized. If I didn't have hope in everybody's best interests, I wouldn't even be here. And also the other issue is, by bullying in effect, this has been pushed into my face. And I think the bullying point is a really good point because I know it's been in my kid's face. My daughter told me that in school, one of the kids stood up in class and said, "Who here's vaccinated? How does that feel?" There's been talks about feeling like second class education because you have to go online. I mean, equity's a big deal, but I feel like people don't recognize how emotionally pushed they are by this and how a lot of people's decisions are being made on emotions.

But yet we want to pretend we're all following the science, but the science is ample. If you really want to step outside your emotional charge and your prejudice to say, "Oh, I'm for this. I'm going to just go for it." If you look, there's a lot of evidence that shows there are dangers. The other thing you have to

look at is how are all of these studies that the media is putting out there constructed? And evidence is shown that some of those studies aren't constructed very well. Why? Because there's an intention to sell these things to people under the pretense that it's great. It's going to help. But I mean, you look at how the studies are performed. They're not always really ethical. I mean, like in Journal of Nature, they're saying, "Hey, the way studies are being performed, 75% of them can't be replicated."

That's like a foundation of science. And right now there's this epidemic where they can't replicate a lot of the studies that are being put out as, hey, the science says this. So what we're dealing with is something really complicated. I'm not trying to dismiss emotions or say that I'm only basing my decisions on science alone. I know it's emotional, but we need to look at this. And I'm just saying, I have faith in you guys. I have faith in our parents to really look again at the evidence that shows, if we want a foundation, let's feed our children better. Let's do other things and not just the vaccine.

Courtney Westling:

Thanks, Justin. Thank you.

Justin McBurnett:

Yeah.

Courtney Westling:

Again, if there are no new people I'm going to just go back to those who have hands up. We have seven more minutes. Bea.

Bea:

Yeah, hey. I just wanted to say that as far as this town hall, which I'm so happy that you did thank you very much for doing it. But I want to say that I did get an email as a PPS parent, but then if I wouldn't have remembered it was happening, it was a little bit difficult to find. It was on the PPS main page website. It wasn't clear there was an RSVP thing, and by the time I tried to get into my school session, I don't know whether it was full or they just locked it. But I'm actually in a different school than what your session is, but I couldn't get into my own session.

So I think that maybe having it be more advertised and available to more parents. I think a lot of people don't even know this is happening tonight. And also for the student one that's happening on Thursday, I noticed that you have it from 4:30 to 6:00. And I know that all my kids are in sports until six o'clock. And so no one in fall athletics is going to be able to participate in those sessions. And that's a good half of your students who are in athletics. So I think it would be great if you could do a later session or a second session for kids that aren't going to be able to attend that earlier time. That's all I wanted to say.

Courtney Westling:

Really appreciate the feedback. Thank you.

Bea:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Courtney Westling:

And I do want to remind everyone that our contact system with the district is called Let's Talk. And if you go to [pps.net/contact](https://pps.net/contact), there's a form, and that goes to all of us. And we read your emails and we're sharing information with the board as they're making this decision. So I just want to throw that out there

again, if you hear from others who want to weigh in. Let's see. I see [Emerald 01:21:08] has their hand up.

Emerald:

Yeah, just really quick about the data that... So I looked at one of the FDA review for the COVID approvals for the vaccine. And they're presenting data that hospitalization rates in unvaccinated people is like 20 times that of vaccinated people. But if you look, they self selected the data from just some places. If you look at the Oregon Health Authority website, and plus they do a breakthrough report case every Thursday. And you look at the hospitalization rates and the case death rates in vaccinated versus unvaccinated, and they're almost the same. So 74 through 922, I went through and picked out all this data, but you can just get it yourself. But you have to put it on a spreadsheet because it's not easy to self-select it. But the hospitalization rate was 4.82%, which is pretty low and that's in all age groups.

And the vaccinated group was 4.53%. So probably not statistically significant. I'm not a statistician, I'm a physician so I'm not about data analysis. But then if you look at the case death rates, they're almost the same, 0.82% in unvaccinated people. And during the same time period, well, a couple extra days in vaccinated people, 0.89%. And the most recent report says that the case death rate for vaccinated people is 1%, which is starting to creep up a little bit higher than those who are unvaccinated. And we don't know if antibody dependent enhancement is something that we see in this vaccine. And that's something that the original COVID vaccine was not approved because when they gave it to monkeys, those who were exposed to the COVID, more of them who were vaccinated died because of antibody dependent enhancement. And we don't know if that's something that's happening with this vaccine.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you very much. We are just about done or not done, but time is almost up, I should say. 7:57, so Catherine, if you wanted to say anything else. Actually, sorry. Tierra was first.

Tierra Salmon:

Thank you. I just wanted to add, I didn't realize at first, but there was the other question around how this will impact my family if there were to be mandates. And my daughter is a senior and she really wants to graduate with her class and she's just not ready to make the decision to vaccinate yet. And that would mean that she would miss out on being in her graduating class. And she's right in the middle of applying for colleges. And that would be a huge disruption to finishing out primary education, moving on to secondary education for her. [crosstalk 01:24:02]. Yeah.

Michelle:

May I just share that it was just confirmed that the dashboard is updated regularly. It's four times a day and it's updated currently.

Courtney Westling:

Thanks director [Depass 01:24:16]. Catherine. You still have...

Catherine:

Thank you. Yeah. Thank you. I appreciate that. I guess I just want to speak to say quickly that my family has also experienced the bullying and the discrimination and the fear. My daughter was terrified for me to speak at the board meeting for reprisal. And so I really appreciate and encourage everything the district can do to address this equally pervasive issue. But even more so the beautiful suggestion about slowing down and bringing our kids into the conversation, critical thinking, and the informed consent. If I

could just please encourage, I do understand that there is a CDC guidance and that we are acting along those lines, but we need to equally address all fears and concerns within the student population and informed consent. We need to critically bring in opposing views at this point, maybe not to the students. I'm just saying, I am from the bottom of my heart pleading, please bring equal opportunity for physicians within our local community that have concern that can speak to both sides and the complexities of this issue. Thank you so much for your time.

Courtney Westling:

Thanks Catherine. And Adriel, you have the last word and then I'll let our board members offer any closing remarks.

Adriel Person:

Sorry. It took me a minute to get unmuted. I just wanted to say I stand corrected and I thank you for following up so quickly on that commissioner.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you. Director Hollands, director Depass, Would you like to anything before we close out the night and give people some evening back?

Michelle:

Yeah, I just really want to appreciate everyone that took the time to sign up and show up tonight. I have not made my mind up. I feel like I need to have more study. I need to understand more what the impacts are, unintended and intended. And I'm just very appreciative of you showing up. People that show up make our work better improve in the end. I think somebody talked about the difficulty of getting into the session. I really appreciate that too, because a town hall where we're talking about the potential to mandate vaccines should be very easy to find and very easy for people to show up to. And I apologize if you had difficulty and agree with you, we need to make it more accessible. So the people on both sides or all sides of the issues have an opportunity to weigh in. Thank you for being here.

Holland:

Yeah. I just wanted to thank everybody for being here. It is eight o'clock. I really appreciate everybody taking their time to come out, express their opinions. I like the heartfelt conversations. I like the real conversations. It just helps us to, or at least helps me to really be able to [inaudible 01:27:19] coming from a child centered spot. And so I just want to just thank everybody for being here and just wish everybody a good night.

Courtney Westling:

Thank you directors. Thank you everybody for being here and just a reminder that the process from here is a discussion with the board, the full board on October 26th. And if they decide to move forward, there would be a vote the following week. So right now we're moving into discussion phase and really appreciate your comments tonight and hope everyone has a good evening. Thank you.

END [01:27:54]

**The following is a transcript of the Zoom listening session for Cleveland, Franklin and Benson families on October 19, 2021:**

Jonathan Garcia:

So good evening, PPS families. Thank you for joining us tonight to share your thoughts on a proposed mandate for the COVID-19 vaccination for students 12 years and up. My name is Jonathan Garcia. I'm the chief of staff here for Portland Public Schools. I'd like to now ask our board of directors and any other staff to introduce themselves. Let's start with Director Lowry.

Director Lowry:

Sorry. I was on the screen with the script and couldn't get back, because I still apparently am learning how to use Zoom. I'm Elidh Lowry and I been on the board for two and a bit years now, and I am the Zone Seven board member.

Jonathan Garcia:

Awesome. And before I turn it over to Director Brim Edwards, I'm going to ask the Superintendent to quickly introduce himself.

Superintendent Guerrero:

Good evening, everybody. This is Guadalupe Guerrero, and my fifth year as Superintendent here at PPS. Thank you everyone for being present this evening. We're very interested in hearing your thoughts and perspectives.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you. And now Director Brim Edwards. I'll hand it off to you to get us started.

Director Brim Edwards:

Good evening, everyone. I'm Julia Brim Edwards. This is my eighth year on the board. I was a parent for 18 years in PPS and I represent Zone Six, which is primarily Southeast and the Franklin cluster of schools. So welcome, everybody. I'm looking forward to hearing from parents tonight about what questions and concerns they have.

Jonathan Garcia:

Director Lowry? Elidh?

Director Lowry:

Did I not unmute?

Jonathan Garcia:

No.

Director Lowry:

It's like I'm making all the Zoom rookie mistakes tonight. I'm so sorry, everybody. Apparently because we had a policy meeting in person, I forgot how to work the Zoom. Okay. So I'm just going to remind everybody that as a community, we value each individual's beliefs and principles, but we will not tolerate disrespect or hurtful comments tonight, or at any time really. If you express disrespect, we will mute you, especially if you interfere with another person's ability to listen or share their comment. We are going to have a hard stop tonight at 8:00 PM and we'll get through as many of the comments as possible. If we do

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not get to all of you, you can share your comments in writing using our let's talk contact form, which is available at [pps.net/contact](https://pps.net/contact). Following tonight's listening sessions, the board will have a discussion at the October 26th board meeting, which is next Tuesday, on the merits, consequences, and impacts of a vaccine requirement. If the board decides to move forward with a vaccine requirement, we would consider and vote on a student vaccine requirement at the November 2nd board meeting.

Director Lowry:

I just want to remind you that this session is being recording. And during your two minutes, we welcome your opinion on these two questions. The first is if PPS requires students 12 and up to be vaccinated against COVID-19, how will impact your student's experience at school? And the second question, if PPS requires students 12 and up to be vaccinated against COVID-19, what resources and supports are the most essential to support your student? Now I'll turn it back to Jonathan to get us started.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you, Director Lowry. And as a reminder, we know that this is a personal and highly sensitive issue, which is why we want to hear from you. So each of you, I will say your name and each of you will have two minutes to share your comments. We will let you know when time is up so we can move on to the next person. So again, really appreciate you all being here. So we'll get started with the first person here on my list. I have Alissa Barron Stranzl.

Alissa Barron Stranzl:

Hi, thank you. My name is Alissa Barron Stranzl. I'm the mom of a first grader at Glenco. Everybody can hear me? Okay. If it's okay with you, I'm just going to read from a statement. First of all, thank you for allowing us a voice our opinions. Really appreciate you listening. **I hope that PPS will require all students to be vaccinated for COVID, as the vaccines are approved fully for each age group, just as schools require vaccines for other vaccines preventable diseases.** By requiring vaccinations, PPS will send a strong and clear message that we believe in science, that we care about vulnerable people in our community, and that we'll do everything we can to protect students health. I will personally be vaccinating my first grader as soon as it's recommended that we do so. I hope his peers will do the same, which will reduce the chances that my son could miss instructional time due to breakthrough cases or close contacts with positive cases. I feel that our kids have missed enough in person school.

Alissa Barron Stranzl:

I think vaccinating students will contribute to a decrease in COVID cases in Oregon, and eventually we'll be able to lift masking and distancing requirements in schools, which will benefit students' emotional and social development. Although few children have died from COVID so far, they are susceptible to death and serious illness. My own child has spent time in the ICU, not for COVID, but I assure you, all parents would want to do anything in their power not to have your child hooked up to ventilator, wondering if they'll be able to breathe on their own, worrying if it did damage to their lungs and organs. That's something we need to avoid. To protect our students in our community, I encourage PPS to mandate vaccinations. And thank you so much to the board members and faculty and staff and parents who are here. I'm proud that I think that this will be a really productive and respectful meeting, even though I know that our opinions may differ. Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you so much for your comments. We have Melissa Howells. I see you on the screen. Melissa Howells? Hi there.

Melissa Howells:

Yes there. Yes. Hello. Hi everybody. My name's Melissa Howells. I have a son who is a junior at Franklin High School. And as a junior, you can imagine, like a lot of high school kids in his age [inaudible 00:06:29] a lot. **And I wholeheartedly support vaccine mandates in the schools for children who are appropriate.** Given the science, I think that there is very, a little difference between regarding this type of a vaccine as opposed to any other vaccine that's been required for our children that have really kept all of us safe for many, many decades. For my son, what it would mean is that he would be able to perhaps enjoy a little bit of a different experience his senior year. I think that would be nice for him maybe to have some of the traditional high school experiences. I also have a daughter in the eighth grade. Both of my children are vaccinated, and I am happy to know that this is being considered, and I also recognize that there are a lot of viewpoints on this. So thank you for your time and the opportunity to speak. Thank you.

Director Brim Edwards:

Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you. Marcia McCoy?

Marcia McCoy:

Okay. Can you guys hear me?

Jonathan Garcia:

Yes.

Marcia McCoy:

Yeah. Okay. Yeah. Sorry. I'm in my car. My son's [inaudible 00:07:44]. All right. Well, thanks for having us on here. I really appreciate the opportunity to come before you guys. **What I want to say is that I don't feel that we should mandate the vaccines for all of the children in the school sector.** And the thing is I don't believe that we should mandate vaccines regardless of age. And the reason why I say so is that I understand that we're believing in science. And if that's how people feel, then I feel like yes, their children should be vaccinated, but I don't think it should be forced or be mandated to anyone at this point. I have a junior in high school, but also have two small children who are not at the age that can be vaccinated.

Marcia McCoy:

The COVID has been spreading and feel it should be mandatory and what it means for my children, because they will be unvaccinated, it would mean that they will be excluded. And in my opinion, I feel like that's the thing that's going to happen to a lot of people. So I understand that we want to be progressive and get ahold of the situation, but at the same time, we're isolating some families who choose not to be subject to this mandate. And so what that is, is causing another [inaudible 00:09:06] even between classes or even races of people. And so I don't feel like it should be mandatory.

Marcia McCoy:

And then for those that have medical exemption or religious exemptions who can't get the vaccine, from my understanding, that some of those may not even be... So I don't feel as if it should be mandatory, it should be optional. And for those who want to vaccinate, I believe that they should, and I don't feel like anybody should be judged whether or not they should or should not be vaccinated. Because I've seen the breakthrough cases or what we call breakthrough cases, which are just normal cases. Because even

vaccinated, you can still contract the virus. You can still spread the virus. That doesn't negate any of that. [inaudible 00:10:03].

Jonathan Garcia:  
Thank you for your comments.

Marcia McCoy:  
Is my time up?

Jonathan Garcia:  
It is. Your time is up.

Marcia McCoy:  
Thank you for coming in. So I figured my time was up. Is my time up?

Jonathan Garcia:  
It is. Thank you. Okay. I have Kathleen Juergens?

Marcia McCoy:  
Okay. I thought so. I thought I saw the nod. I was like [inaudible 00:10:25].

Jonathan Garcia:  
Thank you very much, Marcia. Kathleen Juergens?

Josh Himel:  
Kathleen, you're muted.

Kathleen Juergens:  
Hey. Hey, can you hear me now?

Jonathan Garcia:  
Yep.

Kathleen Juergens:  
Okay. Gotcha. I'm so sorry.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Thank you.

Kathleen Juergens:  
I am the mother of an eighth grader at Kellogg Middle School and a seventh grader at DaVinci Art School. **I'm here tonight to say yes to the vaccine mandate, but to urge you to do so in a way that's supportive as possible to the families of kids who are not yet vaccinated.** The scientific and medical evidence is overwhelming and incontrovertible here. The vaccine is safe, it works, and it astronomically reduces the chance of serious illness and death. I and both my kids are vaccinated. However, my youngest didn't turn 12 until August. And the fear that I felt when he wasn't quite at full immunity when the school year started, the fear that I felt is only a fraction of what my friends who have children who are under 12 are going through.

Kathleen Juergens:

There's only one population in this country right now where there are people who are not allowed to get the COVID vaccine, who are required by law to physically congregate with other people who are not allowed to get the COVID vaccine, and that's five to 11 year old school children. That's the risk that we're taking with our children. The best thing we can do right now to keep those kids safe, to keep them alive, is mandate a vaccine for those 12 and older who can get it. We need to use every tool that we can to keep our kids safe. COVID cases are skyrocketing amongst school aged kids. And in Oregon right now, the last I read, youth 17 and under now have more cases than among elderly people. The science supports us treating the COVID vaccine the same as we treat the vaccines that are already required. But as we know, the science is only part of the story.

Kathleen Juergens:

We need to acknowledge that this does not feel like other vaccines. We've been through this pandemic. That was incredibly traumatic. It was a once in a century, once in a lifetime experience. People are traumatized. People are confused. They're scared. Many of us from our past experience to have very good reason to question institutions like school, like government, like the medical establishment, to question whether they're telling us the truth or have our best interest at heart. So the solution isn't just vaccine mandates. I personally do not agree with President Biden that as a society, we've done everything we can to make it easy to get the vaccine. I don't think we can. There's barriers remain like lack of transportation, lack of childcare, lack of sick time from work, lack of translation or culturally competent people to answer questions and address concerns.

Kathleen Juergens:

I'd like to see more of a partnership between PPS and Multnomah County Health to bring vaccination in events directly to our schools, because the evidence shows when you bring the vaccines to the people, when you have that outreach, that's what works to address vaccine hesitancy. I really want us all to get away from viewing this as a culture war and using terms like the unvaccinated or anti-vaxxers. The way I see it, some members of our community are not vaccinated yet. Talking about these folks as if they will never get vaccinated is likely to be a self-fulfilling prophecy. Give people the support they need, listen non-judgmentally to their concerns, and address them with real information, and I believe much of the vaccine hesitancy in our community can be addressed. And I also want to say there needs to be special attention paid of the concerns of parents of special needs kids. There needs to be a robust medical exemption for those who can't get vaccines. But to me, that just makes it all the more important that those of us who can get the vaccine do get the vaccine. Thank you for this opportunity.

Jonathan Garcia:

Great.

Kathleen Juergens:

Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you. I have Jeremy Sackett.

Jeremy Sackett:

Hi. Good evening, everybody. My name is Jeremy and I had a few prepared comments. I'm sorry. I won't specifically address those questions. I didn't have those previously. My daughter is in fourth grade at

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Sunnyside Environmental. I have a graduate level education in the sciences with a professional career in pharma and analytical testing labs. I'm a strong proponent of using scientific data and empirical evidence to inform decision making. Additionally, I consider the wisdom of human intuition and the ability to navigate with a compassionate and open heart, that is not navigating from a place of fear, as equally important factors in decision making.

Jeremy Sackett:

I understand the need to protect populations at greater risks to complications that may arise from a COVID infection. When those individuals of an at risk population are vaccinated, there is evidence to show that COVID vaccines do indeed protect these individuals. I'm entirely in favor of individuals making informed decisions and getting vaccinated if they choose to. As a school district, we must demonstrate through action the value and importance of our educators and staff. Further, we must support the educational opportunities for all families within the district, while overall issuing the safety, health, and wellbeing of everyone in the vast ecosystem that is Portland Public Schools. If our goal is to protect populations at greater risk from complications with a COVID infection, a vaccine mandate will not contribute meaningful to the success of this goal. The evidence I have seen most recently shows regarding the passing of virus, the Delta variant, by a vaccinated and the, in quotes, protective effect is relatively small in dwindles alarmingly at three months.

Jeremy Sackett:

This is from a recent study that is reported in nature as of the 5th of October. With one of the vaccines researched after three months, the risk of passing the virus was on par with an unvaccinated person. That is three months after vaccination, the vaccinated person would have the same probability of transmitting the virus as an unvaccinated person. The other vaccine research was only slightly better. **I strongly oppose a COVID vaccine mandate for any individual or population, including educators, staff, and students within the Portland Public Schools.** To the brief comments regarding the initial questions, this would not immediately impact my fourth grader, but I do see that it will in the future. And I will close my comments with that. Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you very much. Really appreciate it.

Director Lowry:

Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

I have Kirsten Choate or quote. Oh, perfect.

Kristen Choate:

Can you hear me please?

