



**Monday, October 11, 2021
Board of Education Meeting**

**APPLETON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Time: 6:00 PM**

The Board of Education will be meeting in the Scullen Leadership Center, 131 E. Washington Street, Suite 1A. Some individuals will be joining via zoom and the meeting will be livestreamed on YouTube. In-person public attendance (other than registered on-site public input) is suspended until further notice. ****Limited registration is available for on-site public input (additional information can be found on the District's website).**** Members of the media or general public may access the meeting via the live stream broadcast on the Appleton Area School District YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChO-l09YGgt4uKnCWYvt8Pw>. For remote attendance via telephone, please dial: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 926 7698 5665

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda. Members of the public wishing to address the Board may speak during public input or provide written comments in accordance with the procedures posted on the District's website (http://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/district/board_of_education/public_input) and state law. The Wisconsin Open Meetings Law allows only brief discussion of topics that are not listed on the agenda. Therefore, the Board may not be able to fully address comments made during public input. When appropriate the Board may request the administration to reach out to a citizen regarding a concern they may have.

Any special needs or any requests for accommodations related to accessing the meeting should be sent to Clara Kopplinger, at kopplingerclar@asd.k12.wi.us or (920) 832-6126, at least 24-hours in advance of the meeting. This would include any person for whom it would be burdensome or infeasible to use the primary method(s) of remote access established by the District.

1. Meeting Opening

Subject

A. Roll Call

Meeting

Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category

1. Meeting Opening

Type

Procedural

Subject

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting

Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 1. Meeting Opening

Type Procedural

2. Approval of Agenda (GC-2: Governing Commitments)

Subject A. Board Member Request to Remove Consent Agenda Items(s) for Separate Consideration

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 2. Approval of Agenda (GC-2: Governing Commitments)

Type Procedural

Subject B. Approval of Agenda

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 2. Approval of Agenda (GC-2: Governing Commitments)

Type Action, Procedural

Recommended Motion to approve the Board Agenda
Action

Motion & Voting

Motion to approve the Board Agenda as written.

Motion by James Bowman, second by Deborah Truymen.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James Bowman, Kay Eggert, Deborah Truymen, Kristine Sauter, Edward Ruffolo, Amanda Stuck, James Bacon

3. Public Input (GC-3.3: Initiate and maintain effective communication with the citizens.)

Subject A. Public Input

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 3. Public Input (GC-3.3: Initiate and maintain effective communication with the citizens.)

Type Procedural

Public Input:

Members of the public wishing to address the Board may speak during public input or provide written comments in accordance with the procedures posted on the District's website and state law. The Wisconsin Open Meetings Law requires that Board of Education members do not discuss topics or respond to questions that are not listed on the agenda. The practice of the Board is to not respond to public comments during the meeting; however, when appropriate the Board may request the administration to reach out to a citizen regarding a concern they may have. Speakers will be bound by the guidelines and responsibilities outlined on the District's [website](#) and established in policy. The Board reserves the right to terminate remarks of any individual who does not adhere to established rules, whose comments are unduly repetitive of previous comments, who makes comments that are obscene, threatening, harassing, or defamatory, or whose conduct is otherwise disorderly. Comments that introduce complaints or concerns that are directed toward and that identify individual staff members or individual students are not permissible.

The Board reserves the right to amend and adjust processes and procedures relating to public input as necessary to accomplish the business of the Board, which includes the ability of the Board to limit (in a viewpoint-neutral manner) the total time allotted for public input or the amount of time allotted to individual topics.

Policy References:

[Board Policy and Rule 187 - Public Input at School Board and Board Subcommittee Meetings](#)

[Board Policy 189 - Virtual Board Meetings in Emergency Situations](#)

Subject	B. On-site Speakers (Registration Required)
Meeting	Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting
Category	3. Public Input (GC-3.3: Initiate and maintain effective communication with the citizens.)
Type	Procedural

Individuals wishing to provide on-site public input are required to register in advance during the registration window. Registrations will be accepted beginning at 9:00 AM on the Friday before the meeting and closing at 12:00 PM on the Monday of. For additional information or to register, please visit our website at http://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/district/board_of_education/public_input.

File Attachments

[Public Input Registered Speaker List - October 11, 2021.pdf \(417 KB\)](#)

Subject	C. Virtual Speakers (Registration Required)
Meeting	Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting
Category	3. Public Input (GC-3.3: Initiate and maintain effective communication with the citizens.)
Type	Procedural

Individuals wishing to provide virtual public input are required to register in advance during the registration window. Registrations will be accepted beginning at 9:00 AM on the Friday before the meeting and closing at 12:00 PM on the Monday of. For additional information or to register, please visit our website at http://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/district/board_of_education/public_input.

File Attachments

[Public Input Registered Speaker List - October 11, 2021.pdf \(417 KB\)](#)

Subject	D. Written Comments (Posted as Attachment)
Meeting	Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting
Category	3. Public Input (GC-3.3: Initiate and maintain effective communication with the citizens.)
Type	Procedural

Written comments submitted as public input will not be read aloud during the meeting; rather, they will be shared publicly as a BoardDocs attachment prior to the meeting start time. Individuals wishing to provide written public input should submit their comments via the form available on the website. The comment form is available beginning at 9:00 AM on the Friday before the meeting and closing at 12:00 PM on the Monday of. Written comments received via email or outside of the comment window will still be shared with the Board; however, they may not be included in the published comments. For additional information or to submit your comments, please visit our website at http://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/district/board_of_education/public_input.

File Attachments

[Public Input - Written - October 11, 2021 \(2\).pdf \(1,932 KB\)](#)

4. Special Presentation

Subject	A. Celebrations: Wisconsin School Board Week - October 3-9, 2021
Meeting	Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting
Category	4. Special Presentation
Type	Discussion, Information, Presentation

The District will recognize the Board of Education members for their commitment to their communities and students.

File Attachments

[School Board Week 2021 WASB.png \(856 KB\)](#)

5. Board Development (GC-2.2: The Board will assure that its members are provided with training and professional support necessary to govern effectively.)

Subject	A. None
Meeting	Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting
Category	5. Board Development (GC-2.2: The Board will assure that its members are provided with training and professional support necessary to govern effectively.)
Type	Discussion, Information, Presentation

6. Information for Board Decision Preparation (OE-8.4: Assure that the Board has adequate information from a variety of internal and external viewpoints to assure informed Board decisions.)

Subject	A. Business Services Update(s): AP Check Register September 2021; Grants 2021-2022
Meeting	Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting
Category	6. Information for Board Decision Preparation (OE-8.4: Assure that the Board has adequate information from a variety of internal and external viewpoints to assure informed Board decisions.)
Type	Discussion, Information, Report

Chief Financial Officer Greg Hartjes will update the Board on Business Services items for consideration.

Subject **B. School Services Update(s): Overnight Travel**

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 6. Information for Board Decision Preparation (OE-8.4: Assure that the Board has adequate information from a variety of internal and external viewpoints to assure informed Board decisions.)

Type Discussion, Information, Report

File Attachments

[Item for Consideration 2021-22 Approval of Applications for Overnight Trips Within the Contiguous 48 States and DC.pdf \(564 KB\)](#)

Subject **C. Personnel Services Update(s): Professional Educator New Hire(s), Contract Change(s), and Resignation(s)**

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 6. Information for Board Decision Preparation (OE-8.4: Assure that the Board has adequate information from a variety of internal and external viewpoints to assure informed Board decisions.)

Type Discussion, Information, Report

Chief Human Resources Officer Julie King will update the Board on Personnel Services items for consideration.

Subject **D. AASD Mitigation Protocols Update(s): Public health and medical advisors, along with the District Leadership Team, will provide an update regarding pandemic conditions/activity within our schools and community, in relation to the current mitigation protocols, including masking.**

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 6. Information for Board Decision Preparation (OE-8.4: Assure that the Board has adequate information from a variety of internal and external viewpoints to assure informed Board decisions.)

Type Discussion, Information, Report

File Attachments

[BOE COVID 19 Update - 10 11 21 \(1\).pdf \(467 KB\)](#)

7. Board Business

Subject **A. AASD Mitigation (Masking) Protocols - for Consideration**

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 7. Board Business

Type Action, Discussion

File Attachments

Motion & Voting

Motion to approve the AASD Mitigation (Masking) Protocols as submitted.

Motion by James Bowman, second by James Bacon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James Bowman, Kay Eggert, Kristine Sauter, Edward Ruffolo, Amanda Stuck, James Bacon

No: Deborah Truymen

Subject **B. Health Insurance Renewal, Plan Designs, and Employee Premium Shares - for Discussion and Consideration**

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 7. Board Business

Type Action, Discussion, Information

File Attachments

[IFC Health Insurance 10-11-21.pdf \(308 KB\)](#)

[Health Insurance Premium Structure 2022.pdf \(65 KB\)](#)

Motion & Voting

Motion to approve the Health Insurance Renewal, Plan Designs, and Employee Premium Shares as presented.

Board Members Kay Eggert and Kristine Sauter left the board table, abstaining from discussion and voting on this item.

Motion by Edward Ruffolo, second by Deborah Truymen.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James Bowman, Deborah Truymen, Edward Ruffolo, Amanda Stuck, James Bacon

Abstain: Kay Eggert, Kristine Sauter

Subject **C. Consent Agenda Item(s) Removed for Separate Consideration**

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 7. Board Business

Type Action, Discussion

8. Board's Consent Agenda (GC-2.4: The Board will use a consent agenda as a means to expedite the disposition of routine matters and dispose of other items of business it chooses not to discuss.)

Subject **A. Board Meeting Minutes from September 27, 2021**

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 8. Board's Consent Agenda (GC-2.4: The Board will use a consent agenda as a means to expedite the disposition of routine matters and dispose of other items of business it chooses not to discuss.)

Type Action, Minutes

Recommended Action Motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2021.

Minutes View Minutes for Sep 27, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Minutes aren't official until they are approved at the Board meeting.

Motion & Voting

Motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2021.

Motion by James Bacon, second by Kristine Sauter.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James Bowman, Kay Eggert, Deborah Truyman, Kristine Sauter, Edward Ruffolo, Amanda Stuck, James Bacon

9. Superintendent's Consent Agenda (OE-8.10: Provide for the Board adequate information about all administrative actions and decisions that are delegated to the Superintendent but required by law to be approved by the Board.)

Subject A. AP Check Register September 2021

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 9. Superintendent's Consent Agenda (OE-8.10: Provide for the Board adequate information about all administrative actions and decisions that are delegated to the Superintendent but required by law to be approved by the Board.)

Type Action

Fiscal Impact Yes

Recommended Action Recommend Approval

Motion & Voting

Motion to approve the Superintendent's Consent Agenda, Items 9 A-F, as submitted.

Motion by Deborah Truyman, second by Kristine Sauter.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James Bowman, Kay Eggert, Deborah Truyman, Kristine Sauter, Edward Ruffolo, Amanda Stuck, James Bacon

Subject B. Grants 2021-2022

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 9. Superintendent's Consent Agenda (OE-8.10: Provide for the Board adequate information about all administrative actions and decisions that are delegated to the Superintendent but required by law to be approved by the Board.)

Type Action

File Attachments

[Grants -10-11-2021.pdf \(543 KB\)](#)

[Grant Supporting Documentation 10-11-21 2001.pdf \(925 KB\)](#)

Subject **C. 2021-22 Approval of Applications for Overnight Trips Within the Contiguous 48 States and DC**

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 9. Superintendent's Consent Agenda (OE-8.10: Provide for the Board adequate information about all administrative actions and decisions that are delegated to the Superintendent but required by law to be approved by the Board.)

