

Governing Board Members

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NEWHALL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Assistant Superintendent
Business Services

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Assistant Superintendent
Human Resources

February 8, 2022

Dear Governor Newsom, Speaker of the House Rendon, President Pro Tempore Atkins, Senator Wilk, Senator Pan, and Honorable Assembly and Senate Members:

This correspondence is in response to proposed **Senate Bill 871 (Pan-D, Sacramento), Keep Schools Open Act**. After review of the current version (January 24, 2022) of **SB 871**, public discussion at our local school board meeting, the Newhall School District Governing Board opposes this bill, specifically its mandating of the Covid-19 vaccine and Section 2, (f) (1) that states a pupil who prior to January 1, 2016 has submitted a letter or affidavit reflecting beliefs opposed to immunization, must upon enrolling in a new “grade span” defined in this legislation get the current mandated vaccines which include Diphtheria, Haemophilus Influenza Type B, Measles, Mumps, Pertussis (whooping cough), Poliomyelitis, Rubella, Tetanus, Hepatitis B, Varicella (chickenpox), and COVID-19 should this become a mandated vaccine.

The Newhall School District Governing Board believes that based on current science, while the current COVID-19 vaccine contributes to slowing the spread and reduces the risk of death and serious illness due to COVID-19, no matter the variant, it does not prevent it. Nor is there any longitudinal data that addresses the long-term effects of the COVID-19 vaccine on the chemistry of developing minds and bodies of children who are connecting to their biological genetics from birth through prepubescence, through adolescence to early adulthood.

Bill 871 is oblivious to relative risk to children... Therefore, based on the lack of long-term studies and research resulting in the lack of longitudinal data supporting mandated use of the COVID-19 vaccine for children, we the members of the Newhall School District Governing Board ask that the COVID-19 vaccine not be mandated at this time.

We also believe that mandating the COVID-19 vaccine will both decimate the California Public School System and have a negative impact on California’s economy. Families will and are choosing to move to other states to educate their children.

Further, pupils who submitted affidavits prior to January 1, 2016, reflecting their personal beliefs and have been admitted into the California Public School System, private schools, child-care centers, day nurseries, family day care home, or development centers and presented in SB 871 should be grandfathered in because they have not increased exposure to the diseases already mandated for vaccines through the California Legislature. Any outbreak, such as measles, which was eradicated in the United States in 2000, has been impacted by international travelers entering the United States.

We look forward to being a part of the statewide discussion on these very important matters, and will

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continue to track this bill and all other bills related to COVID-19 and its impact on California's schools.

Sincerely,
Members of the Newhall School District Governing Board

cc: Suzette Valladares, California Assembly Member
Tony Thurmond, California Superintendent of Public Instruction
Kathryn Barger, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, 5th District
Henry Stern, Senator, District 27
Alex Padilla, United States Senator, California
Dianne Feinstein, United States Senator, California
Laurene Weste, Mayor, City of Santa Clarita
Marsha McLean, Santa Clarita City Council
Bill Miranda, Santa Clarita City Council
Cameron Smyth, Santa Clarita City Council
Jason Gibbs, Santa Clarita City Council
Capitol Advisors