Jonathan Garcia:

Yes.

Kristen Choate:

Kirsten Choate. **Hello. I am a PPS parent and I am against COVID vaccine mandates for students.** For one thing, such mandates do not take into account the many students who have already had and recovered from COVID and who therefore already have natural immunity. In those cases, mandating a

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vaccine really does not make sense. Additionally, the COVID vaccine has rare but real side effects, including my myocarditis, particularly among teenage boys, blood clots, and even death. I believe that where there is risk, there must be a choice and that that choice should be made between families and their doctors. It is not the role of schools to make medical decisions for individuals. Instead, PPS should focus its time, energy, and resources on the education of our children.

Kristen Choate:

Personally, this mandate would affect my family. It could lead to this segregation and exclusion of my kids from school related activities and from school. I have a child with a medical condition, which could be exacerbated by this vaccine. However, the medical exemptions are so limited that he would not qualify for one. I would urge PPS to not move forward with this vaccine mandate. However, if you are going to, I would request that you have easily accessible and widely available exemptions, so that for people and families like me, we have a way that we can still have our children be included in school I think that's all I wanted to say. Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Really appreciate your comments. Thank you.

Director Lowry:

Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

I have Gwen Biltches.

Jonathan Garcia:

Gwen Vilches? I think I saw you in here.

Gwen Vilches:

Sorry. I was on mute.

Jonathan Garcia:

There you go.

Gwen Vilches:

Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Hi there.

Gwen Vilches:

Hi. **My family and I are against the proposed COVID vaccine mandates for students.** And I believe if implemented, it will be an epic policy failure by the PPPs board of directors and executive team. The vast of Portlanders and their family that have voluntarily made the choice to receive the vaccine have already done so. There have been ample opportunities, readily available sites, and access for students all around the city. The students and their families wanted the vaccine, they have made their choice to do so by now.

Gwen Vilches:

Also by now, the vast majority of Portlanders and their families that have voluntarily chosen not to vaccinate have also made their choice. Yes, it is a choice. Not simply that we are uninformed, as some people mistakenly assume. In fact, it is just the opposite. This choice is made for medical, religious, philosophical reasons. We have strongly held beliefs, and they are informed choices. And we have concluded that vaccination is not the route we will take. Just like those of you that have chosen to get the vaccine also have strongly held belief that getting the vaccine is the right choice for you and your families.

Gwen Vilches:

We must start respecting each other's choices. Isn't that what we try to teach our children? To be curious, respect our differences, and not to force people to do things against their will? Coercion and force will fail. PPS will indeed lose students, and there will certainly be an equity impact on communities that have valid reasons to be concerned about forced medical mandates. This is exactly why the board of Portland Community College came to the conclusion that they will not be implementing mandates, citing equity concerns. I ask the board of directors, superintendent, and executive team, what will be your legacy? Inclusion and equity, or exclusion and coercion? We are at a crossroads. Choose wisely. Thank you for your time.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you so much. Page Morrison?

Page Morrison:

Hi. Thank you for creating this listening forum. My name is Page Morrison, and I'm a PPS parent and a healthcare worker in Portland. My son goes to Creston, and we feel lucky to have such a great neighborhood school community. **However, with the discussion of COVID vaccine mandates, I'm concerned about my child's future in public school.**

Page Morrison:

First of all, younger people have a low risk of complications from the COVID-19 virus. If a student is high risk, by all means they should have the option to have the vaccine, but we don't need to impose this medical treatment on young people who may not benefit from it. As a healthcare provider, I understand that all medical interventions come with risks. I help my patients to make informed healthcare decisions by weighing the potential risks versus potential benefits. Then I allow them to make their own decision. I never try to coerce, threaten, or punish them if they do not agree to a medical intervention. That would go against medical ethics.

Page Morrison:

We are beginning understand that these new vaccines do have serious risks. Since these are new vaccines, we are learning more every day. Some of these risks, like myocarditis, seem to be affecting younger people at a higher rate. While these adverse reactions are hopefully rare, they are real and serious health concerns for those who are affected by them. Myocarditis can be life-threatening. In fact, Finland, Sweden, and Denmark have stopped giving Moderna vaccine to younger people due to these risks.

Page Morrison:

Another concern I have is that we do not have long-term data on the safety of these vaccines. We do not know if they'll lead to increased rates of cancer, autoimmune disease, or other health issues in the long run.

Page Morrison:

We are starting to understand that protection offered by the vaccines is limited, breakthrough cases are common, vaccinated people can spread the illness at a similar rate to those who are not, and the protection offered by the vaccines is mostly personal benefit. For healthy young people, this intervention may be unnecessary.

Page Morrison:

Overall, there's no urgent need to mandate vaccines to PPS students. As with all medical interventions, each student and family should discuss the decision with their doctor and make an informed choice that fits their individual health needs. There's no need for education board to be involved in this personal health decision between a doctor and a patient.

Page Morrison:

Thank you for hearing my concerns regarding the vaccine mandates. And I'm happy to provide peer-reviewed research to support my statements. Also, thank you for your hard work toward getting our students back to school in person this year. And I really look forward to my child continuing his education with PPS.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you so much.

Page Morrison:

Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Dawn Drescher? Dawn Drescher? Dawn? You're on mute. Maybe that's... don't see you here. Okay. I'm going to go through a number of folks that I maybe didn't see, just in case, and then we'll proceed with a second part of a list. So Sarah Calderon? Delaney Davis? Jessica Grief? Sage Cohen? Christine Dapinto? Gracie Bacasar? Laura O'Hearn? Jeremy Hanson? [inaudible 00:25:06] Okay. Rachel Batiste? Do I have Rachel Batiste? Okay. What about Darcy Maloney? Justina Lynch? Kristinna Young?

Kristinna Young:

Hi, I'm here.

Jonathan Garcia:

Go ahead.

Kristinna Young:

Okay. All right. I'm nervous. I don't like talking in public, so I'm going to do my best. Thank you guys for having a forum to hear us out. A lot of people said many things already in a much more eloquent way than I possibly could. **So I'm just going to add by saying I do not support the vaccine mandate.** I think everyone needs to do what is right for themselves and taking the vaccine should remain a choice that's up to families to decide what is best for them. I will not give over my parental right to decide what gets injected into my child.

Kristinna Young:

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I also think it's an issue of subjugating a child's body sovereignty to the will of an outside entity. And that is a violation. It's unethical and currently illegal to do so. I really, really, really, really feel like it just... It needs to remain a choice. Thank you for your time.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you so much. I have Lina [crosstalk 00:27:01].

Eilidh Lowery:

I just want to say thank you for being brave. I know it's really hard to speak in public. Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Appreciate it. Lina Tropets?

Lina Tropets:

Hi.

Jonathan Garcia:

Go ahead.

Lina Tropets:

Can you guys hear me okay?

Jonathan Garcia:

Yes.

Lina Tropets:

Good evening. Thank you for having me on. My name is Lina Tropets, and I have two children who attend Franklin High School. One is a freshman and one is a junior. **I'm here tonight to say no to vaccine mandates.** I think that is a choice that should be up to the parents and the children. I know I am not alone, who has had discussions within family to talk about whether that's the right choice for them or not. Many of our families, I know we caught the COVID last November, and so we were under the weather for about a month. So we do have natural immunity.

Lina Tropets:

I know parents are for and against that. That should be a choice up to the parents, not to the school. And I hope that PPS does not mandate those vaccines because that would mean that my kids would be excluded from school and school activities. And therefore, we would have no choice but to pull out kids from school, public school altogether, and do either online school or private school.

Lina Tropets:

So I don't want to go that route. I hope PPS does not mandate the vaccines, that my children do get to finish school. We adore Franklin, so my daughter has had a great experience. She's a junior, so I hope she does get to graduate. And I just really strongly suggest that PPS looks at how Portland Community College went about voting on the mandate and aligns with their beliefs and includes everybody, whether you're for or against, that should be a choice up to the parents. So please consider each of our choices. I know parents are for and against, but again, it should be up to each parent to make that choice.

Lina Tropets:

And I will leave with this comment that was said by Will Johnson, a Colorado parent. "What it comes down to for me, and I think for so many other parents, is who owns the education and the moral for me of our kids. Is it the parents, or is it the state?" And I hope that that is the parents and the state listens to our choices. Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you so much. Eric Young?

Eric Young:

Hi there. Thanks for having me on and being able to talk about everything. It's been a really rough couple of years with the pandemic, and I understand that everybody wants this magic bullet to solve all of our problems and get the vaccine. And if that's your choice, more power to you. For us, I don't feel comfortable with it. And I don't... And to be honest, I don't think it's the answer for most people. There's enough breakthrough cases. I think people getting vaccinated, they tend to let their guard down and think, "I'm safe now," and not take all their safety protocols like they should anyway. And because the false sense of security. We've gone to great lengths, wearing masks, sanitizing, limiting our group exposures and everything else.

Eric Young:

And we were actually on the fence thinking about getting vaccinated until a close friend of mine, his nephew literally dropped dead four hours after his vaccination from heart complications. And it sent me into a real... It shook me to my core. And I had to start reaching out to family and friends that were in the medical profession. And I was shocked to hear some of the feedback from people about... One of our uncles actually recommended that we not get vaccinated, even though he's treated 100, over 100 COVID patients and gave me his information on it.

Eric Young:

And we're still sorting through. It's hard to get clear answers on everything, but **I believe that it's should be left to family's choice. This isn't something that should mandated by the schools.** And if it comes down to forced vaccinations, it'll be a matter of us finding another way to educate our children. They really enjoy schools they're going to, and I would like to keep them in school. But it really belongs in the... Be a choice of the parents. And if people are comfortable with getting vaccinated, that's fine. It's their body, it's their choice. And I would like to have the same respect treated back on us, of saying it is our choice. It's my children. And I would hope y'all would just respect that. Thank you for your time.

Julia Brim-Edwards:

Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you so much. Julie Verfurth? Verfurth?

Julie Verfurth:

Hi, thank you. I'm a medical professional who works here in Portland, and I don't even know where to start. **I think that the mandates are very bad idea.** I think, as many people have said, that having choice about what to do to your body or put in your body is absolutely... Should be your choice and yours alone. And as a parent, you are the person responsible for your children. So that said, that should just be the golden rule.

Julie Verfurth:

My son is a junior at Franklin, and there are reasons outside of anaphylaxis that some people should not be getting... Medical reasons that people should not be getting this shot. There are also philosophical and religious reasons that people don't want it.

Julie Verfurth:

But what I fear is that even aside from the medical stuff and the risks that are associated with the vaccine for some people, the myocarditis risk is very real. Blood clots is very real. Hemorrhaging is very real. These are happening in multiple, multiple cases across the world. And we don't get a whole lot of press on that in our mainstream media, but it's being reported. Lots and lots of physicians and scientists are following this. They're pointing it out. There's lots of data being published. And so the medical reasons for keeping it a choice, I think are just overwhelming.

Julie Verfurth:

The other thing is more of a social risk that I am absolutely terrified of. And that is that a mandate has a very high risk, I guess. There's a high probability that it will lead to having to show proof, having to... You can't do this if you haven't gotten the vaccine. We're seeing this roll out in different cities in our country. It's rolling out in different places in the world. Right now, you may not go to a sporting event in some places. It's only a matter of time, a slippery slope, before you can't go to a grocery store, people are being denied medical care.

Julie Verfurth:

This is absolutely unAmerican. This is absolutely not where our country should be going. And I know that right now, people say it's just a vaccine, and it's just something to help the public health. But I think you really, really, really need to think about it. What does a segregated society start to look like? Segregated on the vaccine status. So if anyone thought that segregation on race or segregation on religion or any of those things was a good idea, then this is a good idea as well. But if anyone feels like that did not resonate and shouldn't be in our society, then just come below or behind or whatnot. Let it all settle. And what does that feel like, if you go to a restaurant and you're told [crosstalk 00:35:41] no, you can't come in. So it's [crosstalk 00:35:43].

Eilidh Lowery:

Thank you so much for your comments.

Julie Verfurth:

It's just a slippery slope. Yeah.

Jonathan Garcia:

Appreciate it. Truly.

Julie Verfurth:

Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you.

Eilidh Lowery:

Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Chloe de Block?

Chloe de Block:

I don't have a statement prepared, but I really appreciate the opportunity for everyone to share. **We had sent emails to the board, and we definitely do not support mandated vaccines.** We have a willingness... I know PPS has rolled out testing that's voluntary. And if we were required to be tested versus vaccinated, we would be willing to participate in a program like that. But we don't want to lose our ability to have access to public education. We think we take all the precautions that are necessary, and our schools are open now, and we've had a great experience being back and think it's working well. Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Thank you, Chloe. Mindy Peabody? Dmitri Tropets?

Dmitri Tropets:  
Y'all hear me.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Yes.

Dmitri Tropets:

Oh, awesome. Hello, everyone. I'm Dmitri Tropets. Thank you for having me. **I have two kids in high school, and we do not support vaccine mandate. It should be a family choice.** If it is forced, then schools will lose students to online learning or other alternative options. So please have families make this choice with their doctors. Thank you very much.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Thank you. Art Goreman?

Art Goreman:  
Hello? Can you hear me?

Jonathan Garcia:  
Yes.

Art Goreman:  
Okay.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Go ahead.

Art Goreman:

You say 12 plus [inaudible 00:37:41] will affect my [inaudible 00:37:46] consent for this experimental mRNA vaccine. When learning about the virus, I didn't... If the philosophical exemption is not made available to us, my child will have to un-enroll-

Art:

My child will have to un-enroll from PPS harm my private interaction with his peers. Don't make us have to withdraw him from PPS. What is the science that fulfilled our informed consent? The starting point is considering the infection where [00:38:28] from Stanford University says the IFR for kids age zero to 19 is 3000th of a percent. Finland, Sweden, Norway, and Iceland have placed restrictions on various COVID vaccines for adolescents. The problem is, the COVID mRNA vaccines at a minimum, are known to [inaudible 00:38:55] and pericarditis [inaudible 00:38:59] antibodies in people. The new data [inaudible 00:39:02] is that COVID is more of a [inaudible 00:39:13] vaccine injection does not stay in the ejection site as traditional protein-based vaccines do.

Art:

Due to the novel polyethylene glycol nanoparticle [inaudible 00:39:26] of the vaccine, at least 75% of the 15 to 40 trillion nano particles that are injected into a human's body with each dose of the vaccine, pass into your bloodstream and are distributed throughout your entire body. This is why there is such a wide range of side effects in adrenal glands, eyes, ovaries, and crossing blood brain barrier.

Art:

An example of this vascular damage-

Jonathan Garcia:

Sorry, Art.

Art:

... especially relevant for adolescent males is myocarditis and pericarditis, which is unsurprising given the vascular effects of the COVID vaccine and the rapid growth of heart muscle in adolescents.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you, Art. Thank you so much for your comments.

Julia Brim-Edwards:

Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Alex Story.

Alex Story:

Hi.

Jonathan Garcia:

Go ahead.

Alex Story:

My name is Alex [inaudible 00:40:21]. I am a holistic health practitioner here in Portland, and I have two [inaudible 00:40:25], both who are at Kellogg Middle School, having a wonderful time there. I've had a great experience with PPPs and **I'm here to say that I do not support the vaccine mandate in any shape or form.** Pretty much everything that everyone else has said relatively sums up what I have to say.

Alex Story:

The main thing that I have to say is that, anything, any type of [inaudible 00:40:50], anything that forces someone to do [inaudible 00:40:53] against their will because they need, say to keep their kids in school and they don't have another option, is in my opinion, a form of abuse. I do not think that we should participate [inaudible 00:41:06] people.

Alex Story:

I think the mandates that are rolling across the country are completely unethical, exclusionary, it [inaudible 00:41:14] division in society and are moving towards something, not a future I want for my children or anyone else.

Alex Story:

And I appreciate the chance to speak. I have lots of concerns about the vaccine. I'm grateful for the people who want to get it, that get it, if that helps them to feel safer and protects them, which it seems to, at least for a little while before the protection wanes. That's great, but we should have freedom of choice [inaudible 00:41:44] in our body and what goes into our children's bodies. Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you, Alec.

Julia Brim-Edwards:

Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Elizabeth Wiley.

Elizabeth Wiley:

Hi. Can you hear me?

Jonathan Garcia:

Yes, go ahead.

Elizabeth Wiley:

I have an eighth grader at Sellwood Middle School who will be at Franklin next year. And I have a fifth grader at Dunaway Elementary. My family and **I are absolutely against the vaccine mandate for children or anyone.** We all have our opinions as to the virus. I've studied science. I am an advocate of the flu shot, but we've just never had to be forced to do something. And I definitely don't agree with... I consider this an experimental drug. And as a mother, nobody can make me put this into my children.

Elizabeth Wiley:

COVID it's known to not target children. I myself am not going to get it. I don't think I am at risk. My children definitely aren't. If this were to be a mandate, I would have to pull my children and out of school, and it has been the best thing for us and for them to go back to school. So I really hope this doesn't go in effect. Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you, Elizabeth.

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Julia Brim-Edwards:  
Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Amber Wagner. Amber Wagner. Susan Campbell. Susan-

Elizabeth Wiley:  
Good evening.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Go ahead.

Elizabeth Wiley:  
Hi. Can you hear me?

Jonathan Garcia:  
Yes, go ahead.

Elizabeth Wiley:  
I am a mother of a junior at Franklin. I am totally anti-vax. **I don't believe that there is enough research, yet, to mandate it.** The studies have shown that the side effects are not pleasant for young teenage boys. Over a thousand cases of the myocarditis, the heart muscle inflammation has occurred since eight April of 2021. My son is an athlete. He is healthy. I don't see any reason to vaccinate him.

Elizabeth Wiley:  
I am not getting the vaccination. My friends and family are not getting the vaccination. It goes against everything that we have been educated against. Everything against science. Science is there to be proven wrong. Math is to be proven right, not science.

Elizabeth Wiley:  
Healthy people are likely to contract it at a minimal rate and have minimal symptoms that are short-term. Vaccinated people are only 8% less likely to contract the virus, and I believe that the vaccinated people are the ones that created the Delta variant that has spread, not the un-vaccinated.

Elizabeth Wiley:  
I think the vaccinated people are the ones to be concerned about. They are mutating this coronavirus and they are spreading it. That is why they said, "You're vaccinated, you don't have to wear a mask anymore. Oh, wait. We changed your minds. You've been vaccinated. You still only need to wear your mask because you're still spreading it."

Jonathan Garcia:  
Thank you, Susan.

Elizabeth Wiley:  
It's scary.

Rosie Brock Miller:  
Introduce me.

Elizabeth Wiley:

I also have another mom here with me.

Rosie Brock Miller:

Hi, Jonathan.

Jonathan Garcia:

Yes.

Rosie Brock Miller:

Can you hear me? My name is Rosie Brock Miller. My phone has been giving me problems so I could not get on the Zoom. So I came over here. I'm a mother of six. I've been a part of Portland Public Schools since 1996. My husband coaches at Franklin High School, the softball team. I have twins that go there.

Rosie Brock Miller:

**I will not be getting my kids or my family vaccinated.** I do not believe in it. I don't believe in the masks either, because we know our mouth is dirtier than you know what, and they're breathing it in all day. I didn't come and make a big deal about that, but it is not healthy for any of the kids or anybody to be breathing in their own carbon dioxide all day long. Collin Powell today died and was vaccinated.

Rosie Brock Miller:

So we are against it. I wish you all would really think about Jimmy and coaching, please. You're taking something away from him. He has been a coach, a great coach, softball coach, baseball coach, a part to Portland Public Schools for 20 years. Don't make people jab themselves with something. Let's follow the science and let's listen to all scientists, please. Because, Pfizer emails came out, there is HEK in the Pfizer vaccine. Human embryo kidneys. I don't want to be injected to that. I don't want my kids to be injected to that.

Rosie Brock Miller:

We also have the Nuremberg trials that we are in violation of. A mandate is not a law. Don't go down the wrong path, Portland Public Schools, please. Franklin is a part of our lives. We have been there for Franklin for a long time. My husband graduated from there. My kids... Please, please do the right thing. Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you so much. John Lukes.

Julia Brim-Edwards:

Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

John Lukes. (Silence) [Natalie Zurich 00:48:25]. Natalie Zurich. Josh Himel.

Josh Himel:

I'm here.

Jonathan Garcia:

Please.

Josh Himel:

I've got two kids, both doing really well. One's at Cleveland. One's at Winterhaven. Super happy to be back in school. I like vaccines. I've got a bunch on board, more than most probably because of travel. I like these COVID vaccines because I think they are saving lives and helping us get back to normal. I'm also fine with vaccine mandates that come from Oregon Health Authority. I think they do more good than harm.

