



Georgetown School Committee

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

Meeting Minutes

51 North Street
Georgetown, MA 01833
(978) 352-5777

Barbie Linares, Chairman

Michael Hinchliffe, Vice Chairman

Cheryl Lachendro, Clerk

Suzanne MacDonald

Lauren King

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Attendance:

Barbie Linares

Superintendent Jacobs

Jack Tano

Michael Hinchliffe

Suzanne Sutherland

Collin MacDonald

Lauren King

Margaret Maher

Cheryl Lachendro

Jeff Carovillano

Absent: Suzanne MacDonald

1. **Call to Order:**

Barbie Linares called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

2. **Public Forum:**

Carol Jacobs started the discussion by explaining that this meeting is to give people a chance to voice their opinions about masks in schools and also any concerns they may have regarding air quality and social distancing. She also explained that the goal is to make the return to school as normal as possible and to avoid quarantines. She has met with the Medical Team already and she is weighing in on all of the guidelines from the state, the CDC and DESE. The Board of Health will also be making their recommendation. She said that the final decision will be made by the School Committee and the vote will take place on Thursday, August 26th.

Carol mentioned testing that may be an option, even though the POOL testing had a low participation rate. She stated that many of the North Shore districts are going with universal masking, based on her discussions at the Superintendent's Roundtable meetings..

Jen Pollard, a member of the Medical Team, spoke about COVID and the Delta variant. She explained that this variant is affecting more children and she feels masking is the best way to protect everyone for the return to school. She also explained that waivers can be

given for those students who can not wear masks due to medical reasons, but that they have to be approved by a pediatrician.

Public Comments:

- Bethany Brown - 4 Emery Lane, Georgetown MA - Not in support of masking in schools.
- Matt Lufkin - 105 King George Drive, Georgetown, MA - Wants the kids in school and supports whatever measures that takes.
- Tim Manning - 35 Spofford Street, Georgetown, MA - Not in support of masks in school.
- Laurance Dalis - 6 Longview Way, Georgetown, MA
Question on air purification tools.: Mike Anderson addressed the committee & audience. Installation of filters, air purifiers in all classrooms & UV lighting and fogging every room daily.
- Tania Kimball - 2 Phillips Ave, Georgetown, MA - Supports masking in schools, especially for the age group that can not be vaccinated.
- Tim Manning - 35 Spofford Street, Georgetown, MA - Addressed the committee again regarding the disposal of masks (biohazard) and believes that the survey should only be given to the audience and not those at home.
- Tania Manning - 35 Spofford Street, Georgetown, MA - Does not believe masks are handled properly. Does not support masking in school.
- Adrian Ventura -22 Cedar Lane - Wants the decision of masking or not to be up to the parents.
- Jarett Barbarick - 11 Prescott Lane, Georgetown, MA - Does not believe in masking the children.
- Alan Aulson - 199 Pond Street, Georgetown, MA - Wants it left up to the parents to mask or not mask their children. Believes masks do more harm than good.
- Jennifer Burgey - 7 Abbey Road, Georgetown, MA- OK with masking her children in school.

- Jen Mariani - 1 Pineneedle Lane, Georgetown, MA - Read article from medical source supporting no masks.
- Brian Duke - 35 Old Jacobs Road, Georgetown MA - Questions if anyone has read all the data on the vaccine. Wants it to be the parents choice to mask or not mask their kids.
- Michelle Costa - 6 Raymond Road, Georgetown MA - educator, neutral zone, wants a promise that we can get back to normal and educate the children.

Barbie Linares thanked the audience for coming out to the meeting and reminded everyone that a survey will be sent out by Friday.

3 **Adjourn:**
 _____ Barbie Linares adjourned the meeting at 7:49PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracy Parker
 School Committee Secretary