

AN OPEN LETTER TO BESE, LOUISIANA SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS, AND SUPERINTENDENTS:

“There comes a point where a man must refuse to answer to his leader if he is also to answer to his conscience.”

Ann Tusa, The Nuremberg Trial

That time has come. For months, our state’s treasure - our children - have been subjected to the whims of public health agencies. The precautionary principle, the overriding ethic of public health, has been tossed to the wayside to the detriment of the physical and mental wellbeing of our children.

“In an absence of knowledge, governments should not make policies that have a hypothetical potential to cause harm. The government has an onus barrier before it instigates a broad social-engineering intervention, or allows corporations to exploit fear-based sentiments.”

Dennis Rancourt, PhD.

rcreader.com/commentary/masks-dont-work-covid-a-review-of-science-relevant-to-covide-19-social-policy

Before any vote was cast by BESE for the Strong Start 2020 guidelines, evidence was requested regarding the physical and mental SAFETY of long term mask use in children. As no safety testing had ever been conducted in that population, there was simply no information to provide. Despite mounds of evidence that children were minimally affected by SARS-CoV-2 and were not significant vectors of transmission, our children were forced to attend school for up to 8 hours a day in masks.

Evidence continues to contradict the need for the Strong Start 2020 guidelines established by BESE:

Open Schools, Covid-19, and Child and Teacher Morbidity in Sweden

“Despite Sweden’s having kept schools and preschools open, we found a low incidence of severe Covid-19 among schoolchildren and children of preschool age during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. Among the 1.95 million children who were 1 to 16 years of age, 15 children had Covid-19, MIS-C, or both conditions and were admitted to an ICU, which is equal to 1 child in 130,000.”

“Social distancing was encouraged in Sweden, but wearing face masks was not.”

nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc2026670

More importantly, in regards to the SAFETY of long term mask use in children, the precautionary principle can no longer be ignored. The following study raises serious concern for the physical safety of children forced to wear masks for hours on end:

Need for assessing the inhalation of micro(nano)plastic debris shed from masks, respirators, and home-made face coverings during the COVID-19 pandemic

“There seems to be, however, an important piece missing in the suite of standards and volumes of research on inhalable environmental contaminants. None of these standards, including the ASTM standards and NIOSH regulation, which are adopted by the FDA in regulating medical face masks and surgical respirators in the U.S. (FDA, 2020a), regulate respirable debris such as micro(nano)plastics that may be present in these products. In fact, such neglect is not unique to US standards: a review of current ISO standards, EU standards and Chinese standards on masks and respirators found no information pertinent to this particular type of hazard. With these becoming a necessity for many in their daily life and work, **questions must be raised over this apparent regulatory gap concerning their long-term use safety. This is especially important given that there is already a growing body of evidence on the inhalation of micro(nano)plastics and their adverse effects in humans and animals (Prata, 2018).**”

“Whether these plastic debris could cause stress and inflammation in the human respiratory tract and exacerbate vulnerability to viral infection is a further question that warrants investigation.”

“A special note must be given on home-made cloth face coverings. For fabrics repurposed as face masks, as per the current guidelines by the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention CDC, 2020), debris is likely to be generated from cutting and tearing...Detergent



residues and lint generated from machine laundering and tumble drying may also be present as inhalable contaminants in washed garments.” ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7537728/

In addition:

“Concern has been expressed that new kinds of nanofibres being made by nanotechnology industries might pose a risk because they have a similar shape to asbestos.”

Ken Donaldson, Professor of Respiratory Toxicology ed.ac.uk/news/all-news/nanofibres-220812

The seriousness of this **unknown** cannot be stressed enough. With undeniable evidence that SARS-CoV-2 is not a significant threat to the vast majority of children - children have a **better chance** of being struck by lightning than dying of Covid-19 - it is imperative that these concerns regarding the safety of long term mask use be made known to Louisiana families along with accurate risk assessment. Parents and teachers alike need to know what the true risk is.

The decision to mask or not should be made with full and informed consent by the parents.

Furthermore, knowing that there was no safety data on the effects of long term mask use by children prior to the implementation of the Strong Start school reopening standards, BESE negates the immunity from liability afforded to them in ACT 9 as this can be viewed as **“grossly negligent or wanton or reckless misconduct.”**

E.(1) Public and nonpublic schools, public and nonpublic school systems, public or nonpublic school governing authorities, charter school governing authorities, and the officers, employees, and agents thereof may not avail themselves of the immunity provided by this Section if the action or failure to act was in violation of a policy, rule, or regulation adopted by the public or nonpublic school, public or nonpublic school system, public or nonpublic school governing authority, or charter school governing authority or was in violation of any procedure mandated by law or by rule or regulation adopted by a federal or state agency in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, and such action or inaction is **determined to be grossly negligent or wanton or reckless misconduct.**
<https://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=1187095>

Emails can be obtained via public records request showing the lack of acknowledgement for the safety of this mitigation measure by those charged with their general health and well-being while on school campuses: BESE, LDH, and LDE.

