

Parents suing school districts over mask mandates speak



ST. LOUIS (KMOV.com) -- On Monday, Missouri's Attorney General Eric Schmitt announced he's asking a judge to halt some school districts from enforcing mask mandates. He wants a judge to enact Temporary Restraining Orders against several districts across the state.

For weeks now, we've been asking those parents who are suing to talk with us about why they feel the need to take this approach. Two parents, who are plaintiffs on two separate Attorney General lawsuits said it was their only option.

"I think it's enough with the mandates for me, and that's where I was kind of on board with that," Erickah Crawford said. Crawford has several kids in the Hazelwood School District. She said after two years of hefty COVID-19 mitigations, she's changing course on how to approach the district.

"I think it's time for us to get that freedom back," Crawford said.

Rockwood School District parent Rachel Wood is doing the same.

"We were hopeful that the mask mandates in Rockwood would also drop, but when that didn't happen and the Attorney General said we should report school districts that weren't complying, I decided to do that," Wood explained.

Both Wood and Crawford are co-plaintiffs with Schmitt suing for what they believe are illegal mandates.

"I don't co-parent with the school district on the health decisions for my kids," Crawford said.

While Wood echoed, "I think every parent and family should be able to choose what's right for their own kids."

Wyman welcomes Bledsoe as chairman of board

Wyman has named Jaylen D. Bledsoe as chairman of its board of



Jaylen D. Bledsoe

trustees. Bledsoe is a Wyman alum and leads the Bledsoe Collective (investments) & Flare Partners (advisory and consulting firm). At 12 years old, he started Bledsoe Technologies, an I.T. consulting business. With a dream and what he

defines as hustle, he scaled a \$100 gift from a family member and a few free projects for friends into a multi-million-dollar global I.T. service provider with over 150 employees.

*CHS Alumni