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## Public Comment Tonight School Board 8/9/21

1 message

Paulson, Nels <paulsonne@uwstout.edu> To: "janet\_quinn@msd.k12.wi.us" <janet\_quinn@msd.k12.wi.us> Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 10:14 AM

Hi Janet,

Please allow me to make this public comment for tonight's meeting via email, as I will not be able to attend:

As a parent of three children under the age of 12 in the Menomonie School District, I strongly encourage the mandatory use of masks in our schools, at least until all children are eligible for vaccination. I understand why some parents and children do not want to wear masks. I hate masks, too, and do not want to wear one. That is not the reason to make this decision, however. I cannot expect my children to be safe if they are wearing masks and most of the other children are not. Mask wearing protects others around you far more than it protects you. I do not think it is fair to put my children at risk because other parents do not want to force their kids to wear masks. After what I witnessed in summer school with my kids, other children will NOT wear masks if it is not required of them.

I know it may not be the popular choice for you as a school board member to make, but this is a question of what is responsible, not what is popular. Our children know how to do it. My 7 year old wears his mask better than most adults do (with far less complaining), so I do not buy this idea that kids cannot handle it. Please require masking in our schools, at least until all children are able to get vaccinated.

Thank you in advance for protecting our children!

Nels Paulson

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