
JACOB JENSEN
PRESIDENT

TODD ROEHM
VICE PRESIDENT

RICK PALMER
CLERK

AMY DUEHOLM
TREASURER

SARAH COOK
DIRECTOR/CESA REP

LUCK SCHOOL DISTRICT



810 SEVENTH STREET SOUTH
LUCK, WISCONSIN 54853

CORY HINKEL
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

BRAD WERNER
JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

JASON HARELSON
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL

PHONE 715-472-2152

FAX 715-472-2159

WWW.LUCKSD.K12.WI.US

May 18, 2020

Dear Senator Schactner and Representative Magnafici,

I want to start out by thanking you for your support of all children in the State of Wisconsin and your commitment to education. Over the past few months during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Luck School District shifted to address the needs of our students to the best of our ability. I would like to go in a little more detail about how this transition occurred.

When the initial school closings were announced, our students were already grieving after finding out the WIAA had canceled the remainder of the basketball tournaments. The boys' season ended with not knowing what could have been. The announcement of school closings led to Saturday administration meetings and multiple communications going out to staff and parents. The school building was very busy over the weekend with staff coming in and putting in a tremendous amount of hours to be prepared for the following weeks. During the next three days of school, students and staff prepared for a new way of learning. Students were told to clean out lockers in anticipation of the orders being longer. An eerie feeling was felt throughout the building as we moved into a state of unknown and unprecedented times.

Throughout this our staff has stepped up to the call of duty. We have used a wide array of resources to meet the needs of our students. We were very fortunate to find out the majority of our students have reliable internet access. A few hotspots were available for students as well. Teachers have continually transitioned to utilizing digital platforms throughout this process. Even though our building is closed to students, this does not mean the education process has stopped for our students.

We have kept staff busy during this time with the deep cleaning of our building and providing food for our students. Our small district serves over 300 meals daily. Our paraprofessionals and kitchen staff deliver over 600 bags of food for breakfast and lunch daily. I would like to recognize the tremendous community support as food donations such as cheese, milk, hamburger, and hotdogs have been donated and delivered as part of this program.

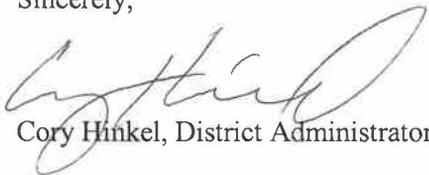
Our administration team has been working hard to stay on top of the ever-changing landscape. The decision-making process has been difficult with all of the unknown. Just like before the pandemic, we make decisions with the best interest of our students in mind. Graduation planning has been a daunting task. A poll was sent to parents with the overwhelming majority wanting to wait to have a traditional ceremony. Our fear is that a traditional ceremony may not happen even with waiting. This is just one example of the decisions that need to be made with many factors to be taken into consideration, and still much more unknown.

This by far is not ideal for our district to educate the students of the area, even though we are doing our best to meet the needs of our students with the resources available. The students in our district with significant disabilities, or that do not have the structure or support at home, have a clear disadvantage in the educational process. Online and virtual learning may have a place in education, but our students did not choose to have this process forced on them. It was the only option available to us at the time. The social-emotional needs of our students have not been met in the same way that having them in our building would allow us to use our professionals. We are seeing students who traditionally excel at school struggle tremendously without the normal array of supports they would have if the building was open. Many parents and guardians have stepped up to the challenge and have put in the extra time and effort to help make the current system work. But not every child has this support system at home.

I share this information in the hopes to give you insight on how educators have stepped up in the time of chaos even though, for many, their personal lives are in a state of uncertainty as well. The continued support of school districts is imperative as we move forward. Our district will continue to navigate our way through the issues that seem to develop daily to best meet the needs of our students as we are able. Planning has already started on what next year may look like, but we are hesitant to not get too far ahead of the unknowns.

Thank you for your time, and please let me know if you have any questions. I am confident my staff will continue to meet the needs of our students, no matter what the situation may be.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cory Hinkel".

Cory Hinkel, District Administrator