



IOWA

Department of Education

Ann Lebo, Director

Kim Reynolds, Governor
Adam Gregg, Lt. Governor

Via Electronic Mail Only

July 31, 2020

Steve L. Bass
Superintendent of Schools
Urbandale Community School District
basss@urbandaleschools.com

Dear Superintendent Bass:

Thank you for your request. Please excuse the brevity of this response, but I wanted to ensure you had it within your requested timeline.

Governor Reynolds's proclamation of disaster emergency, dated July 24, 2020, allows the Department of Education to approve instruction through primarily remote learning, "in consultation with the Iowa Department of Public Health," based on "public health conditions in the building or district." The guidance on selecting the appropriate Return-to-Learn model released yesterday was established in consultation with the Iowa Department of Public Health. Your request concedes the Urbandale Community School District does not meet the criteria in that guidance for moving to primarily remote learning. And your request and our consultation with the Iowa Department of Public Health have not identified any other basis for concluding that it is appropriate to continue primarily remote learning after August 6. For these reasons, your request is denied.

This denial does not affect the Urbandale Community School District's ability to continue providing primarily remote learning for those students whose parent or guardian voluntarily selects the remote learning opportunity from among multiple options provided by the district in accordance with your Return-to-Learn plan. Nor does it affect the district's ability to provide hybrid learning that offers at least half of its instruction in person.

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 blue ink, appearing to read "A. Lebo".

Dr. Ann Lebo
Director

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Grimes State Office Building | 400 E. 14th St. | Des Moines, IA 50319-0146
Phone (515) 281-5294 | www.educateiowa.gov