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**Sent:** Thursday, September 9, 2021 4:49 PM

**To:** Michelle Crocker <[mcrocker@leelanau.gov](mailto:mcrocker@leelanau.gov)>

**Cc:** Debra Rushton <[drushton@leelanau.gov](mailto:drushton@leelanau.gov)>

**Subject:** BOC Masking Order Meeting Comment

To: Michelle Crocker

Re: BOC Special Meeting Sept 9, 2021 on Benzie/Leelanau District Health Department Mask Order.

My Name is Dianne Doten Morrison and I am a resident of Leelanau County in Bingham Township. I want to stand in support of the Health Department's Mask Order for Schools. I want our children to be able to have the best opportunity to have a consistent in school education this year. I believe that has the best chance of happening only if we require the wearing of masks since that has been shown to be the best way to stop the spread of COVID when many people are inside together. Leelanau County is at the highest transmission level for Covid according to MDHHS and up to 40% of those who have COVID can be asymptomatic. That includes people that are vaccinated. My adult son is one of those people and did not know he was infected until someone he was near was shown to have been infected. My son had a subsequent test that came back positive. He has had no fever or other telltale symptoms. Each infected person can infect others without knowing it, approximately 6 to 10 people. The schools are an every weekday prime site for the virus including children and staff that can't be vaccinated. As I am out in the community indoors and out I observe that most people have let their guard down and are not wearing masks even in risky situations. I believe we can expect more community spread and the strong chance for the virus to mutate with the possibility of more variations which the vaccines may not be effective at stopping. It is time for all of us to care about our whole community's wellbeing and be willing to do this small inconvenience to keep our kids and school teachers and staff as safe as possible and in doing so help the whole community.