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GREATER FLINT HEALTH COALITION

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF GENESEE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS REGARDING PREVENTION OF COVID-19 TRANSMISSION IN EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS

WHEREAS, the Greater Flint Health Coalition (GFHC), established in 1996, is a nonprofit Michigan collective impact organization and partnership with a mission to improve the health status of the residents of Flint and Genesee County and to improve the quality and cost effectiveness of the health care system in the community.

WHEREAS, the Greater Flint Health Coalition Board of Directors is composed of multisector leadership from Flint and Genesee County's hospitals, physicians, healthcare providers, health insurers, business, government, educators and schools, organized labor, nonprofits, community-based organizations, and residents.

WHEREAS, SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) exposure and infection is principally the result of respiratory fluids carrying infectious virus passed from one person to another.

WHEREAS, Genesee County COVID-19 cases have been rising over the past two months, such that the county's <u>MI Safe Start</u> risk level has increased to "high risk" while cases of COVID-19 caused by the Delta variant (significantly more contagious that previous SARS-CoV-2 viruses) are now approximately 90% of the cases in the county.

WHEREAS, Genesee County Health Department has issued Public Health Orders "Regarding Prevention of COVID-19 Transmission in Educational Settings within Genesee County" pursuant to the Michigan Public Health Code, MCL 333.2451 and 333.2453, 333.2465, as well as R. 325.175(4), which is an administrative rule promulgated by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to MCL 333.2226(d) dated August 5, 2021, September 2, 2021, and September 10, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that given the surge in COVID-19 cases driven by the delta variant, the Greater Flint Health Coalition stands in full support of the Genesee County Health Department's Public Health Orders recommending that all residents, regardless of vaccination status, return to wearing masks within indoor school settings (including buses) as (1) children under the age of twelve are not yet eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and (2) wearing masks, as a public health measure, will slow community spread of the COVID-19 delta variant, prevent further outbreaks, keep children in schools where they can best learn, and protect the health and safety of residents.

THIS RESOLUTION has been adopted by the Greater Flint Health Coalition Board of Directors effective September 20, 2021.

Peter Vevine, Secretary Board of Directors

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