



Spooner Area School District

801 County Highway A · Spooner, WI 54801 · 715-635-2171 · www.spooner.k12.wi.us

TO: Spooner Board of Education
FROM: Dr. David Aslyn, District Administrator
RE: Administrative Recommendation on Fourth Quarter Student Attendance Level
DATE: 2/24/2021

Purpose: To provide information and an administrative recommendation on student attendance level for fourth quarter 2020-21

Background:

1. COVID Data: (Source: WI Depart. Of Health Services 2/23/21)
 - a. Confirmed Cases by County
 - i. Washburn: 1,287 – Population: 15,618
 - ii. Burnett: 1,188 – Population: 15,289
 - b. Confirmed and Probable Cases by Town (Source: WI Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS) provided by Washburn County Health on 2/22/21)
 - i. Spooner: 543 plus additional 51 non-Washburn County residents
 - ii. Sarona: 109
 - iii. Trego: 104
 - iv. Springbrook: 79
 - v. Stone Lake: 26
 - c. SASD COVID-19 (students and staff)
 - i. Confirmed Cases: 60
 - ii. Number of Exclusions/Quarantines: 1,217
 - d. Conclusion: COVID-19 has had a significant impact on our school district and community resulting in exposures of students and staff while in school and when out in the community.
2. Key Factors:
 - a. The ability to provide educational experiences for the children of the SASD is heavily dependent on the ability to adequately staff schools.
 - b. The pool of qualified substitute teachers and paraprofessionals has been significantly reduced from previous years because of COVID-19.
 - c. Three teacher absences in a building are the maximum that can be handled by substitutes and internal coverage.
 - d. Special Education has been running consistently short-staffed without qualified applicants for positions resulting in greater responsibilities spread out to existing staff.
 - e. As of this date, ongoing efforts to secure staff vaccinations through public and private health care avenues have produced no firm dates or numbers to be accommodated per session for shot clinics.
 - f. The SASD Vaccination Plan is in place and addresses a variety of contingencies based on the number of staff providers could accommodate per session when a provider is able to provide firm dates, location and numbers of staff.



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- g. Given no firm dates at this time for staff vaccinations to begin, a safe planning factor includes round one vaccinations of staff and the subsequent booster vaccination will take until deep into the spring.
- h. Conclusion: Health and safety of students and staff will continue to be a significant issue until vaccinations (round one and two) are more wide-spread in our community.

Recommendation: Remain at Level Two of the Rails Reopening Plan through fourth quarter 2020-21.