

From: Tom & Jean Petersen <tomjean45@yahoo.com>

Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 10:53 AM

To: Michelle Crocker <mcrocker@leelanau.gov>

Subject: Letter to Commissioners

Please forward this letter to the Board of Commissioners for the special meeting at 6:00 on September 9 and enter it in the public comment section of the minutes of that meeting.

To the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

We have been made aware of a special meeting of the BOC called for Thursday at 6pm in regards to the County Health Department's mask order.

County Health Departments are a vital source of information for all levels of our population when it comes to public health. We are all responsible for our own health choices, but when disease, or air quality, or water quality issues become widespread within a community it is a very good and vital thing to have one agency monitoring it, informing the public, and helping the public make reasoned choices.

The Leelanau/Benzie Health Department is charged with safeguarding the public health of these two counties. They have been faithful in tracking Covid-19, keeping us informed, and giving vaccinations to protect the most vulnerable of our citizens first and then the rest of us. Among the most vulnerable are our children under the age of 12 who are not eligible for the vaccination yet. The best way to protect them is wearing masks, washing hands, and maintaining social distancing.

We strongly support the mask orders for masking our children until they are eligible for vaccination.

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