

Kegonsa Family Newsletter

#WeCanWeWill

December 18

Thank you families for your ongoing partnership this year. What a year it has been! A reminder that our winter break runs from Monday, December 18, and goes through January 1st. Classes resume Monday, January 4.

In closing, I would like to wish you and your loved ones a lovely and safe winter break.

Let's start 2021 off healthy so we can get back to more normalcy.

Have a safe and joyful break - Erin



HAPPY HOLIDAYS -- NO SCHOOL December 21 - January 1
Classes resume on January 4

Save your shoes. We are collecting!

We are having a shoe drive to raise funds for our school. Consider donating gently used shoes. Drop off site at Kegonsa!

DROP-OFF LOCATION
Nov. 9 - Jan. 9

Did you know that by donating your gently worn, used & new shoes that you can make a difference in a lot of lives? Not only will you help us with our fundraiser because we'll be paid 40 cents per pound of shoes, benefiting our Working For Kids Parent Group, but the shoes will go to help start microenterprises in Haiti & other developing nations!

A small image of a red shoe with white laces, positioned at the bottom right of the text block.



DISTRICT WILL PRESENT REOPENING PLANS for GRADES 3-12 THIS MONDAY

On Monday, December 21, we will be presenting our reopening plans for grades 3-12 to the Board of Education. This meeting will be a presentation of how we will reopen, not a discussion about when we will reopen. The Board will not take a vote on Monday, December 21. Please feel free to join us at 6 p.m. virtually. Expect more information about our reopening plans on Tuesday, December 22.



Save the Date: Upcoming Selection Form K-12

Given that each day we move closer to more students coming back to school, we will be asking our families to decide how their child will attend school. We will send a Selection Form the first week in January asking families to indicate their students' placement starting January 25 through the end of the school year. All families with children in grades 3-12 are required to indicate their decision. We ask that families with **children in grades K-2 only fill out the form if they are making changes in their child's placement.**

To help inform your upcoming decision, we will be sending more information about the reopening plan on Tuesday, December 22 after the Board meeting and again in the first week of January.



This Week Public Health Released New Guidance for Schools

On Monday, December 14, Public Health Madison & Dane County released new guidance for schools. They stated that schools are required to follow the School Requirements (masks, 6-feet distancing, etc.) and provided additional recommendations for schools when reopening. They are no longer recommending or not recommending that schools reopen. They have removed their recommendation that "grades 3-12 have virtual instruction only." Instead, PHMDC is allowing individual school districts to decide start

At SASD, we continue to seek Board of Education approval before additional grade levels attend school in person. Read more about Emergency Order #11 [here](#) and Public Health's requirements and recommendations for schools [here](#).

The Giving Tree---a HUGE success

We would like to extend our sincerest thanks to all of you that made our second annual Giving Tree a joyful success. Our Kegonsa Working for Kids went above and beyond to make it a spectacular holiday for our families in need. We were able to fulfill all of the requested lists for 5 babies and toddlers, 18 elementary-aged students, 6 middle school students, and 10 high-school students. In addition to supplying the gifts, Working For Kids supplied wrapping paper, tape, and a gift card to the grocery store. What an incredibly generous community we have in Stoughton! A big shout out to all our many volunteers and to Gianna from Next Generation who hosted the tree and brought all the gifts to Kegonsa (many a carload!).



Thank you again for all your kindness and community support- Erin



School Pictures & Yearbooks during unique school year

We had hoped to have been in a position to offer in-person pictures by appointment to a larger number of students than we have been able to. With the reopening of grades K-2 partnered with local pandemic orders, we are not able to proceed at this time.

Instead, we have compiled a list of workarounds for our families here for both school pictures and yearbooks [on our website](#).

Celebrating the Holidays Safely This Year

This holiday season the safest thing you can do is spend the holidays only with people you live with.