Type Action

File Attachments
[Overnight Travel.pdf \(118 KB\)](#)

Subject **D. Professional Educator New Hire(s)**

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 9. Superintendent's Consent Agenda (OE-8.10: Provide for the Board adequate information about all administrative actions and decisions that are delegated to the Superintendent but required by law to be approved by the Board.)

Type Action

File Attachments
[IFC Professional Educator New Hire 10-11-21.pdf \(10 KB\)](#)

Subject **E. Professional Educator Contract Change(s)**

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 9. Superintendent's Consent Agenda (OE-8.10: Provide for the Board adequate information about all administrative actions and decisions that are delegated to the Superintendent but required by law to be approved by the Board.)

Type Action

File Attachments
[IFC Professional Educator Contract Changes 10-11-21.pdf \(116 KB\)](#)

Subject **F. Professional Educator Resignation(s)**

Meeting Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting

Category 9. Superintendent's Consent Agenda (OE-8.10: Provide for the Board adequate information about all administrative actions and decisions that are delegated to the Superintendent but required by law to be approved by the Board.)

Type Action

File Attachments
[IFC Professional Educator Resignation 10-11-21.pdf \(108 KB\)](#)

10. Reports (OE-8.2: Provide for the Board, in a timely manner, information about trends, facts and other information relevant to the Board's work.)

Subject	A. None
Meeting	Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting
Category	10. Reports (OE-8.2: Provide for the Board, in a timely manner, information about trends, facts and other information relevant to the Board's work.)
Type	Discussion, Information, Report

11. Items of Information

Subject	A. None
Meeting	Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting
Category	11. Items of Information
Type	Information

12. Board Meeting Debrief (GC-2.2: The Board is responsible for its own performance and commits itself to continuous improvement.)

Subject	A. Discussion of the Board's Work at the Meeting
Meeting	Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting
Category	12. Board Meeting Debrief (GC-2.2: The Board is responsible for its own performance and commits itself to continuous improvement.)
Type	Discussion, Procedural

13. Future Meetings

Subject	A. Annual Budget Hearing: Monday, October 25, 2021, 6:00 PM
Meeting	Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting
Category	13. Future Meetings
Type	Information

This meeting includes a Public Hearing for the purpose of providing any resident or taxpayer of the District an opportunity to be heard on the proposed budget. During a Public Hearing, input is limited to only comments or requests for clarification related to specific items included on the agenda and individuals must be a resident or taxpayer of the District.

In-person public attendance (other than registered on-site public input) is suspended until further notice.

Registration for public input related to the Budget Hearing will be open from 9:00 AM on Friday, October 22, until 12:00 PM on Monday, October 25, 2021.

Subject	B. Next Board Meeting: Monday, October 25, 2021, **6:45 PM**
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Meeting	Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting
Category	13. Future Meetings
Type	Information

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will begin following the Annual Budget Hearing or at 6:45 PM, whichever is later.

Subject	C. Board Work Session: Thursday, October 28, 2021, 7:30 AM
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Meeting	Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting
Category	13. Future Meetings
Type	Information

14. Adjourn

Subject	A. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting
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Meeting	Oct 11, 2021 - Board of Education Meeting
Category	14. Adjourn
Type	Action, Procedural

Motion & Voting

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 PM.

Motion by James Bacon, second by Deborah Truyman.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: James Bowman, Kay Eggert, Deborah Truyman, Kristine Sauter, Edward Ruffolo, Amanda Stuck, James Bacon

Public Input – October 11, 2021

On-site Public Speakers:

1. Aaron Abler - Masking
2. Emily Tseffos - Covid mitigation
3. Oliver Zornow - Health of Children
4. Katherine Lenz - Mandatory masks for AASD
5. Jason Schumacher - Vaccines
6. Gary Ewer - Mask mandate
7. Tanya Graupner - Masking and Dream Team
8. Beth Menzel - COVID mitigation

Virtual Public Speakers:

1. Hannah VanZeeland - Freedom of Choice
2. Stephanie Marshall - Masking, testing
3. Andrea Klitzke - The future of AASD
4. Kyle Klitzke - Masking mandates
5. Samuel DeBruin - CLR, CRT, masks
6. Sheri Hartzheim - Public Input
7. Kyle Yudes - PCR Testing
8. Aimee McClure - AASD
9. Lyndsay Schumacher - Masking and Covid Jabs
10. Jessica Schilter - Masks
11. Tara Czachor - Parental involvement
12. Suzanne Klingemann - Masks
13. Sarah Trovato - Support for freedom of choice regarding masking children and vaccine mandates
14. Blong Yang - Muzzling AASD students
15. Melinda Marcks - Curriculum
16. Sheri Patton - CRT
17. Amanda Schmidt - Masking mandate
18. Rep. Dave Murphy - Masking, Open Meetings, and Academics
19. Jacklyn Fischer - Masking Policy, Culturally Responsive Teaching
20. Joseph McCleer - Masking policy

Public Input - October 11, 2021

The Board of Education values the opportunity to receive input from our stakeholders. Comments submitted through this form will be considered public and will be published to the District's BoardDocs site as an attachment to the agenda. It is your responsibility to review the guidelines and responsibilities established by Board Policy and Rule 187 - Public Input at School Board Meetings, to ensure your comments are in compliance.

Comments that introduce complaints or concerns that are directed toward and that identify individual staff members or individual students are not permissible (such complaints or concerns should be channeled through the AASD Complaint Procedure as outlined in Policy 870 and 870-Rule). The Board reserves the right to exclude from publication any comment that does not adhere to established rules, is unduly repetitive of previous comments, is obscene, threatening, harassing, or defamatory, or otherwise disorderly.

Please visit our website at http://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/district/board_of_education/public_input for complete information regarding public input guidelines and procedures.

The meeting agenda can be found at:
<https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/aasd/Board.nsf/Public>

Email *

First Name: *

Beatriz

Last Name: *

Jarvis

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

Appleton, WI 54913

Subject: *

Updated science on masking

Public Comment for Publication *

I would like to share some updated scientific recommendations regarding masking from the CDC as it seems some board members continue to question the recommendations from our advisory physicians. These studies were published on Friday September 24th and I hope it helps to shape future masking requirements for the duration of the pandemic (including but not limited to the delta surge).

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7039e3.htm?s_cid=mm7039e3_w&fbclid=IwAR1QjAXN3cBMI8qYUGLnvjOFiw9ptKyz6GsLTv1AAQVOInk85LEWIYtxsmQ

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7039e2.htm?s_cid=mm7039e2_w&fbclid=IwAR3qNk3XQx2-Fe6LGLatOnyTXMbQd1dqq0w8Xd4FMS3KC5Kxvu6a92kJWYA

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7039e1.htm?s_cid=mm7039e1_w&fbclid=IwAR30sLYvp3006KuOTWMDMx7IbHuNkDSIDmWK5WNrqjyvXJkx_a_135f9Awk

I am beyond grateful that my child is able to continue attending school because of the board's ruling to mandate masks and that the board continues to follow the current AAP, CDC, and Wisconsin board of health recommendations. Thank you so much.

This form was created inside of AASD.

Google Forms

Public Input - October 11, 2021

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Please visit our website at http://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/district/board_of_education/public_input for complete information regarding public input guidelines and procedures.

The meeting agenda can be found at:

<https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/aasd/Board.nsf/Public>

Email *

First Name: *

Christina

Last Name: *

Leone Tracy

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

Appleton, WI 54911

Subject: *

Thank you for mandating masks!

Public Comment for Publication *

My kindergartener has not had to miss any school because everyone in his class is wearing a mask. My friend whose child goes to Lourdes in Oshkosh just had ten kids in the class test positive because masks are optional. This is the easiest way to keep our children safer and, importantly, in class! And my kid doesn't even notice his mask. He often puts it on before we get in the car in the morning! I asked him if anyone isn't wearing their mask right at school and he said no, everyone is wearing their masks just fine.

This form was created inside of AASD.

Google Forms

Public Input - October 11, 2021

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Please visit our website at http://www.aasd.k12.wi.us/district/board_of_education/public_input for complete information regarding public input guidelines and procedures.

The meeting agenda can be found at:

<https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/aasd/Board.nsf/Public>

Email *

First Name: *

Asha

Last Name: *

Srinivasan

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

APPLETON, WI 54914

Subject: *

For continued universal masking

Public Comment for Publication *

We implore the Board to continue universal masking as it is clearly working to keep Covid numbers low and keep all of our children safe and continuing to stay in school. We hope that the declining case numbers and staunch opposition to masking does not sway the Board from sensible logic. At least until January (preferably until vaccines are available for young children), we hope the Board will stay the course on masking.

This form was created inside of AASD.

Google Forms

Public Input - October 11, 2021

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The meeting agenda can be found at:

<https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/aasd/Board.nsf/Public>

Email *

First Name: *

Jon

Last Name: *

Lhost

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

Appleton, WI 54911

Subject: *

Please continue to require universal masking

Public Comment for Publication *

Dear members of the school board,

I'm writing to thank you for keeping our children as safe as possible by requiring masks, and to ask you to continue to do so. Masks are essentially the only preventative measure we have to help keep children under 12 safe as the vaccine is still not available for this age group. It's crucially important that masks continue to be required, at least until all elementary age students are able to be fully vaccinated.

I would also like to request that AASD get its testing program running. Having testing available in school, or with a quick trip to a district building, sounds like a great additional way to help detect cases in AASD students. But this isn't helpful if it's not actually set up. Please try to get this up and running as soon as possible.

Even with easier testing available, universal masking remains the most important preventative measure. The goal should be to prevent cases, not just detect them once they occur. The unfortunate fact is that as a parent, I can only do so much to keep my child safe. We know that mask usage in Appleton and the Fox Valley is limited at best. Other people's choices to go unmasked and risk their, and their children's, health doesn't just affect them and their children. Their children come to school and sit in classrooms with other people's children, thus putting other people's children at risk too, regardless of how careful other parents try to be on their own. Requiring masks is the only way to keep all children as safe as possible. Requiring masks translates to allowing all of our children, including our most vulnerable children, access to education.

There are some people who will argue that there have not been lots of COVID cases in Appleton schools, and thus we should stop requiring them. This would be like someone saying that they haven't gotten any STIs, so they don't need to use condoms anymore. Clearly that conclusion is misguided and poses a danger to the person making this decision, and to others. We can't listen to anyone who makes similar arguments regarding masks. And with COVID it's even worse, as there is the opportunity for one person to infect an entire room full of people, and people they come in contact with later (for example, one unvaccinated elementary school teacher in California infected 26 other people by removing her mask just long enough to read a story to her class: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7035e2.htm>). Masks are helping to limit the number of Appleton children who get COVID. They must be worn by all, at all times.

The evidence shows that masks are effective in reducing the spread of COVID (e.g., the huge randomized trial in Bangladesh: <https://www.poverty-action.org/publication/impact-community-masking-covid-19-cluster-randomized-trial-bangladesh>, this article with many links: <https://www.kxan.com/news/coronavirus/do-face-masks-work-here-are-49-scientific-studies-that-explain-why-they-do>), and in protecting children specifically (e.g., the study from Duke on NC schools: <https://today.duke.edu/2021/06/research-finds-masks-can-prevent-covid-19-transmission-schools>).

Please continue to require that all children, and anyone inside an AASD school/school building, wear masks. We've come this far through the pandemic. Vaccines should be available for 5-11 year olds within the next few months. We have to continue to protect all children using the most effective strategy available, universal masking.