Josh Himel:

**However, I am very opposed to mandating these vaccines for these kids, at this time, through the school district.** The reasons, there's a couple. Kids face an extremely low risk from COVID. Three children in Oregon have died from COVID in the whole pandemic. Two of those deaths were infants with underlying conditions. The deaths are tragic, but that rate of death is comparable to that caused every year by flu, which we don't mandate vaccination for.

Josh Himel:

School-aged kids that are in good enough health to attend school in the first place, meaning not hospitalized or home bound for other health reasons, face a risk somewhere below one in a million.

Josh Himel:

We simply don't need to, and have not historically, transferred healthcare decision making from individuals and families to the government for risks that are that low.

Josh Himel:

Now, if there were no risks, no costs associated with the vaccines themselves, I'd feel different. But there are costs. There is a social cost to be paid when the government, which is already viewed suspiciously by many people and communities and for good reason, coerces healthcare decisions during a confusing pandemic. Some people are going to pull their kids from school and the ones who don't are going to resent it.

Josh Himel:

There are risks, relatively low, near-term risks that do include death with the vaccines, and there are completely unknown, long-term risks. We simply don't know how safe these vaccines are in the long term.

Josh Himel:

So if the logic is, vaccinate the kids to protect their elders, that means an upside down version of our normal moral code. Rather than adults risking themselves to you protect children, we would be forcing kids to onboard risk to protect adults.

Josh Himel:

And in case you're wondering, I'm not getting my data from Russian misinformation bots. I get my information from the CDC, the NIH, Oregon Health Authority and reputable journals like Nature.

Josh Himel:

So at this time, given what we know about the pandemic specific to kids, I'm very much against forcing them to get these vaccines right now. As far as my kids go, if you guys don't offer access to exemptions or

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reasonable accommodations like periodic COVID testing, there's a good chance I'm going to pull my kids out of the district. I don't want to do that. I think it would be really hard on them. It would be hard on us. So I'm really, really hoping that you don't make that decision. And if you do that, you have reasonable ways for people who are strongly opposed to get around it. Thanks for listening to all of us.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Thank you, Josh.

Julia Brim-Edwards:  
Thank you. Stefanie Miller.

Stefanie Miller:  
Hello?

Jonathan Garcia:  
Hello, go ahead.

Stefanie Miller:  
Can you hear me?

Jonathan Garcia:  
Yes, go ahead.

Stefanie Miller:  
Oh, okay. Sorry. I didn't know if I would get to speak so I just need to pull up my information really quickly.

Jonathan Garcia:  
No worries.

Stefanie Miller:  
Sorry.

Jonathan Garcia:  
You're good. We won't start the time without you.

Stefanie Miller:  
Oh my God. Okay. I am ready.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Okay.

Stefanie Miller:  
I'm very concerned about the topic of COVID vaccine requirements for students. **There are many reasons why it should not be required, but I will just name a few.** First, our community rates of COVID infection are coming down, and I actually had sent some graphs in an email today so you could look at them later. That was one of the reasons, that they're coming down.

Stefanie Miller:

The second reason is that, there may be previous harm by a childhood vaccine and parents don't want to risk the potential for another bad outcome.

Stefanie Miller:

Doctors will not be able to write an exemption because there is yet to be evidence that this particular vaccine will cause harm to that particular child. The only way to know if there would be harm is to try it and by then, be too late. The child would only qualify for exemptions for additional boosters.

Stefanie Miller:

Third, there's evidence of myocarditis in healthy children. And the long-term risks of myocarditis in children is unknown. Fourth, there is much evidence of COVID recovered having more robust and longer lasting immunity than vaccinated, and that if you vaccinate children who are already immune, there's no benefit and only the potential for harm.

Stefanie Miller:

Fifth, there are already high levels of community vaccine uptake. If some people have valid concerns or want to wait for more safety data, that should be tolerated. As you can see, the concerns are varied and based in science. If you want to encourage vaccination, I am fine with that, but I want the choice to be up to families with no negative consequences for children for not receiving this vaccine.

Stefanie Miller:

Mandating the vaccine will force children out of school and they will leave to form homeschool pods, find private schools or just plain homeschool. So, I hope you continue to have it be a choice for all families. And thank you so much for having this session.

Julia Brim-Edwards:

Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you. James Greve.

James Greve:

Can you hear me?

Jonathan Garcia:

Yes, go ahead.

James Greve:

[Inaudible 00:54:31] **The previous speakers in opposition, have made every point I was going to make, but I think I can fill in a gap or two here.** Mr. Garcia, I guess you were the author of this Executive Summary from September 27th, which I examined fairly closely. I give you at least a bronze star for mentioning the exemptions. Medical exemptions are hard to get, but there is a non-medical exemption, and people need to understand where that is based. No child needs to be excluded. The non-medical exemption is in statute, right? It's not a regulation. It's not a bullet point in a policy document. It's a law. So you all should look it up. It's ORS 433.267.

James Greve:

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Okay. That has both the medical exemption and starting at section C, it has the non-medical exemption. Do note about the non-medical medical exemption, is that you do not have to explain why you are claiming that exemption. It says, "May include the reason for declining the immunization." "May include..." "

James Greve:

You do not have to list what your religious preference or your moral stance, and this is a law. All right? No child needs to be excluded if their parents claim that non-medical exemption and the law I think would actually have to be overturned. Now the legislature has tried at least twice to overturn that non-medical exemption and they've failed both times. I don't expect them to try it in this very heated context, but who knows.

James Greve:

So I would echo, I was sorry to hear about Mr. [Hummel's 00:56:20] tragedy in his family, and I have to say, that has occurred twice in my larger circle. I think the thing that perhaps offends me most about the mandate is that it... I don't know who PPS is to get between me and my child's doctor, between me and my doctor. It's a total trampling of the sort of human principle of informed consent, which was hard won, historically. And for PPS, a school district, to trample on informed consent, I think in one...

James Greve:

To trample on informed consent. I think in one sense, that's ridiculous. In another sense, it's just dangerous.

Jonathan Garcia:

Okay, thanks.

James Greve:

Okay. Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

I'm going to go through-

Director Julia Brim-Edwards:

Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you. I'm going to go through the list just to make sure I'm not missing anybody here. Maria Steiner.

Maria Steiner:

Thank you for having this meeting and allowing us to share our concerns and opinions. I have two boys. One is a freshman at Benson this year, and I have a junior at Cleveland, and they've been in Portland public schools since they were kindergartners, and they've covered a lot of health classes through the years. And. One of the many emphasis that they've had over the years is that you have to take personal responsibility for your health. It's your choice. It's what you do. There's evaluating risk in life, and we have given the choice of vaccination to them to make the decision as teenagers. We feel that it is their choice to make, and they have also both had COVID just in August, so we know that they have some natural immunity. Scientifically, we don't know how long it will last, just like we don't with a vaccine.

Maria Steiner:

**But, I guess my concern is that, because it is their choice, if this mandate comes out, the school is basically telling them, if you do not get this vaccine, you cannot come to this school.** And I don't think that is the message that the school should be giving them when they've spent so much time on teaching them that it is a personal choice, that they should weigh the risk. I think there hasn't been a lot of discussion on the risk benefit for different groups of people. When we use statistics, we tend to lump a lot of people together, and there is a big difference between 60 and up and youth, and looking at their health and everything. There's so many factors. And so, it should be a personal decision, talked with family and physician. And so, I hope that they aren't forced to make...

Jonathan Garcia:

Maria. Did I lose you? Is that me?

Director Julia Brim-Edwards:

It's not you. I can't hear her, either.

Jonathan Garcia:

Okay. Thank you so much. And that the end of her comment. Natalie Lacrote, Amber Wagner, Justina Lynch, Darcy Maloney. Rachel Batiste.

Rachel Batiste:

Hey, can you hear me?

Jonathan Garcia:

Please, go ahead.

Rachel Batiste:

Okay. **So again, most of the points that I would love to make have already been made, honestly by both sides. I, myself and my family, we are against the mandate.** I'm not against the vaccine. I am against the mandate and where it comes from. But I think the main point that I wanted to bring up that I'm not sure has been fully addressed yet, I keep hearing people compare it to all the other vaccines. Kids have been forced to have these vaccines forever. Go to school, you have to have a chicken pox shot, blah, blah, blah. The thing is, working for PPS, this isn't treated the same, right? So, when kids would register, if they had a religious exemption, a nonreligious exemption, a philosophical exemption, for any of the other vaccines that they were to have, we don't question that, right?

Rachel Batiste:

When we're enrolling the kids, that just is what it is. We weren't questioning it. They're not asked in class, "How many of you got a chicken pox shot?" The way that's being asked in class at Franklin, they're not being outed about if they had their hepatitis shot, right? That's very private. At PPS, you've got to keep it behind two locked doors. They're in files and we don't have those discussions. They're not excluded. Again, if they had an exemption, there's a box that's checked and there was nobody going through those. The principal, the counselors, nobody's going through those and saying, "Eh, that medical exemption isn't quite good enough for me," or "Eh, that non-medical exemption, even, isn't quite good enough for me. You're going to go need to go get this shot." This is the only one that we're treating this way.

Rachel Batiste:

This is the only one that's coming up. This is the only one that's caused my junior trauma. This is the only one that's caused my junior to not want to go to school because she feels singled out about her choices. And this is the only one that's got her and her friends, her cousins who go to school with her, feeling like they can't speak about who they are or what they feel because of the way that they're going to be judged. This is not the same as the other vaccines. And also, we don't have any history behind this one, as I did... Chicken pox shot was around when I was a baby, right? So, by the time my kids had it, it's 20 fucking years. Sorry, sorry. 20 years old. We have some historical data behind that. We don't have that here. So it's not the same, and it's super frustrating to keep being told, "Well, they've been having vaccines, what's the difference?" There are a lot of differences that are not being discussed here.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Thank you, Rachel.

Rachel Batiste:  
Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Don Drescher, Tatiana Musatava, Jared Weiner, Nichole Wolf, Kate Moore, Hailey Hendrickson, Kesa Henrick, Tamara Lindaman, Laurel Boyd, Kathy Grayton, Christie Clark, Mavie Nyberg, Danielle Solomon, Keska Kemper, Bethany Taylor, C Amore Levy, Camille Newman.

Khamille Neumann:  
Yes. I'm here. This is Camille Newman.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Go ahead.

Khamille Neumann:  
So far, I want to say that I agree with what so far I've heard. I've only been on for about 20 minutes, but I appreciate everything that Art and Eric and everyone else has said. And Rachel. I totally agree with all of them. **I'm not vaccinated and I would not vaccinate my children with this experimental drug.** My children are already vaccinated a hundred percent in all the other vaccines, so it's not that I'm anti-vax, it's just this vaccine itself scares me. I am required to be vaccinated at work, but I submitted a request for accommodation and I was granted it. And now, I'm being forced to test weekly, which is uncomfortable, but I'm willing to do that before putting this unknown substance into my body. And if PPS does not allow my child to go to school without getting this vaccine, then I will absolutely pull them. Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Thank you, Camille.

Khamille Neumann:  
Thank you.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Kay Castillo, Alison Wolinsky, Jeremy Hansen, Laura O'Hearn, Gracie Balksar, Christine DePinto, Sage Cohen, Jessica Grief, Delaney Davis, and Sarah Calderone. Directors, I think that ends those that are registered to provide comment this evening.

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Eugene Volosevych:

Hello, my name is Eugene. I don't know, you guys maybe missed my wife. She's Mila Volosevych. My name is Eugene.

Jonathan Garcia:

Please go ahead.

Eugene Volosevych:

Thank you very much for having me. Thank you all your parents, proactive parents, and I'm really glad that I have a chance to express myself and concerns regarding vaccination mandate. **We are against it.** I'm a student. I was a student of PPS in the early nineties. I have four kids, students of PPS. One was graduated, one still in high school, another one in middle school and last daughter in elementary. So, we're against it. That pretty much we're in support of these people, wonderful people who testified. And, I just want to say that I'm originally from communist country and we had really bad experience in my mandating and forcing people to do stuff. So, it's a really bad decision, bad road. I urge PPS staff and administration not to mandate and give a freedom of choice for families and parents. And I'm not against vaccination. It's a choice of person, but I'm against forcing people to do stuff that they're not willing or they don't feel safe.

Eugene Volosevych:

Due to my occupation in media, I have an access to hundreds of families, if not thousands. I've been working on the radio station, local radio station, for over 10 years, and in my circle, whoever I speak with and leaders of our community, huge community, it's tens of thousands of families. Honestly, I didn't find a single family who is for forcing or mandating vaccinations. So, I believe it's a choice of people, of family, and God bless America. God bless PPS and give you wisdom.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you much. Really appreciate it. Thank you. Great. Any other comments that I may have missed? Just want to make sure folks have the chance if you've been here.

Yana Sukhoterina:

Hello?

Jonathan Garcia:

Go ahead.

Yana Sukhoterina:

Hi. My name is Yana and I'm a parent of two kids in Portland Public School, and I just want to agree with everything that's been talked before me. **I am opposing the vaccine and I will not vaccinate my kids.** I think that every family has a right to make their own health decision for their own kids, and vaccine has to be optional. Thank you for just having us here today.

Jonathan Garcia:

Thank you.

Director Julia Brim-Edwards:

Thank you.

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Jonathan Garcia:

Great. Well, thank you everybody again for being here tonight. Really informative. Go ahead, Melissa.

Melissa:

Thank you.

Director Elidh Lowery:

Can you please put a reminder up for how people can make comments to you online through the pps.net site?

Jonathan Garcia:

Yes. I will do you that right now. Let me make sure. I don't know if the comment section is on.

Director Elidh Lowery:

It's pps.com. Backslash [crosstalk 01:10:28] Sorry, Jonathan. It was in my script, so I have it memorized.

Jonathan Garcia:

Go ahead.

Kirsten Choate:

It's ppps.com/connect, and there you'll find the let's talk button and be able to submit comment there as well. And Jonathan, you're not able to access the comments?

Jonathan Garcia:

Yeah. It's pps.net/contact.

Kirsten Choate:

Oh see, I'm totally wrong. Forward slash contact. I'm having a night, I tell you. [crosstalk 01:10:56]

Yana Sukhoterina:

The problem is that there are 32 buttons on the connect page. What button?

Jonathan Garcia:

There's a button in there for vaccine requirements. So, we will...

Kirsten Choate:

Let see there's a COVID button and there's a health and safety button. To me, those were the only ones that might-

Jonathan Garcia:

Sorry. Thank you very much. I appreciate it. So, it is the COVID button. If you put in the COVID button, you can provide your comment there. So again, I just wanted to reiterate what was said earlier by our board member. Following tonight's listening session, the board will have a discussion at the October 26th board meeting on the merits, consequences and impacts of a vaccine requirement. If the board decides to move forward with a vaccine requirement, they would consider and vote on a student requirement at the November 2nd board meeting. So, just want to make sure that folks know that's there. With that, I think that concludes our presentation for the evening.

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Josh Himel:  
Can I ask quick question?

Jonathan Garcia:  
Go ahead.

Josh Himel:  
We were looking for the way to sign up for the kids listening session on Thursday, and we didn't see a link on that. All the other listening sessions had a little link, click here to sign up, but that one didn't have it.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Yeah, we sent that link specifically to students, so-

Josh Himel:  
Oh, okay.

Jonathan Garcia:  
To their students email accounts, because we really want to make sure we're hearing directly from the students. We love hearing from families and parents, having a specific group to hear directly from students is important.

Josh Himel:  
Okay.

Susan Campbell:  
I have one more comment.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Go ahead.

Susan Campbell:  
Our children are not over the age of 18. They do not have a voice. Parents are their voice. So, to exclude parents is illegal. They are not legally of age to engage in a contract. They are not legally of age to make a decision for themselves. They are under their parental guidance.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Thank you for that comment, Susan.

Khamille Neumann:  
And parents should be involved. Thank you.

Director Julia Brim-Edwards:  
That's why we have tonight's listening session, so that we can hear from parents and really appreciate all the parents who took the time this evening to share their point of view with all of us.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Absolutely. And with that, that ends our evening. Thank you again for being here and for providing your comments.

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Speaker 1:  
One quick question.

Director Julia Brim-Edwards:  
Thanks, everyone.

Jonathan Garcia:  
Thank you.

Director Julia Brim-Edwards:  
Thank you and have a good night.

**END [01:13:40]**

**The following is a transcript of the Zoom listening session for Ida B Wells, Lincoln, Roosevelt families on October 19, 2021:**

Herman Green:

My name is Herman Green, director of zone four, and I'm excited to be here.

Andrew Scott:

Great, and we just introduced all the interpreters and I think we're actually ready to start. So if you have your sort of intro in front of you, we can take it from there or I'm happy to do it as well.

Confirmation: 0390102520404

Herman Green:

What you talking about, my little speech?

Andrew Scott:

That's it. I'm setting you up.

Herman Green:

Make no mistake about it. All right. I'm going to go. Yeah, I do have that. If you give me one second, I can, because I was having some technical difficulties, I can get that back up and I can get that ready. All right, I'm ready. And for those, okay. Now where's? Now I can't see you all. Can you all hear me? [crosstalk 00:00:54].

Andrew Scott:

We can.

Herman Green:

All right. So I want to, as a precursor, I want to say the reason that this was written out is because I talk too much. And so it had to be written out so that I would stay on point. That does not mean I don't believe what I'm reading. It simply means that they're trying to tame me and keep me from going off on these wild and crazy tangents like I'm doing right now. So I exercised that because they gave me a moment to speak. And now I'm going to read so that I can get us in and out of the way as quickly as possible, and we can get back to listening to the parents and the families, which is what we're really here to do. That's what's most important for us.

Herman Green:

And so with that being said, as you all know, our number one priority as a school district is to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all of our students, our families, and our staff, which is why we've worked so hard to implement such a robust safety measure across all of our systems to safely open our schools up this fall. And to date, those safety measures include mask wearing. They include physical distancing, diagnostic and screening, testing, isolation and quarantining when necessary of individuals who've had positive cases or come in contact with individuals with positive cases. They include regular hand washing. They include cleaning and disinfecting, upgrading our ventilation system and our air filters and requiring vaccination for all of our staffs, our volunteers, and our contractors. And now like so many rest of us in the city, we're discussing the possibility of requiring vaccinations for some or all of our students who are 12 and older.

Herman Green:

And we realize that this is a personal issue. We realize this is a highly sensitive issue. And that's why we wanted to take this moment to, and set aside this time so that we could hear from as many people as possible. And we want to hear from all of you, if we can. So we're asking if all of you would limit your comments to two minutes. I understand that that's going to be hard because it's almost impossible to say the brevity of what's in your heart in two minutes. And all of you are probably like myself, and this is going to be a struggle I know, but we're going to ask you to do that as much as you possibly can.

Herman Green:

Somebody on our team is going to let you know when it's time for you to end those comments. And then once that's done, we'll move on to the next person. So I don't want you to feel as though if we ring the bell, that means we're done with you, or we no longer want to hear anything else you have to say. It simply means that we're trying to give everyone some time. And so we're going to try to move on to the next as quickly as possible. Thank you. And let's go.

Andrew Scott:

All right. One of the reasons I love serving on the board with Herman is because not only do I learn something every time he gets fired up and starts going, it also gives me a chance to get a glass of water, a cup of coffee, as we [inaudible 00:03:58] our board meeting. So I would encourage you all tune in because, man, when he gets going, it's great. So just sort of following up on what Director Green was just saying, as a community, we really value everyone's beliefs and principles.

Andrew Scott:

And our purpose here tonight is to hear from all members of our community. Hearing a variety of opinions is what's really important to us as decision makers and as we go through this decision making process. So in that spirit, I just want to let everyone know, we will not tolerate any disrespectful or hurtful comments. If you do express disrespect, or if you verbally attack other members of the community who are here tonight, we are going to have to mute you. And especially if you interfere with another's ability to listen or share their comments, because again, our purpose here tonight is to hear from everybody and to get from a variety of viewpoints on this really important issue.

Andrew Scott:

We are going to have a hard stop at 8:00 tonight. We're going to try and get through as many of your comments as possible. If we don't get to everyone who wants to speak, you will be able to share your comments in writing, using our let's talk contact form, which is available at [pps.net/contact](https://pps.net/contact) and maybe [Shanice 00:05:07] or another staff person could, if we have a chat function enabled here, we may not. But again, I'll just repeat that it's [pps.net/contact](https://pps.net/contact) if you want to add some more.

