

**Shared Key  
Interests**

1. Advance student learning, achievement, and success by keeping it at the heart and as the filter for our decision making.

2. Utilize research-based curricula that reflects 21st Century themes and applications and are responsive to the needs and potential of all students, preparing them for a global society.

3. Provide real-life, diverse learning opportunities with practical applications in the classroom and beyond.

4. Inform and engage the community in shaping educational strategy and formulating responses to change.

5. Attract, retain, and develop a high quality, diverse, creative, and innovative workforce of leaders.

6. Provide safe, secure, flexible, inviting, and well-maintained environments that nurture student well-being and enhance teaching and learning.

7. Identify, integrate, and expand technology to foster adaptability and maximize learning for all.

8. Foster mutually beneficial partnerships and collaborations that expand learning opportunities and resources.

**Wausau School District**

Board of Education Meeting Agenda

In Compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law

Public Notice s.19.84 (3)  
Exemptions s.19.85

Patrick McKee, President  
Karen Vandenberg, Clerk

**A Special Meeting of the BOARD OF EDUCATION will be held in the John Muir Middle School Auditorium, 1400 West Stewart Ave., Wausau , WI 54401 at 5:00 PM or immediately following the previous meeting on Monday, September 20, 2021.**

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I. Call to Order

II. COVID Mitigation and Supports (**Possible Action**)

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III. Adjournment

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NOTICE POSTED: Friday, September 17, 2021, at 1:45 pm

By: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTICE SENT TO:

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# COVID Mitigation and Supports

Special Wausau School Board Meeting  
September 20, 2021



# Topics

1. Mitigation Efforts
2. Contact Tracing and Quarantines
3. Virtual Elementary Option



## Mitigation Efforts

- Collaborative effort between the Wausau School District, D.C. Everest School District, and the Marathon County Health Department
- Due to differences in current practice, philosophy, and district structures, the plans will not be identical
- The following draft matrices will be used as **guidelines** for decision making, not as a definitive tool
- Mitigation efforts differ between elementary and secondary schools
- All data must be analyzed in context, using the clarifying questions, so the likely source of transmission can be identified

# Possible Clarifying Questions: To Determine Likely Source of Spread.

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1. Were these cases related to a single event or a single family group?
2. Was there a positive case in the home first?
3. Have the students or staff with positive cases been at school?
4. Are the cases found in a small number of classrooms?
5. Are cases trending up or down in school?
6. Can we take action by classroom and by school to reduce the number of kids out of school?
7. Has a governing body (such as WIAA or WSMA) developed any requirements for their sponsored activities?

# Secondary School Matrix

Because of the interactions between students in middle and high school, decisions are based on school-wide data.

High School or Middle School:

**DRAFT**

COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION LEVEL:

Total Confirmed Cases over past 7 days/100,000 Residents in the Wausau School District. Source: DHS GIS

		LOW	MODERATE	SUBSTANTIAL	HIGH
Average Daily Student and Staff Positive Cases Over 7 Days	< 0.5%	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1
	0.5-1%	Level 1	Level 1	Level 2	Level 2
	1.0-1.5%	Level 2	Level 2	Level 3	Level 3
	>1.5%	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3	Level 4