Sincerely,
Jon Lhost
Parent of an AASD 1st grader

Public Input - October 11, 2021

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Email *

First Name: *

Stephanie and Daniel

Last Name: *

Shepherd

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

Appleton, WI 54915

Subject: *

universal masking

Public Comment for Publication *

Thank you for implementing universal masking during this time of increased CoVID19 spread in our area. We do still believe, based on current numbers, that universal masking is still in our younger student's best interests. Our children (ages 6 and 11) and are able to follow the directions of the district and continue to learn. They are making significant learning progress and have been able to stay in-person. Thought this may have been a difficult decision to hold to it was the right call and continues to be.

This form was created inside of AASD.

Google Forms

Public Input - October 11, 2021

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The meeting agenda can be found at:

<https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/aasd/Board.nsf/Public>

Email *

First Name: *

LORI

Last Name: *

Augustine

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

Appleton

Subject: *

Make Masking Optional

Public Comment for Publication *

I will keep it short and sweet today, so that I do not get labeled a Domestic Terrorist.

I beg you to watch and listen to this video with your best Farmer in The Dell memory, and if this does not hurt your heart , and convince you to vote against mandatory masking tonight, I will have no choice but to think your best interest is not for our children anymore. There just are no more words I can come up with to beg you to reconsider your decision.

<https://fb.watch/8zQbFtk5T4/>

Please vote for optional masking tonight.

Thank you,
Lori Augustine

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Google Forms

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Email *

First Name: *

Kara

Last Name: *

Carman

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

Appleton, WI 54915

Subject: *

COVID Precautions

Public Comment for Publication *

Thank you for requiring masks and taking COVID precautions to keep our kids in school and safe from unnecessary disease exposure. The science is clear that the best way to keep kids learning in person and avoid extensive quarantine is to require masks. Also, masks provide the best opportunity for all kids to learn in person - children with underlying health conditions, children too young to be immunized, and children that live with family members who are medically fragile. Thank you for following science and keeping kids, families, AASD employees and contractors safe.

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Google Forms

Public Input - October 11, 2021

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Email *

First Name: *

Harmony

Last Name: *

Getsfried

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

Appleton, WI 54915

Subject: *

Masks

Public Comment for Publication *

Thank you for taking precautions to keep our kids in school! Masks work

This form was created inside of AASD.

Google Forms

Public Input - October 11, 2021

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Email *

First Name: *

Gregg

Last Name: *

Lewison

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

Kaukauna, WI 54130

Subject: *

Thank you for protecting our children

Public Comment for Publication *

Thank you for making AASD accessible for all children by instituting masking for all students, employees and guests. This is especially appreciated considering how many students are not yet approved for the Covid vaccine. Keep up the good work protecting our children and our community!

This form was created inside of AASD.



Public Input - October 11, 2021

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<https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/aasd/Board.nsf/Public>

Email *

First Name: *

Kathleen

Last Name: *

Engelbrecht

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

Kaukauna, Wisconsin, 54130

Subject: *

Masking is needed to slow spread among students

Public Comment for Publication *

I would like to thank the board for their continued support of best practices in reducing the spread of a novel virus in an educational environment. Mask usage, distancing, and contact tracing are all highly effective tools in slowing the spread of the virus until our children can be vaccinated. Thank you for continued commitment to slowing the spread amongst children and keeping our schools open.

This form was created inside of AASD.

Google Forms

Public Input - October 11, 2021

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<https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/aasd/Board.nsf/Public>

Email *

First Name: *

Meghan

Last Name: *

Gremban

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

Appleton

Subject: *

Masking

Public Comment for Publication *

Thank you!

Thank you for listening to the guidance and starting off the AASD school year with universal masking. Please continue to listen to the guidance as set by the CDC to continue universal masking within the school setting.

Thank you for responding to parents' concerns and developing the COVID Dashboard as well as notification of a single COVID positive case within a classroom.

Thank you for serving on the AASD school board!

I look forward to more readily available testing accessible through the school district.

THANK YOU!

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Google Forms

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Email *

First Name: *

Lora

Last Name: *

Zimmer

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

APPLETON, WI 54913

Subject: *

COVID mitigation strategies - in favor of masks

Public Comment for Publication *

I am a parent of two AASD elementary school children. I appreciate the AASD's mask requirements, which appear to be doing a very good job preventing the spread of COVID in schools so far this academic year. I encourage the AASD board to continue to require masks indefinitely, to at least allow time for students of all ages to get fully vaccinated in the next several months. Thank you.

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Google Forms

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<https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/aasd/Board.nsf/Public>

Email *

First Name: *

Jason

Last Name: *

Kolpack

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

Appleton, WI, 54915

Subject: *

AASD Mitigation (Masking) Protocols

Public Comment for Publication *

I am writing to address the AASD's review of current mitigation protocols.

I implore the board to continue to follow expert recommendation. While there seems to be a very vocal group of parents objecting to the current mitigation strategies, I expect that there are many more who believe that current protocols are necessary, and I believe that it would be imprudent for the district to backtrack on mitigation protocols at this point.

I am neither a doctor nor an epidemiologist, but the Board has heard from multiple experts in previous meeting and there seems to be a consensus among local experts that masking is a valuable strategy in helping prevent spread in schools. Children live in families and families live in communities. To protect our communities, we must protect our children.

I would also like to applaud the district for their implementation of the dashboard and response to feedback regarding notification to families. I also found the presentation on CLR to be very interesting and I think it's great that the district is making such an effort to meet the students where they are.

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Google Forms

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Email *

First Name: *

Jennifer

Last Name: *

Peterson

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

APPLETON, WI 54913

Subject: *

Mitigation Strategies

Public Comment for Publication *

We had a great Homecoming week the week before last. The highlight for me was the parade on Friday afternoon before the football game. Why was that a highlight, you ask? Because I was able to see students' faces! I miss their smiles. I miss seeing their expressions. Based on the numbers of cases going down and specifically the number of cases in schools, which is minimal, please consider having masks be optional. Seeing one another's faces is such an integral part of interpersonal communication!

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Google Forms

Public Input - October 11, 2021

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<https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/aasd/Board.nsf/Public>

Email *

First Name: *

Jennie

Last Name: *

Barclay

Address: *

City, State, Zip: *

Appleton WI 54911

Subject: *

Masks

Public Comment for Publication *

Please consider making masks optional for students and staff.

Covid isn't going away. We have to live with it. I want my children to attend school whilst breathing freely, not whilst their voices and breathing are stifled by a mask. A mask that doesn't even protect them from viruses. The mask is just for show. Yes it might stop a child sneezing or coughing directly onto another child, but I don't think that is worth it. Children can cough and sneeze in to their elbow.

My children have to do gym inside with a mask on. The teacher has not once taken them outside for gym. Yet it's fine for kids to be smushed together for sports outside, unmasked, since high school sports bring money in. It isn't about the children or the virus. You have made it all about control and virtue signaling, and money. Your minds have already been made up and I fully expect you to mask my children, without my consent, all winter long. Probably spring too. The least you could do is to survey parents to ask them if they would like masking to be optional or mandatory.

Thank you Deb for being the one school board member willing to ask the important questions and represent the families who question the school board and administrators.

This form was created inside of AASD.





Kay S. Eggert



Kristine M. Sauter



Thank You



James R. Bowman



Deborah C. Truymen

WISCONSIN SCHOOL BOARD WEEK, OCT. 3-9, 2021

School Board Service Is a Work of Heart



Edward A. Ruffolo



Amanda M. Stuck



James K. Bacon



ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION

Topic: 2021-22 Approval of Applications for Overnight Trips Within the Contiguous 48 States and DC

Background Information: Overnight trips, excursions and other travel are considered logical extensions of the educational experiences provided for students. These trips will be planned and conducted in accordance with procedures listed in the Field Trips, Co-Curricular Trips, and Excursions policy 352 and 352-Rule.

School	Staff Member(s)	Class or Group	Destination	Dates of Trip	School Days Missed	Approx. Cost Per Student
West High School	Patrig Tooley	Wrestling Grades 9-12	Wisconsin Dells	12/10/21 – 12/11/21	0	\$0
West High School	Patrig Tooley	Wrestling Grades 9-12	Merrill, WI	12/29/21 – 12/30/21	0	\$0

Fiscal Note: Fees for trips will vary from school-to-school. In most cases, parents, fundraising, grants, PTA, and scholarships will help pay for costs.

Administrative Recommendation: Approval of the attached applications for overnight trips within the contiguous forty-eight states and DC.

Instructional Impact: Trips must substantially contribute to the learning objectives of the curriculum or stated objectives of the group. The students will experience learning opportunities unavailable in the classroom.

Contact Person: Mike Hernandez, hernandezmicha@aasd.k12.wi.us, 997-1399 ext. 2027

APPLETON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Application for

OVERNIGHT TRIPS WITHIN CONTIGUOUS 48 STATES AND DC

Insert answers in **green** shaded areas only.

School:		Appleton West High School
Date of Application: (00/00/00)		09/28/21
Staff member conducting the trip:		Head Coach - Patrig Tooley
1. Name of class or group:		Wrestling Team
2. Grade level(s):		9th-12th grade
3. Destination:		Wisconsin Dells, WI
4. AASD curriculum standards that are addressed: (please state clearly and specifically)		
5. Departure Date: (00/00/00)		12/10/21
Place of Departure:		Appleton West High School
6. Return Date: (00/00/00)		12/11/21
Place of Return:		Appleton West High School
7. Total number of school days to be missed, if any:		0.0
8. Will any substitutes be required because of the trip? (Yes or No)		NO
If so, how many substitutes?		
How many days?		
9. PROGRAM FEES PER PARTICIPANT:	List total/actual costs of each fee before factoring in donations, fundraising monies, etc.	List participant fee after factoring in donations, fundraising monies, etc.
(Please break down by category.)		
Transportation	\$40.00	\$0.00
Lodging	\$45.00	\$0.00
Meals	\$17.00	\$0.00
Other expenses (explain below)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Additional monies needed (explain below)	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL PER PARTICIPANT:	\$102.00	\$0 (fundraising)

10. Please list the names of those adults who will receive free transports, tickets, and/or meals:	
None	
11. Will student fees subsidize adult expenses? (Yes or No)	NO
If Yes, to what extent?	
12. Is fundraising being used? (Yes or No)	YES
Explain:	Conducting a fundraiser October 25, 2021 selling meat from Jacobs Meat Market
13. How are costs for needy students going to be addressed?	Fundraising
14. Travel arrangements by (name of agency) :	Lamers Bus
Regular Carrier (Yes or No)	Yes
Charter Carrier (Yes or No)	
15. Anticipated number of students participating in the trip:	35-40
16. Anticipated number of chaperones:	
Staff	5
Volunteers	
Total Male Chaperones:	5
Total Female Chaperones:	
TOTAL CHAPERONES:	5
17. Attach complete itinerary of student time. Indicate any times students will be unsupervised.	
18. Attach any information you will use to communicate to parents and students to inform them of this trip.	

A photocopy of each student's Student Health Certificate/Permission for Medical Care will be attached and taken on the trip.

The foregoing information is correct and I have read and agree to follow the Appleton Area School District Guidelines and Procedures for Overnight Trips, Policy 352.

SIGNATURES:

Staff Member Conducting Trip (electronic signature)	<i>Patrig Tooley</i>
Date of application	10/04/21
Principal (electronic signature)	<i>James McClowry/Mark McQuade</i>
Date of approval	10/04/21
Assistant Superintendent	<i>Mike Hernandez</i>
Date of approval	10/6/2021

Date of School Board Action (office use only)

Appleton West High School

Wrestling schedule for Wrestling tournament: Woodside Dome @ Wisconsin Dells

- December 10th, 2021

2:45pm Depart from Appleton West HS (Varsity and JV squads, Mgrs. and Coaches)

4:45pm Arrive at Woodside Wisconsin Dome

5:30pm Weigh-ins

6:00pm JV wrestling begins

9:00pm JV wrestling approx. ending

9:30pm Entire team check into hotel

10:00pm Room checks/lights out

- December 11th, 2021

7:00am Depart hotel and back to Woodside Wisconsin Dome

8:00am Weigh-ins

8:30am Varsity wrestling begins

6:30pm Varsity wrestling approx. ending

7:30pm Entire team departs Woodside Wisconsin Dome to Appleton West HS

9:30pm Return time (approx.)

