

DUBUQUE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Special Board Meeting  
September 20, 2021

President Ryan called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Hempstead High School Auditorium with the following members present: Barton, Bradley, Prochaska, Parks, Ryan, Sainci, Wittman. Additional officers of the Board present: Kelleher, Mauss, Rheingans.

Moved (Prochaska) and seconded (Parks) to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried 7-0.

Board President, Tami Ryan, explained the rules for the public comment regarding masks portion of the meeting to the audience. Each person was given three minutes to speak.

Twelve people spoke in favor of having a mask mandate and fifty-six people spoke against having a mask mandate. One person spoke of a mandate for those students twelve and younger until a vaccine is available for them. One person spoke about having masked and unmasked students at separate buildings. One person spoke of a pause until other solutions could be explored.

Petition against mask mandate was presented to Superintendent Rheingans with 970 names collected.

President Ryan started discussion regarding masks at 8:25 p.m.

Moved (Ryan) and seconded (Wittman) to table the discussion at this time until the mask mandate plays out in the courts. Upon roll call vote, motion failed. 3(Bradley, Parks, Sainci)-3(Prochaska, Ryan, Wittman) with Barton abstaining.

Moved (Parks) and seconded (Bradley) that the board of education re-instate a mask mandate during compulsory education hours which would be the school day, in the Dubuque Community School District with a strong encouragement of mask wearing at educational activities beyond the school day effective Wednesday, September 22, 2021, and remaining in place until the board revisits it at its November meeting or when a safe environment for students subject to the Americans with Disabilities Act exists in our schools whichever comes first. Upon roll call vote, motion failed. 3(Bradley, Parks, Prochaska)-3(Sainci, Ryan, Wittman) with Barton abstaining.

Moved (Bradley) and seconded (Ryan) to reconsider the mask mandate at the Facilities and Support Services Committee meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup>, and that a possible vote take place at the October 11<sup>th</sup> school board meeting. Upon roll call vote, motion carried 7-0.

President Ryan declared the meeting adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

Carolyn B. Mauss, Secretary  
Board of Education