Holiday celebrations must look different this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Public Health Madison & Dane County and SASD strongly urge everyone to stay home and to celebrate the holidays only with people you live with. As cases and hospitalizations have been dramatically rising both locally and nationally over October and November, gathering for the holidays, even if the gathering is small, puts our county and state at risk of overwhelming our health care system.



Here are some ideas of safe things you could do this holiday season:

- Host a virtual dinner or celebration
- Watch parades and sports events from home
- Shop for gifts online and mail them to people
- Play a virtual board game
- Share recipes with friends/family and cook the same meal in different homes
- Order takeout or delivery from local businesses offering holiday meals

School Meals for Winter Break

- **Students currently receiving meals at home:**
 - Your child will receive one bag of food on Tuesday, December 15 that will contain a full week of meals (12/15 lunch through 12/21 Lunch).
 - Your child will receive one bag of food on Thursday, December 17 that will contain a full week of meals (12/22 breakfast through 12/28 Lunch).
 - At-home meal delivery will resume on Tuesday, January 5.
- **K-2 students currently receiving meals at school:**
 - Your child will receive breakfast and lunch at school every day the week of 12/14 AND a grab and go bag on Friday, December 18 that will contain meals through December 21.
 - Your child will also receive one bag of food at home on Thursday, December 17 that will contain a full week of meals (12/22 breakfast through 12/28 lunch).
 - Meals at school will resume on Monday, January 4.

**Please click on the following to review the at-home [breakfast](#) and [lunch](#) menus for this time period. Please note that on 12/15 and 12/17 each student will receive a half gallon of white milk and a half gallon of chocolate milk like at Thanksgiving.

Opt Out for Meals over Winter Break

- If you would like to **NOT receive the at home meal delivery on 12/17**, please submit [this form](#) by the end of the day Tuesday, December 8.
- By submitting this form you acknowledge that your last at-home meal delivery will be Tuesday, December 15th. Meals will resume at home on Tuesday, January 5 for Virtual Vikings and at school on Monday, January 4 for K-2 In-Person Vikings.

Additional resources can be found [here](#).

Out and About with PE

Winter at Lake Kegonsa State Park is beautiful! Consider checking out the trails to snowshoe or cross country ski! There is also a pretty great sledding hill that is worth the trip! Let's hope for some more

snow over break so we can continue to enjoy the fun activities that accompany a good snowfall! [Winter at Lake Kegonsa State Park \(map\)](#).



What's happening in library!

This week in Library, students get to work with:

Kindergarten: On The Farm, by David Elliot

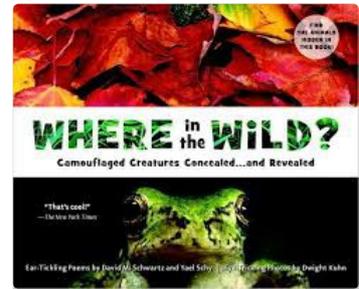
First Grade: Where In The Wild, by David M Schwartz

Second Grade: Locomotive, by Brian Floca

Third Grade: Reaching For The Moon, by Buzz Aldrin

Fourth Grade: The Wild Robot, by Peter Brown

Fifth Grade: Rain Reign, by Ann M Martin



Families - ask your student how the book they worked with in Library helps them understand what they're learning in Wit and Wisdom! Everyone have a wonderful break!

What we are up to in music!

K-5 Music is wrapping up a unit on Expression. This week's artifacts are from Kindergarten's Grayson L. & Logan G. who practiced making the **tempo** (speed of the beat) and style of their movements match their feelings. Click on their names below their pictures to see their videos.

Kindergarten Tempo 12.14



From Nurtured Heart - Planning for Renewal

[last message of 2020](#)



Health Screening

COVID-19 Absence and Screening

Each morning families are expected to screen their child based on the [Self-Screen Quick Sheet](#).

