

Barrington Parents United

Barrington, RI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BARRINGTON PARENTS UNITED (BPU) spearheads independent, town-wide effort to replace School Committee and other official seats

BPU recently announced it's formation as a group of parents, residents, and citizens, at large, who are making a peaceful, issue-based, non-partisan, and authentic grass-roots effort to protect the physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being of their children in Barrington Public Schools (BPS).

The dire need for this group arose out of the devastating effects many children are experiencing under Governor Daniel McKee's universal school mask mandate of August 19, 2021, set to be lifted on March 4. These effects have caused *irreparable harm*, as acknowledged in a recent Rhode Island Superior Court decision. As parents await revised BPS mask policy, they have made it clear to the School Committee (SC) and Administration, they will not condone a vote to irreparably harm children and will accept nothing less than unconditional mask choice for all students. As group member Brian Hughes stated at the February 17th SC meeting, "...we've mobilized, we've organized, and we're coming for your seats."

With a politically un-affiliated eye toward November elections, BPU plans to post a Candidates' Pledge, on www.barringtonparentsunited.com and will invite those interested in running for School Committee or other open seats in town to sign the pledge and email info@barringtonparentsunited.com with the subject "Candidate", to inquire about possibly being featured on it's platform. Pledging will include supporting laws and policies upholding parental rights to determine physical and mental health choices for their children which adhere to the medical code of ethics to "first do no harm" and to provide true informed consent.

In addition to unconditional mask choice, the group acknowledges there are many other issues across BPS which are negatively impacting students and children throughout the town. Barrington Parents United encourages and will support the productive, transparent public discourse necessary to address these many issues, while moving expeditiously toward accountability of town officials and the restoration of children's well-being.

The public is invited to subscribe to BPU's Updates and Calls To Action by visiting www.barringtonparentsunited.com/subscribe or clicking "Join Us" on the homepage.