Louisiana parents demand to exercise their right to choose what’s best for their children. This right is recognized in the foundational ethics of Louisiana’s Children’s Code, Article 101:

“...that parents should make the decisions regarding where and with whom the child shall reside, the educational, moral, ethical, and religious training of the child, **the medical, psychiatric, surgical, and preventive health care of the child.** . .” <http://www.legis.la.gov/legis/Law.aspx?d=72534>

Louisiana School Superintendents and School Board Members, parents have the utmost right to choose which medical procedures - both preventative and therapeutic - are appropriate for their children, and this includes wearing masks. Relegating these decisions to government agencies has done incredible harm to children nationwide as evidenced by a white paper released by Fair Health Inc., [The Impact of COVID-19 on Pediatric Mental Health: A Study of Private Healthcare Claims](#). Of the devastating increase in mental health concerns for children ages 13-18, the **333% increase in self harm is of tremendous concern. The children are NOT alright. To continue to ignore the harms posed by these mitigation measures increases the liability of those involved.**

“For children and adolescents, masks are an absolute no-no. Children and adolescents have an extremely active and adaptive immune system and they need a constant interaction with the microbiome of the Earth. Their brain is also incredibly active, as it has so much to learn. The child’s brain, or the youth’s brain is thirsting for oxygen. The more metabolically active the organ is, the more oxygen it requires. In children and adolescents every organ is metabolically active. To deprive a child’s or an adolescent’s brain from oxygen, or to restrict it in any way, is not only dangerous to their health, it is absolutely criminal. Oxygen deficiency inhibits the development of the brain, and the damage that has taken place as a result CANNOT be reversed. The child needs the brain to learn, and the brain needs oxygen to function. We don’t need a clinical study for that. This is simple, indisputable physiology. Conscious and purposely induced oxygen deficiency is an absolutely deliberate health hazard, and an absolute medical contraindication.”



Dr. Margarite Griesz-Brisson, COVID-19 Masks Are a Crime Against Humanity and Child Abuse¹

Because #SmilesAreEssential, The Smile Project aims to reject the harmful new normal imposed on our children - it has stolen their smiles.

👤 **TheSmileProject.Global/blog** dives into the data in their multi-part series: [Part 1: The Role of Children in COVID-19 Transmission in Schools](#); [Part 2: Understanding Relative Risk](#); [Part 3: Mask \(In\)Effectiveness in Limiting COVID-19 Transmission](#).

👤 An **Action Plan** to unmask children in schools can be found at healthfreedomla.org/2021/03/the-smile-project-action-plan

👤 Children have not been shown to be at increased risk of severe outcome following infection, nor increased transmission of SARS-CoV-2.^{2,3,4,5}

👤 No studies have evaluated the physical and mental SAFETY of long term mask use in children.⁶

👤 Subjecting vulnerable populations to medical experiments violates the medical ethic of informed consent and several tenets of human rights treaties, including those listed in The Nuremberg Code and UNESCO’s Universal Declaration of Bioethics and Human Rights.^{7,8,9}

👤 The only study (in pre-print) to attempt an analysis of the effects of mask use in children, found considerable impairments, as reported by parents, among children including: irritability (60%), headache (53%), difficulty concentrating (50%), less happiness (49%), reluctance to go to school/kindergarten (44%), malaise (42%) impaired learning (38%) and drowsiness or fatigue (37%).¹⁰

👤 The risk of long term inhalation of nanoparticles present in surgical and homemade masks has not been evaluated.^{11,12}

👤 Children are suffering from the mitigation efforts of SARS-CoV-2, not the virus.^{13,14}

👤 A compilation of mask studies can be found healthfreedomla.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Mask-Studies.pdf

¹ perma.cc/Q568-Y2H2

² [nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc2026670](https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMc2026670)

³ [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/articles/PMC37062682/](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37062682/)

⁴ [science.sciencemag.org/content/370/6514/286](https://www.sciencemag.org/content/370/6514/286)

⁵ [covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#demographics](https://www.covid19tracker.com/#demographics)

⁶ [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/articles/PMC6908682/](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37062682/)

⁷ [ama-assn.org/delivering-care/ethics/pediatric-decision-making](https://www.ama-assn.org/delivering-care/ethics/pediatric-decision-making)

⁸ [history.nih.gov/display/history/Nuremberg+Code](https://www.history.nih.gov/display/history/Nuremberg+Code)

⁹ unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000146180

¹⁰ [researchsquare.com/article/rs-124394/v3](https://www.researchsquare.com/article/rs-124394/v3)

¹¹ [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/articles/PMC7537728/](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37062682/)

¹² [ed.ac.uk/news/all-news/nanofibres-220812](https://www.ed.ac.uk/news/all-news/nanofibres-220812)

¹³ [bit.ly/whitepapercovidimpact](https://www.bit.ly/whitepapercovidimpact)

¹⁴ [nytimes.com/2021/01/24/us/politics/student-suicides-nevada-coronavirus.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/24/us/politics/student-suicides-nevada-coronavirus.html)