APPLETON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Application for

OVERNIGHT TRIPS WITHIN CONTIGUOUS 48 STATES AND DC

Insert answers in **green** shaded areas only.

School:	Appleton West High School	
Date of Application: (00/00/00)	09/28/21	
Staff member conducting the trip:	Head Coach - Patrig Tooley	
1. Name of class or group:	Wrestling Team	
2. Grade level(s):	9th-12th grade	
3. Destination:	Merrill, WI	
4. AASD curriculum standards that are addressed: <i>(please state clearly and specifically)</i>		
5. Departure Date: (00/00/00)	12/29/21	
<i>Place of Departure:</i>	Appleton West High School	
6. Return Date: (00/00/00)	12/30/21	
<i>Place of Return:</i>	Appleton West High School	
7. Total number of school days to be missed, if any:	0.0	
8. Will any substitutes be required because of the trip? <i>(Yes or No)</i>	NO	
<i>If so, how many substitutes?</i>		
<i>How many days?</i>		
9. PROGRAM FEES PER PARTICIPANT:	List total/actual costs of each fee before factoring in donations, fundraising monies, etc.	List participant fee after factoring in donations, fundraising monies, etc.
<i>(Please break down by category.)</i>		
Transportation	\$40.00	\$0.00
Lodging	\$28.00	\$0.00
Meals	\$27.00	\$0.00
Other expenses <i>(explain below)</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
Additional monies needed <i>(explain below)</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL PER PARTICIPANT:	\$95.00	\$0 (fundraising)

10. Please list the names of those adults who will receive free transports, tickets, and/or meals:	
11. Will student fees subsidize adult expenses? (Yes or No)	NO
If Yes, to what extent?	
12. Is fundraising being used? (Yes or No)	YES
Explain:	Conducting a fundraiser October 25, 2021 selling meat from Jacobs Meat Market
13. How are costs for needy students going to be addressed?	As needed/fundraising
14. Travel arrangements by (name of agency) :	Lamers Bus
Regular Carrier (Yes or No)	Yes
Charter Carrier (Yes or No)	
15. Anticipated number of students participating in the trip:	20-30
16. Anticipated number of chaperones:	
Staff	5
Volunteers	
Total Male Chaperones:	5
Total Female Chaperones:	
TOTAL CHAPERONES:	5
17. Attach complete itinerary of student time. Indicate any times students will be unsupervised.	
18. Attach any information you will use to communicate to parents and students to inform them of this trip.	

A photocopy of each student's Student Health Certificate/Permission for Medical Care will be attached and taken on the trip.

The foregoing information is correct and I have read and agree to follow the Appleton Area School District Guidelines and Procedures for Overnight Trips, Policy 352.

SIGNATURES:

Staff Member Conducting Trip (electronic signature)	Patric Jooley
Date of application	10/04/21
Principal (electronic signature)	James McClowry/Mark McQuade
Date of approval	10/04/21
Assistant Superintendent	Mike Hernandez
Date of approval	10/6/2021

Date of School Board Action (office use only)

Appleton West High School

Wrestling schedule for Wrestling tournament: Northern Exposure 2 Day Invite

- December 29th, 2021

5:30am Depart from Appleton West HS (Varsity and Extras, Mgrs. and Coaches)

7:30am Arrive at Merrill HS

8:00am Weigh-ins

8:30am Varsity wrestling begins

5:00pm Varsity wrestling approx. ending

6:00pm Entire team check into hotel

Team Meeting

Rec Time at Pool/Hotel

Team dinner at hotel

10:00pm Room checks/lights out

- December 30th, 2021

7:00am Depart hotel and back to Merrill HS

8:00am Weigh-ins

8:30am Varsity wrestling begins

5:00pm Varsity wrestling approx. ending

6:00pm Entire team departs Merrill HS to Appleton West HS

8:00pm Return time (approx.)

A large, light blue, stylized apple logo is centered in the background. It features a simple outline of an apple with a short stem and two leaves at the top. The text is overlaid on this logo.

COVID – 19 Mitigation Protocols Review

October 11, 2021



COVID Mitigation Protocols

Key Goals

- Mitigate the spread of COVID-19 utilizing layered strategies
- Prioritize the continuity of in-person, academic, and social-emotional learning for all students five days a week
- Minimize social disruption for students, families, and staff

The background features three stylized, light blue apples arranged horizontally. Each apple has a simple outline, a small stem with a leaf, and a wavy base representing a shadow or the ground. The apples are semi-transparent, allowing the text to be seen through them.

Medical Advisory Team Update

October 11, 2021



Medical Advisory Team

Medical Science and Public Health

- Advice rooted in medical science and public health approaches. Informed by reading the critical scientific research and turning to experts in the field.



Medical Advisory Team

Experts / Professional Societies / Governmental Entities

- Recommendations and conclusions are based on synthesis of science and facts provided by infectious disease specialists, epidemiologists, virologists, public health officials, leading academic medical centers and the specific recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the International Society of Infectious Disease, the Center for Disease Control, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

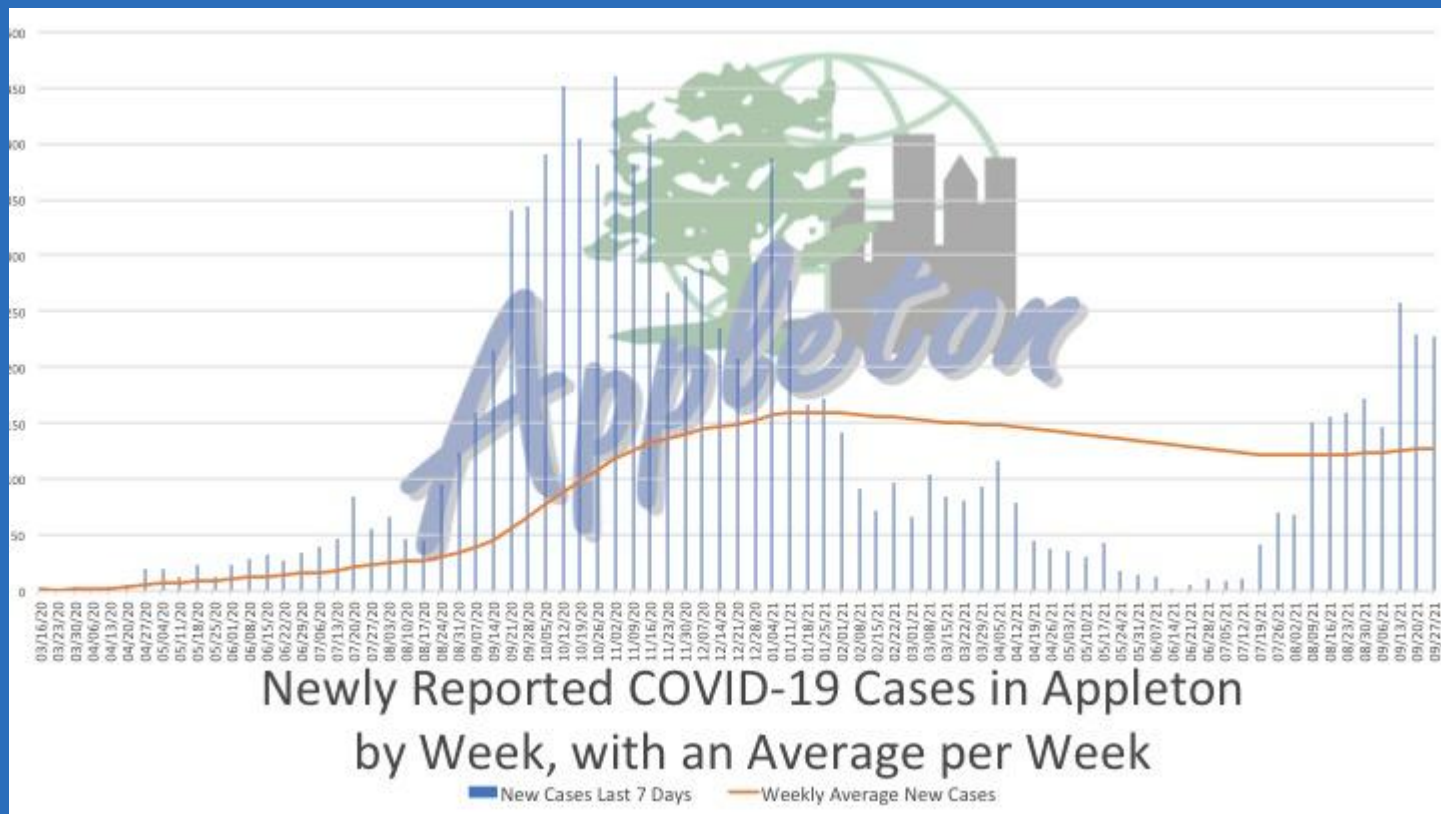
Three stylized, light blue apples are arranged horizontally in the background. The central apple is slightly behind the two flanking apples. Each apple has a simple outline, a small stem, and a single leaf. The text is centered over the middle apple.

