



Student Government Resolution 120.020

A Resolution Calling on the City of Kirksville to Maintain the Face Mask Mandate Until Achieving Widespread Vaccination

Sponsored by Josh German, Vice President; Tori Woods, Health Wellness and Safety Committee Co-Chair; Kiren MacLeod, External Affairs Committee Chair; Dan King, Legislative Director

WHEREAS,

- The Student Government is the official governing body of the Student Association and exists to represent the present and long term best interest of the Student Association in the formulation of the University policy and in the fulfillment of the University's mission; and
- The Student Government passed A Resolution Calling on the City of Kirksville to Adopt a Face Mask Mandate on November 22, 2020¹; and
- The Student Government recognized that the wearing of face masks significantly reduces the chances of spreading COVID-19²; and
- The Student Government further recognized that mandating the usage of face masks in public is associated with the daily COVID-19 growth rate declining by up to 2 percentage points 20 days after the face mask order went into effect³; and
- Since issuing this resolution, research on the effectiveness of face masks has been further developed³; and
- COVID-19 cases have began to slow in Kirksville due to the implementation of the mask mandate and increasing vaccine administrations⁴; and
- As of March 26, 2021 Adair County has 29 active cases⁴; and
- As of March 23, 2021, Truman State University has 8 active cases⁵; and

¹ <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Owag1Y8fNVLmuID6jpDSdfWxtpFFBPzhrqSr05UWmnQ/edit>

² [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)31142-9/fulltext#%20](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)31142-9/fulltext#%20)

³ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/other-at-risk-populations/rural-communities.html>

³ <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/coronavirus/in-depth/coronavirus-mask/art-20485449>

⁴ <https://covidvaccine.mo.gov/priority/#phase1-a>

⁵ <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-diseases/coronavirus/coronavirus-and-covid-19-younger-adults-are-at-risk-too>

⁴ <https://adair.lphamo.org/2019-novel-coronavirus-update/>

⁵ <https://www.truman.edu/coronavirus/reporting/>

- While these trends are positive, COVID-19 cases may increase as Kirksville schools return to full-time, in-person learning; and
- Although many Kirksville citizens have had access to vaccines, particularly the elderly and at-risk populations, the general public will not have full access to vaccines until at least April 9⁴; and
- Full vaccination protection occurs only 2 full weeks after the second shot (for Moderna and Pfizer vaccine) or 2 full weeks after dosage (Johnson & Johnson)⁷; and
- COVID-19 can significantly and negatively affect the health of young people at the time of contraction and possibly into their adult lives⁵; and
- Contracting COVID-19 further affects the ability of students to attend class, educational opportunities, and their jobs; and
- Student safety largely depends on others receiving vaccinations, continuing to social distance, and wearing masks if they are unvaccinated; and
- Children under 16 cannot receive the vaccine, heightening the risk of virus exposure to them; and
- Vaccinated individuals still have the chance of passing COVID to those unvaccinated or partially vaccinated⁶; and
- The Adair County Health Department will reconsider the mask mandate policy in the early weeks of April;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT:

- Continues to support the mask mandate; and
- Recommends that the City uphold the mask mandate until at least June 1st, allowing the general public to receive the vaccine and reach the highest protection level; and
- Further asks that the City continue to promote its mandate and the benefits of wearing a mask in protecting against COVID-19; and
- Strongly encourages businesses to continue to uphold the mask mandate in accordance with the City Mandate until the general public can receive the vaccine.

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT DIRECTS THAT

Additional copies of this resolution are disseminated to President Sue Thomas; Board of Governors; Janna Stoskopf, Vice President for Student Affairs; Zac Burden, Jessica Parks, Phillip Biston, Chuck Long, and Rick Steele, Kirksville City Council members; Jim LeBaron, Adair County Health Department Administrator; Sharon Tuttle, Adair County Health

⁶https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/fully-vaccinated-people.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fmore%2Ffully-vaccinated-people.html

⁷<https://news.weill.cornell.edu/news/2021/02/covid-19-vaccines-and-immunity-how-long-does-it-take-for-these-vaccines-to-provide>

Department Secretary; Theresa Hewitt, Adair County Health Department Treasurer; Vern Playle, Adair County Health Department Chairperson; Myra Baiotto, Adair County Health Department Member at Large; Patsy Jones, Adair County Health Department Vice Chairperson; Brenda Higgins, Associate Vice President for Student Health and Wellness; The Office of Special Collections and the Truman Media Network.

Passed 15-2, April 4, 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Alexander". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Katie Alexander, President of the Student Association