

From: [Nikki Faddick](#)
To: [Kaylin McCauley](#)
Subject: Comment for agenda items IV and V for 10/26
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 11:46:16 AM

Hi Kaylin,

Below please find my comment that refers to both agenda items IV and V for today's meeting.

Thank you,

Nikki

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The hysteria in our community over a pair of illogically incendiary topics would be laughable if the effects weren't so deleterious.

First, regarding masks and vaccines. The week before school started this year, I had to take my 8th grader to the doctor to get a tetanus, pertussis, and diphtheria booster. Why? Because it's required by our schools for him to have returned to campus this year. Nearly every parent who has children in public schools has done the same thing. Why on earth would people oppose the one vaccine that is so CLEARLY needed at this time? It is truly baffling. And masks quite obviously help slow the spread of contagions. I wonder if people would like their next surgeon to not wear one? Furthermore, the harassment of our students as they enter and exit their places of learning about these issues crosses a shameful, shameful line.

Next, the hysteria over "critical race theory," which I defy any of its complainants to actually define, is appalling. To insist that the inclusion of the struggle of Americans who haven't traditionally fit our dominant culture in a myriad of ways is somehow un-American is head-in-the-sand revisionist history. When so many of our laws, practices, and institutions have had discrimination baked into their very existence, the suggestion that it is divisive to simply learn about this aspect of our past is laughably naive and continues to do nothing but uphold the status quo. At best, it robs students of a true understanding of what it is to BE an American for so many people; at worst, it furthers the very "othering" that does real harm and poses danger to marginalized communities.

I am ashamed that my community is so vocal and insistent in rejecting science, opposed to acknowledging the humanity of our collective struggle and fight for equality, and has taken to harassing school children over evidence-based medical concerns. I expect more of my fellow residents and Americans, but sadly, the incessant whining, vitriol, and fear-mongering over these issues shows that my faith is misplaced.

Nikki Faddick
Carlsbad activist, resident, and mom

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