Sonja Jensen

Public Health

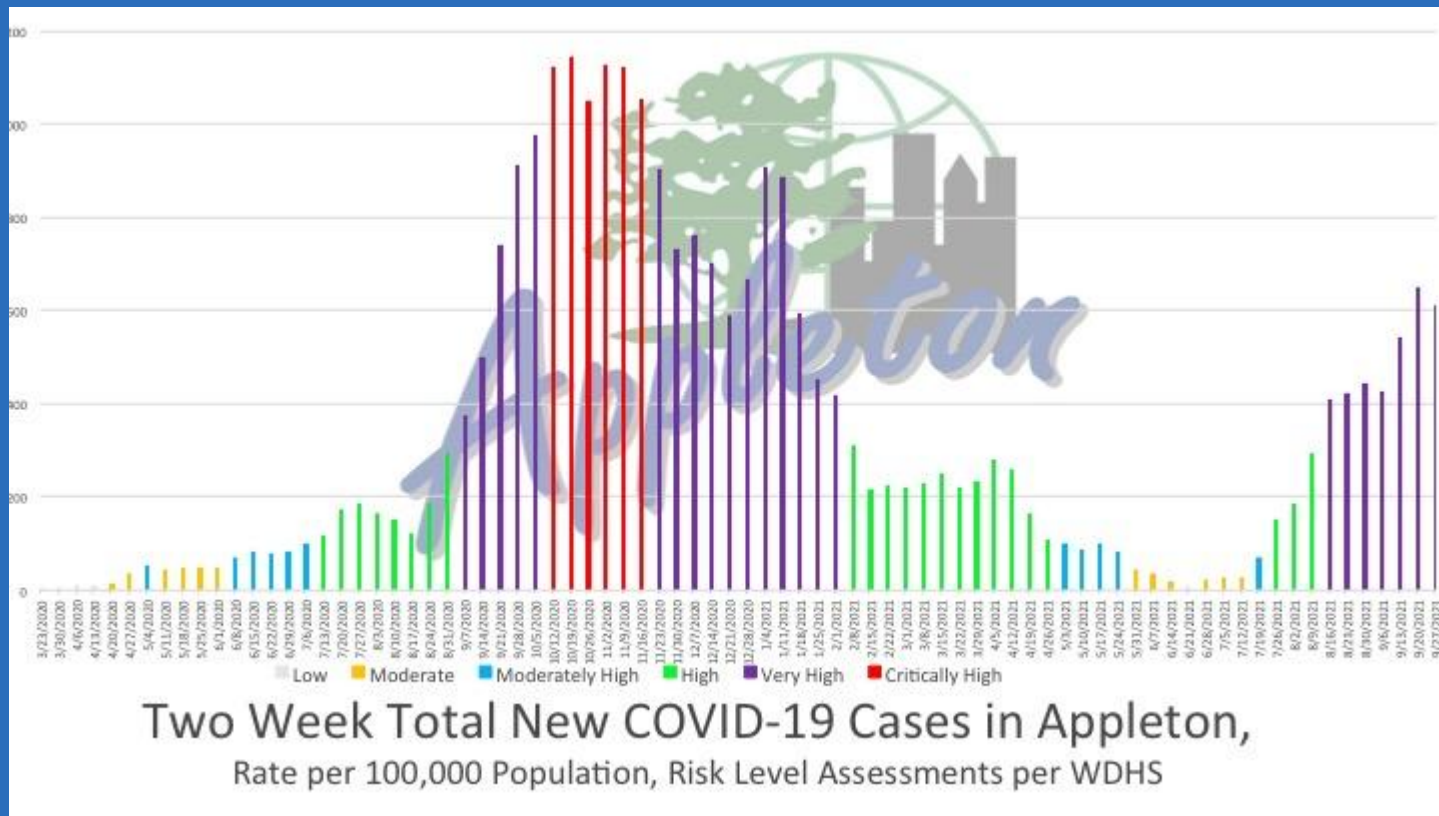


City of Appleton Data





City of Appleton Data





Positive Case Counts

Age <18 Data – City of Appleton

Week	# of cases (Age <18)	Rate (per 100,000)
6/2/21 - 6/15/21	3	17.7
6/9/21 - 6/22/21	0	0.0
6/16/21 - 6/29/21	1	5.9
6/23/21 - 7/6/21	3	17.7
6/30/21 - 7/13/21	7	41.2
7/7/21 - 7/20/21	8	47.1
7/14/21 - 7/27/21	19	111.8
7/21/21 - 8/3/21	29	170.6
7/28/21 - 8/10/21	27	158.9
8/4/21 - 8/17/21	45	264.8
8/11/21 - 8/24/21	59	347.1
8/18/21 - 8/31/21	72	423.6
8/25/21 - 9/7/21	87	511.9
9/1/21 - 9/14/21	90	529.5
9/8/21 - 9/21/21	138	812.0
9/15/21 - 9/28/21	158	929.6
9/22/21-10/5/21	128	753.1

Burden Status		Case rate per 100,000 residents in the past two weeks
	Low	Case rate is less than or equal to 10.
	Moderate	Case rate is greater than 10, but less than or equal to 50.
	Moderately High	Case rate is greater than 50, but less than or equal to 100.
	High	Case rate is greater than 100, but less than or equal to 350.
	Very High	Case rate is greater than 350, but less than or equal to 1000.
	Critically High	Case rate is greater than 1000.



Vaccination Rates

VACCINATIONS TO DATE (10/04/21)

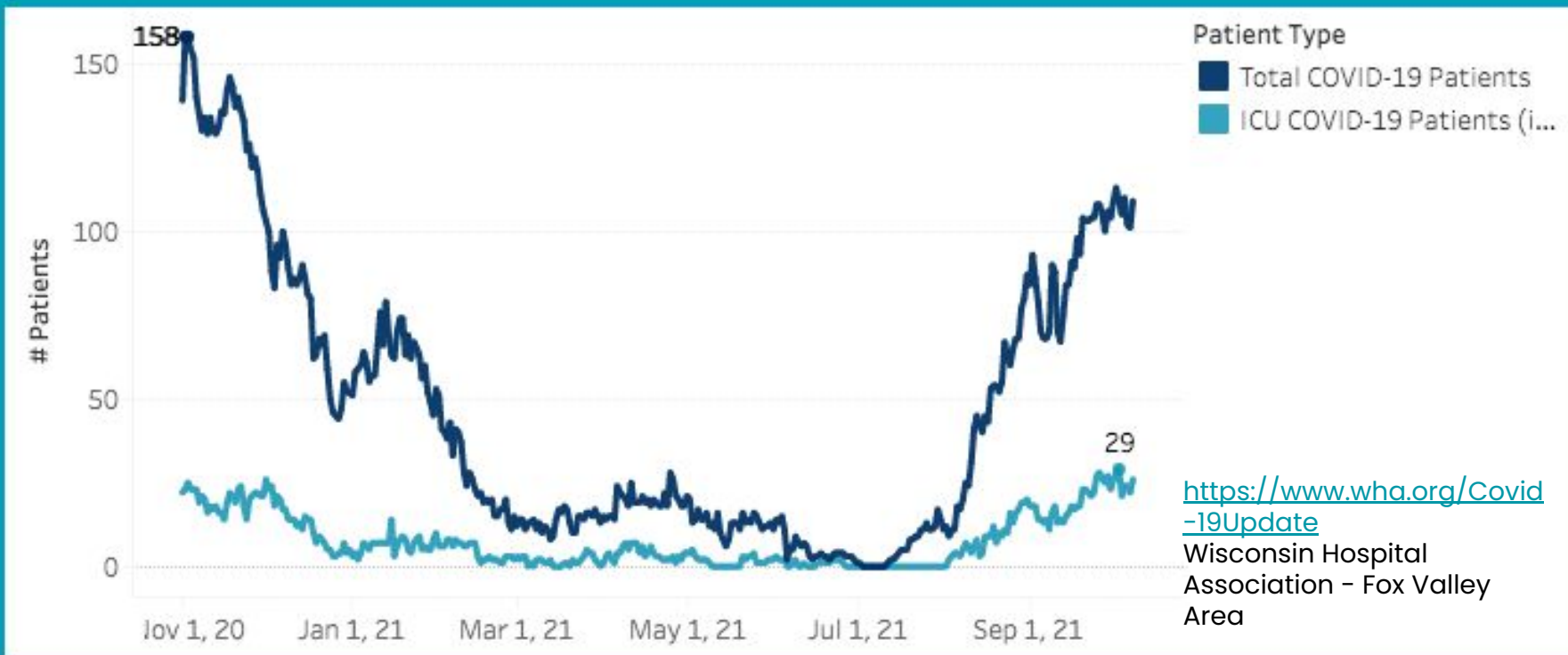
	FULLY VACCINATED	AT LEAST ONE SINGLE DOSE
STATE	54.0%	56.9%
CALUMET	49.2%	51.4%
WINNEBAGO	52.4%	55.9%
OUTAGAMIE	54.6%	57.3%
APPLETON	58.3%	61.8%
APPLETON VACCINE ELIGIBLE	69.3%	73.5%
APPLETON 12-17 YEARS	53.8%	60.1%

Three stylized, light blue apples are arranged horizontally in the background. Each apple has a simple outline, a small stem, and a single leaf. The central apple is slightly larger and more prominent than the two flanking it.

Dr. Lee Vogel

*Family Medicine / Geriatrics
Advisor to Appleton Health Dept.
30 years*

Total COVID-19 Patients Hospitalized Per Day



Data last updated: 10/8/2021 3:30:53 PM. Implementation of federally-mandated changes to data reporting caused a temporary gap in some data displays for late July 2020.



Vaccinations for Children

Vaccinations for Children (Ages 5 – 11)

- Late October / Early November
 - Approximately five weeks for the process
(First dose to two weeks after the second dose)



Pediatric Information

Confirmed COVID-19 cases statewide for kids 0-17 based on [Wisconsin Department of Health Services database](#)

Confirmed COVID-19 cases statewide	Total	Age 0- 3	Age 4- 8	Age 9- 13	Age 14- 17
Week of Sep. 12	5,248	465	1,239	1,829	1,715
Week of Sep. 5	4,336	479	1,106	1,410	1,341
Week of Aug. 29	3,085	402	793	960	930
Week of Aug. 22	2,338	377	630	691	640
Week of Aug. 15	2,098	346	556	628	568

[Children's Hospital](#) – Released
Oct. 5th

Three stylized, light blue apples are arranged horizontally in the background. Each apple has a simple outline, a small stem, and a single leaf. The word "Masking" is centered over the middle apple.

Masking



Mask Safety

- For decades health care workers (physicians, surgeons, nurses) have worn masks for extended periods of time with no adverse health consequences.
- Surgical mask wearing has been studied in persons with respiratory conditions, and in fact advised to persons with asthma, emphysema, and cystic fibrosis as ways to protect from the cold and from respiratory infections.
- Studies have been done showing no decrease in blood oxygen levels or build up of CO₂ in persons wearing masks, including even those with respiratory conditions.



Face Masks for Children

Questions

- Why do we still need to wear face masks?
- Should children wear masks?
- When do children need to wear masks?
- Is there a “right way” to wear a mask?
- What kind of mask is best?

Answers

[Face Masks for Children During Covid – 19](#)



Face Masks for Children

Questions

- Can wearing a mask make it harder for my child to breathe?
- Can masks interfere with a child's lung development?
- Do masks trap the carbon dioxide that we normally breathe out?
- Can masks lead to a weaker immune system?

Answers

[Common Questions about Kids and Face Masks](#)



AASD School Data – [COVID Dashboard](#)

AASD Experience – Historical trends 2021–22



Item for Consideration – Administrative Recommendation

Board approval for continued required masks/face coverings for all students, EC-12, all district staff, and all visitors while indoors within district facilities and while on district transportation.

Review Date: November 22, 2021

With continuous monitoring of relevant data with public health officials and medical advisory team.



COVID Mitigation Protocols

Key Goals

- Mitigate the spread of COVID-19 utilizing layered strategies
- Prioritize the continuity of in-person, academic, and social-emotional learning for all students five days a week
- Minimize social disruption for students, families, and staff

The background features three stylized, light blue apples arranged horizontally. Each apple has a simple outline, a small stem, and a single leaf. The central apple is slightly behind the other two, creating a sense of depth.

Questions and Answers

Item for Consideration

Topic: Review of Current Mitigation Protocols – Masking Requirement Recommendation

Background Information:

On August 23, the Board approved an administrative recommendation to require masks/face coverings for all students, EC-12, all district staff, and all visitors while indoors within district facilities and while on district transportation.

Information regarding the following factors was considered in our current recommendation:

1. External data regarding the conditions of the pandemic in our region.
2. Internal data
 - a. Student positive cases and quarantines
 - b. Staff positive cases and quarantines
 - c. Classrooms
 - d. Co-curricular Activities
3. Current guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), and Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) regarding requiring masks/face coverings for all students and staff while indoors within schools as a key mitigation strategy.

If this recommendation is approved, the current protocols for required mask/face covering would continue. Masks/face coverings outdoors would continue to be optional.

We anticipate an upcoming review of the mask/face covering requirement with the Board at the regular Board of Education meeting on November 22, 2021 to determine if/when this mitigation protocol should be revised. We will continuously monitor and consider relevant data, conditions of the pandemic, and guidance from health officials to keep our students and staff as safe as possible in our classrooms, schools, programs, and facilities.

Fiscal Note: No cost. Sufficient Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is on hand in all of our buildings for staff or students who need a face covering/mask to meet this requirement.

Administrative

Recommendation: Board approval for continued required masks/face coverings for all students, EC-12, all district staff, and all visitors while indoors within district facilities and while on district transportation.

