I'm unequivocally pro-vaccine, especially in schools. I support HB 3603, and hope you will vote for it.

I have listened to the anti-vaxxers (or those wanting a choice). And I wondered if maybe they did have a right to choose. I believe that it's your body, your rights. So why doesn't this extend to vaccinations, especially in our school?

My doctors look at the science. Science looks at facts, not beliefs.

Herd immunity. In order to keep diseases at bay, we need about 95% of the population to be immunized. And we need to maintain that percentage to avoid outbreaks. That way those who are medically fragile (and can't be immunized) have protection from the rest of us. So what happens when you choose not to immunize your children? That number goes down. And soon we're at 90%...85%...And the outbreaks begin.

As a teacher I've looked at some of our community's schools and am alarmed at some of the low immunization rates, especially in private schools.

If children aren't medically fragile, I don't think parents should be able to rely on everyone else to protect their children at school. I don't think they should be able to be part of a group that increases the risk of diseases in others. Herd immunity works. Everyone plays a part.

Dayna Gilbert McMinnville