

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF CADOTT COMMUNITY

426 Myrtle Street, Cadott, Wisconsin 54727

www.cadott.k12.wi.us

May 20, 2020

Senator Kathleen Bernier
Room 319
State Capitol
PO Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Senator Bernier,

I want to thank you for your work and diligence for the citizens of Wisconsin during these turbulent and uncertain times. I would like to take an opportunity to update you on the work, successes and challenges that we are experiencing as a small, rural school system during the Coronavirus pandemic.

We were unprepared, but quickly became prepared. We sent chromebooks to students even though we knew that internet access was limited. We did not have enough chromebooks to send to all students so we prioritized grades 3-12. Due to demand we were unable to order more technology or hot spots to share with families. We are working to provide more access to the degree that we are able to do that. This has emphasized disparities in our families. We have added access points in our high school parking lot. Many families take advantage of this, but for some, transportation is an issue. This is not only important for student learning access, but telehealth care including virtual mental health appointments. I believe it is a priority to quickly expand broadband coverage through the rural areas of Wisconsin.

I am especially proud of the collaboration between our food service, support staff, and Kobussen to provide lunches and breakfasts to children. We delivered over 485 lunches each day and had about 40 students pick up lunches at the high school. Flexibility in regulations allowed any student to receive meals. Those who delivered meals noted almost all of those students were home alone when meals were delivered.

We have provided online instruction to students when possible. If necessary we would provide paper instructional packets and teachers or aides would talk through them with students to improve learning. We coordinated lists of students and families that were not participating. We did extra contacts with those families and found that while some were in crisis, many were simply overwhelmed. If they had internet access only one student in the family could access at a time. Older siblings often had to help younger siblings and still get their own work completed.

"It is the school district's mission to challenge each and every student to reach his or her full potential."

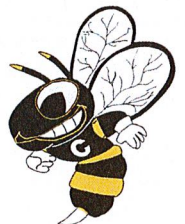
Jenny Starck
District Administrator
715-289-3795
Fax 715-289-3748
starckj@cadott.k12.wi.us

Caleb Hundt
Jr./Sr. High School Principal
715-289-3795
Fax 715-289-3085
hundtc@cadott.k12.wi.us

Terri Goettl
Elementary Principal
715-289-3795
Fax 715-289-3017
goettlt@cadott.k12.wi.us

Melissa Lesik
Director of Special Education
715-289-3795
Fax 715-289-3085
lesikm@cadott.k12.wi.us

Dedicated to ensuring high levels of learning for all students and staff.

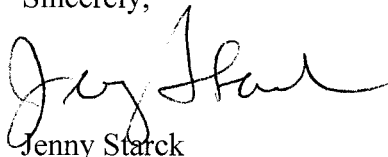


Not only has this closure provided challenges for districts, we recognize the additional stress and challenges to our families. Teachers and support staff have been continually checking in, teaching, and re-teaching to ensure as much progress as possible. As we look to fall options we are planning for instructional time especially for students who did not participate or had difficulty during the time of school closure.

We have worked to provide our families with quality educational services and support during this time. I am proud of our staff and families. We were disappointed in some of the activities that needed to be changed, but everyone has continually worked together.

I appreciate any support that you are able to provide to us. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenny Starck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jenny" being more prominent than the last name "Starck".

Jenny Starck

District Administrator

Cadott Community School District