Andrew Scott:

Following tonight's listening session, the board will have a discussion at our October 26th board meeting on the merits of this potential policy, consequences, any impacts of a vaccine requirement and to whom it might apply. If the board of education does decide to move forward with a vaccine requirement for any of our students, we would consider and vote on that vaccine requirement at our November 2nd board meeting. So again, we'll have another conversation as a board on October 26th. Then and if we decided to move forward, that would happen at the November 2nd board meeting.

Andrew Scott:

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As I think the announcement already happened, but just know that this session is being recorded. And during your two minutes, you're obviously welcome to talk about anything you want, vaccine related obviously. But we would welcome and encourage your opinion on these two specific questions that would really help us. If PPS does require a vaccine requirement for some of or all of our students, how would it impact your student's experience at school? And then the second question, if PPS requires students 12 and up, or another subset of students to be vaccinated against COVID-19, what resources and supports would be most essential to support your students? So again, if we moved forward with a vaccine requirement, how would it impact your student's experience and also what resources and supports would be most essential to support your student? And with that, I'm going to turn it back to staff to kick us off.

Shanice Clarke:

Great, thank you, Director Scott and Director Green. And let's just hop on in and turn it over to you all. I'm going to just call on folks as I see them on my screen and feel free to pass if you're not ready to speak now, or if you're here to just listen. But we'll get started with Lincoln and you have two minutes.

Lincoln:  
I'll pass.

Shanice Clarke:

Great. And so the raised hand function does a thing with Zoom where it reorganizes where everyone shows up for me. So we'll do that. If you have a question, then you'll be oriented first on that list and then we'll move to other folks. How does that work? We have Rebecca first. You have two minutes.

Rebecca Ford:  
Did you say Rebecca?

Shanice Clarke:  
Rebecca Ford, yes.

Rebecca Ford:

Okay. Thank you. Hi, I'm a parent of a sweet creative ninth grader at Metropolitan Learning Center. And his dad is a PPS teacher at a different school. And I want to start off by saying that I completely understand and empathize with having fear of SARS-COVID-2, fear of sickness, fear of death, and fear of inadvertently harming others. And I've been experiencing that as well. So the first year of the pandemic, I was very, very careful and following all the protocols strictly and I had planned on taking one of the COVID vaccines. And when the rollout began, I started investigating the data for myself and became concerned that the mRNA vaccines, though they have been researched for many years, had never been before used in humans. Then I discovered that the vaccine makers are immune from liability, that they either have a very checkered past or have never brought a vaccine to market as is the case for Moderna, whose motto by the way is, "Hacking the software of life."

Rebecca Ford:

Not only that, I discovered that the vaccines don't actually stop transmission or infection, contrary to what we've been told, but only lower symptoms. I was unable to find data supporting the 95% effective claims, but I did find some fishy data. And I learned about the difference between absolute and relative risk reduction. I want the pandemic to be over as much as you, but I do not believe mandating the vaccines is the answer.

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Rebecca Ford:

In my investigation, I also found information that relieved me of much of my fear of the virus. The infection survival rate for people under 70 ranges from 99.41% to 99.9973% in the under 20 age group. There are safe treatments that are effective when used early after onset of COVID symptoms, treatments that have been suppressed due to the agenda to vaccinate absolutely everyone. I know of health providers who have been threatened to have their licenses revoked for simply sharing information.

Shanice Clarke:  
Time.

Rebecca Ford:

I'm going to skip ahead. Oh, I just want to say my fully-vaxxed husband contracted COVID, passed it to myself and my child, had a more severe case than the two of us. We have natural immunity, which stands up against the variants and more effective.

Shanice Clarke:  
Thank you, Rebecca. I have Heather next.

Heather Bowden:

Hi, my name is Heather Bowden. I'm a PPS parent and I have a 12 year old son. To answer Director Andrew Scott's first question, if you Institute this vaccine mandate, this will keep him from going to school. He will not be getting this vaccine. Myocarditis after vaccine in boys is not rare. The Israeli Ministry of Health concluded that the risk is one in 3000 to 6,000. Ontario is reporting one in 3,800 and a recent study from the UC Davis reported one in 6,800. And the CDC will claim that the risk of COVID is greater than the risk of myocarditis. This is actually only true if you count all ages, genders, and comorbidities, but for a healthy young boy, this does not hold. According to Dr. [McCarty 00:11:11], professor at John's Hopkins, the risk of hospitalization from COVID for kids ages five to 17, according to the CDC, is 0.3 per million. The risk of hospitalization due to post vaccine myocarditis is 50 per million for the same age group.

Heather Bowden:

In the UC Davis study, the analysis of medical data suggests that boys age 12 to 15 with no underlying medical conditions, that's my son, are four to six times more likely to be diagnosed with vaccine related myocarditis than ending up in the hospital with COVID. Myocarditis is also not a mild thing. 86% of the boys in the study required hospital care. In fact, the UK's joint committee on vaccination and immunization do not recommend vaccinating children between 12 to 15, stating that the risk benefit balance for these children is much tighter than we would be comfortable with to make that recommendation. In Germany, they recommend the vaccine to those between 12 and 16 only if they suffer from certain chronic illnesses and even Hong Kong, in order to reduce the risk of myocarditis, is only recommending one dose for those aged 12 to 17.

Heather Bowden:

I ask now what problem you're trying to solve with this vaccine mandate. A recent report from the UK showed that unvaccinated kids are at a lower risk of death than a vaccinated adult of any age. According to the [Multnomah 00:12:27] County dashboard, only one person under the age of 20 has been hospitalized for COVID in the last two weeks. It is immoral to mandate something that can and has harmed them to protect them from a virus that poses no threat to them. Thank you.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you, Heather. Next I see Robert Ahdoot.

Robert Ahdoot:

Thank you. Thanks for the opportunity to be heard and reaching out to the community like this. The first and foremost concern is about the mRNA vaccine in the sense that since it's the first time being deployed, we don't know what long term effects it could have on kids' immune systems, which are otherwise robust against COVID. And even if that chance were really, really low that they have a long term effect, in terms of compromising their own innate immunity. If you're telling me that I would possibly compromise my child's innate immunity 10 years down the line, I'm not going to roll the dice, even if it's 1%. It's too big an ask. The idea of mandating now is not prudent. It's too hard, too fast. Look, we live in Portland. I'm sure many people would automatically get the vaccine, choose to get it for their 12 year old kids.

Robert Ahdoot:

Let it be voluntary first. There's going to be a lot of unintended consequences. There's a huge administrative burden to verify that kids are getting vaccinated. Let it come out first. Let at least a year go by to be prudent about it. Just because it gets approved by the FDA to automatically force it into a kid's arm, I think is too harsh. And not to mention, you're going to confront, a lot of parents are going to be having a big challenge with this because they're going to have to confront all, everyone's backgrounds, everyone's religious beliefs, everyone...

Robert Ahdoot:

I'm personally highly vaccinated. I'm a highly vaccinated individual. I am vaccinated against COVID, but I'm also prudent to the sense that we don't know what we don't know. And then if you're going to confront all these family backgrounds in terms of having to choose between what they're afraid of or what they don't know or what their beliefs are and their ability for their kid to go to school, it's not okay in a sense. They can't just quit their job and go to another one. Thank you for your time.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you, Robert. And I'm seeing Jennifer Day next.

Jennifer Day:

Sorry. Okay, thank you. I'm unmuted now. Okay. So I'm going to be fast. I have a lot more than two minutes, but I wanted to point on basically just the side effects that this vaccine is experimental. It's extremely new and I, for one, and am not willing to experiment on my children when it comes to this experimental medical procedure. The VAERS reporting system, which we all know reports adverse effects of the vaccine, and in the last nine months, this vaccine has had far more adverse effects and even deaths reported, than all vaccines combined in the last 30 years, since the conception of the VAERS reporting system. And in the 1970s, when they had the swine flu vaccine, they shut it down after only 53 deaths, which we are exceeding that daily on this reporting system.

Jennifer Day:

Per the CDC website at [covid.cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov), they talk about the variants and that the Delta variant is the only variant that is currently circulating in the United States, and that this vaccine does not stop the transmission of the Delta variant. So straight from the CDC, we have this information that says that this vaccine is not stopping the transmission or stopping the spread in our communities. The most we can

give it credit for is lessening symptoms, but you can't claim that it's... But by our children getting vaccinated, that it is somehow going to save our community or eliminate this virus.

Jennifer Day:

We see examples of this from around the country or around the world of countries that have high vaccination rates, but are still struggling with it. We're not discussing natural immunity at all. That's not being brought up on any level. And we know that natural immunity is far more effective than the vaccine, and that should really be addressed.

Jennifer Day:

Also just two days ago, here in Oregon, OHSU released a statement that said that Oregon should reach herd immunity by December of this year. And that the Delta variant, I'm sorry, just let me finish this one thought. It says from Peter Graven at OHSU, "The effects of herd immunity for the Delta variant are likely to take hold in the population when it reaches 85% from vaccination or recent infection, which shows herd..." Natural, I'm sorry, natural immunity. And that there is no more risk of...

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you, Jennifer. And I also want to share and reiterate our comments at [pps.net/contact](https://pps.net/contact) will also be a place where we're taking in feedback that you aren't able to maybe share during your time today. But we want to make sure we get to everyone. Melissa [Mooreheart 00:18:36], are you ready to speak?

Kara Bradshaw:

Shanice, just before we get moving to the next person, I just wanted to say that, on my side, I feel like saying time comes across very abrupt. The only reason I'm doing that is because the timer on my phone doesn't always come through when I put it next to my computer. So I apologize to anybody out there who feels like that's being abrupt.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you.

Melissa Mooreheart:

Yeah, this is Melissa. Can you hear me?

Shanice Clarke:

Yes, I can.

Melissa Mooreheart:

Okay, I can't make the video come off. So I'll just proceed. I'm a parent of two kids under the age of 12 in Portland Public Schools. I'm concerned. There's plenty of evidence to suggest risk of adverse side effects from vaccines in young children. And in fact that those risks are substantially higher than the risk of contracting COVID or the Delta variant of it. In fact, the survival rate for children is 99.9988% as reported by NHS in the UK. Of approximately 500 kids who died from COVID since COVID's inception over 18 months ago, this NHS study, which was based on 500,000 kids over a year, provides detailed evidence that the vast majority of them had multiple severe comorbidities, such as terminal conditions that...

Melissa Mooreheart:

All severe comorbidities such as terminal conditions that required feeding tubes or respiratory conditions that required in-home supplementary oxygen. Those kids who had cystic fibrosis, type one

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diabetes, trisomy 21, and epilepsy did not die of COVID. We simply don't have long-term data on vaccine side effects. Many multiple physicians and clinics, including Mayo Clinic, note that many reported side effects both in the US [inaudible 00:20:35] database as well as a European similar kind of a database called EudraVigilance have not yet been investigated. And these include recently released report into additional investigation from the EMA in Europe. Menstrual irregularities, kidney problems, and skin and mucus membrane lesions. These are all, of course, relatively short-term side effects since we don't have any data on long-term side effects. I think as somebody else noted, it concerns me that the UK vaccine advisory committee recommended against universal vaccination in this age group just very recently, I think in September for age 12 to 15. What did the US vaccine advisory committee say to this age group? They were not consulted FDA. Furthermore, we have evidence kids are not a high transmission risk. The very reason they were allowed back in school last spring and this fall. COVID is clearly not an emergency for kids. Under these conditions, I can't imagine why we would make a vaccine mandatory. Then finally, just so that we are all aware of it ...

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you, Melissa. We will have to now transition. I'm seeing Rebecca Cohen next.

Rebecca Cohen:

Hi. Thank you for the opportunity to speak. I actually didn't prepare anything to say. I wasn't planning to speak, but I wanted to be a voice in favor of requiring the COVID vaccine. Just like all of the other vaccines that are required for students to attend public school, I believe this should be added to the list because the benefits far outweigh the risks. I'm a parent of a 16-year-old at Roosevelt and I got her vaccinated as soon as I possibly could. I was thrilled to have the opportunity to vaccinate her. If we continue to let COVID spread, it will continue to mutate and it could very well mutate into something that is even more virulent than Delta and could actually have even more adverse effects on children than what we're currently seeing with Delta, especially around the south and other highly unvaccinated areas.

Rebecca Cohen:

So I just wanted to speak up and be a voice in favor of adding COVID to the list of all of the other vaccinations that are already required. Obviously students who have a legitimate health reason to opt out, should be allowed to opt out and the rest of us getting vaccinated. It just protects them even more. Thank you for this opportunity to speak and I thank you for considering this mandate. That's it.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you, Rebecca. Paul Denberg, I am seeing you next. Paul, we can always return to you, but I want to give you a moment to make sure you can unmute if that is the scenario. All right, Paul. Oh, you unmuted. Beautiful.

Deanna:

Oh, were you calling on me? This is Deanna.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you for correcting me, Deanna.

Deanna:

No worries. I am the mom of a 12-year-old. I am fully vaccinated and my child is vaccinated for all of the required immunizations at Portland Public School. And like another parent said, I'm deeply concerned about why the pharmaceutical companies who develop this vaccine are not liable. So though I have a

daughter, I do care about ... I knew there might be side effects. Sorry. I wasn't expecting to speak, but I feel pretty passionate about this mandate, and how many people will be left out, and what are the implications for a group of ... an age group that are not spreaders and who are not particularly at risk. So because I am fully vaccinated, even have my booster, I feel all right being around unvaccinated people. I'm not going to pretend how other people should feel, but my daughter is not immune compromised. If she was, I would feel differently. I understand that, but because the vaccine companies are not liable if she were to develop side effects and this vaccine did not have the same sort of intentionality as all the other vaccines that she and my other children are vaccinated for, I don't feel that it's safe or prudent. And I also agree that other countries including the UK are not requiring children and not considering this age group a risk.

Deanna:

Lastly, I don't understand why you very hard working school board people are put in this position of mandating healthcare. I think that's a terrible position that you're in. I think it puts the relationship with parents and educators in a very tricky spot and I don't understand why we're here. Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you, Deanna. I'm seeing Laura next.

Mike:

Hi. This is Laura and Mike.

Laura:

Hi.

Mike:

Thanks for the opportunity to talk. I went on the CDC website and I wanted to look up some numbers. I've heard a couple of people comment on the same thing. So what I found on the CDC is the COVID mortality is less than 0.1% for children under 18. I also found that the influenza mortality is less than 0.1% for children under 18 and we don't require children to get the flu shots every year. That's not a requirement. People with COVID vaccine can still contact or contract COVID and spread. In Israel, which 60% of the population is vaccinated, there's a study that suggests that people that get the COVID naturally without a vaccine have a more potent immune system than people that got the COVID vaccine. What we don't know, we don't know the long-term effects. And so that's scary for me and my children.

Mike:

By the way, I am vaccinated. So if something happens to me in 20 years, that's okay. I've led a good life. So I don't see a compelling reason why we should vaccinate our children that are under 18 based on what I said. Thank you. We're done.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you both for your comments. Mackenna, I'm seeing you next, if you're ready to share your comments.

Mackenna:

Hi. Yeah. I'm a mother of a 14-year-old. I have way too much to say, but I just wanted to mention that our family varies. People in our family have a history of vaccine reactions that are pretty terrible. And I

wanted to ask how much our comments are taken into consideration. I did submit a relatively long and well inform document to the Let's Talk thing you guys have set up. And so I was curious how heavily the board is weighing our opinions, and the words that we're saying, and this information that we're sharing, and how many times I can submit a few more things to that Let's Talk because I have a couple of more peer-reviewed articles I found recently that I'd like to add. That's my question.

Andrew Scott:

Shanice, maybe I'll just respond. I would encourage you to submit anything to Let's Talk and you can submit multiple times. Those comments are forwarded to the board. And I know the board is very interested in hearing, as we mentioned at the beginning, from the entire community. And it's one of the reasons we've set up these forums tonight, and there's three of them from different segments throughout the city in order to hear from everybody. So I would definitely encourage you to submit thoughts and comments. Thanks for being here tonight.

Director Herman:

I would also like to add that no decision has been made. We have not simply said, "We're going to go through this process so that you guys can feel like you're talking and you got it out." But we've already made the decision on what we're going to do. I want to reassure you that no decision has been made. We have not decided that we're going to do this, and just simply going through the motions. As Director Scott said, we are truly doing this because we truly want to hear from everyone within the community and we want to weigh out all of the options, not just the ones that we like or the ones that we think are going to get us at a different space. So I want to encourage you as, he did, continue to send in anything you want to send in, voice your concerns because you are the district and we serve you.

Shanice Clarke:

Great. Thank you, board directors. And next I'm seeing Moses Samora.

Moses Samora:

Hello. Thank you for this opportunity. First and foremost, I would like to thank the teachers, staff, and administration of PPS. It's been very important for my son to be back in school, and I'm very grateful for that. I personally view the getting the vaccine or not as a personal choice for each individual family because the best choice for one family may not be the best choice for another family. And I believe that some factors that go into this choice are ... can be based on race, religion, socioeconomic status, and or your health status. In a time when our community needs unity, I think that creating more division is not really a good idea. I also personally view the mandate as a form of discrimination. My grandparents, my father, myself have been of victims of discrimination our whole lives. And so to see this potentially happening in our school system, it's not something I'd like to see. That's basically what I have to say. Thank you for your time.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you, Moses. And I have Lee Allis next.

Lee Allis:

Actually, my daughter's going to speak.

Speaker 1:

Cool. Hi. I'm actually a student at [inaudible 00:32:24]. I just really want to bring up a point that I think we've been talking about the vaccine a bunch. I think because the vaccine has only been around for this

certain amount of time, that you guys talked a lot about the evidence about why [inaudible 00:32:43] vaccine is not the best option on a medical level. I really, really want to stress the point that you need to take all of that information and realize that because that is a reason that kids might not get the vaccine, there ... I don't know how to phrase this. Sorry. Thank you. Basically, not everybody can get this vaccine. We have to realize that a lot of kids ... This is always assuming that kids parents are involved. Let's say a kid has a medical exemption, they have to do paperwork, they have to do all this stuff. Some kids' parents are checked out. They're not going to do that for them. Assuming that kids have the emotional and social support systems that can actually help them do that, it also means ... I think if we don't know, we don't know. And it seems like we kind of know that there might be a lot of potential side effects for kids of my age.

Speaker 1:

I personally can go to online school. I can do that. I have the resources to do that. As a public school, you have to remember that if someone has to choose between getting a vaccine that they don't ... they really don't trust, they've looked at the science, they don't want to put that in their body, but school is their way out. This is college. We have to remember that public school is open to everyone. Meaning that public school is access to food, social workers, potentially family support, housing support, if their parent are abusive. School is school, but it's also potentially lifesaving. And if they have to choose between that and a vaccine they don't trust is putting kids in a really dangerous position. For some kids, it's already hard enough to graduate high school, it's already difficult enough to just put in-

Speaker 2:

Time.

Speaker 1:

Yeah. Please consider that as well. Thank you.

Andrew Scott:

Thank you.

Shanice Clarke:

Most definitely. Thank you very much. I'm seeing Teresa Parsons next on our list.

Teresa Parsons:

Thanks very much, and thanks for holding this forum. I don't have prepared remarks, but I will put some time and effort into some comments to submit in writing, but I just want it to be the other voice in support of a vaccine mandate. Once the vaccine is fully approved so it's not in the experimental phase ... Sorry. It's called emergency use authorization. So once it's fully approved, I support that. I also support having medical and religious exemptions so that it can be tailored to each family, but I do think that kids get it, they spread it. And there are lots of vulnerable people in our community. So that is why I absolutely support vaccines. Thank you.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you for providing your comments, and everyone so far who has provided some very helpful insight and experiences that we need to keep at the center as we move forward. I want to just do a quick logistical piece here. For folks who are joining by computer, depending on if you're on tablet or a computer, the raise hand feature, should be at the bottom of your screen. It should be somewhere in the center there, if you are interested in asking a question. And then I see some folks who have joined by

phone. And so I wanted to pause to see if our folks joining by phone are interested in providing some comments. I'm seeing a six, eight number and a eight, eight number ending.

Jordy Ball:

Yeah. I'm number eight, eight. I would be interested in commenting when it's my turn.

Shanice Clarke:

You can go right ahead. Feel free to introduce yourself if you'd like to as well.

Jordy Ball:

That was great timing then. My name is Jordy Ball. I have two daughters, one in middle school and one in high school. I'm adamantly against a vaccine mandate for children. They are not remotely at risk. According to the CDC, 0.001% fatality rate. We've also had over 170 million cases of SARS-CoV-2, that's about 53% of the population. Natural immunity has been proven to be up to 25 times better than the vaccines with the vaccines, with their waning efficacy and never ending booster schedule.

