

From: Pam Schmidt Bardenhagen <[pam.bardenhagen@gmail.com](mailto:pam.bardenhagen@gmail.com)>  
To: [wbunek@leelanau.gov](mailto:wbunek@leelanau.gov), [rrobbins@leelanau.gov](mailto:rrobbins@leelanau.gov), [drushton@leelanau.gov](mailto:drushton@leelanau.gov), [twessell@leelanau.gov](mailto:twessell@leelanau.gov),  
[psoutaslittle@leelanau.gov](mailto:psoutaslittle@leelanau.gov), [gallgaier@leelanau.gov](mailto:gallgaier@leelanau.gov), [mlautner@leelanau.gov](mailto:mlautner@leelanau.gov)  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Date: Thu, 9 Sep 2021 17:51:22 -0400  
Subject: Support for Leelanau/Benzie Health Department

Please accept this as public comment:

Dear Leelanau County Commissioners:

I recently read with dismay that an emergency meeting of the board has been called to challenge the authority of our region's ability to put a "mask mandate" in place for the region's K-12 schools.

Instead of questioning the professional opinions of our own health department and a great many local physicians, please have the courtesy to step aside and let our region's health professionals provide the roadmap for protecting our region's most precious assets - our children. If you'd like to be helpful, perhaps you could ask the Health Department and the local health care professionals who serve local residents what YOU, as government officials, can do to support efforts to help minimize the impact of COVID19 in our region. It seems obvious the motive to hold this meeting is nothing but a charade meant to create headlines and division in our community. Maybe our leaders can set a better example for children on how to work together to overcome a challenge?

Sincerely,  
Pam Bardenhagen  
7990 E Horn Road  
Lake Leelanau, MI 49653  
231-271-3026