1. If your child has tested positive for COVID-19,
2. Has symptoms of COVID-19, or
3. Has had close contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19, please keep your child at home. Call our attendance line to report the absence. Coming next week we will also have a Student COVID-19 Form that we will ask families to fill out. Thank you for doing your part!

SELF-SCREEN QUICK SHEET



Before sending your student to school, you must screen them.

Answer the question: **Does my student meet one or more of the self-screen criteria listed?** If NO, you may send your student to school. If YES, follow the **Next Steps**.

SELF-SCREEN CRITERIA



Student has tested positive for COVID-19



Student is experiencing symptoms* of COVID-19



Student has had close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19

NEXT STEPS

1. Call your school's attendance line to report your student's absence.
2. Fill out the [Student COVID-19 Form](#) at stoughton.k12.wi.us under the "COVID-19" tab.
3. Contact your health care provider for next steps.



*Symptoms of COVID-19



- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever equal to or greater than 100.4°F
- Chills
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting

Attendance Matters

Attendance Matters

- <https://www.smores.com/6gb9s> Attendance will be taken **each day** by classroom teachers.
- Attendance for the day for Virtual students is submitted by the classroom teacher at 3 p.m.
- Students will be marked present if they participate in **FULL** virtual synchronous Math/ELA instruction and/or they submit daily work to their grade levels learning management system.

EVERY day
counts
attendance matters

- Automated attendance messages for Virtual students will be sent out at 4 p.m. if a student has not participated during the course of the day.
- Attendance for the day for In Person students is submitted at 8:30 a.m. and the attendance message will be sent out for unexcused absences at 9:00 a.m.
- To leave an attendance message, please call 608-877-5200 and press "1."

After tracking attendance for the first quarter of the 2020 virtual school year, our attendance team is prepared to take the necessary steps regarding student truancy. Student attendance is still vitally important to the success of our students, even when we are in a virtual environment.

Should your student need to be absent, please follow the guidelines established in the Student Handbook by **calling the attendance hotline at 877-5400**. Should your student need to be absent for a medical appointment, please provide a medical note from your doctor so that student can be excused. We would like to remind you that medical notes do not count toward a parent excuse. Medical excuses include doctor, dental, orthodontist, and therapeutic appointments as well. Based on state law, parents are allowed to excuse their student 10 days for the year. The truancy process can begin when a student has five unexcused absences.

If your student's attendance is of concern you will be receiving a letter in the mail inviting you to a virtual meeting to discuss barriers and solutions.

Kegonsa Working For Kids (Parent Group)

On behalf of Working for Kids, we would like to introduce ourselves and ensure you have all you need to know for supporting your child(ren) and school throughout this school year... and beyond! Click [here](#) to read more about what we do.

Our next meetings is on **January 19th at 6:15**

If you would like to sign up to come to a meeting, please submit your name and email [here](#). This form is managed by our WFK parent leadership. They will connect you with a zoom link for upcoming meetings.



Past Newsletters

Past Newsletters

Fall Newsletters

[December 4](#), [December 13](#) [December 18](#)
[November 6](#), [November 13](#), [November 23](#)
[October 3](#), [October 9](#), [October 16](#), [October 22](#) [October 31](#)
[September 7](#), [September 11](#), [September 22](#), [September 25](#), [August 14](#),
[August 21](#), [August 31](#)



Kegonsa Family Newsletter



Kegonsa Elementary School

 Facebook  @WeAreStoughton

Ms. Conrad, Principal (877-5201)
Mrs. Sannes, Dean of Students (208-3468)
Mrs. Moe, Admin Assistant (877-5202)
Mr. Schultz, School Counselor (877-5229)
Ms. Hopper, Instructional Coach/Reading Teacher
Mrs. McDermot, School Social Worker (440-0270)
Ms. Menon, School Psychologist
Mrs. Wirag, Health Assistant (877-5204)

 Kegonsa Elementary School, V...  erin.conrad@stoughton.k12.wi...
 608-877-5202  stoughton.k12.wi.us/page.cfm...