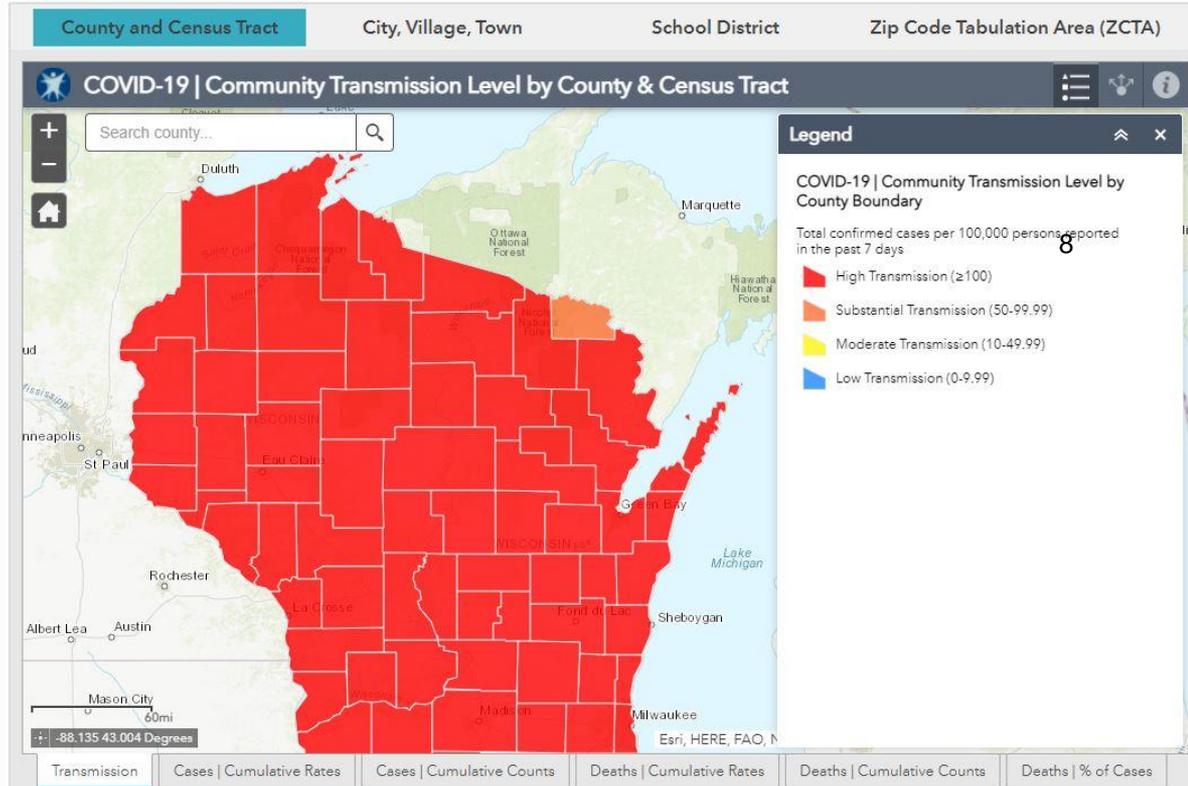
# Community Transmission Levels on 9-17-2021 by County



COVID-19 cases and deaths by county and census tract, municipality, school district, and zip code

A community earns a **HIGH** transmission level when a total of 100 or more cases occurs per 100,000 residents in a 7-day period

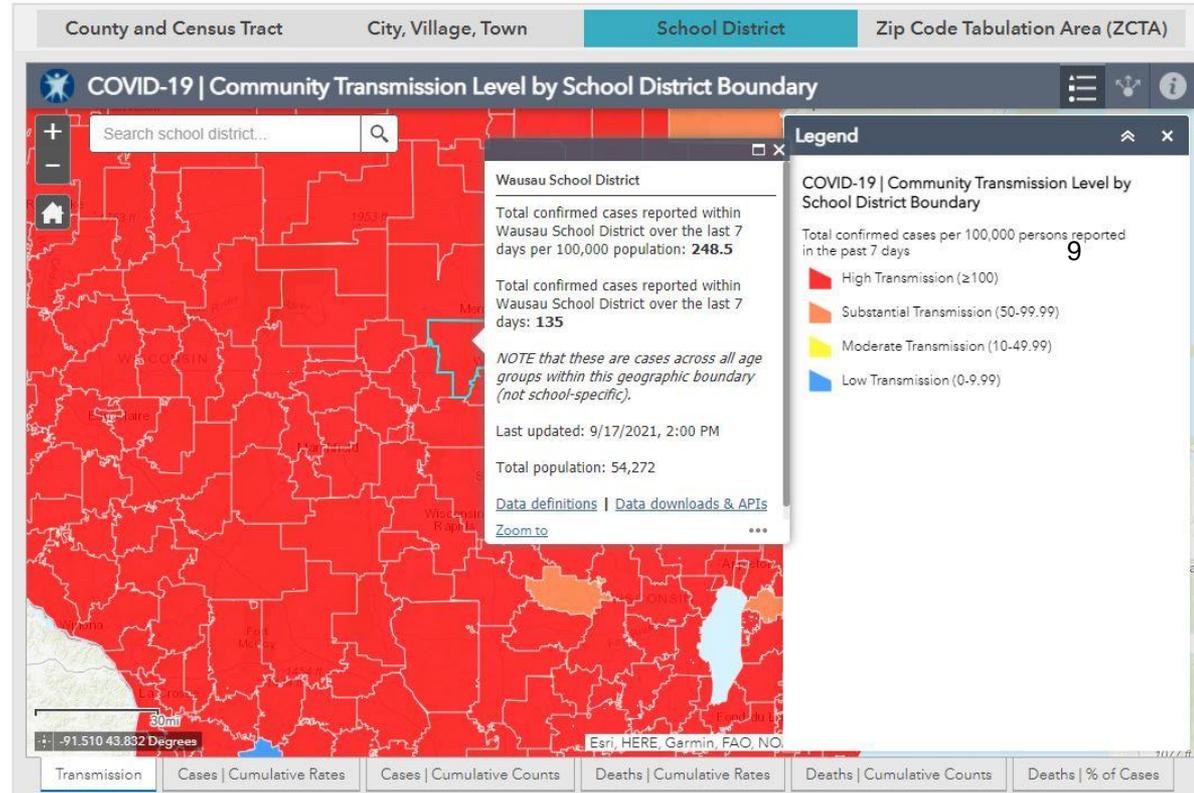
On 9/17 Marathon County reported 283 cases per 100,000/week