Instructional

Impact: Using all of the layers of mitigation tools and strategies that are proven to be effective while continuing to keep all students fully in-person

Contact

Person: Judy Baseman, 920-832-6126
Polly Vanden Boogaard, 920-832-6114

Board Date: *October 11, 2021*

ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION

Topic:	Health Insurance Renewal, Plan Designs, and Employee Premium Shares
Background Information:	The District's one-year agreement with NeuGen as the AASD health insurance carrier expires December 31, 2021. The Appleton Area School District is committed to providing quality health care to employees while being fiscally responsible and recognizing the importance of offering a competitive benefit program that provides quality health care for our employees and their families. Over the past several years, the District has changed carriers, adjusted insurance plan designs, and most recently contracted with NeuGen to offer a primary care based healthcare model with more affordable care to mitigate increases to health insurance premiums. In respect to employee's total compensation (wages and benefits), these efforts have been successful in mitigating a larger increase. However, given our budgetary restraints, the remaining increases continue to impact funds available for compensation increases. As part of the District's strategic planning process, benefits and plan designs are reviewed annually with advisement from Hays, the District's benefits consulting firm. Together, we explore options to continue to offer competitive benefits to recruit/retain quality employees by mitigate rising healthcare costs. Annual renewal rates are based on market trends and District's claims experience. Based on our claims experience and loss ratio for each plan, which was verified by Hays, a renewal increase of 2.5% for Health Tradition and 14.9% for WEA Trust is in alignment with market trend, resulting in a combined total increase of 7.8%. The renewal rate includes several value-adds, such as significant financial contributions to the District near-site clinic, personal health assessments and wellness program. NeuGen continues be one of the only providers to offer a primary care based model with Health Tradition (select network), alongside a WEA Trust (broad network) plan for employees to choose from.
Fiscal Note:	The total cost of health insurance premiums for 2022 is projected to be \$28,711,362, which represents an increase of 7.8%. The District pays \$24,390,810 of the total cost, which is 85%. District staff members pay the other 15%.
Administrative Recommendation:	To renew the health insurance contract with NeuGen for one year, effective January 1, 2022, and continue to offer the same two plan design options with revised employee premium shares for the WEA Trust plan, as follows: • Health Tradition (remains the same at 7% for paraprofessionals / secretaries or 10% for all other employees). • WEA Trust (revised to 20% for paraprofessionals/secretaries or 23% for all other employees) • Married couples in benefit eligible groups both employed by AASD, provided one spouse qualifies for insurance and the other spouse is at least 50% FTE, would receive a premium waiver for the Health Tradition plan or pay 11.5% for the WEA Trust plan (revised).

- Employees and their spouses covered under a District health insurance who elect not to participate in the annual personal health assessment are not eligible for the reduced premium shares listed above and would pay 18% for Health Tradition (remains the same) or 29% for WEA Trust (revised).

The recommendation includes the continuation of the Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) for participating employees (\$750 single/\$1,500 family), with the maximum rollover would remain capped at the deductible amount of \$2,000 single and \$4,000 family.

Instructional Impact:

N/A

Contact Person(s):

Julie King, 997-1399, ext. 2042
Greg Hartjes, 997-1399, ext. 2029

Board Action:

October 11, 2021

Appleton Area School District

Medical/Rx Drug Renewal Rates Effective 1/1/2022

Excludes Retirees

		2021 Medical/Rx Premium Rates					2022 Medical/Rx Premium Rates					
Plan	Group	Coverage	Total Rate	EE Contribution	ER Contribution	EE%	Total Rate	EE Contribution	ER Contribution	Rate Adj.	EE %	EE Rate Change
Health Traditions	All Other Employees	Single	\$614.96	\$61.50	\$553.46	10.0%	\$630.33	\$63.04	\$567.29	2.5%	10.0%	\$1.54
		Family	\$1,586.50	\$158.65	\$1,427.85	10.0%	\$1,626.16	\$162.62	\$1,463.54	2.5%	10.0%	\$3.97
	Paraprofessionals & Secretaries	Single	\$614.96	\$43.05	\$571.91	7.0%	\$630.33	\$44.12	\$586.21	2.5%	7.0%	\$1.07
		Family	\$1,586.50	\$111.06	\$1,475.44	7.0%	\$1,626.16	\$113.84	\$1,512.32	2.5%	7.0%	\$2.78
	Did not Complete PHA	Single	\$614.96	\$110.69	\$504.27	18.0%	\$630.33	\$113.46	\$516.87	2.5%	18.0%	\$2.77
		Family	\$1,586.50	\$285.57	\$1,300.93	18.0%	\$1,626.16	\$292.70	\$1,333.46	2.5%	18.0%	\$7.13
WEA Trust	All Other Employees	Single	\$710.28	\$127.85	\$582.43	18.0%	\$816.12	\$187.70	\$628.42	14.9%	23.0%	\$59.85
		Family	\$1,832.41	\$329.83	\$1,502.58	18.0%	\$2,105.44	\$484.26	\$1,621.18	14.9%	23.0%	\$154.43
	Paraprofessionals & Secretaries	Single	\$710.28	\$106.54	\$603.74	15.0%	\$816.12	\$163.22	\$652.90	14.9%	20.0%	\$56.68
		Family	\$1,832.41	\$274.86	\$1,557.55	15.0%	\$2,105.44	\$421.08	\$1,684.36	14.9%	20.0%	\$146.22
	Did not Complete PHA	Single	\$710.28	\$170.47	\$539.81	24.0%	\$816.12	\$236.68	\$579.44	14.9%	29.0%	\$66.21
		Family	\$1,832.41	\$439.78	\$1,392.63	24.0%	\$2,105.44	\$610.58	\$1,494.86	14.9%	29.0%	\$170.80

** The rates listed are monthly premiums and premium shares.

** EE highlighted yellow columns are the employee premium shares

** ER is the portion of the premium that the employer is responsible for.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Topic: **2021-2022 Grants**

Background Information: The Appleton Area School District has been awarded various grants for the 21-22 fiscal year. The name and amount of each grant is listed below:

Fund 21

Technology Grant \$ 5,000.00

Fund 50

National School Lunch Program and School
Breakfast Program Emergency Operational Cost
Reimbursement Program Funds \$232,802.74

Instructional Impact: **Technology Grant** – *U.S. Venture/Schmidt Family Foundation Incorporated* has approved a technology grant in the amount of \$5,000 to Appleton Even Start Family Literacy – collaboration of AASD and FVTC. This grant is in support of new chrome books for families to use for programming (FVTC daily adult class work, bi-monthly virtual home visiting, early childhood students and families connecting with teachers, family conferences...).

**National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program
Emergency Operational Cost Reimbursement Program Funds -**

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service is offering additional funds in the amount of \$232,802.74 to State agencies, such as the AASD, administering the National School Lunch (NSLP) and School Breakfast Programs (SBP) to provide local program operators with additional reimbursements for emergency operating costs incurred during the public health emergency. Reimbursement is intended to help address shortfalls and ensure program operators are in the best position to rebuild while continuing to serve their communities.

Administrative
Recommendation: Approval

Contact: Greg Hartjes, 997-1399 ext. 2029

Board Action: October 11, 2021



SCHMIDT FAMILY FOUNDATION

September 16, 2021

Community Early Learning Center
C/O Pamela Franzke – Director ESFL
313 S, State Street
Appleton, WI 54911

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to inform you that the *U.S. Venture/Schmidt Family Foundation, Inc.* has approved a grant in the amount of \$5,000 in support of a technology grant. A check for this amount is enclosed.

The pandemic and economic downturn have made needs increase throughout our communities. We wish we could accommodate each and every request but despite our ability to invest, we thank you for your vital contribution to helping those in need.

The IRS stipulates that the Foundation or the donor(s) who established this fund may not receive any tangible goods or benefits from this grant and that these funds are not used to satisfy a pledge or personal financial obligation.

A letter of appreciation may be sent to the *U.S. Venture/Schmidt Family Foundation, Inc.* at the address below. For your publications and correspondence, please refer to this as a grant from the U.S. Venture/Schmidt Family Foundation.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 920-243-5798.

Sincerely,

Megan Boelter on behalf of Greg Vandenberg
Director of Giving & Community Engagement
U.S. Venture, Inc.
gvandenberg@usventure.com

Enclosure: Check

**COMPLETE THIS FORM IF...
GIFT/DONATION OF \$200 OR MORE**

Date: September 20, 2021

School, Program, or Department Receiving Gift/Donation:

Appleton Even Start Family Literacy – collaboration of AASD and FVTC

Description of Gift/Donation

Technology grant in support of new chrome books

Dollar Amount/Value: \$5000

Contributor(s): US Venture/Schmidt Family Foundation

Contributor(s) Address: 425 Better Way, Appleton WI 54915

Individual(s) to be Addressed in the Thank-You Letter:

Greg Vandenberg
Director of Giving & Community Engagement

Intended Use of Gift/Donation and Instructional Impact:

Technology grant in support of new chrome books for our families to use for programming (i.e. FVTC daily adult class work, bi-monthly virtual home visiting, early childhood students and families connecting with teachers, family conferences, etc.)

Name of Person Completing Form: Pamela Franzke

Phone: 920-832-6321

*Please return this form to Kimm Smith, School Services Office.
Feel free to send your information via email or school mail.*

Thanks!

WITTMAN, DIANE

From: WITTMAN, DIANE
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 8:53 AM
To: WITTMAN, DIANE
Subject: FW: National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) - Emergency Operational Cost Reimbursement Program Funds

Appleton Area School District has been awarded the following additional funds through the Emergency Operational Cost Reimbursement Program (EOCRP) based on implementation plan approved by FNS.

School Food Authority Name: Appleton Area School District
Agency Code: 440147
EOCRP Amount: \$232,802.74

From: DPI FNS, DPI <DPIFNS@dpi.wi.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2021 10:01 AM
To: WITTMAN, DIANE <WITTMANDIANE@aasdk12.wi.us>
Subject: National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) - Emergency Operational Cost Reimbursement Program Funds

Warning - This message comes from outside of the district. DO NOT open attachments or reply unless you are sure of the sender's identity.

Please share this message with the Business Manager or Administrator at your School Food Authority

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is offering additional funds to State agencies administering the National School Lunch (NSLP) and School Breakfast Programs (SBP) to provide local program operators with additional reimbursements for emergency operating costs incurred during the public health emergency. These funds may be available to those agencies whose revenues declined or were temporarily interrupted during the early months of the pandemic due to COVID-19 related restrictions or closures. Reimbursement is intended to help address shortfalls and ensure program operators are in the best position to rebuild while continuing to serve their communities. The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) School Nutrition Team's Implementation Plan was approved by USDA FNS to disburse the temporary reimbursements. Emergency Operational Cost Reimbursement Program (EOCRP) funds must be deposited in the NSLP/SBP nonprofit school food service account and must be used for allowable and justifiable NSLP/SBP expenses only. The DPI School Nutrition Team (SNT) may seek recovery of funds if used for unallowable or unjustified expenses.

EOCRP payments are expected to be disbursed to most qualifying local program operators before October 1, 2021. You may utilize the [Aids Register](#) to check if the payment has been deposited into the ACH account the DPI has on file.

School Food Authority Name: Appleton Area School District
Agency Code: 440147
EOCRP Amount: \$232,802.74

More information can be found in [USDA Policy Memo SP 06-2021](#): Child Nutrition Program Emergency Operating Costs During COVID-19.

ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION

Topic: 2021-22 Approval of Applications for Overnight Trips Within the Contiguous 48 States and DC

Background Information: Overnight trips, excursions and other travel are considered logical extensions of the educational experiences provided for students. These trips will be planned and conducted in accordance with procedures listed in the Field Trips, Co-Curricular Trips, and Excursions policy 352 and 352-Rule.

