ADDENDUM MATERIAL
DATE 12.21.21 ITEM NO. ADD4

**Danielle Greene**

**From:** Katie Mihina <noreply@jotform.com>
**Sent:** Monday, December 20, 2021 7:01 AM
**To:** District1; DIST2; District3; District4; District5; COB_mail
**Subject:** Pima County BOS - Resolution 2021-87

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DEC 20 2021 AM 10:04 PCC

## Pima County BOS - Resolution 2021-87

Dear Board Members,

I'm writing to ask that the Pima County Board of Supervisors adopt the county-wide mask mandate for indoor public spaces as outlined in Resolution 2021-87.

It is proven that masking indoors decreases COVID-19 transmission rates [1]. It is, at most, an inconvenience that the community can quickly implement to keep businesses and schools humming along. There is no chance of vaccinating our way out of this variant.

Teachers and parents in Pima County schools with mask-optional policies have experienced unprecedented stress and anxiety. We have spent the past twenty weeks dealing with exposure quarantines and classroom closures. A county-wide mask mandate would provide some bare minimum mitigation in some Pima County schools.

The correlation between school districts with mask-optional policies and school districts with employee and substitute shortages shows a solid cause-and-effect relationship. Superintendents of mask-optional school districts have previously disclosed that they do not want help from the county, and clearly, they need help retaining employees and to keep children safe.

The implication of not following public health policy of multi-layer mitigation strategies has placed the burden on already-taxed parents and teachers stressed to the max. Parents of children with medically fragile children cannot be guaranteed that schools can keep their children safe. Ultimately, parents have no option but to withdraw their children from public school and begin homeschooling.

With the first case of Omicron detected on November 27th in the UK, today, the UK reported 90,000 cases. Pima County is still experiencing high community transmission with Delta, and the Omicron variant was just identified in Pima County this week. The concern is that the transmission rate of Omicron can easily overwhelm the hospital system. With Omicron R naught value estimated to be 3-4 times higher than Delta, we must be proactive in dampening the spread.

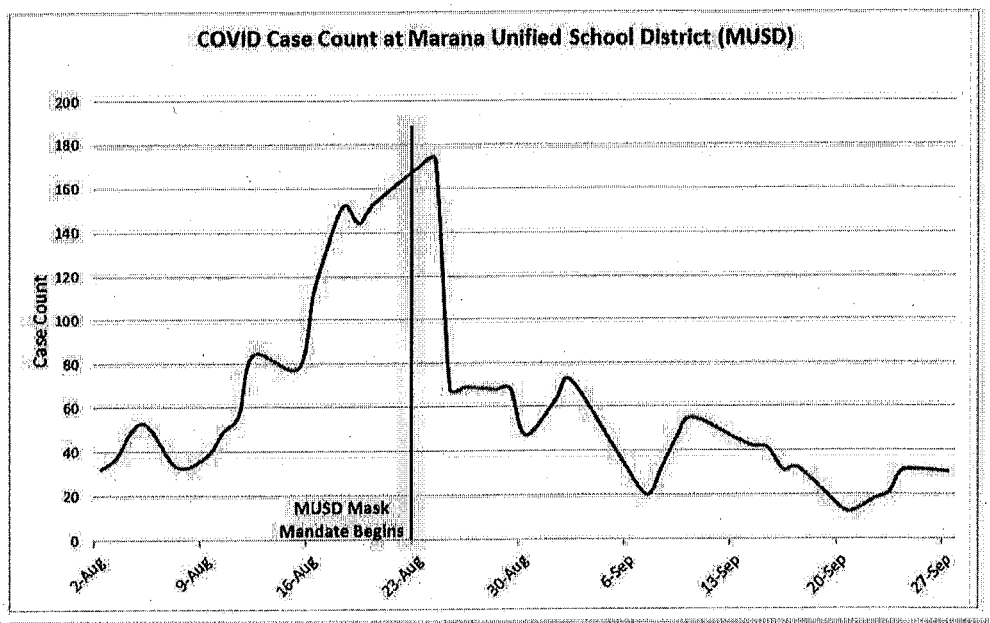
Preliminary data shows that twice vaccinated and boosted offers the best protection against

Omicron. However, monoclonal antibodies and the Regeneron antibody cocktail are ineffective against the Omicron variant, and the Sotrovimab monoclonal antibody is in short supply.

Pima County Supervisors have the opportunity to be proactive in slowing the spread of Omicron, preventing the healthcare system from being overwhelmed, and keeping our community safe.

References:
[1] An upper bound on one-to-one exposure to infectious human respiratory particles - https://www.pnas.org/content/118/49/e2110117118?fbclid=IwAR3VKN4amvuEDhiQpiKw0YMF-lT7UPMNq_QVD05bA2LByDlenfsexuvSv8Y
[2] American Academy of Pediatrics Children and COVID-19: State-Level Data Report 9/16/21 - https://tinyurl.com/AAP12-9-21StateLevel

| | |
|---|---|
| Name | Katie Mihina |
| Email | [redacted] |
| Zip Code | 85716 |
| | Parent<br>Community Member<br>Business Professional |
| Date | 12-20-2021 |
| Signature Concerned Community Member | ☒ |



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