



IOWA

Department of Education

Ann Lebo, Director

Kim Reynolds, Governor
Adam Gregg, Lt. Governor

Via Electronic Mail Only

November 6, 2020

Noreen Bush
Superintendent
Cedar Rapids Community School District

Dear Superintendent Bush:

Thank you for your request for permission to provide primarily remote or continuous learning for Hoover Elementary School, dated November 6, 2020.

Governor Reynolds's proclamation of disaster emergency, most recently renewed on October 16, 2020, allows the Iowa Department of Education ("Department") to approve instruction through primarily remote learning, "in consultation with the Iowa Department of Public Health," (IDPH) based on "public health conditions in the building or district." The guidance on selecting the appropriate Return-to-Learn model released July 30, 2020, was established in consultation with IDPH. As of November 6, 2020, the fourteen-day positivity rate in Linn County is 18.7 percent. You reported student absenteeism rates for Hoover Elementary School that is below ten percent, but you report a large number of Hoover staff members who have tested positive for COVID-19. The positivity rate is at levels where it is reasonable to request primarily remote learning under the Department's guidance. We have also considered staff positivity rates, and a period of primarily remote learning will slow transmission in this school community. Additionally, neither the Department nor IDPH know of any facts that would suggest primarily remote learning is not reasonable. After consultation with IDPH and considering the facts as a whole, the Department GRANTS your request for November 6, 2020, to November 15, 2020.

In light of this determination, the Department expects that your district will temporarily cease in-person extracurricular activities, for the duration of the period requested, and this approval is conditioned upon satisfying that expectation. Extracurricular activities may continue on an online or virtual basis.

Please let me know if I can answer any additional questions or if I can provide assistance as you proceed with your future plans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Lebo".

Dr. Ann Lebo
Director

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