# Community Transmission Levels on 9-17-2021 by School District

A community earns a **HIGH** transmission level when a total of 100 or more cases occurs per 100,000 residents in a 7 day period

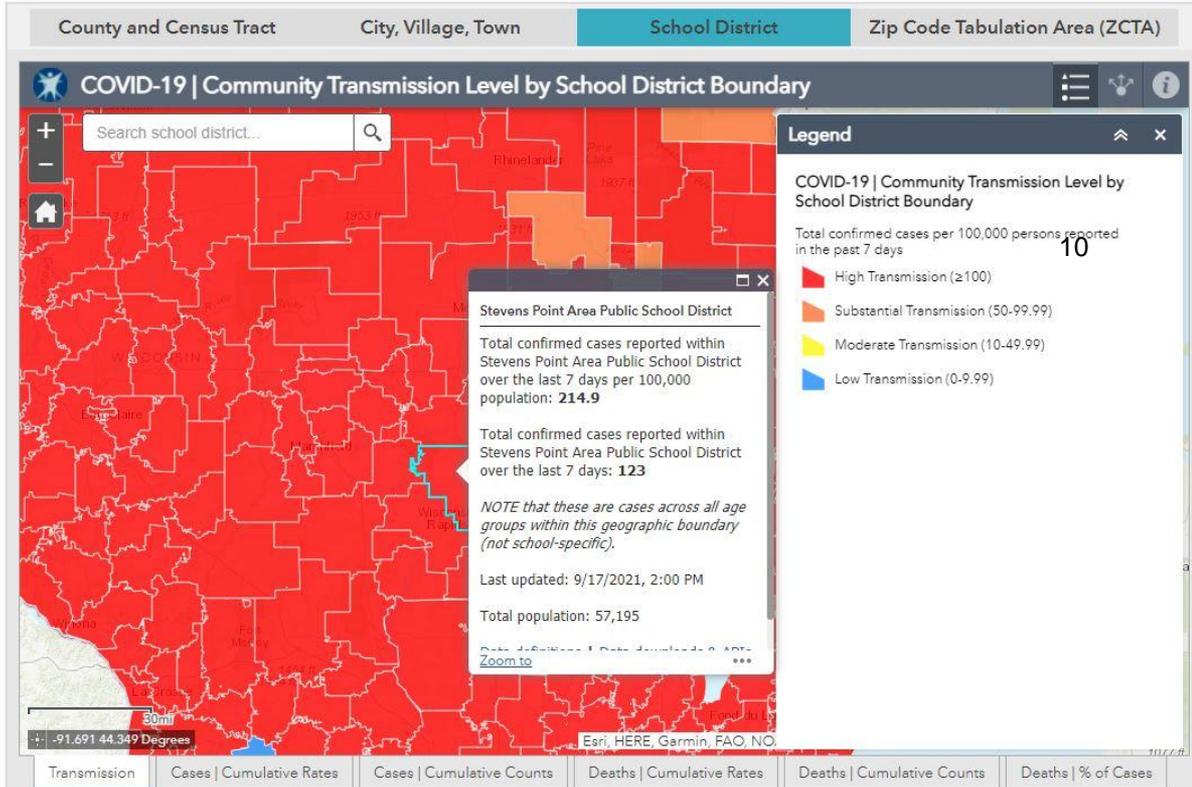
On 9/17 the Wausau School District community reported 248 cases per 100,000/week



