



# IOWA

## Department of Education

Ann Lebo, Director

Kim Reynolds, Governor  
Adam Gregg, Lt. Governor

*Via Electronic Mail Only*

November 9, 2020

Joel Foster  
Superintendent  
North Butler Community School District

Dear Superintendent Foster:

Thank you for your request for permission to provide primarily remote or continuous learning for the North Butler Community School District, dated November 4, 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," 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 the Iowa Department of Public Health. As of November 9, 2020, the fourteen-day positivity rate in Butler County is 20.7 percent, and in Floyd County is 16.7. You reported absenteeism rates of over thirteen percent for the district as a whole. The positivity rate and the absenteeism rate are levels where it is reasonable to request primarily remote learning under the Department's guidance. Additionally, neither the Department nor the Iowa Department of Public Health know of any facts that would suggest primarily remote learning is not reasonable. After consultation with the Iowa Department of Public Health and considering the facts as a whole, the Department GRANTS your request for the period requested: November 9, 2020, to November 20, 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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