



Public Comment
County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

BOS RCMD 2/25/21

20-0526

Deeply concerning public comments from Dr Nancy Williams regarding youth sports

Lake Tahoe GC Superintendent <super@laketahoegc.com>

Thu, Feb 25, 2021 at 10:15 AM

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To El Dorado County board of Supervisors and leaders in our community,

First, if you're reading this email, thank you for your time.

I am very concerned with comments Dr. Nancy Williams made in an article on Southtaohenow.com regarding the return of youth sports. Below I have copied the link to the article and also put her direct quotes highlighted in this email. The most concerning quote is, "Just because competitive sports are returning doesn't mean they are safe." This is either her opinion, or she is not doing her job regarding the most up to date data and science in regards to Covid-19 transmission. 47 states have played and completed high contact sports already in our Country. It is not hard to find the most recent data proving youth sports are not only essential to the health and well being of our children, but also proving the risk of Covid-19 transmission is extremely low. Here is one from the State of Wisconsin, there are many more to reference if she would like to find them on her own.

<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.02.18.21251986v1.full.pdf>

To say publicly that youth sports might prevent kids from being in the classroom is ludicrous. The only thing preventing kids from being in the classroom in LTUSD is the failure of the South Tahoe Educators Association to renegotiate the MOU they signed in the summer when little was known about the disease. You can no longer use COVID-19 as an excuse for kids not being in the classroom when kids all over the country in areas with much higher rates of COVID-19 are in the classroom 5 days a week. Those staying silent are also a part of the problem keeping kids out of school. How we can be knowingly harming our kids and be okay with it is really hard to witness first hand. Voters will not forget the silence.

A public comment needs to be made saying the public health officer is expressing her opinions and not facts. We need to spread facts not fears in our community.

Please respond so I know you are listening to the concerns in our community. The harm to children and constant fear mongering needs to stop.

<http://southtaohenow.com/story/02/23/2021/ltusd-working-outdoor-sports-plan-south-tahoe-high>

El Dorado County's health officer Dr. Nancy Williams said it is worth remembering that most people feel the top priority for youth is to get them into and keep them safely in classrooms for in-person learning.

"Every additional instance of close contact that occurs outside the classroom, which includes sports and social activities, adds to the overall risk that in-person learning will be disrupted due to the need for kids to isolate or quarantine," said Dr. Williams.

Just because competitive sports are retuning doesn't mean they are necessarily safe, noted Dr. Williams. She said the decision makers decided tradeoffs were in favor of allowing kids to play.

"I recommend that all parents and guardians who choose to allow their kids to play sports where the kids will have close contact with others commit to trying to do absolutely everything else right with regard to preventing COVID transmission," said Dr. Williams. "In other words, that they treat COVID like the serious disease that it is and make real efforts to avoid getting and transmitting it."

Thank you,

Bobby Jaeger

Superintendent

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