

**From:** [Caleb Jahr](#)  
**To:** [PH Contracts Support](#); [PH BOH Support](#)  
**Subject:** Mask Mandate Regarding Young Children  
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Dear Madison Public Officials,

I have read and processed the newest mask mandate, and I have some serious concerns as the parent of a three-year-old child.

I can at least understand a mask mandate for adults, although I think they should be left alone to make their own, well-informed decisions. But to mandate masks for small children, as young as two years old, goes one step too far.

Kids need to be able to interact with other kids and see faces, smiles, and how words are articulated in order to properly develop. It's unhealthy for them to breathe their own carbon dioxide all day long, and the mask is likely to serve as a petri dish, hosting bacteria and viruses on their face for hours at a time. My child goes to daycare for roughly seven to eight hours a day, five days a week. To force her to wear a mask, to suffer through headaches from masks pulling behind the ears, to not see their other friends faces, to not be able to properly breathe, seems irrational and irresponsible, especially considering that over 70% of adults in Madison have been vaccinated. Children will undoubtedly be touching their masks repeatedly throughout the day as they adjust them, blow their noses, itch their faces and engage in normal pre-schooler behavior.

According to the Wisconsin DHS COVID website, the death rate for children from 0-9 remains at 0.0%. Please reconsider the unnecessary mask mandates for such young kids. Please, please, let parents make educated and smart choices for their own children.

Thank you.