Request for Mask Exemption Based on Religion

The CDC, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, American Academy of Pediatrics, Kansas State Department of Education, and Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health support and promote mask wearing for children and adults to decrease the spread of the infectious disease COVID-19 and its highly contagious Delta variant in schools.

K.S.A. 72-1138 (e) gives the Board of Education the authority to transact all school district business and adopt policies it deems appropriate to perform its constitutional duty to maintain, develop and operate local public schools. To protect the health of students and staff, and to comply with the CDC guidance for COVID-19 prevention in K-12 Schools, Lawrence Public Schools (USD 497) requires all students, staff, and visitors, age two and older, to wear a mask or cloth face covering when indoors on school district property. Masks may be removed when outdoors, eating or drinking, or during designated mask breaks.

Please note: after a report of COVID-19, school health and designated staff conduct contact tracing to identify close contacts at high risk of exposure to the virus. Without proper and consistent mask wearing, students are subject to a 10-day quarantine.

Please state how your child wearing a mask while indoors at school to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infringes on your religious beliefs:

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____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature:_____________________________________________ Date: _________

Print Name of Child:_____________________________________________________

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO THE SCHOOL NURSE OR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR.