From: <u>Nancy Flanagan</u>

To: <u>Clerk</u>

Subject: Comment for Special Meeting, September 9

Date: Thursday, September 9, 2021 12:45:49 PM

Please enter my comments into the record.

TO: Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

It must be clear to you, given the fact that Leelanau County has the highest rate of voluntary vaccination in the state, that your constituents are strongly in favor of mitigation strategies against the surge in Covid cases. Over 80% of our oldest citizens (65+) sought vaccination, most through the efforts of our efficient and helpful BL Health Department. People in Leelanau County are vaccinated because they have been given accurate information and the opportunity to protect themselves.

Now it is time to protect our most precious resource--our children, especially those who aren't eligible for a vaccine. Requiring masks is--and always has been--the right thing to do. As a lifelong teacher, I know that there is ample scientific evidence that masking works, and is the best strategy we have right now. I also know that teachers will do their best to keep all children in their classrooms safe, and schools open--something that working parents in Leelanau County desperately need. I commend the BLHD for making the right call on mandating masks.

I am not sure what will be proposed at the special meeting tonight, but I hope you keep in mind the evidence: Leelanau County residents believe in vaccination, like their Health Department, and want it fully funded.

Nancy Flanagan, Solon Township Cedar