

September 18, 2021

Leelanau County Commissioners,

There is a lot that is disturbing about what occurred at the Leelanau County Commissioners meeting on September 14th. The most obvious is that many Leelanau County young children and their families lost voter approved funding for support they desperately need.

Looking deeper suggests a more concerning situation. We have county commissioners intent on pushing their own political agenda, even if that means penalizing the Benzie-Leelanau Health Department during a global pandemic, and violating democracy.

With limited resources, our health department has worked diligently to protect us during an extraordinary time; sharing information, managing and administering vaccines, and boldly issuing a mask mandate to keep our school kids safe from COVID. They should be applauded, not disciplined.

Commissioners suggesting that when voters get it wrong they will determine and do what is right, betrays the oath they took to serve and insults their constituents. The definition of a constitutional republic specifically states that officials are elected but they do not have uncontrolled power. That is how we do it in America.

Nancy O'Neill
Lake Leelanau