



D.C. Everest Area School

District

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Dr. Kelley Strike
Assistant Superintendent of Operations

MISSION STATEMENT

D.C. Everest Area School District, in partnership with the community, is committed to being an innovative educational leader in developing knowledgeable, productive, caring, creative, responsible individuals prepared to meet the challenges of an ever-changing global society.

TO: Dr. Casey Nye, Superintendent

FROM: Dr. Kelley Strike, Assistant Superintendent of Operations

DATE: June 17, 2026

RE: Riverside Elementary Waiver of Instructional Hours

On April 17, 2026, a tornado impacted the Ringle area and caused significant damage to Riverside Elementary School. The severity of the storm resulted in Governor Tony Evers declaring a state of emergency for affected areas, including Marathon County.

Due to the damage and resulting safety concerns, Riverside Elementary was closed on April 20th and 21st to allow for damage assessment, debris removal, safety inspections, and planning for continuity of instruction. Students were temporarily relocated to an alternate instructional site from April 22 through April 30 while temporary repairs were completed. The school remained closed on May 1 and reopened on May 4 following safety inspections and completion of temporary repairs. Permanent repairs will be completed during the summer months.

As a result of the tornado and subsequent recovery efforts, the District was unable to fully recover all instructional hours lost during the closure and relocation period. The challenge was compounded by the fact that the District had already lost four instructional days during the 2025-26 school year due to inclement weather, significantly limiting available opportunities to make up additional lost time. Wisconsin law requires school districts to provide a minimum number of hours of direct pupil instruction each school year. Accordingly, the District is seeking a waiver from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction for the instructional hours that could not be recovered due to these extraordinary circumstances.

Recommendation

Administration recommends that the Board approve the attached waiver resolution and authorize submission to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction requesting a waiver of instructional hour requirements for Riverside Elementary School associated with the instructional time lost as a result of the April 17, 2026, tornado and the subsequent recovery and relocation efforts.