

CCA is requesting a waiver to move to virtual instruction, district wide, November 30th through December 11th. At this point we are planning to return on November 30th. During conversation with the Board of Education last night we determined it would be prudent to be prepared with a waiver in the event we see spiked numbers over Thanksgiving break. We have continued to see cases/quarantines that impact staff and students during our current virtual instruction period.

Currently we are experiencing rising positivity rates in our counties, with Iowa County at 16% and Johnson County at 19.1%. Our student absentee rate is relatively low at 1% per the State calculation procedures.

COVID related illness and quarantines have caused staff shortages that impact our ability to serve students. This waiver would give CCA the ability to ensure we continue to offer the best possible learning experience to our students should we again experience drastic shortages of staff following the Thanksgiving Holiday.

We respectfully request approval to move to virtual instruction for the two weeks following Thanksgiving break.


Tim Kuehl

A community where all can achieve optimal health



Dave Koch, Director

To: Iowa Department of Education
Iowa Department of Public Health

From: Sam Jarvis, Community Health Manager
Johnson County Public Health 

Date: November 20, 2020

Re: Support for Remote Learning of the Clear Creek Amana Community School District

On July 17, Governor Reynolds issued a proclamation that requires the Iowa Department of Education (IDE), in consultation with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), to approve the temporary move to primarily remote learning for an entire building or district because of public health conditions.

On July 30, IDE and IDPH released a Return to Learn plan outlining positivity and absenteeism rates as benchmarks to determine various Return to Learn Models. As of November 20, Johnson County's 14-day positivity rate has increased to 15.3% and demonstrates a steady increase. We project that the rate will continue to rise in the coming days and have legitimate concerns of cases rising post the upcoming holidays.

Our concern over cooler weather driving gatherings indoors and fatigue among the general public to stay vigilant to prevent transmission are also factors that will increase transmission. Our local disease investigations see exposures leading to illness in a variety of settings and the current surge in cases is not unique to a specific age group or setting.

Due these factors, we support the Clear Creek Amana Community School District in seeking a waiver to move to on-line learning. Due to the public health nature of this virus and the risk to various systems within Johnson County, Johnson County Public Health writes in support of the Clear Creek Amana Community School District's request for a waiver to move to 100% remote learning. By granting this waiver, you will be assisting in reducing the likelihood that the virus will find its way into the K-12 population, which in turn will keep the community safer.

Cc: Clear Creek Amana Community School District