



## **GEAUGA PUBLIC HEALTH**

*Promoting and Protecting Community Health*

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**Geauga Public Health has received numerous questions from the public at the recent Board of Health meetings. Below you will find the questions and answers that have been asked at the recent Board of Health meetings.**

***Question #1: Geauga Public Health is not following the science with recommendations and is not listening to the public.***

Geauga Public Health Response: The Geauga County Board for Health is not an independent research agency and does not issue mandates to the public. We use accredited agencies which include, but are not limited to, the CDC, the Ohio Department of Health, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Physicians who compile the current data available to create guidelines and recommendations for the public.

The public initiates questions and conversations with us from several different methods, which includes but is not limited to, phone calls, emails and meetings. It's important to remember there are many different thoughts and opinions that are presented to Geauga Public Health. Geauga Public Health focuses on providing information and recommendations to the public that will balance personal liberties and protecting the health of the public.

This pandemic has occurred at a time in human history that we have information and mis-information from all over the globe coming at us at a rate that mis-information cannot be disproved before it has spread through the population. Geauga Public Health continues to promote to all members of the public to determine the root documents/research that are used to form their opinions and review those documents/research in their original format. It is not uncommon for documents/research to be manipulated, misquoted, or fabricated. It is up to each individual to do their own due diligence and ensure the information they are using is factual and complete.

***Question #2: Concern was raised in regards to a medical paper that was released that demonstrated that the spike protein was entering the nucleus and changing DNA.***

Geauga Public Health Response: Research on COVID-19 (SARS-CoV 2) is ongoing, not just here in Geauga County nor the United States but the entire world. As studies are being conducted and published, it then goes to the next level of research to understand what that means for humans in regards to this virus. Recently researchers in Stockholm did find spike proteins entering the nucleus of cells in a lab but NOT in a person. This is often referred to as "in vitro". At this time it is uncertain what this will mean in the future as research is still ongoing.

**Question #3: The mask guidance to the schools needs to be rescinded. It is felt that masks are dangerous for children.**

Geauga Public Health Response: The Board of Health does not mandate that the schools require masking of children.

Currently there is no evidence that, on the whole, masks are causing harm to children.

Of course there may cases when masks may be a problem for an individual child, however, overall they have not been determined to cause significant harm to children as a whole. This is currently a topic that is being reviewed and monitored around the world.

The following links help to explain the safety of masks for children.

Link #1: <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/COVID-19/Pages/Mask-Mythbusters.aspx>

Link #2: [https://www.edweek.org/leadership/face-masks-and-kids-separating-fact-from-fiction/2021/08?s\\_kwcid=AL!6416!3!486544088589!b!!g!!&utm\\_source=goog&utm\\_medium=cpc&utm\\_campaign=ew+dynamic+recent%20&ccid=dynamic+ads+recent+articles&ccag=recent+articles+dynamc&cckw=&cccv=dynamic+ad&gclid=CjwKCAiAqIKNBhAIEiwAu\\_ZLDoEc0VEhFMbBBet94Ct8nkGGRor7i55s1UV5ZB9yfFIUVtChe8BeaxoCQ9wQAvD\\_BwE](https://www.edweek.org/leadership/face-masks-and-kids-separating-fact-from-fiction/2021/08?s_kwcid=AL!6416!3!486544088589!b!!g!!&utm_source=goog&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=ew+dynamic+recent%20&ccid=dynamic+ads+recent+articles&ccag=recent+articles+dynamc&cckw=&cccv=dynamic+ad&gclid=CjwKCAiAqIKNBhAIEiwAu_ZLDoEc0VEhFMbBBet94Ct8nkGGRor7i55s1UV5ZB9yfFIUVtChe8BeaxoCQ9wQAvD_BwE)

Link #3: <https://www.webmd.com/lung/children-masks#3>

**Question #4: How does the public reach Geauga Public Health when they have questions.**

Geauga Public Health Response: The best way to reach Geauga Public Health is through our email, [info@geaugacountyhealth.org](mailto:info@geaugacountyhealth.org).

**Question #5: The COVID-19 vaccines are killing thousands of people and Geauga Public Health will/should be held liable for any child that dies from getting the vaccine.**

Geauga Public Health Response: The information that is circulating on the internet that states the COVID vaccines has caused thousands of deaths is mis-interpreted information which is coming from the VAERS reporting system. VAERS is the "vaccine adverse event reporting system" and is the site where any health event after a vaccine can be reported, whether the vaccine caused the event or not. As an example, if someone dies of cancer after their COVID vaccine, it can get reported as a death after a COVID vaccine. These events are analyzed to look for patterns to find out if there is a credible issue presenting itself. An example of how this works was when there were six (6) people who developed blood clots after the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Distribution of the vaccine was suspended pending investigation. Three (3) people had died due to the blood clots. After an investigation into the blood clot deaths it was determined that the effected persons developed a rare condition that caused the blood clots from the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. The investigation into the deaths also determined that blood clots from the COVID-19 virus were more common than the blood clots caused by the Johnson & Johnson vaccine and thus distribution was reinstated.

**Question #6: The COVID-19 vaccines are causing Heart Disease in children.**

Geauga Public Health Response: It has been reported that children were diagnosed with myocarditis. Specifically this is referring to is the very small number of teenagers who developed myocarditis after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. Fortunately none of the teenagers died and all of them were completely recovered within 2 weeks. Unfortunately it has been documented that COVID-19 infection has caused myocarditis as well and those impacted have had a lasting effect on their heart that is still being studied to determine how long it will last. After review, this did not stop COVID-19 vaccine distribution.

**Question #7: What are the ingredients in the vaccines?**

Geauga Public Health Response: The websites of each COVID-19 manufacturer has the ingredients listed. The link below also provides a breakdown of the COVID-19 vaccines.

<https://www.hackensackmeridianhealth.org/HealthU/2021/01/11/a-simple-breakdown-of-the-ingredients-in-the-covid-vaccines/>

**Question #8: Will the Board of Health extended the public comment session at the Board of Health meetings to 3 minutes or more per speaker.**

Geauga Public Health Response: The Geauga Board of Health has tried to reach a balance between the ability for the public to comment and ability for the Board of Health to accomplish tasks set before them. If a member of the public believes that the set time per public speaker is insufficient for them to present their statements they can submit their statements in writing at the Board of Health meeting or through the Geauga Public Health email, [info@geaugacountyhealth.org](mailto:info@geaugacountyhealth.org).

**Question #9: Invitation to local meetings in regards to policies and vaccine mandates.**

Geauga Public Health Response: The Board of Health, Health Commissioner, and Administrator have accepted and reviewed these invites and when able have attended the presentations/events.

**Question #10: What Ohio House and Senate bills have impacted Geauga Public Health's decision making authority specifically regarding quarantine, masking, and vaccines.**

Geauga Public Health Response: There have been a few House & Senate bills that have impacted Geauga Public Health and Health Departments in general. Examples of these bills and a general overview of each are as follows:

1. Senate Bill 22 – prevents a Health Department from issuing a stay at home order and allows the General Assembly lawmakers to vote down health orders or emergency declarations without need governor's approval. This bill also applies to statewide mask mandates including in schools. Health Departments can make recommendations only in many cases.
2. House Bill 244 – Prohibits public schools from mandating vaccines not yet approved by the Food and Drug Administration. This bill also prohibits discrimination based on vaccination status, this includes masking.