
To: Kansas City Area School Boards and Administrators
From: Kansas City Area Physicians
RE: School COVID Mitigation Fall 2021

Dear Superintendents, School Board Members, and Administrators,

We the undersigned are physicians (MD, DO) who practice within or reside within the Kansas City Metropolitan region. We comprise a wide range of clinical practice and specialties.

We agree with the newest guidelines published by experts at the CDC (July 9, 2021), AAP (July 18, 2021), and The Johnson County Department of Health (July 16, 2021). We urge schools to follow science and the experts and to enact the following procedures and policies, at a minimum:

1. Prioritize in-person learning.
2. Mandatory Universal Masking for all grades in which students are not yet eligible for vaccination. (Grades preschool - Grade 6)
3. Strongly encourage masking in unvaccinated students in grades where students are eligible for vaccination. (Grades 7 -12)
4. Strong contact tracing including following health department guidance for isolation and quarantine.

We all agree that our students need to be in schools and that they need to be safe. Enacting these policies will give schools the best opportunity to do both while minimizing potential instructional interruptions due to illness, contact isolations, and quarantine.

Sincerely,

Melissa AH Gener, MD - Pediatric Pathology/Neuropathology, BV parent of 4

Johanna Peterson, MD - Internal Medicine

Namita Gupta, MD - Endocrinology

Angela Prato, MD - Family Medicine

Allison Hettinger, MD - Pediatrics

Shailja Parikh, MD - Cardiology

Kristin Streiler MD. - Pediatrics

Lei Pei, MD, PhD - Internal Medicine

Chaitali Mahajan, MD - Neonatology

Amy Knapitsch, MD - Pediatrics

Catherine Watts, MD - Pediatrics

Megan Thomas, MD - Maternal Fetal Medicine

Christi Bartlett MD - Internal Medicine, Hospice and Palliative Medicine

Aileen Har, MD - Pediatrics

Tricia Fairchild, MD - Family Medicine

Neha Patel MD - Allergy/Immunology

Kristen Stuppy, MD - Pediatrics

Lindsay Baldrige, DO - Pediatric Endocrinology, Kansas City

Alexandria Felton-Church, MD- Pediatrics
Anne Wishna, MD - Ophthalmology - Leawood, KS
Kathleen Eubanks-Meng, DO - Family Medicine
Sheena Gleason, MD - Hospitalist/Internal Medicine. Kansas City, MO
Sobia Khan, MD - Pediatrics
Neeti Alapati, MD - Ophthalmology, Overland Park, KS
Tara Grimaldi MD - Pediatrics
Sarah Dubin, MD - Pulm/Critical Care (BV mom)
Molly Uhlenhake - Internal Medicine and Pediatrics, KCMO
Emily Hillman, MD - Emergency Medicine
Abbey Oshel, DO - Family Medicine
Michelle Boyce, MD - Ophthalmology, Kansas City, MO
Stella Zhang, DO - Family Medicine
Grace S. Mitchell, MD/MBA - Pediatric Radiology
Johanna Finkle, MD - OB/GYN, parent of 3 in blue valley district
Allison Cargnel, MD - Pathology
Geetha Kamath, MD - Internal Medicine, KC
Stephany Berry, MD, FACS Acute - Care Surgery/Surgical Critical Care, Leawood KS
Jenifer Butler MD - Pediatrics
Jessica Newman, DO - Infectious Diseases
Megha Chandramohan, MD - Pediatrics
Colleen N Johnson, MD - Otolaryngology, Kansas City, KS
Fatima Khan, DO FACP FACOI Lawrence, Kansas
Lisa Hays, MD FACE - Endocrine and Internal Medicine
Stephanie Karnik, MD - Pediatrics
Dharshinie Jayamaha, MD - Pediatrics and Pediatric Emergency Medicine
Marci Allen, DO - Hematology & Oncology
Jennifer Mellick, MD - Pediatrics
Leslie Favier, MD, MSc - Pediatric Rheumatology
Sheila Owens, MD - Family Medicine
Jane Schwabe, MD, MBA, St. Joseph MO
Laura Parisi, MD - OB/GYN, BVN grad (2003)
Kirsten Reilly MD - Pediatrics, KCMO
Michael Reilly MD - Emergency Medicine, Olathe, KS
Laura Thomas, MD - Pulmonary/Critical Care
Joseph Donald, MD - Radiology
David Finkle, MD - Emergency Medicine, KS
Juhi Kangas, MD - Pediatrics
Jamie Reasoner, DO - Pediatric Hospitalist
Kate Robben, DO - Pediatrics
Aniesa Slack, MD - Family Medicine, live in KCK, work in KCMO
Yomi Asojo, MD - Pathology
Alison Blevins, MD - OBGYN, Olathe, KS
Jon Dubin, MD - Ortho Trauma
Julie Brown, MD - Pediatrics
Steph Swords, DO - Med/Peds
Christian A. Hettinger, MD - Urology
Kimberly Schoofs, MD - Dermatology
Nguyen Tran, MD - Allergy/Immunology
Joan Schieber, MD - Obstetrics & Gynecology
Kristin Bosiljevac, M.D. Family Medicine

Megan Loeb, MD - Pediatrician, Leawood, KS
Mickelle Hirschman DO, - Hospitalist,
Phaedra Dowell, MD - Neurology
Kathryn Hedges MD - Neurology
Nancy Hammond, MD - Neurology
Benjamin Reine, DO - Family Medicine
Natasha Burgert, MD, FAAP - Pediatrics
Kulnarin Gay Purcell, MD - Internal Medicine
Gillian Housman, DO - Family Medicine
Dylan Werth, MD - Family Medicine
Cynthia Costa, MD - Neurology
Doug Cochran, MD
Kelly Alford, MD - Nephrology, Kansas and Missouri
Sandra Archer, MD - Family Medicine
Emily Robb, MD - Internal Medicine, SMSD parent
Kallie M Foss, MD - Community Pediatrician, Olathe, KS
Stephanie Baker, DO - Family Medicine
Susan Ratliff, MD, FAAP - Pediatrics
Amy Voelker, MD
Brennen Bittel, DO - Neurology, Leawood, KS
Lynn Fullenkamp, MD - Pediatric Hospitalist
Ashley Tatum, DO - Internal Medicine
Catherine Harris, MD - Hospitalist
Michilia Harrington, MD - Family Medicine, Overland Park, KS
Rachel Holt, MD - Family Medicine
Christine Lilly, DO - Family Medicine
Sarah Boyd, MD - Infectious Disease
Mary Champion, MD - Ophthalmology
Kristi Kinder, DO - Pediatric Emergency Medicine
Amelia Sorensen, MD - Orthopedic Surgery
Kavitha Rao, MD - Infectious Disease