

Plaza School District
7322 County Road 24
Orland, CA 95963
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Special Board Meeting
November 30th, 2021
3:00PM
Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Members Present
- IV. Superintendent Report/Information
 - A. State Mandate for COVID-19 Vaccine
- V. Comments: Agenda Items Only—Any person wishing to address the Board will identify themselves, the agenda item they are speaking about, and limit remarks to three minutes.
- VI. Action
 - A. New Business
 1. Approve Plaza School District’s Inclusion in Glenn County Superintendent of Schools Tracey Quarne’s November 16th, 2021 Letter to Governor Newsom Regarding Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccines for Staff and Children
 - B. Old Business
 2. Approve November 30th Letter to Governor Newsom and CDPH Officer Dr. Tomás J. Aragón, MD Requesting Local Control for COVID-19 Vaccine Policy
 3. Approve Resolution 21-03 Calling for Governor Newsom, California State Legislators, and California Department of Public Health Permit Choice and Not Require the COVID-19 Vaccine for Students and Staff
 - C. Closed Session
 1. Employee Matter – Employee # 1908
- VII. Comments: Non Agenda Items—The Board Clerk will allow three minutes for speakers to address the appropriate matters. Speakers will identify themselves when acknowledged by the Clerk.
- VIII. Adjournment



GLENN COUNTY
OFFICE of EDUCATION

Office of the Superintendent

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Tracey J. Quarne, Superintendent

November 16, 2021

Governor Gavin Newsom
California Governor's Office
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

In October of this year, your office shared that you directed the CDPH to require a COVID-19 vaccine for all K-12 students following the anticipated approval by the Federal Food and Drug Administration. Further, this mandate is to go into effect as early as July 2022. In the short time since your office released this information, public reaction in Glenn County, has been, and remains, quite vociferous.

In an attempt to gauge the depth of this rather incredible reaction by the public, we have conducted preliminary surveys to measure the potential impact of implementation of this mandate. As of this date, our best estimates are up to 50% of students will not vaccinate, and potentially the same number of staff will also not vaccinate. Equally concerning is the low percentage of students who will willingly participate in the mandate to vaccinate, which is hovering around 25%. The remainder of respondents are undecided.

From this data, it is evident the mandate you directed to be implemented is not well received, and is giving rise to significant unrest in many school communities. In light of this reality, and the current state of education as we recover from the past 18 months of cohort instruction, AM/PM schedules, closed schools, quarantined classrooms and schools, etc., the predictable fall-out from this mandate has the potential to be devastating to public education in Glenn.

Given the foregoing, the district superintendents and the county superintendent of schools in Glenn County respectfully request the following:

- 1) That the State of California maintain medical, religious, and personal exemptions from the COVID-19 vaccination requirement; and,
- 2) That COVID-19 safety guidelines, including guidelines for masks, quarantines, and the return to normal classroom instruction is tailored to local conditions.

With best wishes, we are,

Sincerely yours,

Tracey Quarne, Glenn County Superintendent of Schools

Jim Scribner, Superintendent/Principal, Capay Joint Union Elementary School District

Dr. Jeremy Powell, Superintendent, Hamilton Unified School District

Nikol Baker, Superintendent/Principal, Lake Elementary School District

Vic Perry, Superintendent, Orland Joint Unified School District

Patrick Conklin, Superintendent/Principal, Plaza Elementary School District

Korey Williams, Superintendent/Principal, Princeton Joint Unified School District

Kevin Triance, Superintendent/Principal, Stony Creek Joint Unified School District

Emmett Koerperich, Superintendent, Willows Unified School District

Suzanne Tefs, Director, Walden Academy Charter School

CC:

Plaza Elementary School District

Board of Trustees:
Connie King
Jake Cecil
P. J. Davis

7322 County Road 24
Orland, CA 95963
Phone (530) 865-1250 Fax (530) 865-1252

Patrick Conklin
Superintendent/Principal

November 30, 2021

Governor Gavin Newsom
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dr. Tomás J. Aragón, MD
Director and State Public Health Officer
California Department of Public Health
PO Box 997377, MS 0500
Sacramento, CA 95899-7377

Dear Governor Newsom and Dr. Aragón,

Governor Newsom stated on multiple occasions that schools could safely provide in-person instruction by following proper health and safety guidelines, which Plaza School has done since October, 2020. Additionally, California Department of Public Health School Guidance states that, "masks are one of the most effective and simplest safety mitigation layers to prevent in-school transmission of COVID-19 infections and to support full time in-person instruction in K-12 schools." Furthermore, data explicitly shows that children are not generally at risk of hospitalization or death from COVID-19 infection. Of all the COVID-19 deaths in California since January 2020, there have been 37 deaths among children under 18 with an estimated infection fatality rate of nearly 0%.