Jordy Ball:

The vaccine does not prevent infection or transmission and WHO does not recommend it for children nor do American frontline doctors, physicians for informed consent, and the doctors that have signed the great Barrington Declaration. 90% of the deaths in this country have been with people with three or more serious illnesses. And the average age of death is 82 old, which happens to be older than the life expectancy in this country. Oh, and just to address the children getting it and spreading it, this has not been scientifically proven. And the vulnerable have had the opportunity to get the vaccination. So there should be no need to mandate to people that don't want it. That's all I have to say for today. Thank you very much.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you very much. I see another person joining by phone as well with the number ending in six, eight, and I wanted to just provide a moment to see if you have a question or comment you'd like to share before we open it back up to the rest of the group. Great. So I see raised hand. So we can have Liz share comments next.

Liz:

Hi. I'm a mom of a sophomore at Lincoln and a middle schooler at Skyline. My biggest problem-

Liz:

My biggest problem with mandating a vaccine on my kids, and not just my kids, but other kids, is, as Lee's daughter had mentioned, there are a lot of kids, and PPS, and a lot of other school districts, that are at a very disadvantaged lifestyle, either economically or otherwise. And what you are telling them is that if they don't meet your requirement for this shot, they no longer matter to PPS. They will not graduate. They will not get the education that they so deserve. They won't get the food that they require. If they grow up the way I grew up, school was their one meal. It was their one meal a day. And what you're telling them is, "Yeah. We'll bus you a meal, but your education will be minimal." And that's not fair. It's inequitable. And I'm sorry, but PPS and all of Portland scream equity all the time. And forcing something like this on a child or a family, it's very inequitable for PPS or Portland. And it's disappointing, very disappointing. These kids need way more than being told that they're not worth anything. Thank you.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you, Liz, for your comments. And I don't see anyone who left who's indicated, and I'm taking that back. Larry, please share your comments.

Larry:

Hi. Thank you so much. So we are parents of a high-schooler and middle-schooler at Portland Public Schools. And, first, I want to say thank you for getting our kids back to school. I also want to say thank you for your efforts to minimize exposure and cases this school year. There have been very few cases in the two schools that our children attend so far this year. And so, we appreciate your efforts. I also want to say thank you for offering this session, and we truly hope you're listening and watching, listening to all the voices tonight, and watching what is happening in the state of California with their school mandate. To address Director Scott's question, a vaccine mandate would prevent our 12-year-old daughter from attending school again. She would relive what's happened through COVID, and I don't think that's the right move for a public school system. Our children are not at risk. They are not [inaudible 00:43:14] science experiments. Thank you for listening.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you for providing comments, Larry. And, Seth, you may go next.

Seth:

Am I unmuted?

Shanice Clarke:

Yes, you are.

Seth:

Okay. So, when COVID started, I was the father of three PPS students, niece, or an uncle to other two. I'm a fifth generation Portlander. I attended public high school in Portland, as did my brother, my wife, and the majority of my family. What I see happening now is not very Portland-esque. Everybody in Portland used to be [inaudible 00:44:04] choice, equity, things for yourself. What I see now is Twitter talking points and a singular, narrow-minded view of the [inaudible 00:44:14]. I would like to know what is different, physiologically, about our 15-, 16-, 17-, 18-year-old sons and daughters and kids in Austin, Texas, Newport, Rhode Island, who have gone back to school full-time, no mask, no mandates, safely, and healthy? [inaudible 00:44:33] reading on Twitter that Amy Kohnstamm is already speaking in favor of this mandate is also a punch to us who are sitting here tonight, trying to express our frustration with you all. So, in closing, I am against the mandate. I am pro-vaccine, and I am pro-open schools, no masks in sports, in school, period. The end. And I thank you for your time.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you for your comment, Seth. And it's about 7:25 and we are scheduled to 8:00 to hear as many as we can. And I know not everybody has had the opportunity to share comments yet. And so, I want to provide that space, especially if there is something you have to say now as a result of hearing feedback from others and questions from others, you may go ahead and put yourself in the queue to ask a question. And after today, there's still that opportunity to share feedback as well. I saw a hand go up-

Andrew Scott:

Shanice? Shanice, can I just-

Shanice Clarke:  
Yes.

Andrew Scott:

Can I just make a suggestion? Because we limited two minutes because we really expected to, potentially, go over time. I think we did have a couple of our speakers did hit their limit. And so, I think anyone who hasn't spoken should get priority, but I think if some of those folks who were speaking one, another two minutes, I would definitely be open to hearing additional comments if they wanted to.

Shanice Clarke:

Absolutely. Thank you. And I see a couple folks have raised their hands, and know there is some additional time to get through more comments that you might have planned to share. And so, we want to provide that space, in addition to others who may have not shared yet. I'm going to look at the queue and do the same order of business there. And I am seeing Seth's hand first.

Seth:

Thank you for your time. I forgot to mention that the athletic portion of this, I noticed we've... And, unfortunately, some of the Twitter talking points, you see athletic portions of LA Unified County School District mentioning athletes were being mandated to take the vaccine to participate in sports. I'd like to say my son would then lose three or four teammates off his basketball team, my daughter, off her soccer team, et cetera. I just don't think that is fair and equitable.

Seth:

The second portion [inaudible 00:47:27] I talk about is PPS board's non-transparency with adding on extra layers of guidance, or rules, or restrictions to state OHA guidelines. For example, wearing mask while competing in sports is mandatory in [inaudible 00:47:44] athletics while on every other district in the state, it is not. It is optional. The second one is the one that came out today in regards to PPS mandating vaccines and/or negative test to attend a school event like a play or something. So that would eliminate 12-and-unders from [inaudible 00:48:03] playing in the school play of Charlie Brown or something of that nature. The American Academy of Pediatrics, today, put out a warning that there is a mental health crisis for our children in this country. We need to have a more of a world view towards this, and not a singular focus of eliminating COVID. There is other things at stake here, mental health being the most important. And thank you very much for listening. I truly appreciate the time.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you, Seth. And I'm seeing Mackenna next. You'd like to continue or share more comments with us?

Anthony:

Hi. So I'm sharing a link with my wife. My name's Anthony. So, essentially, I wanted to raise a point about the vaccines, how no vaccine company is liable for any injury, there are government programs set up in place for people who are injured, and it's incredibly hard to get compensated if you are. I think that if this was a truly humanitarian effort, then, A, it wouldn't be required, and, B, vaccine companies wouldn't make \$33.5 billion in a single year off of their vaccines. To me, it looks like it's all about the money. They're pushing, pushing, pushing, and they're pushing boosters. And when is it ever going to end? If we let this happen now, when will it ever stop? COVID clearly isn't going away, regardless of vaccination. There are huge populations that are very, very vaccinated, huge percentage of the people are vaccinated,

and they still don't have this so-called herd immunity. So when does it stop, if we don't stop letting them push us around? And that's all I have to say.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you for providing those comments. Rebecca, I'll have you next.

Rebecca Ford:

Okay. Thank you. Yeah. I'm really grateful for this opportunity to speak and hear other parents as well. Thank you for getting our kids back in school. And I just will finish the comment I was making earlier. I was talking about how there's been suppression and censoring of early treatment options. How many lives could have been saved by not suppressing and censoring those options? My fully-vaxxed husband contracted COVID, passed it to myself and my child, and had a more severe case than the two of us. We all used early treatment options and got through it within a week, though, we quarantined for two. My child and I now have natural immunity, which has been shown by 30 scientific studies to be long-lasting and to be superior to the vaccines against the variance.

Rebecca Ford:

These vaccines are also not as safe as corporate media tells us. We've been talking about that all night. At the time of this writing, the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System, VAERS, shows 16,766 deaths after the COVID shots in the US. There have been over 5,000 cases of myocarditis, heart inflammation causing permanent scarring, post-vaccination in the 12- to 19-year-old age group. A large study in the UK, and another that surveyed people internationally, found that people with a history of SARS-CoV-2 infection experienced increased rates of side effects after vaccination. In fact, those of us who are naturally immune are roughly 56% more likely to experience a side effect that requires hospital care. Former Pfizer executive, Dr. Michael Yeadon, has done the math and determined that kids are 50 times more likely to die from the COVID vax than from COVID. Continuing to push the vaccines as a one-size-fits-all solution is unwise and harmful, and mandating the vaccines for kids is dangerous and irresponsible. Thank you very much.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you, Rebecca. Heather, I have you next.

Heather Bowden:

Hi, thanks. I just also wanted to reiterate, I heard another parent who was for this, saying, "Oh, the kids have to take all these other vaccines for school." My kid has taken all those other vaccines for school. It's about an average of 10 years between the time the vaccine is approved to the time that any was ever mandated for a child to attend school. We're talking about months with this vaccine and we don't know what the long-term effects are, but we do know some short-term effects and I outline those myocarditis effects.

Heather Bowden:

And I want to also bring up what someone else said about the liability. Who is going to pay my hospital bill when my kid gets myocarditis from this? Is the board going to pay for it? My insurance company will pay some of it, but my copay before my insurance company pays anything is \$7,000. Who's going to pay that money? And we can probably get by. We could probably afford it. There's lots of people in our community that can't when their young kid might be hospitalized with that.

Heather Bowden:

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And so, it's one thing to say you got COVID, or you didn't get COVID, or something happened to you, but when you say you had to get this vaccine, it wasn't your choice, and then, now, you're stuck with a hospital bill, one in roughly 6,000 is not... I mean, how many kids do we have in PPS? More than 6,000. It's going to happen to a couple of them. Who's going to pay for that? Think about those things, too. And so, I just wanted to say that, I think, it's, again, so super wrong that anyone would do that. My other question, though, I would love an answer to, is why only two members of the board are here tonight? Thanks.

Andrew Scott:

I'll take that, the second question. So we actually have three different listening sessions tonight, so all... Actually, six members of the board. One is traveling today, but six members of the board are in listening sessions in different areas of the city.

Shanice Clarke:

And, Robert, you may share your comments.

Robert Ahdoot:

Thank you. Thank you, again, for the chance to speak. And thank you to the board for opening this forum. I think we could all agree with open heart that the intentions are good. I think we should all start from that place, that we want to keep our community safe, the faculty safe, and the student body. I think, to pick up on a lot of what people have been saying, maybe Heather and Seth, the phrase that came to my mind is this idea of unintended consequences. There's going to be many known and unknown unintended consequences, and mandating a vaccine is pretty much an intended silver bullet to a complex issue.

Robert Ahdoot:

And a small level example of an unintended consequence is... just to give you something that's actionable that's happening day after day, is when my kids, who are currently at [Markham 00:55:54], walk into school. And at regular intervals throughout the school, they get hand sanitizer regularly throughout the day. And this really upsets me. It makes me worried because any doctor or healthcare provider would tell you, many would tell you, that by using it too much can erode their own natural immunity. It takes away their chance to engage with the bacteria in the world and keep their immunity on point. And this is an unintended consequence. This is an example of that. I'm not suggesting that we should change that policy, I wish it would, but I don't have a dog in that fight. But this is an example of an unintended consequence. There's noted that they can get allergies in the future if they erode their own natural immunity like this by regular intervals.

Robert Ahdoot:

And so, this is just an example. A smaller case example of an unintended consequence, of a well-intentioned policy. And Director Greene, you said regular hand-washing. Every doctor would say that hand-washing is superior to hand sanitizer, and that it should be preferred when they're side by side, but I wanted spotlight that as an example of unintended consequence. And this would be manifold higher, mandating a vaccine such as this. Thank you, again, for the time and for listening to everyone.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you. And I absolutely just want to [inaudible 00:57:41] just express my appreciation for you all, taking the time to be here, and be vulnerable, and express what's important to you as we are wanting to pause and take this moment to connect with students, and families, and folks in our community about

the vaccine for students. I know we had an opportunity to hear from many folks here, and just provided some time to some folks who have more comments, that they weren't able to address fully in the beginning of our meeting. And so, we're close to the end of our time, close to... It's 7:38. And so, I just want to ensure there's nothing folks are sitting with, that they want to comment on, or want to be able to share today, especially with our board members present.

Shanice Clarke:

And, also, we'll share again. We will have regular updates and communication to families, but let's talk that... which is at [pps.net/contact](https://pps.net/contact), is a place where we will be looking at comments and feedback as well. And so, there's some extra hands, I'm going to get to those. And I think if there are others, too, who might not have shared, I want to be able to elevate that. And so, Larry, have you shared? I'm not sure if Larry has shared tonight.

Larry:

Yes, I have.

Shanice Clarke:

Okay. Okay. And so, now that I'm talking to you, I'll just have you, maybe, share your comments next.

Larry:

Okay. Mine's really quick. I just wanted to say thank you, again, to the board, but also thank you to the parents for speaking up. It has been a long time since we felt that there were kindred spirits, [common-sense-vaxxers 01:00:00], and just people that are really looking-

Larry:

... common sense vaxers and just people that are really looking at the full picture of health for our kids. I want to thank everybody for speaking up. I think it's really important that everybody show up and speak. Thanks.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you. Mackenna, would you like to go next?

Anthony:

Yeah. I just had a quick question. These are all being recorded. Can we access the other meetings and see what people had to say in those meetings?

Shanice Clarke:

I believe they'll be posted to our website. I know there's some other staff in the room who might be able to correct me if I'm wrong, but we want to make sure folks are able to view or listen to the conversations after tonight. There is a YouTube channel that we have where those kinds of livestream meetings are available for viewing afterwards, and so it will either be there or it will either be on our website. I'll make sure we update folks as a result to ... Just future communication on where exactly that's located. I'm going to try to track down a staff member before we end our time today, so I can [crosstalk 01:01:32] that.

Anthony:

That'd be great. I'd really like to know what else other people are saying.

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Shanice Clarke:

Absolutely. I know that other sessions are broken down by areas of the city, and so you'll see that reflected in the other session. Kara?

Kara Bradshaw:

Yeah. I was just going to add that it typically takes 24 to 48 hours for the video to be gathered, and processed, and posted. It's not instant, but the plan is to post them.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you. I believe that was [Lee 01:02:09], not Mackenna. Apologies. [Seth 01:02:11], I have you next.

Seth:

Yeah. I was just curious if I could ask a couple questions, if we had time for that.

Shanice Clarke:

Absolutely.

Seth:

I run a business. I've got kids. I got different stuff I'm trying to figure out in life besides this, but this seems to be a focus, because the mental health wellbeing of my children is utmost important to me.

Seth:

I'd be curious ... I've read some of the things on the board minutes, and stuff like that, and the meeting you had last week in regards to it. It seemed like there's a lot of back and forth about people who are interested in vaccine mandates. Do you guys ever ... Besides the people here tonight who have an overwhelming dissenting opinion about vaccine mandates, do you ever talk to any other experts or people of knowledge about this who come into your meetings?

Seth:

I know, I believe it was last week, you had a couple people come in and speak about the dangers of COVID to children and the benefits of vaccine mandates, and some of those things. I could be speaking out of turn. I apologize if I'm wrong. I didn't do all my research. I didn't prepare anything for this.

Seth:

I'd be curious. I think in an open debate where decisions of this magnitude are being made, it's good to hear dissenting opinions. Obviously we've heard a lot here tonight. But I'm afraid, again, I said it earlier, that some of the school board members have already made a decision. I just want to make sure there's equal weight to what's being said here, and that we're not all a bunch of crazy people spouting figures, and CDC numbers, and stuff like that. There's more to that.

Seth:

We're obviously all concerned parents. We all have jobs or other things we have to take care of, but our kids are obviously of utmost importance to us. That's why we're here tonight.

Seth:

I just want to make sure ... I heard [Moses 01:03:49] say some really powerful things earlier that I am a hundred percent in agreement with. Some people have said some other things tonight about all sorts of different things. Why are we looking at this insulated from a Portland-only view? There's so much other

information out there around the world, and all I hear about is stuff that Dr. Sidelinger has said, meanwhile he's in Scotland, in [Cabot 01:04:11], traveling, so he felt safe to travel, but our kids are eating lunch outside in the rain.

Seth:

There's so many weird things happening here that are at play that I think some transparent explanations of the metrics being used to make these decisions would be nice to hear. We're all hanging, baited breath, waiting for somebody to be honest with us. What metrics gets us out of this? What are the pros and cons you're being weighed to make our kids wear masks at a volleyball tournament while the team they're playing against across the court aren't? These are simple things that I'd like to hear, and I think a lot of us would.

Seth:

I've gone to Twitter, I've gone emails. I've talked to people in passing. Nobody is willing to speak up and say why you're doing this. I think we deserve to know why. I'd really appreciate it, and I'm sure others would. Thank you very much, again, for your time. I meant nothing hurtful by it, I'm just obviously concerned, and would love to hear some stuff from you guys. Thank you.

Shanice Clarke:

Absolutely. I'm going to respond to your question. Also note we're at 7:45, and we've got a few more folks who have some comments as well.

Shanice Clarke:

I will say that there is really a umbrella of, I think, stakeholders engaged in this work with us, and a health advisory panel really helped collaborate and inform us as a school system throughout the pandemic, and how to structure and provide supports to students.

Shanice Clarke:

I know health professionals, OHA, other school districts, and a number of partners are engaged in this kind of long-term work with Portland Public Schools in providing recommendations and sound support. Because we definitely know we are not dealing with this in a vacuum, and that the guidance of those folks in addition to the communities we serve are the kinds of people that we want to continue working with.

Shanice Clarke:

The invites to the town halls, there should have been a link as well that has YouTube video of a discussion, really, with our health advisory panel in addition to other partners that we've been working with to reflect on some of the barriers, and challenges, and metrics that ... At that time. That are changing. I think there can be some information that is accessed especially on our website around the health advisory panel and other kinds of groups that we are getting that support from. Think it's especially important to have space for communities and students to articulate how their experience will be impacted as we navigate through all of this. Please. Go-

Andrew Scott:

I'm sorry, Shanice. I didn't mean to cut you off. I'll be quick, because I want to hear from the folks who have their hands up, but there was a lot in that question from Seth.

Andrew Scott:

**Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19?**  
**PPS Board Listening Session Ida B Wells, Lincoln, Roosevelt | October 19, 2021**

I think, yeah, Shanice has mentioned the advisory panel, which the board has met with a number of times. We also receive a lot of email from the community, and a really diverse set of opinions. I would love to say that I respond to every email, and I don't. I do read almost every one. It's a few dozen a day, usually. One of the things I've been surprised at being on the board is how well thought out all of these emails are. They're not form letters. They're people who have spent an hour writing out their views. I really do try and go through that.

Andrew Scott:

I think all of my board members feel the same way, and really want to hear from folks. We're all individuals. We all have our own views coming to this. But I know that we are trying, through this, through other forums, through emails, through conversations to gather as much information as we can, on this and every other decision.

Andrew Scott:

You talked about off ramps. That's a question that I ask repeatedly of district staff. I think it's really important that we reopened. I think it's really important that we keep our kids safe. I think it's really important that we look to the future in terms of, what are the metrics we're using as we continue to look?

Andrew Scott:

At the beginning of the year, when we talked about the safety protocols for this year, that was a question many of us asked was, these are not going to be in place, necessarily, for the whole year. If they need to be, they will be, but we wanted to make sure that we can begin to scale those down as we go through. It's an ongoing conversation that we're having pretty constantly.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you, Director Scott, for providing some context as well.

Shanice Clarke:

I want to turn it back over to you all. I see Lee Allis first on my screen.

Lee Allis:

I just want a quick comment that those of you who got to hear my daughter speak, to answer your question, what would happen if this mandate came out. She would not be in school. She'd be at home, and not be ... Her comments, when she was writing to prepare, they were not about her, they were about everyone else. She always looks out for everyone else. She's a 4.0 student. She would miss out on cross country. She's an athlete. She's a student. She participates in class as well. She did in the forum tonight. You would keep her home.

Lee Allis:

She's a junior in high school. She's college bound. She's an AP school student. You would ruin her high school career. That's what would happen. We're not going to experiment on our daughter. We don't know the long term side effects. You would lose her as a leader in her community. Thank you. That's all.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you, Lee. Rebecca, would you like to go next?

Rebecca Ford:

**Should PPS Require All Students 12 Years and Older to Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19?**  
**PPS Board Listening Session Ida B Wells, Lincoln, Roosevelt | October 19, 2021**

Thank you. Yeah. Thank you so much to all of you, and to all the other parents. I just realized that I didn't answer that same question, how it would affect my child and our family. Also, we would be forced to pull him out of school because of the ... He's naturally immune, so if you weren't able to build that in as an exemption, then we would be forced to pull him out and homeschool.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you, Rebecca. Jennifer, I have you next.

