



Barneveld School District

*"...a community striving towards
excellence in education."*

12/2/2020

To: Students, Staff, Families, and Community Members

From: Joseph Price, Superintendent

Re: Continuation Virtual Instruction

Greetings Barneveld Families,

This letter is to provide you with an update as it relates to the continuation of virtual instruction. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 case numbers have not dropped to a level that would ensure a safe return to school. The most recent Iowa County Media Release (linked below) clearly indicates that schools should remain in virtual instruction through at least December 11, 2020. This will be further discussed at next week's regular Board meeting and we remain hopeful for a return to in-person instruction.

When the next media release comes out, we are looking to see a decrease in the number of positive cases, as well as in the positivity rates that we are currently experiencing. Furthermore, the DHS has finally implemented a new tool that will help us look at the numbers in a school district-specific manner which provides much-needed information. Administration will continue to work with the health department as we develop a re-entry plan for in-person learning.

[School Guidelines](#)

[Iowa County Specific Data](#)

[Current Covid-19 Case Count](#)

[Iowa County Media Releases](#)

<i>Date dashboard was updated</i>	<i>Percent of tests that are positive</i>	<i>Average number of cases reported per day</i>	<i>Average number of tests per day</i>	<i>Outbreaks metric</i>	<i>Percentage of cases contracted by community spread</i>	<i>School Capacity metric: new case rate per 10,000</i>
July 20	1.45%	.92	42.8	Red	46%	--
July 27	2.1%	.71	33.1	Red	30%	--
August 3	2.6%	1.0	37.7	Red	42%	--
August 10	3.9%	1.71	43.6	Red	38%	--
August 17	4.2%	2.5	60	Red	54%	--
August 24	3.8%	2.0	53	Red	46%	--
August 31	3.3%	1.5	45	Red	43%	9
September 8	2.0%	0.93	45.4	Red	38%	5
September 14	1.3%	0.64	49.7	Red	40%	4
September 21	2.6%	1.79	70	Red	64%	11
September 28	3.5%	3.79	107.5	Red	60%	22
October 5	4.8%	5.57	116.5	Red	51%	33
October 12	6.8%	8.21	121	Red	43%	49
October 19	7.5%	11.58	153.8	Red	41%	59
October 23*	7.9%	11.35	142.9	Red	43%	67
October 30	8.4%	11.29	133.7	Red	42%	67
November 6	11.4%	16.86	148.3	Red	42%	99
November 13	14.5%	26.36	181.8	Red	41%	155
November 20	14.7%	30.14	205.7	Red	43%	178
November 27	12.5%	26.86	215.1	Red	44%	158

*Shift in day of dashboard update due to data availability.

As you can see from the table above, there was a slight decrease from November 20th through November 27th. The number of cases per day also saw a slight decrease. If this trend continues, we can start with a gradual return to school focusing on those who need it most. Please continue to help us by practicing the 3 W's - Wear face coverings in public, Wash your hands often, and Watch your social distancing when out.

It is important as a community that we remember these decisions are not made lightly and that our end goal is to return ALL students to full in-person learning. With two successful vaccines awaiting approval this month by the FDA and new treatments being developed, we remain hopeful that we will soon gain better control of this virus and begin to return to a more normal lifestyle. In the meantime, we remain focused on students and supporting them through these most challenging of times.

Lastly, you will receive a brief survey tomorrow regarding virtual learning. Please take a moment to complete the survey so that we can continue to improve on what we are doing.

Thank you again for your continued support and patience as we experience this together!

[#BeBarneveld](#)

Sincerely,

Joseph Price,
Superintendent