Several FDA advisory committee members responsible for voting to recommend the COVID-19 vaccine for children 5-11, including Dr. James E.K. Hildreth and Dr. Cody Meissner, expressed concern regarding mandatory vaccines for children to attend school. Only approximately 4,000 children 5-11 years old participated in the most recent study, very few of which were children of color even though they were disproportionately affected by the virus.

Plaza School District has operated in-person instruction since October 11th, 2020 safely without a vaccine mandate for all students and staff, with no transmission of COVID-19 on campus by following all health and safety requirements successfully. Plaza School District community members have expressed concerns regarding the need for the COVID-19 vaccine, as well as the lack of research on long-term impacts on children. In a recent survey, over 54% of the families who responded indicated that their children would not attend in person instruction if vaccines were mandated. Another 26% were undecided. If a COVID-19 vaccine is required in lieu of weekly testing for staff, our district will struggle to retain qualified employees for both certificated and classified positions. Plaza School District supports local control and decision-making.

The governing board of the Plaza School District respectfully asks that you uphold the constitutionally guaranteed right to provide informed consent before proceeding with any medical procedure of residents of the State of California for themselves and their children, and recommend and not require the COVID-19 vaccine for students and staff of TK-12 grade Local Education Agencies.

Sincerely,

Patrick Conklin, Superintendent/Principal

PJ Davis, Board Clerk

Connie King, Board Trustee

Jake Cecil, Board Trustee

PLAZA SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION 21-03

Resolution Calling for Governor Newsom, California State Legislators, and California Department of Public Health Permit Choice and Not Require the COVID-19 Vaccine for Students and Staff

WHEREAS, California Governor Gavin Newsom announced October 1st, 2021 that California would be the first state in the nation to require all students to be vaccinated; and

WHEREAS, Governor Newsom's announcement stated students will be required to be vaccinated, or complete an approved exemption form for in-person learning, starting the term following FDA full approval of the vaccine for their grade span (K-6 and 7-12); and

WHEREAS, Governor Newsom is directing the California Department of Public Health to add the COVID-19 vaccine to other vaccinations required for in-person school attendance—such as measles, mumps, and rubella—pursuant to the Health and Safety Code sections 120325—120380, which will remove the personal belief exemption option for families; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccine requirements will apply to all “pupil(s) of any public or private elementary or secondary school(s)” (HSC section 120335(b)); and

WHEREAS, this mandate will be a condition of in-person attendance (HSC section 120335(f)), and any student who is not vaccinated, and does not complete an exemption form, may remain enrolled in independent study but may not attend in-person instruction; and

WHEREAS, Governor Newsom has directed adults be held to the same standards as students for the COVID-19 vaccine; and

WHEREAS, Governor Newsom's announcement states the current verify-or-test requirement for staff will be converted to a vaccine mandate no later than when the first phase of the student requirement becomes effective; and

WHEREAS, Plaza School District will struggle to retain qualified employees for both certificated and classified positions, and the COVID-19 vaccine requirement will likely create more open jobs; and

WHEREAS, Plaza School District supports local control and decision making; and

WHEREAS, prior to mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations for students and staff, Governor Newsom has stated on multiple occasions that schools can safely provide in-person instruction by following proper health and safety guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Public Health School Guidance states that, “masks are one of the most effective and simplest safety mitigation layers to prevent in-school transmission of COVID-19 infections and to support full time in-person instruction in K-12 schools”; therefore a mandatory COVID-19 vaccine requirement is unnecessary; and

WHEREAS, Plaza School District has operated in-person instruction since October 11th, 2020 safely without a vaccine mandate for all students and staff, with no transmission of COVID-19 on campus, and has followed all health and safety requirements successfully; and

WHEREAS, data explicitly shows that children are not generally at risk of hospitalization or death from COVID-19 infection. Of the COVID-19 deaths in California since January 2020, there have been 37 deaths among children under 18 with an estimated infection fatality rate of nearly 0%; and

WHEREAS, Plaza School District community members have expressed concerns regarding the lack of research on long-term impacts on children for the COVID-19 vaccine. Only approximately 4,000 children 5-11 years old participated in the most recent study, very few of which were children of color even though they were disproportionately affected by the virus; and

WHEREAS, several FDA advisory committee members responsible for voting to recommend the COVID-19 vaccine for children 5-11, including Dr. James E.K. Hildreth and Dr. Cody Meissner, expressed concern regarding mandatory vaccines for children to attend school; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing board of the Plaza School District respectfully asks that the State of California Legislature uphold the constitutionally guaranteed right to provide informed consent before proceeding with any medical procedure of residents of the State of California for themselves and their children, and recommend and not require the COVID-19 vaccine for students and staff of TK-12 grade Local Education Agencies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the governing board of the Plaza School District will petition the State of California that the COVID-19 vaccine be a recommendation and not a requirement for students and staff.

Adopted this _____ day of _____ in 2021

Motion made by:

Second made by:

Members voting "aye":

Members voting "nay":

Members abstaining:

Members not present: