



**Central City**  
**WILDCATS**

December 2, 2020

Dear Director Ann Lebo,

The Central City School District returned from the Thanksgiving Break with virtual learning. When this plan was announced on November 18th, it was stated that the district would be virtual from November 30 through December 4th with an option to request a waiver and have a second virtual week of instruction from December 7-11th. At the time of the announcement it was stated that “the district will review the data by Thursday, December 3 to determine if a second week of virtual learning is needed. A determination for the second week of virtual learning will be made and announced by 5 PM on December 3.” Our intent was and is to give families as much notice as possible to go into and continue virtual learning.

We have been in collaboration and conversations with Linn County Public Health; our positivity rate today is 15.7%. Although there has been some slight improvement, there is still stress on the healthcare system and our employee absences. Linn County is currently seeing a drop in positive numbers. However, according to Heather Meador, Clinical Services Branch Supervisor for Linn County Public Health “that (drop in numbers) is coming off of a holiday weekend when testing options are more limited and individuals brush off the sniffles and coughs” while gathering for the holiday. It should be noted that even with the drop, Linn County is still higher than we were six weeks ago. As a school district, we are experiencing adults being impacted by COVID. We have had an increase in the last two weeks for staff in isolation due to COVID and quarantine due to close contact.

The District has decided to extend virtual learning for the week of December 7. Therefore, the district will submit a waiver for virtual learning with the Department of Education. I have been in contact with our Department of Education Consultant, Marietta Rives, starting back on November 18th, about this possibility and the plan to do one week virtual and decide midweek. In addition to this letter, we will submit the formal application online by the end of the day on December 2, 2020.

Yours in Education,

Tim Cronin  
Superintendent

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