WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

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JOHN H. ASHLEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

November 24, 2020

The Honorable Tony Evers
Governor of the State of Wisconsin
Room 115 East, State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Governor Evers,

On behalf of all 421 locally elected public school boards in our state, I write to thank you for respecting local control and school board authority in the question of whether schools should be providing instruction in-person or virtually during this pandemic. Certainly, these are unprecedented times and our members have had to make very tough decisions weighing the science and their own community's circumstances.

We were heartened by your supportive comments at the COVID-19 press conference on Nov. 18 where you stated that local school boards, administrators and teachers statewide were "doing their best" and that it was "a difficult thing for us to sit here and talk about it being a one answer to 420-some school districts."

We agree with your assessment of the situation and continue to believe that statewide mandates, including mandates about how schools should operate and what instructional model they should use during the pandemic,
are not in the best interest of K-12 education in the State of Wisconsin.

Thank you for your support and trust in our members. We wish you and your family a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday.

Sincerely,

John H. Ashley

John H. Ashley
Executive Director
Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB)