

NEVADA STATE BOARD
of
DENTAL EXAMINERS



BOARD TELECONFERENCE MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021

6:00 P.M.

ADDENDUM PUBLIC COMMENT BOOK

Public Comment:

Jacqueline Wiebe

From: Jacquie Wiebe
To: Board of Dental Examiners
Subject: Agenda Item 5e
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 4:50:46 PM

It's not, I think, difficult to imagine that increased dental disease among school aged children could have detrimental effects on educational efforts. Maintaining the preventive public dental health measures allowed through the Advisory Opinion of October 8, 2020 is good public health science.

The pandemic has shed light on the many health disparities in our state, with low-income, at-risk populations suffering disproportionately over the last year.

The majority of dental offices have initiated some sort of teledentistry with the advent of the pandemic. Denying this public health teledentistry measure to apply fluoride varnish is a barrier to dental health care for Nevada's neediest children and would contribute to an increase in health disparities in Nevada.

Many of Nevada's children are not receiving dental care now, and have not at all during the pandemic.

With children in distance learning situations over the last year, eating and hygiene routines have changed, allowing children to commonly snack more continuously, thereby increasing their risk to cavities.

Allowing synchronous application of fluoride varnish by a parent under the direction of a licensed dental practitioner during a teledentistry visit is an opportunity to combat some of the health disparities Nevada's most at-risk children have experienced during this pandemic by preventing cavities.

Thank you for maintaining the preventive public dental health measures allowed through the Advisory Opinion of October 8, 2020.

Sincerely,
Jacqueline Wiebe
Washoe County Educator