

## SDMA COVID-19 Report August 10, 2020 Update

- **COVID-19- What do we know?**
  - This pandemic continues to be an evolving situation: [CDC website](#).
    - 126 confirmed cases in Dunn County at the time of this report: [DHS Site](#)- 105 of the cases have been released from quarantine.
    - According to [tracking by DHS](#), the current COVID-19 activity level for Dunn County is: High, the burden level is Moderately High, and the trend is Horizontal.
    - [Badger Bounce Back Plan](#)
      - 1) Only three of six indicators hit on Wisconsin's [gating criteria](#).
    - Guidance for Gatherings in Dunn County remains at: 25 people allowed for indoor gatherings, 50 for outdoor gatherings- may be more than one separate gathering per facility.
      - 1) Still important to monitor symptoms.
      - 2) Still important to wash hands.
      - 3) Still important to maintain social distancing (6') as much as possible.
      - 4) Still important to wear a face covering and/or utilize other mitigation techniques when social distancing cannot be fully achieved.
    - On July 30, Governor Tony Evers issued [an order](#) requiring face coverings in public until September 28. The SDMA will comply with the Governor's order.
  
- **Current Programming in the SDMA:**
  - Summer School
    - Virtual summer school was offered in June/July.
    - Some specialized in-person summer programming is being offered in August.
    - Programming is very limited due to the inability to staff courses.
  - Student Activities
    - A number of student activities that began on July 1 occurred without incident. It appears that the protocols and mitigation measures were effective.
  - [Free Meals for Kids](#)- scheduled through August 27

- **Reopening the SDMA-** Ongoing communications with the Dunn County Department of Health Services. DHS plans to continue offering guidance rather than issuing legal orders: Discretionary mitigation efforts in the SDMA will help reduce risk, but effectiveness will be impacted greatly based on decisions and actions by each student, staff member, and family.
  - **Phase I-** SDMA offices and facilities were open to the public for essential functions and approved activities with restrictions beginning on July 1, 2020. Virtual summer school was held in July and a diploma presentation ceremony was held at Menomonie High School on July 17.
  - **Phase II-** Planning for the 2020-2021 School Year
    - Earlier this summer, the Board unanimously directed administration to develop plans for reopening schools for in-person instruction this fall. The Board also expressed a desire for the district to have an online option for families who do not want to send their children to school.
    - On July 13, the Board unanimously supported the recommendation to hire up to 20 additional teachers to ensure that students in grades K-6 will be able to continue with in-person instruction if strict physical distancing is required.
    - [Guidance](#) from the Department of Public Instruction was received on June 22.
    - On July 23, the CDC provided update guidance on [The Importance of Reopening America's Schools this Fall](#).
    - A planning team was established- including at least one staff representative from each building level.
      - 1) Meetings scheduled: June 17, July 1, July 15, July 22, July 29
      - 2) Several other meetings of the administrative team and building leadership teams also occurred.
      - 3) Districtwide staff meetings were held on July 20 and July 30 to provide all staff members with an opportunity to hear about reopening plans and provide input.
      - 4) Meetings were provided for SDMA families on July 20 and July 29 to provide all families with the opportunity to hear about plans and provide input.

- 5) The district participated in the [Community Forum](#) coordinated by the Menomonie Chamber of Commerce on August 4.
  - The SDMA Reopening Plan was presented to the Board on July 27 and it is on the agenda for Board consideration on August 10.
  - At this point, the SDMA is planning to open on September 1 for in-person instruction with full enrollment. Thresholds have been set in conjunction with the Dunn County Health Department for using the [Dunn County Dashboard](#) to determine if/when additional mitigation measures may be needed.
  - Sample messages have been sent to SDMA families and staff each week to identify thresholds and communicate how programming decisions during the school year will be made.
  - Next steps will include:
    - 1) Hiring additional staffing for the plan.
    - 2) Developing building/department-level protocols aligned with the reopening plan. An administrative retreat has been scheduled for August 12.
    - 3) Registering students who choose the virtual option by August 12.
  - The [virtual school](#) was designed and the registration window opened on July 28. The registration window closes on August 12, and orientation meetings will be held on August 17 (K-5 at 6:00 pm and 6-12 at 7:00 pm). Families registering for the virtual school option are committing to virtual schooling for the entire semester.
  - The SDMA has received a shipment of reusable face masks and thermometers from the state.
  - Additional computers, hotspots, PPE, and cleaning supplies have been ordered. Additional classroom desks have been acquired to replace tables typically used by multiple students. The district inventory of stored equipment and supplies has also been reviewed in order to maximize the use of resources.
  - The WIAA issued [guidance](#) on July 23 related to fall sports. Season start dates were delayed, but sports have not been cancelled yet. The Board of Control is meeting again on August 13 to discuss possibilities related to fall sports.
- **Phase III- Post-Pandemic- TBD**