

It's been six weeks since the laughter of students and staff filled the classrooms and hallways of our schools. Since that time, we have all experienced tremendous changes to our lifestyles, and we've had to adjust quickly. There clearly is no game plan for decision making during this challenging and unprecedented pandemic. At times, it feels like we're navigating uncharted waters without a compass or map. We will get through this COVID-19 pandemic and soon return to a more familiar lifestyle.

On April 16, Governor Evers extended the Safer At Home order to May 26, and he closed all schools and facilities until June 30, 2020. This means that school buildings and associated grounds are closed to students for instructional and extracurricular activities through that date. It is possible that an additional order may extend that time further. It does not alter our currently scheduled last day of school for students which is May 22.

This order does not change our commitment to providing online learning opportunities that support student academic, social-emotional, and physical needs. While the entire Edgerton School District staff misses our students and families, I can assure families and the community we are committed to providing the best education possible during this unprecedented time. I am proud of the efforts our staff have made to create virtual learning opportunities in such a short period. I applaud the efforts of our parents/guardians and students for adjusting with little time to prepare for a whole new type of learning.

Currently, we have not finalized any plans for summer school options as we wait for further direction from the Department of Public Instruction. Any summer school programming, if conducted during June, will have to be provided in a manner other than face-to-face in a school building. Note, the current order does not preclude the potential to hold summer school in a more face-to-face manner in July or August. However, a future order based on the status of COVID-19 may result in extended restrictions on access to facilities and grounds during those months. We simply do not know at this time. In the meantime, we are developing possible options in the event we will be able to offer some type of summer school option for all students.

On Monday, April 20, the Department of Health Services, authorized by Governor Evers, released Emergency Order #31: Badger Bounce Back. The purpose of this Order was to outline a Phasing Process that would move the state toward a more fully functioning economic and

social enterprise. Each of three phases results in increasing levels of freedom from restrictions of movement and opens public access to business and public places, including schools.

Order #31 addresses K-12 schools in Phase One. Once the qualifying conditions necessary to reach Phase One are achieved, a new Order will be issued. As part of this new Order, K-12 schools will be able to resume in-person operation (groups < 10). At the time of this new Order, the Department of Health Services will outline what conditions will be necessary for any activities in schools and on school grounds.

In Order #31, several pre-conditions have to be met relative to the COVID-19 crisis for a Phase One implementation to occur. Knowing what we do at this time, while possible, I would not anticipate achieving this threshold prior to the end of our scheduled last day of student attendance (May 22). However, some potential exists to achieve these pre-conditions in the month of June.

Construction has continued during the Safer At Home order. The earlier start to the demolition and renovation allowed us to modify the schedule to reduce the need for double shifts and six day work weeks for our contractors. Currently, work progresses on time and we are not anticipating any delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

I would like to acknowledge that I am especially saddened for our graduating seniors. This certainly was not how any of them imagined their final semester would end. Traditional events such as the annual trip to Washington DC, Germany trip, and the Rotary Honors banquet were all cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The tentative date for a virtual graduation is May 31, at 2:00 pm. This does not mean we are eliminating other in-person options in the future, but we currently do not have guidance that will allow us to make plans for them and we'd like to recognize our graduates sooner than later.

I would like to thank the Edgerton community for their continued patience, flexibility, and understanding during the past six weeks. Stay well and together we'll get through these trying days.

It is a privilege to serve as the District Administrator for the Edgerton School District.

Dr. Pauli