

Dear Trustees,

I would like to discuss the mandatory masking of school children particularly those at the kindergarten level AGAINST the advice of Canada's leading medical pediatric specialists.<sup>1</sup>

TCDSB has always been seen as a leader in education, other school boards look up to TCDSB – why it's even in the motto; “Transforming the world through witness, faith, innovation and action”.

Last August TCDSB made the decision to go above and beyond the call for the masking of children within the school environment. I appreciate that the board made the decision based on the limited information that was available to them at the time. However, I do have questions regarding that decision making process:

As educated professionals, I'm sure that you have reviewed and are able to provide an impact study of masking vs no masks on children prior to enforcing a mask mandate for school children as young as four years old?

As educated professionals I'm sure that you have completed and are able to provide a risk benefit analysis that has an accurate assessment of potential drawbacks of mandatory masks, including physical, psychological, developmental as well as defined outcome metrics / expectations (what you expected vs what actually happened)?

As educated professionals I'm sure that you are aware that informed consent is a necessary part of any medical intervention? And providing that information to parents is part of your duty as educators.

As educated professionals I'm sure that you are aware that if you don't have any of the above, then you could in fact be opening yourself up to negligence and liability through the medical experimentation of children?

It is now 6 months after the initial decision to mask children and we have a large volume of data when it comes to the impacts of this virus on children. If you do not have any of the points outlines above, now is the time to re-evaluate. There is an immense amount of data on the minimal impact mask mandates provide on transmission. There is also at hand information on the HARMS of masks particularly as it relates to children and especially young children such as those in Junior and Senior kindergarten.<sup>2,3,4</sup> It is time to re-evaluate the decision to mandate masks for all children, particularly those at the kindergarten level.

We now know that the effects of masking children, far out weighs the benefit – this is no longer a debate. It is time for TCDSB to ask themselves if masking healthy kindergarten children is ethical and really how the school board would like to be remembered. It is time for TCDSB to be a leader and take action to remove the mandatory mask mandate for healthy children.

Sincerely,

Karen Ratcliffe

<sup>1</sup><https://www.sickkids.ca/.../covid19-updated-guidance.../>

<sup>2</sup>[German children suffer from psychological issues in pandemic researchers Children Children Children Families | The Independent](#)

<sup>3</sup>[Corona children studies "Co-Ki": First results of a Germany-wide registry on mouth and nose covering \(mask\) in children | Research Square](#)

<sup>4</sup>[Share Mask-Related Health Incidents Here - NO MASKS FOR KIDS!](#)