

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RELEASE: Senator Gregg Schmedes Releases Statement on PED Mask Guidelines

The PED School reentry toolkit outlines continued mask guidelines for K-12

SANTA FE - Yesterday, the Public Education Department released the reopening guidelines for K-12 public schools in New Mexico. Masks will be required at all times besides eating or drinking for students who do not present proof of vaccination. This includes all children under the age of 16 who are not eligible for vaccination.

Senator Gregg Schmedes (District 19 - Bernalillo, Santa Fe, Sandoval, and Torrance) issued the following statement in response to the updated toolkit:

"Governor Lujan Grisham is forcing kindergarteners to wear masks all day even though COVID-19 is not a pediatric disease. Her policy embarrasses and shames unvaccinated children and fails to accommodate COVID recovered students who have no need for vaccination. This is a virus that represents less of a threat to children than does seasonal influenza. With no local autonomy to account for regional needs, the Governor is sending a clear signal that her concern is not with the wellbeing of our children, but rather, with maintaining her grip on our state."

"It comes as no surprise that a record-number of New Mexico parents are removing their children from public schools. Under this administration, our students' best shot at a quality education is an education far from the reach of their unscientific and misguided policies."

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