

Resolution No. R-021- 089

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE REGARDING THE DELTA
VARIANT AND APPRECIATION FOR SOUND, SCIENCE-BASED PUBLIC POLICY
FROM PARTNER GOVERNMENTS.**

WHEREAS, Douglas County citizens have accepted and practiced strong personal responsibility during the COVID-19 pandemic to protect the most vulnerable and at-risk in our community; and

WHEREAS, in the post vaccine era, citizens have overcome most severity outcomes associated with the early stages of the pandemic as indicated by current public health statistics; and

WHEREAS, hospitalization rates and deaths from COVID-19 and associated variants remain exceedingly low; and

WHEREAS, all eligible age groups in the County have high vaccination rates and in particular those age 70+ and considered most vulnerable have received 1 or more vaccinations at a rate of 97%; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has indicated that the vaccine is 96% effective against hospitalizations and death from the Delta Variant; and

WHEREAS, young people in particular are remarkably unlikely to experience severity from COVID-19 or its variants, and even more unlikely to contract them if vaccinated; and

WHEREAS, the concern around asymptomatic transmission among young people has dissipated as virtually 100% of those that wished to receive the vaccine have had an opportunity to receive it, including the most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, it is not unexpected that those who chose not to be vaccinated might contract and transmit the virus primarily to other unvaccinated individuals; and

WHEREAS, mask orders have been enacted and removed repeatedly over the past 17 months creating confusion and mental fatigue and with questionable results; and

WHEREAS, a young person's ability to see, appreciate, and communicate through facial expressions is crucial to social development, mental health, and physical well-being; and

WHEREAS, with the elimination of mandates, children have been attending gatherings and reconnecting with friends and family, participating in sporting and play activities, dining out and interacting daily in their normal routines, resulting in positive mental health impacts; and

WHEREAS, the scientific data and a year and half of COVID-19 public policy unequivocally indicate citizens and businesses in the post-vaccine era should use their full discretion when and if to wear or require masks, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Douglas County will not succumb to fear-based policy making based upon sensational media reports regarding the Delta Variant, but instead will reflect soundly upon scientific data provided by public health experts associated with severity as it has for 17 months; and

Douglas County will not overreact to rare but overreported examples of vaccinated individuals experiencing severity from the Delta Variant nor create public policy that negatively and disproportionately impacts its citizens, especially young people; and

While Douglas County respects and agrees with the strong recommendations of public health officials to vaccinate, Douglas County will not be engaging in activities that would compel or force vaccinations upon those that choose not to have them; and finally

While Douglas County respectfully recognizes the sovereignty of the Douglas County School District, charter schools, private schools and other educational institutions, the Board of County Commissioners wishes to encourage and express its gratitude to these partner entities on behalf of its citizens and parents in particular for not imposing further oppressive mask orders or other unnecessary restrictions upon our young people at this time.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, this 10th day of August 2021, in Castle Rock, Douglas County, Colorado

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO**

BY:

DocuSigned by:

Lora L. Thomas

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LORA L. THOMAS, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Kristin Randlett

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KRISTIN RANDLETT, Clerk to the Board

DocuSigned by:

