

**MINUTES**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Location: Auburn High School Auditorium**

**August 17, 2021, 6:30 p.m.**

**In Attendance:**

George Scobie

Jessie Harrington

Gail Holloway

Dottie Kauffman

Meghan McCrillis

Casey Handfield

Beth Chamberland

Cecelia Wirzbicki

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Scobie called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS:**

[Danielle Dowd](#) - mother of a 5th grader, in support of an indoor mask mandate for the school year until evidence supports otherwise.

Aaron Champagne - 2 children in Auburn, not in favor of indoor mask mandate for students.

Sherinda Trudell - 2 children in Auburn, concerned that 11 and under can not be vaccinated. Does not want the district to go remote, in favor of mask mandate.

Ericka - 2 children in Auburn, in favor of mask mandate.

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### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: COVID Protocols (Masking) Action**

Dr. Handfield shared the recommendation from DESE & guidance the state received last year and for this upcoming year. As well as recommendations from the CDC.

DESE has mandated full in person learning 5 days a week.

Dr. Handfield recommends masking be required for all individuals in the APS regardless of vaccination status to begin the school year. The continued requirement will be revisited monthly with the School Committee, as well as the current recommendations from national and state agencies, and a review of local data.

Dottie Kauffman made a motion to approve the recommendation; Jessie Harrington seconded the motion, was approved unanimously. The committee would like to revisit in a month, and asked Dr. Handfield to work with the BOH to track data and possibly lift the mandate for at least the high school as soon as safe. Dr. McCrillis volunteered to sit on the committee when formed.

Dr. Chamberland reviewed the mitigation measures from last year and newly received medical guidance from the state.

Dr. Handfield recommended to continue mitigation measures in the Auburn Public Schools recommended by DESE to begin the school year. The continued requirement will be revisited monthly with the School Committee in accordance with current recommendations from national and state agencies, and review of local data.

George Scobie made a motion to approve the recommendation; Dr. McCrillis seconded the motion, was approved unanimously.

Committee will meet on Wednesday, August 25, 2021 in the Auburn High School auditorium at 6:30pm.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:38 p.m., there being no further business to discuss, Mr. Scobie made a motion to adjourn for the evening; Mrs. Harrington seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mandy Williams

Recording Secretary

**Referenced Documents:**

**Covid Protocols (Masking)**