Jennifer Day:

Hi. Thank you. I wanted to address that same question that was asked of what would happen to our kids, and for our kids as well, if there is a vaccine mandate, they will not be taking the vaccine. They will have to be withdrawn from school. Our kids are also natural immune. My first question is, how is natural immunity being addressed instead of forcing our children to take something that is very risky for them, when they have natural immunity? I would like to know how the school plans on addressing that and taking that into consideration.

Jennifer Day:

My second question would be for all this testing that's going on, like PPS sent out a email that parents or family members who are unvaccinated who want to go to their children's events will have to have a negative COVID test. But since per the CDC website we know that this vaccine does not stop anybody from contracting or transmitting the virus, why is it that everyone doesn't have to have a negative test? Why only the unvaccinated, even when they have natural immunity? Those are my two question. Thank you.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you, Jennifer, and each of y'all for continuing to stay in the space and engage with us. I think there's a number of really critical points brought forward for our system to really consider, and especially as it relates to athletics, natural immunity, and students' ability to continue their experience in our school successfully.

Shanice Clarke:

I want to reiterate something Kara shared as well, that we'll have the recordings posted to the website. It'll take at least 24 hours to be able to get all of those materials ready. There's just about seven minutes left, and I see one more hand. I will turn it back to you all, and then we can close for the evening.

Anthony:

I'd just like to mention that our child is neurodivergent. He has ASD, autism spectrum disorder, and anxiety, and he is supported through PPS through multiple programs. But if we have to choose between his safety and with getting the vaccine and his support system with school, we're going to pull him. That would be incredibly detrimental to him for a variety of reasons. We can't support him the way that his team can at school. But we're not going to put his health at risk by giving him that shot. It's just not going to happen.

Shanice Clarke:

Thank you. I think we got a thanks from someone in the space, and, just adding onto that, it's not easy to share personal stories that will change the impact of school on students and just your day-to-day lives, really. I think that's not lost on our staff and our members of our board here tonight listening. Just thankful for you all being here and participating all the way through.

Shanice Clarke:

We will be, again, looking to Let's Talk for more feedback, and we'll be able to reflect on that comprehensive view as we are processing this issue as a community. With that being said, I'm going to let you all go. Enjoy the rest of your evenings.

Andrew Scott:

Can I just ... Shanice, I just want to thank you and Kara for staffing and hosting this session tonight. I really appreciate your job facilitating. Again, thank you for everyone to come and share your views. I really appreciate it.

Herman Greene:

I would like to echo what Scott said, who, as a fearless leader, has made sure I know that before I get off of a listening session or any other session, that I say thank you to all the families, and recognize that we recognize this is the most precious commodity that you have. These are not just numbers. These are not data points. These are not 1's and 0's. These are our kids. This is our future.

Herman Greene:

We recognize that all of you are weighing this out heavily. Not all of us are going to agree on all aspects of it, but one thing is for sure, no matter who we are, we all love our kids, and we all want to see our kids be the best that they can possibly be. What we're doing tonight and what you're doing tonight is you're making sure their voice is heard. That we're speaking out for what we believe to be the best truth based on the information that we have available to us right now, and that's what we're fighting for. That's all that we can ask you to do.

Herman Greene:

I don't want anyone to think for one second that we're not hearing you. I think I speak for all of us when I say, as a board, as a staff, that this is exactly why we're doing this, because we truly want to hear you. We want to hear what you have to say. We don't want you to always agree with us, and we don't expect everybody's going to always be on the same page. But one thing we're all going to believe in is that we want the best for our kids, and it is our job to fight for that. I appreciate all of you for speaking your truth and for standing up and saying it. Yeah. That's all I got to say.

Speaker 3:

Thank you.

Shanice Clarke:

With that, good night, y'all. Thank you.

Speaker 3:

Bye.

Speaker 4:

Thank you.

**END [01:18:31]**



**Date:** September 27, 2021

**To:** PPS Board of Education

**From:** Jonathan Garcia, Chief of Staff

**CC:** Guadalupe Guerrero, Superintendent; Dr. Shawn Bird, Deputy Superintendent; Claire Hertz, Deputy Superintendent; Liz Large, Contract General Counsel

**Subject:** Staff Analysis: Possible Student Vaccination (12+ Years of Age) Requirement

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## Executive Summary

### Background

The coronavirus (COVID-19) and the emerging delta variant (SARS-CoV-2) have continued to impact in-person learning here in Portland, across Oregon, and in school systems across the country. On September 28, the PPS Board of Education will explore the possibility of directing the Superintendent to implement "all reasonable measures requiring all eligible PPS students to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, excluding those students with qualified exemptions under current immunization policies, as a mandatory precondition to accessing PPS in-person programs and facilities.<sup>1</sup>"

If the Board of Education directs the Superintendent to implement such policy, the Superintendent could implement a policy that requires:

- All PPS students who are 12 years of age and older and are part of in-person extracurricular programs (i.e., student athletics, performing arts) to be vaccinated as a first step;
- All PPS students who are 12 years of age and older must receive by a time certain; and
- All other PPS students must receive their first vaccine dose following their 12th birthday.<sup>2</sup>

### Key staff recommendation:

- Staff's recommendation is for the PPS Board of Education to adopt a COVID-19 vaccine requirement for every PPS student 12 years and up to help reduce the disproportionate effects of the vaccine and/or school closures on the physical and mental health, and academic growth of every PPS student, especially our students of color.
- Upon approval by the PPS Board of Education, PPS staff will create and execute an immunization verification plan, which will include detailed steps for families and students with exemptions. It will include possible timelines for requiring mandatory immunization against COVID-19.

### Key notes of this memo include:

- The coronavirus and the emerging delta variant continue to impact in-person learning here in Portland, across Oregon, and for school systems across the country
- The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine (Pfizer) is currently the only FDA-approved for emergency use treatment for children 12 to 15, and fully authorized for 16+ years of age; although approval of the Janssen/J&J and Moderna vaccines are likely, they are not approved under the FDA's current Emergency Use Authorization for children 12 and older.
- If PPS implements a COVID-19 vaccine requirement for students, we must develop a detailed

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<sup>1</sup> See Appendix A. Work Session Agenda

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix B. Possible PPS Student Vaccination Requirement

policy (PPS Board) and protocol (PPS staff), including exemption and reasonable accommodation procedures. We will review a few technical and administrative infrastructure considerations to implement this mandate.

**What's in this memo?**

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## Introduction

The global pandemic has been hard on all of us, especially K-12 education.

The unique challenges presented by the global pandemic occurred at the same time that we are seeing staffing shortages, economic uncertainty, widespread protests over racial injustice and climate justice, a tumultuous presidential election, and the continuing and tangible health threat posed by COVID-19. The public health, education, and economic uncertainties inflicted by COVID-19 are likely to exacerbate long-standing racial inequities disproportionately affecting Black, Latino, and Native American students; English Learners; and students with disabilities.<sup>3</sup>

Beyond our mission to educate children, we play an important role in providing key essential services across our communities, including after-school enrichment programs, early learning offerings, social emotional support and counseling, and nutritious meals; all of which are key to the vitality of communities here and across the globe.<sup>4</sup>

One of the main purposes of requiring vaccinations is to minimize the risk from vaccine-preventable diseases. School vaccination requirements help safeguard children and adolescents by making sure they are protected when they get to school. To provide the Board of Education with background to help inform your decision making, below is an analysis of the potential impacts of COVID-19 on learning and key operational factors to consider. Included is an analysis of the impacts of vaccine requirements on students and educational institutions.

Questions that guided this memo:

- What are the possible impacts of a vaccine mandate on in-person learning at PPS?
- What does science tell us regarding the COVID-19 vaccine for 12–18-year-olds? Ages 5 to 11?
- What are the experiences of other K-12 institutions and institutions of higher education?
- What are ways that student vaccine requirements are operationalized?
- What does it mean to be in emergency use authorization “EUA” and what considerations should the Board of Education consider if it requires a EUA vaccine?
- What are the communal benefits of a vaccine mandate?
- What are the impacts of this requirement on Black, Indigenous, Latino, and other students of color and their families?

## Health Context

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has given the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine emergency use authorization for children ages 12 through 15.<sup>5</sup> The FDA has also approved this vaccine, now called Comirnaty, to prevent COVID-19 in people aged 16 and older. And according to Pfizer CEO Anthony Bourla, Pfizer plans to submit data on children under 12 to the FDA soon.<sup>6</sup>

Although COVID infections among children are typically asymptomatic or mild, severe symptoms can lead to hospitalization, with rare cases of multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children also occurring.<sup>7</sup> According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, although children 17 and under appear less likely to get severely ill from COVID-19, roughly 5.5 million children in the U.S. have contracted the virus since the start of the pandemic.

Here in Multnomah County, the pediatric case rate (under 18) in Multnomah county **the week of 9/12/21** is 141.8 per 100,000, making it the fourth lowest pediatric case count in the state of Oregon (Morrow,

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<sup>3</sup> [NWEA: Learning during COVID: Initial findings on students' reading and math achievement and growth](#)

<sup>4</sup> [United Nations Policy Brief: The Impact of COVID-19 on children \(April 2020\)](#)

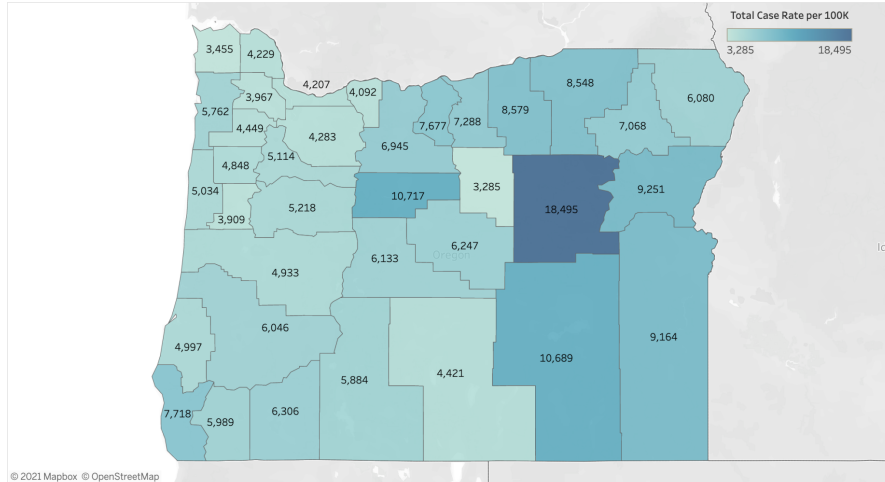
<sup>5</sup> [FDA: 5 Things You Need to Know about the COVID-19 Vaccine for Adolescents 12 through 17](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Pfizer to submit data on children's vaccines to FDA 'pretty soon,' CEO says](#)

<sup>7</sup> [COVID-19 FAQ: COVID-19 and Children](#)

Hood River and Curry Counties are lower).<sup>8</sup> There have been a total of 6,640 pediatric cases for a population (0-17) of 153,062 in Multnomah County since the start of the pandemic. There have been 3 pediatric deaths in Oregon reported with COVID-19.<sup>9</sup>

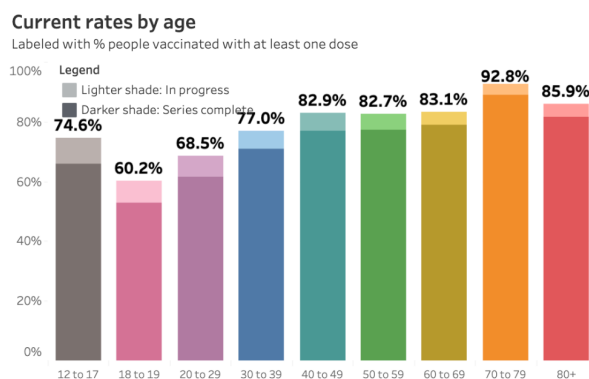
The total pediatric cases **since the start of the global pandemic** (as of September 27) in Multnomah county is 4,207 per 100,000, third lowest case rate in the state of Oregon:



According to PPS’s COVID-19 Dashboard, there have been 248 reported cases of isolation, which include individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 or are presumptive cases asked to isolate from contact with others (as of August 26).<sup>10</sup>

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has determined that the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is safe and effective in children aged 12 and over.<sup>11</sup> In fact, trial data demonstrated 100% efficacy of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine against laboratory-confirmed, symptomatic COVID-19 in adolescents 12–15 years old.<sup>12</sup> The Pfizer vaccine is also 91% effective in preventing severe illness with COVID-19 in people age 16 and older.<sup>13</sup>

Over 9 million children aged 12 to 17 years old across the country are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Here in Multnomah County, 37,244 of 49,927 12-17 year olds are vaccinated, or 74.6% (66.1% complete, 8.5% in progress).<sup>14</sup>



<sup>8</sup> [OHA: Pediatric COVID-19 Case Rates: County Level](#)

<sup>9</sup> [Pediatrics Cases: Disease Severity](#)

<sup>10</sup> [PPS COVID-19 Dashboard](#)

<sup>11</sup> [FDA Authorizes Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for Emergency Use in Adolescents in Another Important Action in Fight Against Pandemic](#)

<sup>12</sup> Vaccine Efficacy refers to how the vaccine performs in ideal conditions—controlled clinical trials.

<sup>13</sup> [Science Brief: COVID-19 Vaccines and Vaccination](#)

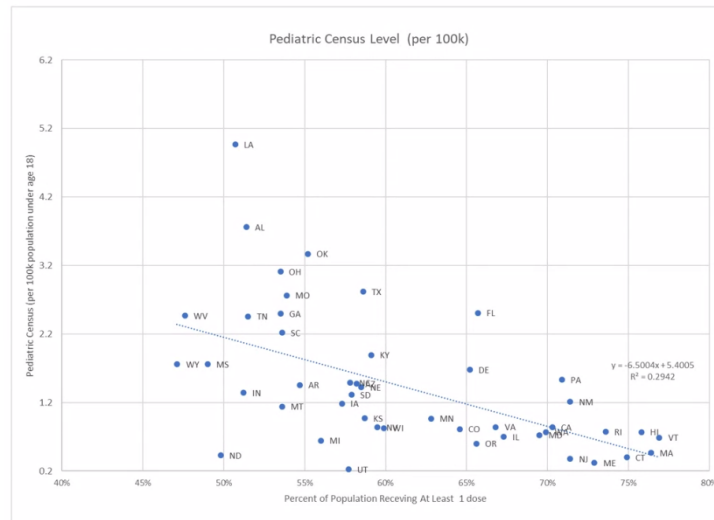
<sup>14</sup> [OHA: Vaccinations By Age Group](#)

### Multnomah County Summary Table

Percent change between 09/13/2021 to 09/20/2021

|          | % Population Vaccinated | People Vaccinated | Population | 80% of Population | People Remaining to Reach 80% | Previous Week - 7 Day Running Average People Initiated | Current Week - 7 Day Running Average People Initiated | Absolute Percent Change | Relative Percent Change |
|----------|-------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 12 to 17 | 74.6%                   | 37,244            | 49,927     | 39,941            | 2,697                         | 69 per day                                             | 62 per day                                            | ▲ 0.9%                  | ▲ 1.2%                  |
| 18 to 19 | 60.2%                   | 11,667            | 19,393     | 15,514            | 3,847                         | 17 per day                                             | 15 per day                                            | ▲ 0.6%                  | ▲ 0.9%                  |
| 20 to 29 | 68.5%                   | 88,475            | 129,218    | 103,374           | 14,899                        | 138 per day                                            | 113 per day                                           | ▲ 0.6%                  | ▲ 0.9%                  |
| 30 to 39 | 77.0%                   | 118,149           | 153,530    | 122,824           | 4,675                         | 141 per day                                            | 119 per day                                           | ▲ 0.5%                  | ▲ 0.7%                  |
| 40 to 49 | 82.9%                   | 98,273            | 118,559    | 94,847            | 0                             | 102 per day                                            | 77 per day                                            | ▲ 0.5%                  | ▲ 0.6%                  |
| 50 to 59 | 82.7%                   | 80,485            | 97,373     | 77,898            | 0                             | 74 per day                                             | 61 per day                                            | ▲ 0.4%                  | ▲ 0.5%                  |
| 60 to 69 | 83.1%                   | 71,517            | 86,014     | 68,811            | 0                             | 43 per day                                             | 34 per day                                            | ▲ 0.3%                  | ▲ 0.3%                  |
| 70 to 79 | 92.8%                   | 45,947            | 49,525     | 39,620            | 0                             | 14 per day                                             | 13 per day                                            | ▲ 0.2%                  | ▲ 0.2%                  |
| 80+      | 85.9%                   | 19,663            | 22,886     | 18,309            | 0                             | 6 per day                                              | 5 per day                                             | ▲ 0.1%                  | ▲ 0.2%                  |

Based on a study from the Oregon Health and Science University, the country is seeing a correlation between the percentage of people (12+ years of age and older) vaccinated and a state's efforts to prevent pediatric COVID hospitalizations.



We also know that three of the top ten zip codes in Multnomah County with the most people remaining to be vaccinated to reach 80 percent are within our PPS zone.

#### 97266: Lents Community (ranked 6th highest in Multnomah County)

Zip Code: **97266**  
 Population (all ages): **35,727**  
 Vaccinated with at least one dose: **23,051**  
 Vaccination rate in ZIP code(s): **64.5%**  
 People remaining to be vaccinated: **5,531**

#### 97206: Woodstock/Mt. Scott (ranked 8th highest in Multnomah County)

Zip Code: **97206**  
 Population (all ages): **52,996**  
 Vaccinated with at least one dose: **37,472**  
 Vaccination rate in ZIP code(s): **70.7%**  
 People remaining to be vaccinated: **4,925**

## 97203: St. Johns / North Portland (ranked 9th highest in Multnomah County)

Zip Code: **97203**  
ZIP code(s) population (all ages): **34,890**  
Vaccinated with at least one dose: **23,318**  
Vaccination rate in ZIP code(s): **66.8%**  
People remaining to be vaccinated: **4,594**

### Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)

The US Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a memorandum in July 2021, concluding that federal law “does not prohibit public or private entities from imposing vaccination requirements for vaccines that are subject to EUAs.”<sup>15</sup>

The vaccine developed by drugmaker Pfizer is the only one available to children as young as 12. In August 2021, the Food and Drug Administration granted that vaccine full approval for use in children 16 and older. It is authorized for the use for adolescents 12 to 15 through emergency-use.

EUA allows the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to make a product or drug – whether new or not yet proven for a given use – available during an emergency, provided there is data to determine that it is reasonably safe and effective.

The basic requirements for an EUA are:

- a public health threat exists;
- there is reason to believe that the product will be effective in diagnosing, preventing, or treating the illness;
- the known or potential benefits outweigh the risks; and
- there are no adequate, approved, available alternatives.

After determining that these vaccines meet the applicable statutory standards and the agency’s specific safety and efficacy standards, the FDA issued EUAs under Section 564 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.<sup>16</sup>

In particular, data supporting the EUA requests show that the vaccines are effective at preventing symptomatic COVID-19 in vaccinated individuals. Given this data, many public health experts believe that promoting COVID-19 vaccination—along with continued engagement in community mitigation activities that prevent transmission, such as mask wearing and social distancing—should be a key component of any state or local government pandemic response.

Under the EUA, the FDA outlines 3 key steps to ensure the safety and efficacy of vaccines for children:

1. Vaccine manufacturers conduct mandatory clinical trials, allow for the proper safety monitoring, and begin gathering necessary data. This process usually takes several months.
2. Vaccine manufacturers complete the relevant portion of their clinical trials, they have to complete the analysis of the data from the studies to understand how safe the vaccine is and how well it works in the clinical trial participants. The FDA works closely with manufacturers to verify the data and findings.
3. When a completed request for EUA or approval has been received by the FDA, the agency will carefully, thoroughly and independently examine the data to evaluate benefits/risks and be

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<sup>15</sup> [Whether Section 564 of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act Prohibits Entities from Requiring the Use of a Vaccine Subject to an Emergency Use Authorization](#)

<sup>16</sup> [State and Federal Authority to Mandate COVID-19 Vaccination](#)

prepared to complete its review quickly, likely in a matter of weeks rather than months.<sup>17</sup>

Pfizer and BioNTech recently announced positive results of COVID-19 vaccine trials in children ages 5-11.<sup>18</sup>

## Racial Equity Implications

We know that communities of color—in the US and globally—have been disproportionately impacted by the health threat and subsequent consequences of the global pandemic. In fact, COVID-19 and the public response have shone a light on what we have known: our systems are inequitable. Policies and practices in public health and other key supports underserved and/or exclude students and families of color.<sup>19</sup>

In considering a vaccination requirement, we must continue to amplify the voices and experiences of communities of color and acknowledge the way in which views of race and the impacts of racism in policies and protocols shape experiences, beliefs and outcomes in healthcare, education, etc. As educational systems leaders, we have the responsibilities to face the institutional and cultural racism embedded in our systems. If we respond to the pandemic by developing race-neutral plans without addressing the pernicious racial inequities, we will deepen the divides that limit our black and brown students. Instead of focusing on the problem, we also know that we must lead with action. Increasing accessibility to the vaccine is not enough; we will need to consider thoughtful and proactive policy and enactments that address vaccine hesitancy **while** simultaneously removing barriers.