# Community Transmission Levels on 9-17-2021 by School District

A community earns a **HIGH** transmission level when a total of 100 or more cases occurs per 100,000 residents in a 7 day period

On 9/17 the Stevens Point Area Public School District community reported 215 cases per 100,000/week





## Possible Actions by Level at Secondary Schools

### Level 1

#### Normal operations:

- Masks optional
- Self check for symptoms
- Stay home when ill



## Possible Actions by Level at Secondary Schools

Level 2 includes all Level 1 actions plus:

- Masks recommended
- Review the need for non-essential visitors and volunteers
- Review large school-day events (number of students, length of time, indoors or outside, etc.)
- Review field trips -- indoors especially
- NOTE: Continue to allow co-curricular and community events OUTSIDE of school hours



## Possible Actions by Level at Secondary Schools

Level 3 includes all Level 1 and 2 actions plus:

- 3' of distance to the best of our ability
- Increase the time in outdoor learning
- District review of any large gathering events in our schools using the application process from the 20-21 school year (assemblies, homecoming parades, etc.)



## Possible Actions by Level at Secondary Schools

Level 4 includes all Level 1, 2, and 3 actions plus:

- Mandatory masking in entire school for 7 calendar days.
- We would not recommend remote learning at secondary schools unless the county health department staff recommended that action. This would prompt a special school board meeting.

# Example of Secondary Matrix Application



The 7-day average will be calculated on each Thursday for action on the following Monday.

Wausau West had an average of 6.6 positive cases between 9/9 and 9/16

With approximately 1667 students and staff that translates to 0.40%.

A **HIGH** community transmission rate places Wausau West in Level 1. (See graphic on next slide)

NOTE: Masking would be considered when Wausau West approached an average of 25 total cases over 7 days in the high school.

WSD has a **HIGH** transmission rate of 248 cases per 100,000 residents

High School or Middle School:					
DRAFT	West HS average % positive cases over 7 days is .40%	COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION LEVEL: Total Confirmed Cases over past 7 days/100,000 Residents in the Wausau District. Source: DHS GIS			
		LOW	MODERATE	SUBSTANTIAL	HIGH
Average Daily Student and Staff Positive Cases Over 7 Days	< 0.5%	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1
	0.5-1%	Level 1	Level 1	Level 2	Level 2
	1.0-1.5%	Level 2	Level 2	Level 3	Level 3
	>1.5%	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3	Level 4



# Elementary Matrix

Because elementary classrooms are mostly separate, and to minimize disruption to schools, decisions about actions at elementary schools would be made based on classroom data.

# Elementary DRAFT Matrix

Elementary School:		
<b>DRAFT</b>		Actions taken by individual affected elementary classrooms
Total number of unrelated positive cases in an individual classroom	1	All normal operations, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Masks optional</li> <li>• Self check for symptoms</li> <li>• Stay home when ill</li> </ul>
	2	All level 1 actions plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recommend masks</li> <li>• review the need for non-essential visitors and volunteers</li> <li>• All students stay in their seats during instruction</li> <li>• Maintain as much distance as possible between students</li> <li>• Class cohorted during lunch</li> <li>• review all field trips and large school events</li> </ul>
	3	All Level 2 actions plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase time for outdoor learning</li> <li>• Required masks for students and staff in the affected classroom</li> </ul>
	4	Remote learning for 7 days

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# Contact Tracing and Quarantines



## **Administrative Recommendations**

Administration continues to recommend we leave contact tracing and decisions about quarantines to the Marathon County Health Department.

Our staff is needed to meet the learning and health needs of all of our students - including in situations that are not COVID-19 related.

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# Elementary Virtual Options



## Administrative Recommendations

1. All families have the option of WAVE for all students in grades K-12.
2. We have no interest in re-assigning students to a virtual class.
3. Staff will support ill or quarantined students in the same high-quality manner they have always done, with the added option of video interactions.

**Staff Are Taking Action to Make  
This A Great Year!**