School	Staff Member(s)	Class or Group	Destination	Dates of Trip	School Days Missed	Approx. Cost Per Student
West High School	Patrig Tooley	Wrestling Grades 9-12	Wisconsin Dells	12/10/21 – 12/11/21	0	\$0
West High School	Patrig Tooley	Wrestling Grades 9-12	Merrill, WI	12/29/21 – 12/30/21	0	\$0

Fiscal Note: Fees for trips will vary from school-to-school. In most cases, parents, fundraising, grants, PTA, and scholarships will help pay for costs.

Administrative Recommendation: Approval of the attached applications for overnight trips within the contiguous forty-eight states and DC.

Instructional Impact: Trips must substantially contribute to the learning objectives of the curriculum or stated objectives of the group. The students will experience learning opportunities unavailable in the classroom.

Contact Person: Mike Hernandez, hernandezmicha@asds.k12.wi.us, 997-1399 ext. 2027

ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION

TOPIC: Professional Educator New Hire

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The professional educator listed below is recommended for a contractual position for the 2021-2022 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Kaitlyn S. Stenson	Instructional Coach	Edison/Huntley	100%	\$39,032	10/25/21

Kaitlyn S. Stenson received her Bachelor of Science in Education degree from UW-Oshkosh with a major in Elementary Education. Most recently, she served the Neenah Joint School District as a Kindergarten Teacher.

FISCAL NOTE: As indicated above.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION: Approval.

INSTRUCTIONAL IMPACT: The candidate listed above has been recommended by the administrators to whom they will report as the best candidate for the position.

CONTACT PERSON: Julie King, (920) 997-1399 (ext. 2042)

10/11/21

ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION

TOPIC: Professional Educator Contract Changes

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Contract changes for the following individuals are recommended for the 2021-2022 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Brandon J. Behrendt	Art	Highlands	20% to 34%	10/8/21-1/14/22
Matthew M. Hechel	Alternative Education	North	100% to 120%	9/1/21
Randall K. Reed	Physical Education	East	80% to 100%	8/25/21-1/14/22
Kevin J. Reichardt	Physical Education	East	100% to 120%	8/25/21-1/14/22
Sean L. Schuff	Computer Science	East	100% to 120%	8/25/21-1/14/22
Aaron J. Shaw	Physical Education	East	100% to 120%	1/18/22 – 6/3/22
Janeal K. Spring	Math	North	100% to 120%	9/1/21
Abby B. Vanderloop	Alternative Education	North	100% to 120%	9/1/21

FISCAL NOTE: As indicated above.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION: Approval.

INSTRUCTIONAL IMPACT: These assignments will meet the needs of students.

CONTACT PERSON: Julie King, (920) 997-1399 (x2042)

10/11/21

ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION

TOPIC: Professional Educator Resignation

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The following Professional Educator has submitted a letter of resignation.

Lynn J. Sukow has been with the District for one month, most recently as an Early Childhood Special Education Teacher with the Appleton Community 4K program located at McKinley Elementary School. Ms. Sukow's resignation is effective at the end of the Friday, October 8, 2021 workday.

FISCAL NOTE: Dependent upon replacement.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION: Approval.

INSTRUCTIONAL IMPACT: A qualified replacement will be procured.

CONTACT PERSON: Julie King, (920) 997-1399 (ext. 2042)

10/11/21

PUBLIC INPUT AT SCHOOL BOARD AND BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Board of Education encourages citizens of the Appleton Area School District to attend its meetings so that they may become better acquainted with the operations and programs of the schools and so that the Board may have an opportunity to hear the views and concerns of the public regarding educational issues.

A period of public input shall be noticed and scheduled at School Board meetings and Public Hearings, except as otherwise specifically directed by the Board.

Public input is also allowed at Board Subcommittee meetings with respect to items of business on the publicly-noticed agenda.

At other meetings of District governmental bodies that may be required by State Statute or held pursuant to District Policy, written input will be accepted.

Cross References: Policy 170, School Board Meetings
Policy 870, Public Concerns and Complaints

Legal References: Wisconsin State Statutes 19.81, 19.83(2), 19.84(2), 19.85, and 120.43

Adoption Date: September 14, 1987

Amended Dates: January 9, 2012 and March 12, 2018

PUBLIC INPUT AT SCHOOL BOARD AND BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

Procedures

Meetings of the Board may receive information and comments from members of the public on issues or topics.

Please note the following in the Procedures below:

- ✓ School Board meetings are run by the Board President or other presiding officer if the President is absent.
- ✓ Board Subcommittee meetings are run by the Subcommittee Chair or other Subcommittee member if the Chair is absent.
- ✓ Public Hearings are run by the Board President or other presiding officer if the President is absent.
- ✓ Other meetings of District governmental bodies that may be required by State Statute or held pursuant to District Policy are run by a Lead Administrator or another administrator if Lead Administrator is absent.

I. School Board Meetings

A period for public input will be set aside during School Board meetings. No public input will be allowed during Closed Sessions.

Members of the public wishing to speak during the public input period are required to register to speak. Comments may address topics related to District operations and programs and are not limited exclusively to agenda items.

II. Board Subcommittee Meetings

Members of the public wishing to speak at Board Subcommittee meetings are required to register to speak and may only make comments related to items on the meeting agenda. Members of the public wishing to speak will be recognized by the Board Subcommittee Chair as that agenda item is reached.

III. Public Hearings

Members of the public wishing to speak at Public Hearings of the Board (e.g. annual budget discussions) are required to register to speak and may only make comments or request clarification related to specific items included on the agenda and during the public input portion of the hearing.

IV. Other Meetings of District governmental bodies that may be required by State Statute or held pursuant to District Policy

A designated period for public input will not be a part of the agenda for these meetings. Work completed at most of these meetings will ultimately be shared at Board Subcommittee and School Board meetings where public input is allowed. At any time, signed written communication is encouraged and will be accepted by the Lead Administrator of these meetings.

Guidelines for Speaking at School Board and Board Subcommittee Meetings

- Meeting agendas that are subject to the Open Meetings law are available on the District's website (via BoardDocs) before each meeting and hard copies are available at the meeting.
- Members of the public wishing to speak must complete and submit a registration form stating his/her name, address, and topic for comments prior to speaking. If a spokesperson is speaking on behalf of a group, he/she needs to indicate that on the registration form as well.
- The District respectfully requests that speakers refrain from presenting comments at public meetings that introduce complaints or concerns that are directed toward and that identify individual staff members or individual students. As such personnel-related and student-related matters implicate a variety of rights that require careful attention, the District has established a variety of alternative procedures for appropriately addressing such complaints. If a speaker persists in presenting a complaint about an individual staff member's conduct or an individual student's conduct or performance, the District officials who are present at the meeting will not attempt to resolve or respond to the speaker's complaint in that setting. Any person with such a complaint or concern may contact the Office of the Superintendent for information on the most appropriate means of raising or pursuing his/her complaint. Generally, such complaints or concerns should be channeled through the AASD Complaint Procedure (Policy 870 and 870-Rule).
- The Board President or Chair shall recognize all speakers who have registered to speak and will share the Public Input Disclaimer (see Appendix 1). The Board President, Chair, or the Board by motion, may limit (in a viewpoint-neutral manner) the total time allotted for public input or the amount of time allotted to individual topics.

Speaker Responsibilities at School Board and Board Subcommittee Meetings

- A speaker should be as brief as possible and only speak once during the period for public input. Unless additional time is granted, a speaker shall limit his/her presentation to a maximum of three minutes. A timer will be used.
- A group spokesperson may speak for up to five minutes on behalf of a group present at the meeting as indicated on the registration form. A timer will be used.
- Individuals or groups requiring greater length of time should communicate in writing. Written correspondence to Board members may be directed to the Board through its Executive Assistant or directly to their home addresses.
- A speaker's comments are limited to the public input period (e.g., either during the designated public input period during a School Board meeting or Public Hearing, or during a portion of the topic-specific discussion that occurs at a Board Subcommittee meeting).
- During periods of public input that are not limited to the meeting's agenda topics, a speaker's comments still must be reasonably germane to some aspect of the school district's policies, practices, programs, or operations.
- A speaker should not be unduly repetitious. For example, a speaker who attends multiple meetings should only sign up to speak if presenting new or additional information.
- A speaker retains all liability for his/her comments and conduct (i.e., the public input period does not offer any speaker any exemption from legal liability or from other lawful consequences that may result from the speaker's comments or conduct).

187-Rule (cont.)

- A speaker shall avoid conduct that is disorderly or speech that is obscene, threatening, harassing, or defamatory.
- A speaker should avoid engaging in political advocacy with respect to candidates for any elected office. Political advocacy related to specific candidates for office is not sufficiently germane to the meetings or to the public responsibilities of the bodies.
- No individual may present his/her verbal public input by proxy except as permitted as a reasonable accommodation for an individual with special needs. A person who is unable to attend a meeting in person may submit written comments to the District.

Authority and Responsibility of the Board President or Chair

To promote the lawful, orderly, and efficient progress of each meeting, the Board President or Chair shall have the authority to enforce the requirements of this policy and he/she shall conduct any period of public input according to established procedures.

- The Board President or Chair may call any registrant (or other attendee) to order and direct the individual to cease conduct, which violates any applicable law, policy, or procedure.
- The Board President or Chair may terminate remarks of any individual who does not adhere to established rules, whose comments are unduly repetitive of previous comments, who makes comments that are obscene, threatening, harassing, or defamatory, or whose conduct is otherwise disorderly.
- If necessary, the Board President or Chair may contact law enforcement for assistance in maintaining order or safety.

School Board Meetings

When the School Board receives public input on topics/issues that are not part of the publicly-noticed meeting agenda, Board members shall not engage in any extensive discussion or debate on any such topic/issue, and shall not take any action addressing the merits of any such topic/issue. However, in exceptional cases, the Board President, a Board member who has been recognized by the Chair, or the Superintendent may briefly respond to the registrant (e.g., to ask a clarifying question or to provide a brief clarification or correction of information that was presented by the registrant). The Board President, Chair, or the Board by motion may refer an off-agenda topic/issue that is raised by a registrant to a future agenda or for follow-up by the administration.

Cross References: Policy 170, School Board Meetings
Policy 870, Public Concerns and Complaints

Legal References: Wisconsin State Statutes 19.81, 19.83(2), 19.84(2), 19.85, and 120.43

Adoption Date: September 14, 1987

Amended Dates: January 9, 2012 and March 12, 2018

Appendix 1

Public Input Disclaimer

The School Board welcomes public input. We thank you for being here. Your opinions and ideas are important to us. However, there are a few cautions we want to share with you.

The School Board respectfully requests that speakers refrain from presenting comments at public meetings that introduce complaints or concerns that are directed toward and that identify individual staff members or individual students. As such personnel-related and student-related matters implicate a variety of rights that require careful attention, the District has established a variety of alternative procedures for appropriately addressing such complaints. If a speaker persists in presenting a complaint about an individual staff member's conduct or an individual student's conduct or performance, the District officials who are present at the meeting will not attempt to resolve or respond to the speaker's complaint in that setting. Any person with such a complaint or concern may contact the Office of the Superintendent for information on the most appropriate means of raising or pursuing his/her complaint. Generally, such complaints or concerns should be channeled through the AASD Complaint Procedure (Policy 870 and 870-Rule). False statements or stigmatizing charges may subject the individual making such statements to legal repercussions, including, but not limited to, defamation claims. Conduct that is disorderly or any speech that is obscene, threatening, harassing, or defamatory is not permitted.

Again, we appreciate your input and support for our efforts to create the best learning environment for our students.