### Impacts of COVID-19 on Communities of Color

As a result of long-standing systemic health and social inequities, Black, Native American and Latino communities are at increased risk of getting COVID-19, getting severely ill requiring hospitalization, and death than White communities. We all know that race and ethnicity are risk markers for other underlying conditions that affect health, including socioeconomic status, access to health care, and exposure to the virus related to occupation, e.g., frontline, essential, and critical infrastructure workers.<sup>20</sup>

| Rate ratios compared to White, Non-Hispanic persons | American Indian or Alaska Native, Non-Hispanic persons | Asian, Non-Hispanic persons | Black or African American, Non-Hispanic persons | Hispanic or Latino persons |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Cases <sup>1</sup>                                  | 1.7x                                                   | 0.7x                        | 1.1x                                            | 1.9x                       |
| Hospitalization <sup>2</sup>                        | 3.5x                                                   | 1.0x                        | 2.8x                                            | 2.8x                       |
| Death <sup>3</sup>                                  | 2.4x                                                   | 1.0x                        | 2.0x                                            | 2.3x                       |

Risk for COVID-19 Infection, Hospitalization, and Death By Race/Ethnicity

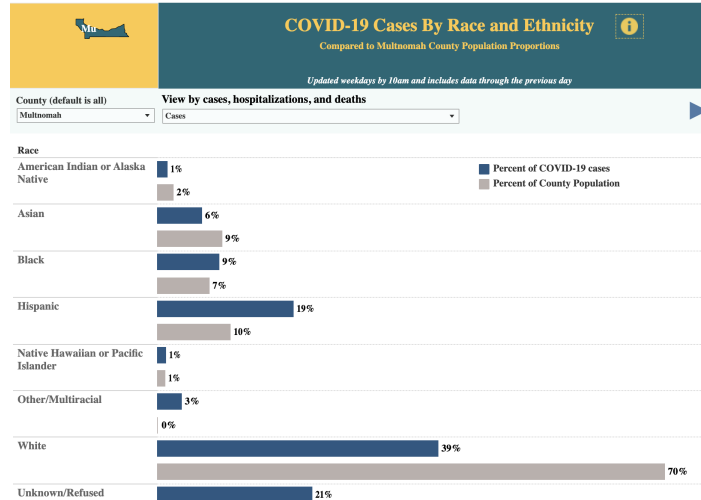
Here in Multnomah County, Latino and Black communities have a higher percentage of COVID-19 cases in comparison to their overall population.

<sup>17</sup> [FDA Will Follow The Science On COVID-19 Vaccines For Young Children](#)

<sup>18</sup> [Pfizer And Biontech Announce Positive Topline Results From Pivotal Trial Of Covid-19 Vaccine In Children 5 To 11 Years](#)

<sup>19</sup> [Harvard: Communities of color devastated by COVID-19: Shifting the narrative](#)

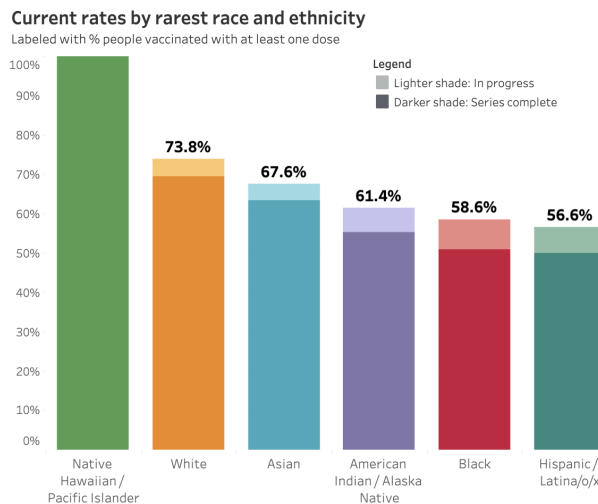
<sup>20</sup> [CDC: Risk for COVID-19 Infection, Hospitalization, and Death By Race/Ethnicity](#)



COVID-19 Cases by Race and Ethnicity in Multnomah County<sup>21</sup>

## Vaccination rates by race/ethnicity in Multnomah County<sup>22</sup>

According to the last reported data on September 24, at least half of all people by race in Multnomah County are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. This includes 9,520 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander people, which is over 100 percent because more NH/PIs received a vaccine with a current address in Multnomah than are estimated in the population.



## Community Hesitancy

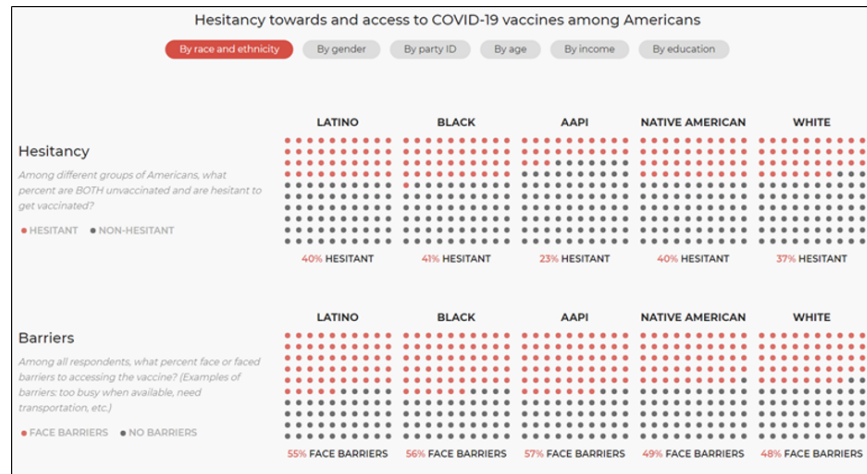
According to the African American Research Collaborative, 41% of Black Americans have stated they are hesitant to receive the COVID-19 vaccine while nearly 56% of them stated they face barriers to accessing the vaccine. Messaging on the vaccine to any racial group at PPS will be culturally informed and consider potential barriers that are driven by community trusted sources like schools and culturally specific community organizations.

We know that suspicion of the medical establishment lingers among African American, Latino and Native

<sup>21</sup> [Multnomah County Regional COVID-19 data dashboard](#)

<sup>22</sup> [OHA: Vaccinations By Race and Ethnicity](#)

communities. Furthermore, even if lingering suspicions are overcome, we know there are multiple barriers faced by communities of color, including access to information, language barriers, transportation challenges, paid time off to take children to obtain the vaccine, and lack of support completing the verification process online.



**Hesitancy Towards and Access to COVID-19 Vaccines Among Americans**  
 Data Source: African American Research Collaborative, 2021

## Lead with Action: Creating access to vaccine for communities of color

Currently at PPS, students ages 12 and older and their families are eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccinations at any of our school-based student health centers.

In preparation for the availability of vaccines for our 5-11 year olds, we have begun planning with Kaiser Permanente and Medical Teams International (MTI) to coordinate and target roll-out of the vaccine to those PPS students once available, whether or not vaccines are mandated.

While we know that children primarily access vaccinations at their pediatrician’s office, schools offer a unique opportunity to help get our students vaccinated for a variety of reasons:

- Trusted hubs in our community;
- Central access for all families, especially with a targeted approach for Black, Native American, Latino and Families of Color; with special education materials and support in all supported languages.
- Ability to support Multnomah County and the State of Oregon with rapidly and efficiently vaccinating PPS students quickly.

Of students who are not currently vaccinated or partially vaccinated and whose caregivers responded to the survey, 77 percent would get vaccinated if a vaccination were offered in schools (September 27).

## Landscape Analysis

### Historical Context of Vaccine Requirements in US

School vaccination laws have played a key role in the control of vaccine preventable diseases in the United States.<sup>23</sup> The first school vaccination requirement was enacted in the 1850s in Massachusetts to

<sup>23</sup> [Vaccination Mandates: The Public Health Imperative and Individual Rights](#)

prevent smallpox transmission in schools. By the beginning of the twentieth century, nearly half of the states had requirements for children to be vaccinated before they entered school.

In the early 1970s, states that mandated the measles vaccine had measles incidence rates 40% to 51% lower than states without such laws. In 1976 and 1977, measles outbreaks in Alaska and Los Angeles, respectively, led health officials to strictly enforce the existing requirements. Advance notice was given that the laws were to be enforced, and major efforts were undertaken to ensure that vaccination could be easily obtained. In Los Angeles, approximately 50,000 of 1.4 million students (4%) were excluded; most were back in school within a few days, and the number of measles cases dropped precipitously. These experiences demonstrated that mandatory vaccination could be enforced and was effective.

Another example of the benefits of school immunization requirements is the rollout and implementation of the varicella vaccination.<sup>24</sup> It was approved by the FDA in 1995. In 2008, 34 percent of eligible adolescents were fully vaccinated.<sup>25</sup> School mandates (now in all 50 states) for varicella vaccines were issued between 2000 and 2010;<sup>26</sup> By 2018, about 90 percent of children had been vaccinated against varicella.<sup>27</sup>

## K-12 School Districts

### Los Angeles, California (Student Population: 628,000)

Los Angeles Unified is one of the nation’s largest school districts with more than 628,000 students spread across 710 square miles. Los Angeles Unified became the first major school district in the nation to require COVID vaccines for students on September 18 through its Safe Steps to Safe Schools policy adopted by the LAUSD Board of Education.<sup>28</sup> LAUSD employs a 5-step process to verify a student’s vaccination status through an online portal system.<sup>29</sup>

Students must receive the Pfizer vaccine if they are under the age of 18. As with other immunizations for students, California law does not recognize religious or personal belief exemptions.<sup>30</sup>

| COVID-19 Student Vaccination Schedule                                             |                                                            |                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Student Group                                                                     | First Dose Deadline                                        | Second or Final Dose Deadline                                  |
| Students aged 12 and older who participate in extracurricular programs in-person. | No later than <b>October 3, 2021</b>                       | No later than <b>October 31, 2021</b>                          |
| Students who are 12 years of age and older.                                       | No later than <b>November 21, 2021</b>                     | No later than <b>December 19, 2021</b>                         |
| Newly eligible students.                                                          | No later than <b>30 days after student's 12th birthday</b> | No later than <b>eight weeks after student's 12th birthday</b> |

### Los Angeles Unified School District, 2021

Beginning Monday, January 10, 2022, eligible students who do not have proof of vaccination against COVID-19 will be offered the District’s independent study program, unless the student has a qualified exemption or conditional admission. Children who are not vaccinated after October 31, 2021 will not be permitted to participate in in-person extracurricular activities without proof of vaccination if they qualify to receive it.

### Hoboken, New Jersey (Student Population: 2,575)

<sup>24</sup> [Approved by the FDA in 1995.](#)

<sup>25</sup> [34 percent of eligible adolescents fully immunized by 2008.](#)

<sup>26</sup> [School mandates \(now all 50 states\) for Varicella vaccination issued between 2000 and 2010.](#)

<sup>27</sup> [Vaccination coverage for selected diseases among adolescents aged 13–17 years, United States, selected years 2008–2018](#)

<sup>28</sup> [Los Angeles Unified to Require All Students 12 and Older to be Vaccinated Against COVID-19 by January 10, 2022](#)

<sup>29</sup> [LAUSD: Uploading External COVID-19 Vaccination Record](#)

<sup>30</sup> [LAUSD Safe Steps to Safe Schools FAQ](#)

Students over the age of 12 are subject to a mandatory weekly testing requirement unless they provide proof of vaccination.

Students over the age of 12 that provide proof of vaccination may participate in weekly testing if a parent opts into the testing program. The Hoboken school district reserves the right to include fully vaccinated individuals in the onsite COVID PCR Testing Program at a future date.<sup>31</sup>

### **New York City, New York (Student Population: 1.1 Million)**

All students and staff who participate in high-risk sports must be vaccinated against COVID-19. Students in fall high-risk sports must get their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by their first day of competitive play. Winter and spring participants have until the beginning of their season to be fully vaccinated.

A vaccine mandate also applies to all high-risk after school extracurricular activities like chorus, musical theater, dance/dance team, band/orchestra (with concern for woodwinds), marching band, cheerleading/step teams/flag team. Students ages 12 and older participating in these extracurricular activities must be vaccinated in order to participate in these extracurricular activities.<sup>32</sup>

### **Oakland, California (Student Population: 52,167)**

In a 5-1-1 vote taken on September 22, the Oakland school board decided that students 12 and older must be vaccinated “unless prohibited by law.” The district still needs to determine when the mandate should take effect and how it will be enforced. Board members directed Superintendent Kyla Johnson-Trammell to return next month with recommendations.<sup>33</sup>

### **Baltimore, Maryland (Student Population: 77,856)**

Baltimore City Public Schools require a COVID-19 vaccination for all high school student-athletes before the winter and spring sports seasons:

- High school student-athletes must be vaccinated Nov. 1 ahead of the Nov. 15 start of the winter sports season. Winter sports competition begins Dec. 6.
- School officials are not requiring vaccinations for athletes participating in fall sports because the season is underway, although students are strongly encouraged to get inoculated.<sup>34</sup>

### **Washington DC (Student Population: 49,890)**

Beginning November 1, 2021, students aged 12 and older must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to participate in school-based extracurricular athletics.

Student-athletes who will turn 12 between September 16, 2021 and November 1, 2021 must be fully vaccinated before December 13, 2021 to be eligible to practice or compete in school-based extracurricular athletics. DCPS, the Public Charter School Board, and each private and parochial school must establish systems for ensuring compliance with this rule among their student-athletes. This requirement includes exemptions for religious or medical reasons.<sup>35</sup>

### **San Diego, California (Student Population: 122,916)**

The San Diego Unified School District currently requires students and staff to show proof of vaccination

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<sup>31</sup> [Hoboken believed to be first in state to issue mandate for students 12 and up: Get vaccine or face weekly testing](#)

<sup>32</sup> [Health and Safety in Our Schools](#)

<sup>33</sup> [OUSD Board of Education Passes Vaccine Requirement for Students 12 Years Old and Up](#)

<sup>34</sup> [Baltimore City Schools: Staff and Student Athlete Vaccination Update](#)

<sup>35</sup> [Mayor Bowser Announces COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements for All Adults Regularly in Schools and Child Care Centers and for Student Athletes](#)

or get tested weekly in order to attend or work in person. The Board of Education is considering a staggered approach to have all eligible students vaccinated against COVID-19, as a condition of attending in-person learning. The timeline for requiring the mandated vaccination will be aligned to the full FDA approval. Mandatory testing will be required for all unvaccinated students until full FDA approval of the vaccine for their age group.<sup>36</sup>

## Higher Education

### University of Oregon

The University of Oregon requires all students to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Like other K-12 and post-secondary institutions, the university allows for specific exemptions for health and sincerely held religious beliefs.

Students who request an exemption are required to take part in weekly COVID-19 testing through the UO Monitoring and Assessment Program<sup>37</sup>, among other safety measures. These measures may include isolating or quarantining if you are exposed to or contract COVID-19, testing to participate in certain activities and/or being excluded from certain activities.<sup>38</sup>

The university has also expanded a proof of vaccination requirement for children 12 and older for designated university events and activities. For those who cannot provide proof of vaccination, documentation of a negative test taken within three days of the event will also be accepted.<sup>39</sup>

### Portland State University

Portland State University requires all employees and all students who live, work, learn, or access services on PSU campus to be vaccinated against COVID-19 starting fall term 2021. PSU is verifying the vaccination status of all students. Students may decline the COVID vaccine based on a medical or nonmedical exemption, due to religious belief, philosophical belief, or other personal reasons. Declining for non-medical exemption must include proof of educational certificate signed by a health care provider or verified completion of an OHA developed or approved COVID-19 vaccine module.<sup>40</sup>

## Operationalizing a Vaccine Requirement

Based on lessons learned from other implementations across the US, for PPS to implement a vaccine requirement successfully, we will require a clear policy and standard operating procedures that include:

- A clear “why” and communication plan
- Infrastructure for managing verification, exemptions, and exclusions
- Safe measures to protect student private information
- A strong partnership with local health authorities and health providers
- Clear exemptions criteria and processes

As is current practice, Multnomah ESD will serve as the conduit of the Multnomah County Health Department in providing possible guidance on a possible requirement.

## Public Health Outcomes of a Vaccine Requirement

We love that our schools serve as learning hubs for our entire community. We will partner with public

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<sup>36</sup> [SD Unified School District Vaccine Roadmap](#)

<sup>37</sup> [University of Oregon Required COVID-19 Testing](#)

<sup>38</sup> [University of Oregon: COVID-19 vaccine requirement](#)

<sup>39</sup> [Proof of Vaccination Requirement for Those 12 and Older for Designated University Events](#)

<sup>40</sup> [Portland State University \(PSU\) COVID-19 Vaccination Policy](#)

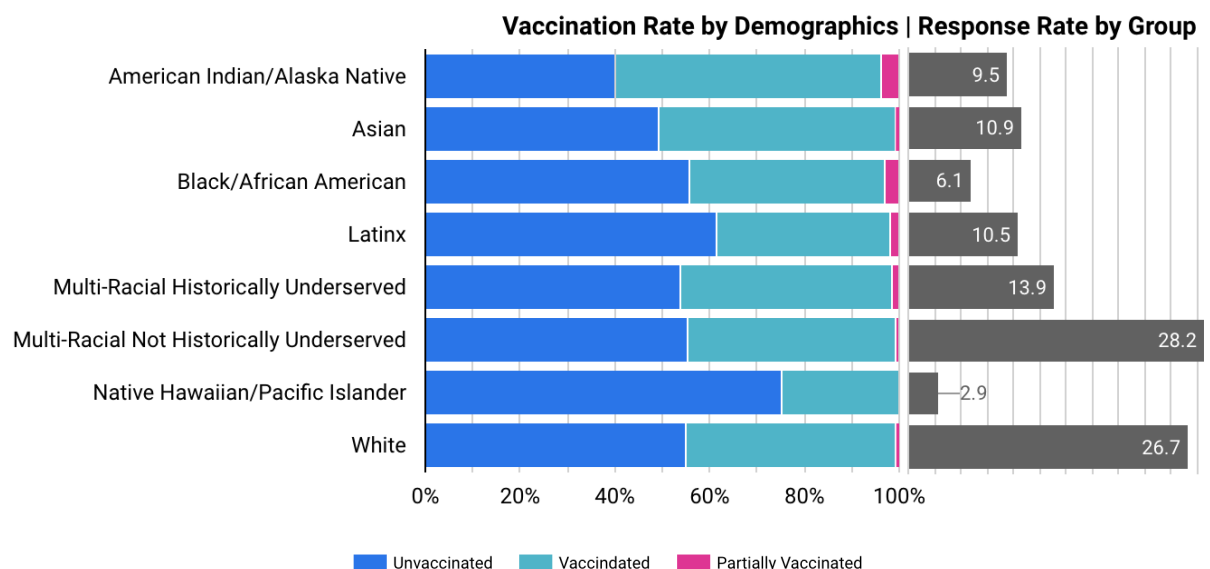
health agencies to educate and promote COVID-19 vaccinations and other health and safety measures to protect against COVID-19. As guidance evolves, we will keep you and your families up to date on the latest information. A vaccination mandate for our students will also benefit our community by:

- Personal, direct, protection against disease;
- The added value of vaccination, on a population level, is the potential to generate herd immunity, a form of indirect protection from infectious disease that can occur if a sufficient percentage of a population has become immune to an infection;
- Reduce immense pressure on our healthcare system;
- While 3 in 4 adolescents (12-17 years of age) in Multnomah County are vaccinated against COVID-19, this will create an additional layer of protection for all that attend school, including staff, volunteers and students too young to be vaccinated.

## Update on PPS Student COVID-19 Vaccine Survey

We recently sent families a short survey regarding vaccination status that will help us know how many of our students (ages 12 and older) are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and/or desire to quickly access the vaccine for younger students (age 5 to 11, once approved).

