

RESOLUTION NO. 21-22-17

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
ROCKLIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LOCAL DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY REGARDING COVID-19 HEALTH
AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS AND REQUESTING RECONSIDERATION OF
THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED VACCINATION MANDATE**

WHEREAS, The Rocklin Unified School District (RUSD), operates 16 in-person campuses and has been a leader in getting students back in the classroom while following all California Department of Public Health (CDPH) requirements;

WHEREAS, RUSD has operated in-person learning safely since reopening in fall of 2020 without ever needing to close a campus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, without a COVID-19 vaccination mandate;

WHEREAS, the Covid-19 vaccine is currently available to all children ages 5 and up, is readily available, and has been readily available for adults in the home, the RUSD Board of Trustees finds the March 31, 2022 expiration of the State of Emergency executive orders adequate time for every parent to decide to or not to vaccinate their child;

WHEREAS, if the State of Emergency is once again extended, RUSD will challenge emergency protocols inconsistent with local conditions;

WHEREAS, RUSD supports staff and families maintaining the choice and freedom to obtain the COVID-19 vaccine for themselves and their children, but believe the Governor's proposed vaccination mandate removes choice from the equation by forcing individuals to submit to the mandate or lose access to in-person instruction (if they are students) and their jobs (if they are staff);

WHEREAS, parents, including COVID-19 vaccinated and pro-vaccination parents, have expressly shared with the RUSD Board that they are uncomfortable subjecting their children to a vaccination for which there is no longitudinal data;

WHEREAS, success in Independent Study requires motivation and a strong commitment on the part of the student, as well as the support of parents or guardians, and therefore Independent Study may not be an appropriate placement for every student, including students with exceptional needs under Education Code section 51745;

WHEREAS, forcing families to participate in Independent Study is inconsistent with the Education Code section 51747 requirement that Independent Study be a voluntary education option;

WHEREAS, in the event Independent Study is offered and chosen, it is the RUSD Board's responsibility to ensure students receive an education to that of their peers;

WHEREAS, the RUSD Board acknowledges the growing mental health crisis among children and will in all decisions weigh the need for normalcy, acknowledging RUSD's responsibility to protect not only the physical, but also the social, emotional, and mental health of our students;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the RUSD Board believes that parent/guardian choice in vaccination and other health decisions is crucial;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the RUSD Board believes that staff choice in vaccination and other health decisions is important;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the RUSD Board of Trustees expects Independent Study to remain optional regardless of any masking, testing or vaccination mandates, and additionally directs administration that in the event a student is removed from a classroom that student be given access to their classroom teacher and full curriculum;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that while the RUSD Board of Trustees of the Rocklin Unified School District understands the goals of the Governor and the CDPH to stop the spread of COVID-19, the Board believes that the Governor's proposed K-12 student vaccine mandate is ill-advised and in opposition to the educational and social-emotional goals of the State and the District;

THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the RUSD Board urges the Governor to reconsider or rescind the proposed vaccine mandate as a condition of in-person instruction and employment in grades K-12;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the RUSD Board will petition the State that the COVID-19 vaccine not be a requirement for students and staff;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that RUSD will not adopt COVID-19 mandatory vaccinations for students or staff members;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED with the State of Emergency slated to end March 31, 2022, the RUSD Board of Trustees expects all masking, testing and vaccination mandates to terminate at that time, with a return to normal school activities on April 1, 2022 consistent with local conditions; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the RUSD Superintendent is directed to transmit this Resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom; Director and State Public Health Officer CDPH, Dr. Tomas J. Aragon; Dr. Mark Ghaly, California Health and Human Services; Placer County Board of Supervisors; Placer County Public Health; Assemblyman Kevin Kiley; Senator Brian Dahle; and the Placer County Board of Education to communicate our concerns.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Rocklin Unified School District this 15th day of December, 2021.

AYES _____

NOES _____

ABSENT _____

ABSTENTION _____

GOVERNING BOARD OF THE ROCKLIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Trustees of the Rocklin Unified School District, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution is a true and correct copy of the Resolution that was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by the Board of Trustees at its December 15, 2021 meeting.

_____ Board President

_____ Board Clerk