VIRTUAL MEETINGS AND BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS VIA TECHNOLOGY

REMOTE PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS BY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

The School Board strongly encourages all individual Board members to be physically present at all Board meetings in which they intend to participate in any capacity.

Pursuant to state law, no individual Board member may be excluded from any meeting of the Board. The Board implements the right of non-exclusion by directing that, unless a community, state, or national emergency situation requires otherwise, a physical meeting location that is sufficient to accommodate all Board members shall normally be designated for each regular and special meeting of the Board.

As a general rule, and assuming that a physical location sufficient to accommodate all Board members has been designated for a meeting, no individual member of the Board member has an enforceable legal right to insist upon the ability to attend or participate, in any capacity, in any Board meeting from a remote location via telephone conference, video conference, or another communications technology. This policy is not intended to independently create any such rights. However, as to any Board meeting for which a physical meeting location has been designated and which is not subject to the section of this policy, below, regarding virtual meetings during emergencies, the Board authorizes individual Board members to voluntarily elect to participate in certain Board meetings from a remote location under the following conditions and limitations:

1. Unless otherwise required by law or unless otherwise expressly provided under Board policy in specific circumstances, a Board member who chooses to participate (or to attempt to participate) in a meeting remotely via communications technology acknowledges all of the following:
 - a. Such choice is the voluntary exercise of a privilege, and the Board reserves discretion to limit, suspend, or terminate such privilege for any lawful reason.
 - b. The Board member assumes all risks of any unavailability, inadequacy, or failure of any communications technology that is intended to enable remote participation. Such risks include, but are not limited to, the possibility that the Board member's remote access and participation may become unavailable, limited, or disabled and that the meeting may continue without the Board member's participation.
 - c. The inability to participate in a meeting remotely using communications technology does **not** constitute an unlawful exclusion from the meeting.

2. A Board member does not have a right to individually choose or dictate the method(s) of remote access that may be offered for or used at any meeting.
3. The privilege of remote participation by Board members in a Board meeting that is directly and affirmatively authorized by this policy extends only to **open sessions** of regular and special Board meetings. The privilege **includes** being counted in the quorum requirement for such meetings, participating in discussion on items of business, and making and voting upon motions. However, to the extent a Board member is not permitted to vote on a matter before the Board due to the Board member's status as a remote attendee of the meeting, then such Board member shall not be included in the quorum count for such meeting or for the applicable portion of the meeting.
4. Unless the Board takes additional formal action (i.e., via a vote, as further detailed in the Authorizing Additional Remote Participation by Board Members section of this policy) to grant further affirmative authorization for remote participation via communications technology, the privilege of remote participation in Board meetings shall **not** extend to remote participation in any of the following:
 - a. A closed session portion of any meeting.
 - b. Even if occurring in open session, due process hearings or similar evidentiary hearings, including those relating to employment matters, as well as any deliberations or decision-making based upon such hearings.
 - c. The election of Board Officers by secret ballot. However, this limitation may be rendered moot by the Board either (1) choosing, at its discretion, not to use secret ballots for such an election; or (2) authorizing a Board member who is participating remotely to voluntarily cast a non-secret vote for the applicable Board Officer position(s) even though Board members who are physically present at the meeting are using secret ballots.
5. Any remote participation that is authorized at the discretion of the Board, whether by this policy or by additional formal action, is subject to express decisions of the Board that may deny, limit, or revoke the privilege as applied to specific meetings. In addition, upon an order of the presiding officer of the meeting, a Board member's remote participation may be limited (e.g., video feed turned off, microphone muted except when the Board member has obtained the floor, etc.) or terminated during a meeting if any of the following apply:
 - a. The Board member's attempted remote participation in the meeting is unreasonably interfering with conducting an orderly and efficient meeting.
 - b. The communications technology being used is not enabling appropriate participation, including, at a minimum, the sufficient opportunity for reliable, simultaneous aural communication among all participating Board members.

- c. For a reason that is directly related to the remote participation, there is uncertainty regarding the Board's compliance with the Open Meetings Law, including the requirement that the meeting must be sufficiently accessible to public observers.

Any order of the presiding officer under this provision shall be announced and recorded in the minutes of the meeting and is subject to an appeal for a final decision by the Board. The appeal may be made by any Board member who is then participating in the meeting.

- 6. Unless otherwise required by law or unless otherwise expressly provided under Board policy in specific circumstances, no Board meeting needs to be delayed, cancelled, or rescheduled solely to accommodate a Board member's request or attempt to exercise the privilege of remote participation via communications technology.
- 7. The authorization for a Board member's voluntary remote participation in Board meetings does not obligate the Board to arrange for the communications technology that is necessary to enable such remote participation for each and every Board meeting.

AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL REMOTE PARTICIPATION BY BOARD MEMBERS

Notwithstanding any contrary voting standard that may be called for under any parliamentary authority, a motion to authorize any Board member's remote participation, in any capacity, in a closed session or in any other portion of a meeting that is not already affirmatively authorized for remote participation under Board policy shall require a standard majority vote in order to be approved.

- 1. Any motion and vote to consider granting additional affirmative authorization for a Board member's remote participation shall be taken up only if consideration of the question is sufficiently included in the public notice of the meeting. Accordingly, a Board member may need to provide the chief presiding officer and Superintendent with reasonable advance notice of their desire to request consideration of such exceptional authorization.
- 2. If the chief presiding officer and Superintendent receive a Board member's request to include consideration of such additional authorization for remote participation on a meeting agenda prior to the posting or publication of the public notice of the meeting, then the item shall be included in the meeting notice in the absence of exceptional circumstances that the presiding officer determines constitute lawful and sufficient reason for denying the request.
- 3. The Board member(s) seeking such additional, exceptional authorization to participate in a meeting remotely shall be entitled to make or second the relevant motion and may participate in the discussion and the vote on the motion.

4. As to any motion and vote relating to authorizing remote participation in a **closed session**, the motion and vote shall be taken up **prior to** the Board's consideration of the motion to convene in the applicable closed session. Therefore, any decision to authorize a Board member's remote participation in a closed session shall be contingent on a subsequent decision to actually convene in the closed session.
5. Confidentiality concerns and potential legal barriers and legal risks to a Board member's remote participation in such additional situations are relevant to the consideration of granting such authorization.

VIRTUAL MEETINGS AND REMOTE PARTICIPATION IN EMERGENCIES

Subject to any superseding determination by the Board, the Board President (or other acting chief presiding officer) is authorized to make a determination that a community, state, or national emergency exists in connection with any Board meeting and, based on such determination, structure one or more Board meetings as emergency virtual Board meetings under this section.

For purposes of this section of this policy, an emergency means (1) a situation in which an applicable law, order, or formal decree or declaration of a governmental authority disallows the Board members' simultaneous in-person attendance at a designated physical meeting location; or (2) some other community-level emergency situation exists (i.e., not specific to any individual's unique personal circumstances) such that designating a physical meeting location and expecting Board members to attend at that physical location would substantially and unreasonably endanger the health and safety of the Board members or District employees.

The distinguishing characteristics of an emergency virtual Board meeting under this section are the following:

1. Unless the Board itself directed the holding of an emergency virtual Board meeting, the Board President or other chief presiding officer, or their designee, shall notify all Board members that the meeting will be held as an emergency virtual Board meeting.
2. Even if a physical meeting location is designated and offered as an option to some Board members and/or to any members of the public, the Board members' participation in an emergency virtual meeting from a remote location via communications technology **shall not** be considered to be voluntary.
3. The public notice of the emergency virtual meeting shall include applicable information about public access to the meeting.
4. The Board President or other acting chief presiding officer is responsible for determining whether it is necessary or appropriate to include information in the public notice of the meeting that addresses the virtual structure of the meeting and/or the nature of the emergency situation.

5. Notwithstanding any other Board policy that may address the Board's normal approach to public comment periods during Board meetings, and unless otherwise expressly directed by the Board in connection with the specific emergency, the Board President or other acting chief presiding officer is authorized to determine whether an emergency virtual meeting will include a public comment period and, if so, the scope of such public comment period and the method(s) by which the public may address the Board.
6. For an emergency virtual meeting, this policy authorizes the remote participation by Board members while the Board is convened in any **open session or closed session** portion of such a meeting, subject to the limitation that, upon a request by the Board President or any Board member, each Board member who is participating in such a meeting from a remote location must affirm that he/she is taking adequate steps to safeguard the confidentiality of any closed session. A Board member's failure or unwillingness to so affirm is grounds for the Board, by a majority vote, to revoke authorization to participate in the closed session.
7. If a Board member is attempting to participate in an emergency virtual meeting from a remote location and is having difficulty establishing or maintaining a sufficient connection to the communications platform, the Board may need to make a decision whether the meeting will continue without such Board member's participation. Before making a decision that would limit or terminate any Board member's remote access to an emergency virtual meeting or allow the meeting to continue without a Board member's participation:
 - a. The presiding officer of the meeting may call, or any Board member may request, a temporary recess in the meeting to allow the Board member a reasonable opportunity to establish or restore his/her access and participation.
 - b. The presiding officer or a designee may attempt to contact the Board member to determine whether the Board member is willing to consent to voluntary non-participation in the remainder of the meeting.
 - c. The Board must evaluate whether, under the specific circumstances, a decision to continue the meeting without the Board member's participation would constitute an unlawful exclusion of the Board member.

REMOTE PUBLIC ACCESS TO BOARD MEETINGS

For any Board meeting for which sufficient public access to the meeting is provided at a specific physical location that is identified in the public notice of the meeting, this policy:

1. Neither requires the Board to offer nor prohibits the Board from offering the public any additional means of accessing and observing the meeting from remote locations using a communications technology platform. However, to the extent any such additional means of public access to a meeting is offered, it shall normally be

considered optional and supplemental such that any unavailability of such supplemental public access, or any lack of a complete or consistent transmission, shall not affect the Board's authority to proceed with the meeting.

2. Neither requires the Board to conduct nor prohibits the Board from conducting a public comment period or public hearing in a manner that permits members of the public to address the Board from a remote location using communications technology.

To the extent permitted by law, including in certain emergency situations where there is a health and safety danger to the in-person, physical attendance of members of the public at a Board meeting, the Board may arrange for lawful methods of remote public access to Board meetings using communications technology as a primary (i.e., not merely supplemental) means of complying with the public access requirements of the Open Meetings Law or other applicable legal obligations. In any such situation, the public notice of the meeting shall include adequate information regarding the applicable options for the public's remote access.

APPLICATION TO COMMITTEES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL BODIES

Subject to any superseding directive established by the Board, a committee created by a policy, resolution, rule, or order of the Board, as well as any other governmental body of the District, may hold virtual meetings and authorize remote access and remote participation in its meetings to the extent authorized for Board meetings under this policy. As applied to such committees and other governmental bodies of the District, references to individual Board members within this policy shall be understood to refer to the individual members of such bodies, and all duties and authority held by the Board and by the Board President under this policy shall be held by the relevant body and by its chief presiding officer. Likewise subject to any superseding directive established by the Board, a District governmental body may also vote to require all members of the body to be physically present at meetings in order to participate in the body's meetings.

Legal References:

Wisconsin Statutes

- Subch. IV of Ch. 19 [open meetings of governmental bodies; including public accessibility requirements, closed session exemptions, and other provisions]
- Section 19.81(2) [public accessibility of board meetings]
- Section 19.89 [no member of a governmental body may be excluded from any meeting of such body]
- Section 120.11(1) [school board meetings and definition of quorum in common and union high school districts] {Editor's Note: Unified school districts should delete this reference.}
- Section 120.43 [school board meetings in unified school districts]

Adoption Date: August 22, 2022