As of September 27, caregivers have reported vaccine status for 11,101 (24%) students. Of those students over 12 whose caregivers have responded to the survey, 94% are fully vaccinated. Of students who are not currently vaccinated or partially vaccinated and whose caregivers responded to the survey, 77 percent would get vaccinated if a vaccination were offered in schools (September 27).



**PPS Vaccination Rates by Race (As of September 27)**

## Current Immunization Rules in Multnomah County and Oregon

### Current Vaccine Requirements for School and Child Care Attendance

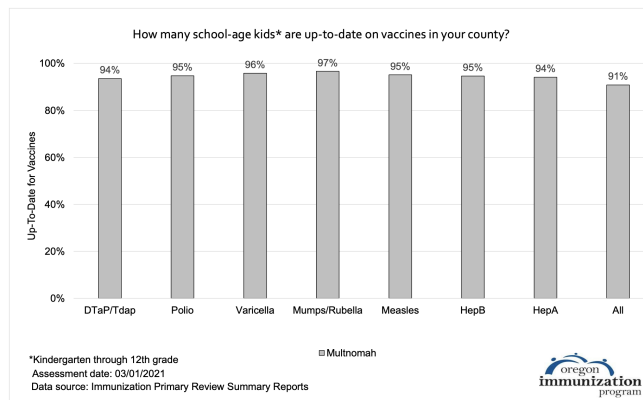
Oregon law requires the following vaccinations for school and child care attendance. At all ages and grades, the number of doses required varies by a child's age and how long ago they were vaccinated. Other vaccines may be recommended.

|                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A child 18 months or older entering Preschool, Child Care, or Head Start needs | 4 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP)<br>3 Polio<br>1 Varicella (chickenpox)<br>1 Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR)<br>3 Hepatitis B<br>2 Hepatitis A<br>3 or 4 Hib      |
| A student entering Kindergarten or Grades 1-6 needs                            | 5 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP)<br>4 Polio<br>1 Varicella (chickenpox)<br>2 MMR or 2 Measles, 1 Mumps, 1 Rubella<br>3 Hepatitis B<br>2 Hepatitis A           |
| A student entering Grades 7-12 needs                                           | 5 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP)<br>1 Tdap<br>4 Polio<br>1 Varicella (chickenpox)<br>2 MMR or 2 Measles, 1 Mumps, 1 Rubella<br>3 Hepatitis B<br>2 Hepatitis A |

**Multnomah ESD, 2021-2022<sup>41</sup>**

## Multnomah County Immunization Data

According to Multnomah County Public Health 91 percent of all school-aged kids are currently with all immunization requirements. Percentage ranges between 94 percent and 97 percent with specific immunization requirements.<sup>42</sup>



## Current Criteria - Oregon Advisory Committee

The Immunization School/Children’s Facility/College Law Advisory Committee advises the Oregon Health Authority on implementing rules for school, child care and college immunizations requirements. The criteria they consider include:

### Schedule

1. What is the vaccine effectiveness as measured by immunogenicity and population-based prevention?

<sup>41</sup> [2021-2022 MESD Immunization Requirements](#)

<sup>42</sup> [Multnomah County Immunization Data](#)

2. What is the safety profile for this vaccine?
3. How cost effective is the vaccine from a societal perspective?

### Disease Burden

1. Does the vaccine prevent substantial morbidity and mortality?
  - a. Considerations:
    - i. disparities in disease burden among groups such as group living, racial and ethnic disparities, and geographic variation.
    - ii. potential to reduce the number of cases of disease, or the potential to prevent outbreaks.
2. How effective is the vaccine in reducing the risk of disease transmission? Consider transmission in a child care, school, or college setting and in the community at large.

### Vaccine Coverage and Supply

1. What is the current vaccine coverage rate in the target population in Oregon? Consider the impact a mandate could have. If uptake and acceptance are very high, the requirement would have little impact, and if very low, the requirement would face a lot of resistance.
2. Is there a stable and adequate supply of vaccines?

### Impacts to Stakeholders

1. What additional funding would be needed to pay for the vaccine and administration? Consider the impact on public providers, LPHAs, private providers, and the state.
2. What is the administrative burden on schools, children's facilities and colleges? Consider resources needed to update computer systems, collecting immunization records, and notifying parents.
3. What is the burden of compliance for parents/caregivers and students? Consider timing with other recommended vaccines, impact of exclusion on higher grades, and cost to families.<sup>43</sup>

## Step-by-Step Process to Require Immunizations for All Oregon Schools

Under Oregon law, there is a clear and well-established mechanism for the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to add COVID-19 vaccines to the list of required immunizations for all K-12 schools. This process however, does not prevent PPS from enacting its own vaccine requirement.

1. OHA rules contemplate "FDA licensed," or fully approved vaccines. In addition, OHA generally considers recommendations from the *United States Public Health Service Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)*.
2. OHA is required by statute to appoint an advisory committee to inform rulemaking around school vaccinations. Pursuant to this statutory direction, OHA has appointed the *Oregon Immunization School/Children's Facility/College Law Advisory Committee*, known as *ISLAC*.

Generally, before adding a vaccination to the list, OHA convenes *ISLAC*, and then considers the advisory committee's recommendations on whether and when to add new vaccinations to the schedule

3. *ISLAC* has certain published criteria it applies in making its recommendations to OHA,<sup>43</sup> that

<sup>43</sup> [Criteria for reviewing school/facility/college immunization requirements](#)

include:

- a. Considerations around the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine,
- b. Likely impact of a requirement, and
- c. Other financial and operational considerations.

The criteria is subject to change and may well need to change given the current circumstances.

4. OHA can do permanent rulemaking which takes 4-6 months or could adopt temporary rules if failure to act promptly would result in serious prejudice to the public interest or certain groups.
5. Once a required vaccine is added to the OHA rules, for each vaccine-preventable disease identified in the rules, a child must submit satisfactory documentation of either: (1) immunization, (2) a medical or nonmedical exemption, or (3) immunity documentation.
6. ORS 433.284 and OAR 333-050-0020(6) address additional or more stringent vaccination requirements by educational entities.

## Existing Medical Exemption Rules

Oregon allows medical exemptions for children who have a medical condition that contraindicates vaccination. Only physicians or local health departments may sign a medical exemption. Children with this type of medical exemption are considered susceptible because if they are exposed to a disease they haven't been vaccinated for, they are more likely to get it.

Medical exemptions must be in a letter from a physician or local health department supplementing the Certificate of Immunization Status. The letter must include the child's name and birth date, vaccine(s) affected, the condition that contraindicates vaccination as well as the physician's or local health department representative's signature and contact information.

In case of an outbreak of vaccine-preventable disease in a community, the local health department has the legal authority to exclude from school or child care attendance any child who has not been completely immunized, including children with a medical exemption.<sup>44</sup>

## Existing Non-Medical Exemption Rules

Oregon recognizes exemptions for nonmedical reasons. However, OHA allowed colleges and universities to decide whether to allow philosophical exemptions related to COVID-19. University of Oregon, for example, allows students and employees to seek an exemption for medical, religious, philosophical or other non-medical reasons. Those with an exemption are required to take part in weekly testing.

Oregon recognizes exemptions for nonmedical reasons. To claim a nonmedical exemption for immunizations required for schools, a parent must submit a Vaccine Education Certificate from a healthcare practitioner or from the online education module to the child's school or childcare. In addition, the parent must check the appropriate boxes and sign the back of the Certificate of Immunization Status, available from the child's school or childcare facility. Listing a vaccination history on the front of the Certificate of Immunization Status will not affect a parent's ability to claim an exemption. In case of an outbreak of vaccine-preventable disease in a community, the local health department has the legal authority to exclude from school or child care attendance any child who has not been completely immunized, including children with a nonmedical exemption.

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<sup>44</sup> [MESD Medical Exemptions](#)

# Important Considerations

## Expected Outcomes

### Short-Term

- Increase number of children and their families who hesitated to take vaccine will take it soon after announcement (+)
- Public resistance from a vocal minority that further exacerbates the politicization of good public health policy and public education (-)
- Increase in families requesting exemptions and alternative modifications including enrollment in the Online Learning Academy or unenroll from PPS (+/-).

### Intermediate

- It will limit the number of students who are quarantined if possibly exposed to a case of COVID-19 (+)
- Likelihood of vaccine approval for children 5-12 under the FDA emergency authorization, which will require PPS Board of Education to consider new requirements for students under 12. (+)

### Long-term

- Personal, direct, protection against disease for students (+)
- The added value of vaccination, on a population level, is the potential to generate herd immunity, a form of indirect protection from infectious disease that can occur if a sufficient percentage of a population has become immune to an infection (+)
- Reduce immense pressure on the healthcare system if disease is spreading (+)

## Community Engagement

Prior to the PPS Board of Education considering and voting on a possible vaccine requirement, PPS would host two virtual town halls, sharing with our community details about the possible requirement, information about the public health benefits, and other important information that will better inform communities. We expect to gather feedback from our students, families and broader community as well. We will also include a multifaceted and proactive communications plan that details answers to common questions, multilingual infographics with clear processes and rules, and the reinforcement and prioritization of in-person learning.

## Further Clarification

Our standard rules and procedures should help reduce barriers to implementation and ensure fidelity of compliance. As we consider a vaccine requirement, we should consider the following:

1. Specific subgroups that the PPS requirement should require ahead of others?
2. Are there considerations for a deferral process or exemptions for subgroups of students (i.e., pregnant students)?
  - a. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) and the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM), the two leading organizations representing specialists in obstetric care, recommend that all pregnant individuals be vaccinated against COVID-19, although the State of Oregon has provided a deferral for pregnant individuals as part of the state mandate.<sup>45</sup>
3. If different from current immunization exemption guidance, what are the criteria for granting

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<sup>45</sup> [ACOG and SMFM Recommend COVID-19 Vaccination for Pregnant Individuals](#)

exemptions against COVID-19? Vaccination requirements<sup>46</sup>

4. What are standard operating procedures for those who have been granted exemptions:
  - a. Required screening and testing for students;
  - b. Process to to update and inform the community of new information about vaccines.

## **Possible unintended consequences of vaccine requirement**

The challenge for COVID-19 vaccines, as for childhood vaccines, will be in how to offer fairly and uniformly assess and grant exemptions without those exemptions effectively disrupting the purpose of the mandate.

All districts who have enacted the vaccine mandate for students continue to enforce current mitigation strategies, including mask wearing, social distancing, etc. Enforcing vaccines may also lead to negative interactions between students/families and schools, given the highly politicized public health environment.

Vaccine enforcement may also lead to further erosion of community trust; especially in the Black, Latino and Native American communities given socio-historic implications of distrust in our health care systems and government institutions.

We should also consider the precedent and impacts of requiring a vaccination that has emergency use authorization.

We must continue to anticipate and prepare for certain levels and forms of anxiety and/or resistance. One way to mitigate this resistance is by, alternatively, creating requirements for subgroups (early adoption) and/or deferral for specific reasons.

## **Impacts of Status Quo (No COVID-19 Requirement)**

- Remote-learning highlighted inequities in education, was detrimental to the educational attainment of students of all ages, and exacerbated the mental health crisis among children and adolescents, according to the AAP guidance. Remote learning highlighted racial and social inequity – another important reason to get students back in school and keep them in school safely.
- When in-person school services were not available during the pandemic, disparities worsened, especially for children who are English language learners, children with disabilities, children living in poverty, and children who are Black, Hispanic/Latino and American Indian/Alaska Native.

## **Conclusion and Key Recommendations**

### **1. Staff Recommends Student Vaccine Requirement**

We fully support the PPS Board of Education adopting a COVID-19 vaccine requirement to help reduce the disproportionate effects of the COVID pandemic on the physical and mental health, academic growth of every PPS student, especially our students of color.

Specifically, we recommend that if a requirement is adopted, we should prioritize that all PPS students who are 12 years of age and older and are part of in-person extracurricular programs (e.g student athletics, performing arts like choir, band, etc.) must be vaccinated as a condition of participation.

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<sup>46</sup> [MESD Exemption Guidance](#)

We also recommend that the PPS Board of Education adopt a requirement for all PPS students who are 12 years of age and older to receive their first vaccine dose by a certain date (to be determined after an implementation plan can be developed); and we recommend that all other PPS students must be vaccinated following their 12th birthday.

**2. Exemption Protocols**

The PPS Board of Education and senior district administrators must address in a detailed exemption or reasonable accommodation policy and standard operating procedures that is clear and consistent for families.

**3. PPS (and Public Health) Communication Strategy**

We will outline a robust communication plan that clearly articulates the reasons for a vaccination requirement, the public health benefits and the ways families can access vaccinations in their community. This will include partnering with local public health officials and our Health Advisory Panel.

**4. Learning Opportunities for our Students**

We will also develop age-appropriate learning activities and content that share facts about the importance of vaccinations and all other health and safety measures to mitigate the spread of the disease.

**5. Support statewide vaccine requirement**

We will continue to be in conversation with state and local officials to review a statewide vaccine requirement for school-aged children. In the next month, the Oregon Health Authority will convene the ISLAC to discuss:

- The current status of FDA and ACIP recommendations for COVID-19 vaccinations for school-aged children and any known timelines for possible approval;
- The criteria and considerations that should go into making a recommendation on adding COVID-19 as a required immunization, given the current pandemic; and
- Any other interim recommendations for OHA on required COVID-19 vaccinations for students.

To date, ACIP has only made an interim recommendation for COVID-19 vaccinations for children 12+.<sup>47</sup>

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<sup>47</sup> [The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interim Recommendation for Use of Pfizer Vaccine in Adolescents Aged 12–15 Years](#)

# Appendix A: Work Session Agenda

**PPS Board of Education Work Session:**  
Possibility of a COVID-19 Vaccination for Students  
September 28, 2021

**Purpose:**

Portland Public Schools Board of Education will discuss a possible mandate for a COVID vaccine for students and the impacts of implementing such a vaccine.

**Agenda:**

**Opening Remarks** | Jackson Weinberg, Student Representative

**Introduction** | Jonathan Garcia, Chief of Staff

**Opening Remarks** | Panelists

**Board Discussion and Questions (60 Minutes)**

**Closing** | Michelle DePass, Chair, PPS Board of Education

**Invited Panelists:**

- **Dr. Joelle Simpson**, Medical Director for Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Pediatric Physician at Children's National Health System | PPS Health Advisory Panel
- **Dr. Tress Goodwin**, Emergency Pediatric Physician Children's National Health System | PPS Health Advisory Panel
- **Jessica Guernsey**, Public Health Director, Multnomah Health Department
- **Dr. Jennifer Vines**, Lead Health Officer for the tri-county region, Multnomah Health Department

**Areas of Discussion:**

- What does science tell us regarding the COVID-19 vaccine for those 12-18 years old? Those 5 to 11 years old?
- What are the impacts of a vaccine mandate on in-person learning at PPS? Should medical or religious exemptions be considered?
- What does it mean to be in "Emergency Authorization" and what should the school board weigh in mandating an emergency-authorized vaccine?

## Appendix B. Possible PPS Student Vaccination Requirement

### **POSSIBLE STUDENT VACCINATION (12+ Years of Age) REQUIREMENT FOR PPS BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION ONLY**

Implement all reasonable measures requiring all eligible PPS students to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, excluding those students with qualified exemptions under current immunization policies, as a mandatory precondition to accessing PPS in-person programs and facilities, as follows:

- All PPS students who are 12 years of age and older and are part of in-person extracurricular programs (i.e. student athletics, performing arts) must be vaccinated as a prerequisite to participation in those activities.
- All PPS students who are 12 years of age and older must be vaccinated by a certain date.
- All other PPS students must receive the vaccine following their 12th birthday.

Ensure student vaccination records and information are maintained securely and confidentially in accordance with all laws governing the privacy of student health information and other student records.

Implement reasonably necessary measures to ensure equitable student access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

## **RESOLUTION No. 6390**

### Appointment of Community Budget Review Committee Members and Student Representatives

#### **RECITALS**

- A. The mission of the Community Budget Review Committee (CBRC) is to review, evaluate, and make recommendations to the Board of Education (Board) regarding the Superintendent's Proposed Budget and other budgetary issues identified by the CBRC or the Board. The CBRC receives its charge from the Board.
- B. On November 5, 2019, the voters of the Portland Public School (PPS) District passed a renewal Local Option Levy, Measure 26-207, which became effective in 2020, which mandated independent community oversight to ensure tax dollars are used for purposes approved by local voters, and the CBRC serves that function for PPS.
- C. The CBRC is composed of eight to twelve volunteer members. The Board appoints members to three year terms with one or two student members appointed to a one-year term.
- D. The Board recognizes that District employees and community members bring specialized knowledge and expertise to the CBRC and budgetary review process. The Board instructs all CBRC members to employ discretion, avoid conflicts of interest or appearance of impropriety, and exercise care in performing their duties.
- E. Four members of the committee are midway through their three-year term: Hoang Samuelson, Lisa Selman, Renee Watson and Elona Wilson were appointed last year to serve through June 30, 2023.
- F. Recruitment of additional members continued, and four applications, two of which are student applicants, were received to fill a minimum of four positions for community members.
- G. Applications have been reviewed, and selected applicants have been interviewed. The CBRC Interview Committee recommends the Board appoint Huyhn Pool, Hobbs Waters, Joseph Anderson and Roger Kirchner.
- H. The Student Board Representative reviewed and selected applicants to move forward in the interview process.

#### **RESOLUTION**

- 1. Huyhn Pool and Roger Kirchner are hereby appointed as members of the Community Budget Review Committee for a three-year term through June 30, 2024.
- 2. Hobbs Waters and Joseph Anderson are hereby appointed as student representative members of the Community Budget Review Community for a one-year term through June 30, 2022.



## **PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

### **OFFICE OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICE**

501 North Dixon Street / Portland, OR 97227

Telephone: (503) 916-3529

**Date:** October 26, 2021

**To:** Board of Education

**From:** Nolberto Delgadillo, Chief Financial Officer

**Subject:** Appointment of new Community Budget Review Committee (CBRC) members

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### **BACKGROUND**

Each year, the Board of Education (Board) appoints a Community Budget Review Committee (CBRC) to assist in the annual budget process. The CBRC reviews, evaluates, and makes recommendations regarding the Superintendent's Proposed Budget and other budgetary issues identified by the Board. The CBRC also monitors and advises the Board on the allocation and expenditure of Local Option Levy funds.

The CBRC is generally composed of eight to twelve volunteer members appointed by the Board and typically meets on a monthly basis during the course of the budget development season. This includes one or two student representatives.

There are currently up to eight available spots on the Committee, and applications were accepted through October 8, 2021. Staff received four applications, two of which are students (if these four are appointed, it would bring the total committee members to eight, which is the minimum.)

The CBRC Selection Committee consisted of the Board Liaison, a Board Member, the School Board Student Representative, and a Community Engagement Specialist. They reviewed and selected candidates for interviews based on their relevant experience, volunteerism, school association, geographic representation from within the boundaries of PPS, commitment to Racial Equity and Social Justice, availability to attend meetings, ability to deliver on the charter of the CBRC, and provide advice to the Board regarding investment of district resources to support the district's vision.

The CBRC Interview Committee, consisting of the Board Liaison, a Board Member, a Community Engagement Specialist and Confidential Executive Assistant, met and selected four candidates to recommend to the Board for three-year terms, and one-year terms for student applicants.

### **RELATED POLICIES/BEST PRACTICES**

N/A

### **ANALYSIS OF SITUATION**

a) The process involved reviewing applicants and subsequently interviewing & selecting the new members to be recommended to the Board. Factors for consideration include

relevant experience, volunteerism, school association, geographic representation from within the boundaries of PPS, commitment to Racial Equity and Social Justice, availability to attend meetings, ability to deliver on the charter of the CBRC, and ability to provide advice to the Board regarding the investment of district resources to support the district's vision.

The members who reviewed, interviewed and selected the new members were: Board Liaison Gary Hollands, Board Member Eilidh Lowery, School Board Student Representative Jackson Weinberg and Community Engagement Specialist Maria Hernandez and Confidential Executive Assistant Jordan Cooper.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

N/A

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

N/A

**TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION / EVALUATION**

N/A

**BOARD OPTIONS WITH ANALYSIS**

No further analysis beyond the analysis section above.

**CONNECTION TO BOARD GOALS**

N/A

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the passage of the board resolution to appoint new Community Budget Review Committee members, Huyhn Pool, Hobbs Waters, Joseph Anderson and Roger Kirchner.

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*As a member of the PPS Executive Leadership Team, I have reviewed this staff report. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Initials)*

**ATTACHMENT**

Resolution to appoint new Community Budget Review Committee members and Student Representatives